

had succeeded in severing it at the stump, the shoulders were so broad, and the tree so perfectly equipoised, that it took the same five men two days in driving wedges with a battering-ram, on one side of the cut, to throw it out of its equilibrium sufficiently to make it fall. The mere felling of the tree, at California wages, cost the sum of five hundred and fifty dollars, or one hundred and ten pounds.

"A short distance from this tree was another of yet larger dimensions, which apparently had been overthrown by accident, some forty or fifty years ago. It was hollow for some distance, and when I was there, quite a rivulet was running through its cavity. The trunk was three hundred feet in length, the top broken off, and by some agency (probably fire) was destroyed. At the distance of three hundred feet from the butt,

the trunk was forty feet in circumference, or more than twelve feet in diameter. Fragments of the same kind of tree, which had apparently been exposed to the vicissitudes of climate and the weather the same length of time, and supposed to be from the individual tree that lies prostrate, are to be found projected in a line with the main body, one hundred and fifty feet from the top, proving to a degree of moral certainty that the tree, when standing alive, must have attained the height of four hundred and fifty or five hundred feet! At the butt, it is one hundred and ten feet in circumference, or about thirty-six feet in diameter.

"These mammoth trees, by their stately and majestic bearing, strike the beholder with awe and wonder, and cause him almost involuntarily to bow before them as the kings of the forest.



THE MAMMOTH TREES OF CALIFORNIA.

Their whole number does not exceed five hundred, and are all comprised within an area of about fifty acres. Only eighty or ninety of them are of gigantic size. Their extremely limited locality and number forcibly impress the traveller with the belief that the species will soon be extinct, as is further evinced by their slow reproduction. Indeed, these giants of the forest are so marked in their rusty habits from their present associates, that we can hardly view them in their present relations except as links connecting us with ages so long past that they seem but reminiscences of an eternal bygone. They seem to require but the process of petrification to establish a complete Paleontological era."

[NOTE.—The above engraving of "The Mammoth Trees of California" is taken from a large

and beautiful picture gotten up last year as a gift to every subscriber to the *Cincinnati Weekly Times*, one of our most valued exchanges, and an excellent family newspaper. Ed. O. F.]

A COUNTRY RESIDENCE.

To the city folks, who talk of taking a home in the country, with charmingly unsophisticated ideas of what it is, *Heath and Home* offers these hints:

1st. Don't seek a country home simply because you love berries, and flowers, and trees; the berries and the flowers you may buy any day in the market, and the trees you have all before you in your parks.