

Gold in the South.
There was a time when North Georgia was considered the best gold field on this continent. The mines about Dahlonega were very profitable and attracted adventurers from many states. The California gold fever of 1849 almost broke up gold mining in Georgia, and never since that time has it regained its former importance. Gold mining has, however, continued in this State to a greater or less extent, and there are now several mines being worked.

Experts who have visited the gold region of Georgia are satisfied that it contains a large quantity of the precious metal and that its fuller development will soon begin. It will probably be hastened by the exhaustion and abandonment of gold mines in the West.

A writer in the Manufacturers' Record, after an examination of the Blue Ridge region, thinks that mining by improved processes can be made very profitable there. He shows that if we compare gold mining of forty years ago and gold mining of to-day, we find very many changes. The drilling was formerly done by shares with sledge and drill, while to-day there are steam, compressed air or electrical devices by the hundred. The windlass worked by man or beast has also been replaced by steam and electricity, which can be generated at some water power miles away and transmitted over a wire to the mine. The cart and tramways have also given way to quicker and more economical devices. The old-fashioned stamp mill which only did active work during the short period of contact between pestle and mortar, has also been replaced by powerful crushing wheels doing continuous work with less power. The sledge hammer, which prepared the ore for the stamp mill, has also had its day, and powerful crushers save an immense amount of labor. Concentration of the ore, the use of mercury and other phases of mining have also been much improved since that time. Chemistry has contributed its share of innovations by giving us the chlorination process, by which 75 per cent of the gold becomes available and is regained.

It is not likely that we shall see another gold fever, but it seems certain that the foothills of Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia, which are known to contain gold, will soon be more generally and more thoroughly worked than ever before.

A Bright Outlook in the South.

The Manufacturers' Record says: Throughout the South there is a marked revival in industrial matters and many new enterprises are being established. A number that were projected during the boom days, and which collapsed when the panic came, are being pushed to completion now, or are being re-organized preparatory to active work again. It will be some time yet, though, before some of these crippled concerns can be put on their feet, but the outlook grows steadily brighter. Local financial interests have been strengthened, debts have been paid, and the South generally has been putting its business affairs in order during the past two years. The confidence of outside capitalists in the South as a place for large investments has been greatly increased by the manner in which that section has stood the financial strain, and northern money will in the future go into southern manufacturing enterprises very freely.

Cheap Postage.

Perhaps the greatest postal advance of recent times is that which England has just decided to adopt—penny postage for its vast empire. The British postoffice department, after much urging, has finally accepted this proposition which has been pressed for years by that indefatigable reformer, Mr. Henneke Heaton, and as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made the uniform imperial postage of a penny—2 cents—will be established, and for that amount a letter can be carried from England not only to Canada and the West Indies, but to India, Australia, and even the center of Africa. This is the cheapest postage ever proposed.

The United States has been making many improvements of late in postal matters, but it has never been able to catch up with England, whose lead in this matter we most acknowledge, and it is a striking tribute to the success of the English system that, superior as it is to ours, it yet nets a profit of \$15,000,000 a year to the government, whereas we usually have a deficit in our postoffice accounts. The truth seems to be that the better the postal service the greater the profit. The United States, under these circumstances, can well afford to make radical improvements, certain that it will be repaid for them in a short time.

It will strike every one at once that if England can maintain a penny postage for its vast empire, scattered as it is through all the four quarters of the globe, it ought to be easily possible to secure a reduction in the rates now charged for foreign postage.—*New Orleans Times-Democrat.*

The Christian intelligencer says: Unspeakingly serious are the facts that the saloons of the United States send 80,000 youths annually down into drunkard's graves; and that they afflict more families and slay more persons than war and pestilence; that they are the chief causes of pauperism, crime, and insanity; that they are the chief law-breakers in every community, the resorts where crime centers; that they are dens of profanity and ungodliness; that they are the open enemies of the Church of Christ, and of almost every endeavor to improve the moral condition of men; that they fill thousands of homes with poverty, brawling, violence, and long-continued anguish.

A Homemade Fertilizer.

Every farmer knows the value of wood ashes as a fertilizer, but it is somewhat remarkable that their value and the beneficial results of their application to the soil, are always attributed to the potash they contain. The farmers, however, who have had long experience with potash in the form of wood ashes, and also as potash salts, find that the latter is not so marked in its effects as the former.

The fact is, that ashes are really a mixed fertilizer, and a complete one so far as the mineral elements of plant food are concerned. This must be apparent to any one who considers that they are the whole residue of plants after being burned, and except that part which returns to the atmosphere from which it was originally procured. The nitrogen, and the carbon of the trees alone are thus wanting in the ashes, which contain everything else required by the crops. Thus it is only reasonable to infer that the benefit derived from a dressing of ashes to any crop must be due to the other elements as well as to potash, and the more so when we observe that leached ashes, in which there is but a trace of potash, are often as useful as the unleached. The ashes of all woods contain in varying proportions, potash, lime, and phosphoric acid. The barks of trees are richer in lime than in potash, and as all plants contain lime, this element of the ashes must certainly be taken into account as well as the phosphoric acid.

Every discovery tends to throw new light on what has long been known in farm practice, and that interesting and important one in regard to the manner in which plants derive nitrogen from atmospheric sources is one of these enlightening discoveries, and it has a close connection with the subject in hand. It is known that this absorption of atmospheric nitrogen goes on most easily in soils that have a considerable quantity of lime in them. Indeed it may be said that this supply of lime is indispensable to this action of the nitrogen germ, which must have lime within reach for its growth on the roots. Then we see how useful is this too often ignored element of the ashes, and how it is that these may be deficient or wholly wanting in potash and yet exert a notable effect on the crops. This explains that it is the lime in the ashes and not the potash which is the cause of that noticeably greater effect in the production of plant food in the soil, and what is improperly called their stimulating effect; and how it is that an application of wood ashes increases the yield of crops to a greater extent than the actual plant food contained in them would warrant.—*S. Macdon in American Agriculturist.*

Peach Rot.

Rot is the greatest enemy of the peach in North Carolina. Peach rot is not caused by the curculio, as many suppose, but by a microscopic fungus known to botanists as monilia fructigena. The spores or germs of this fungus live through the winter in the rotten, dried-up fruit, on the trees and on the pits of the fruit which has fallen and rotted on the ground beneath the trees. To save the crop the first thing is to thoroughly disinfect the orchard. Remove and burn all withered fruit still on the trees. Gather up and burn all the peach pits from beneath trees. These make excellent fuel. Next apply a liberal dressing of air-slaked lime beneath and around the trees. Burn also all prunings. After the flowers have fallen spray with

IMPROVED BORDEAUX MIXTURE.

Copper sulphate (bluestone) 1 pound.
Fresh lime 1 pound.
Molasses 1 pint.
Water 10 gallons.
Directions.—Dissolve the sulphate in a wooden, glass or earthenware vessel in 5 gallons of water. In another vessel slack the lime in 1 gallon of water. Rub lime until all lumps have been broken, then add the molasses, strain and stir slowly into the sulphate; never pour the sulphate upon the lime. When all ebullition has ceased dilute to 10 gallons and use. One-half ounce of Paris green or London purple may be added to each 10 gallons of this mixture. When the arsenite is used it will be best to sprinkle it upon the lime before slaking the lime.

The above fungicide will at the same time protect the tree from "leaf curl," and if the arsenite is used will protect against all gnawing insects. Not more than the prescribed quantity of arsenite should be used.—*Gerald McCarty, N. C. Experiment Station.*

Improving the Ballot.

The Australian ballot system, while a good reform in the main, has several features which need amending before it can be accepted as an almost perfect and honest mode of voting. As it now stands, thousands of voters have been disfranchised by the misapprehension of not being allowed to stamp opposite a candidate's name after having once stamped the party emblem. Let there be but one way of voting, by stamping the square by the side of each person that you wish to vote for. A voter once instructed to stamp the square to the left of each person that he wished to vote for will not only confuse, but actually expedite voting. Another feature of the law which should be changed is the case with ballots as defective. As protection in the right of voting is secrecy, so should the ballot be protected after it is cast, so long as the intent of the voter can be ascertained.—*Noblesville Ledger.*

Shelby Review: Will Eskridge, who

broke into the bed of Cas Bridges and carved him up two weeks ago, has been committed to jail on a charge of burglary, and will be tried for his life at the next term of the superior court.

An Unfought Duel.

The recent absurd revival of duelling in several countries of the continent of Europe, has recalled a story which was the delight of Berlin some years ago, and which capably satirized this barbarous custom. Dr. Virchow, the eminent man of science, had been sharply criticizing Prince Bismarck, who was then chancellor.

At the end of a particularly severe attack Bismarck felt himself personally affronted, and sent seconds to Virchow with a challenge to fight a duel. The man of science was found in his laboratory, hard at work at experiments which had for their object the discovery of a means of destroying trichina, which were making great ravages in Germany.

"Ah," said the doctor, "a challenge from Prince Bismarck, eh? Well, well! I am the challenged party I suppose I have the choice of weapons. Here they are."

He held up two large sausages, which seemed to be exactly alike. "One of these sausages," he said, "is filled with trichina; it is deadly. The other is perfectly wholesome. Externally they can't be told apart. Let his excellency do me the honor to choose whichever of these he wishes, and eat it, and I will eat the other."

Though the proposition was as reasonable as any duelling proposition could be, Prince Bismarck's representatives refused it. No duel was fought, and no one accused Virchow of cowardice.

Lifts an Elephant with His Teeth.

Milo, the famous athlete of ancient Greece, the man who was victor at both the Olympic and Pythian games for six different times in succession, and whose chief claim to fame rests upon the feat of running four miles with a three-year-old fox upon his shoulders, would hide his head with shame could he visit London and witness the wonderful feats performed by Sullivan, the modern Samson. Sullivan is only 31 years of age and weighs but 108 pounds, yet he is a physical giant without an equal in the known world. He regularly goes through a routine of feats illustrative of his wonderful strength, the most remarkable being the actual lifting of an elephant with his teeth. The elephant is not a Jumbo, to be sure, neither is he small, especially when you come to consider the size of the man who does the lifting and the usual dimensions and strength of human teeth. The elephant daily and nightly swung like a pendulum from Mr. Sullivan's teeth is known as "the infant," and weighs between 1,800 and 2,000 pounds. This remarkably strong man is probably the only one in the world who lifts more than 1,000 pounds with the teeth alone. Another favorite trick of his is that of lifting a barrel of water—505 pounds—with one finger.—*St. Louis Republic.*

A Bear Story.

McDowell (Va.) Record: Trigg Tabor, who was in Fuzwell this week, relates a remarkable bear story which he heard while there, as occurring in a sparsely settled portion of Russell county. It is to the effect that a mountaineer living in that section of Russell, named Jenkins, while returning home one day early in February from a hunt, met a large black bear walking erect with a child under its left arm, which he recognized as his little five-year-old son, while Bran carried a large club in the other paw. He quickly killed the bear with his rifle, and recovering the child nearer dead than alive, started home with him. En route he came across his wife lying unconscious on the ground with an ugly wound on the right temple. After resuscitating her she said that the bear had come into the house, taken the child and departed. She followed him, and in endeavoring to rescue the child, the bear dealt her a severe blow with the club, which rendered her insensible. Trigg says this was related to him in sober earnest, and his informant was a man of unquestionable veracity.

I My Own Grandfather.

I married a widow who had a grown daughter. My father visited the house very often, fell in love with my stepdaughter, and married her. So my father became my son-in-law and my stepdaughter my mother, because she was my father's wife.

Some time afterward my wife had a son; he was my father's brother-in-law and my uncle, for he was the brother of my step-mother.

My father's wife, that is, my stepdaughter, had also a son; he was, of course, my brother, and in the meantime my grandchild, for he was the son of my daughter. My wife was my grandmother, because she was my mother's mother. I was my wife's husband and grandchild at the same time. And as the husband of a person's grandmother is his grandfather, I am my own grandfather.

Jonshoro Home Journal: Rev. Neil McKay, D. D., of Fayetteville Presbytery, died on last Monday afternoon at his home in Summerville. The end was not unexpected, as his health has been failing for some time, and the venerable servant of God looked forward to the time of his going home with the full assurance of his Savior's love and his own salvation.

Hendersonville Times: On Monday night of last week, the little one-year-old child of Levi Huggins, who resides on Rowan's bluff, being in the arms of its mother, knocked a bottle of turpentine from the mantel board. It fell in the fire, the turpentine ignited, and set the child's clothing in a flame. Death ensued after ten hours of intense suffering. Mrs. Huggins was badly burned.

The price of a year's subscription to THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN has been reduced to \$1.

GENERAL NEWS.

New York City has raised \$500,857 for the monument to Gen. Grant.

The Cabinet of Cleveland is composed of men not rich in this world's goods.

Logan Carlisle, son of the Secretary, will be Chief Clerk of the Treasury Department. He is said to have special qualifications.

Rev. Mr. Nelson, Methodist Missionary in Brazil, is in trouble and in jail. His offense consisted in speaking disrespectfully of a patron saint.

The Democrats will have 45 in the next Senate. The Republicans will have not less than 38. The Populists 4, and one State to hear from.

It is said that the fight for the secretaryship of the U. S. Senate is between Gen. W. R. Cox, of North Carolina, and Col. L. Q. Washington, the rest of the aspirants having withdrawn from the race.

After twenty-five years William and Mary College gets \$65,000 from Congress. This college was about destroyed in the war. The vote in the House was 195 to 39. It caused great rejoicing at the college.

Sir Henry Wood, secretary of the royal commission of Great Britain to the Columbian Exposition, is in New York on his way to Chicago. England has appropriated over \$1,000,000, and has 300,000 feet of space.

It is announced that there is another Southern substitute for jute fibre. It is said to be the palmetto. One writer asserts that the saw-palmetto has all the needed requirements—cheapness, abundance, available all the year, of spontaneous growth, and is strictly a fibrous plant. All these are of interest and we may expect to hear more of them.

Pennoyer Outdone.

The saying, as true as old, that "the laughs best who laughs last," is freshly exemplified in the case of Governor Pennoyer, of Oregon.

Pennoyer, who was elected as a Democrat but afterwards became a Republican, recently branded himself as the arch ass of the country by refusing to allow a salute to be read in celebration of the election of Cleveland. Last Friday, he described another entry on his record of idocy by ordering that the state cannon should not be used for "other than military purposes," his idea being to prevent the firing of a salute in honor of Cleveland's inauguration.

The Democrats of Salem, however, took a cannon a few days ago and had it repaired ready for firing a salute on inauguration day. The captain of the militia company took possession of the gun and dismounted it, but the Democrats gained possession of it on an attachment to pay for repairs, the captain having taken it from a blacksmith shop. When the gun was attached the marshal frustrated the attempt of the militia to spike it by grabbing a rattail file which they had in readiness. The Democrats, after gaining possession of the gun, hastily remounted it, and began firing salutes to the president from the window of the office of Oregon's chief executive at the station-house.

Poor Pennoyer!



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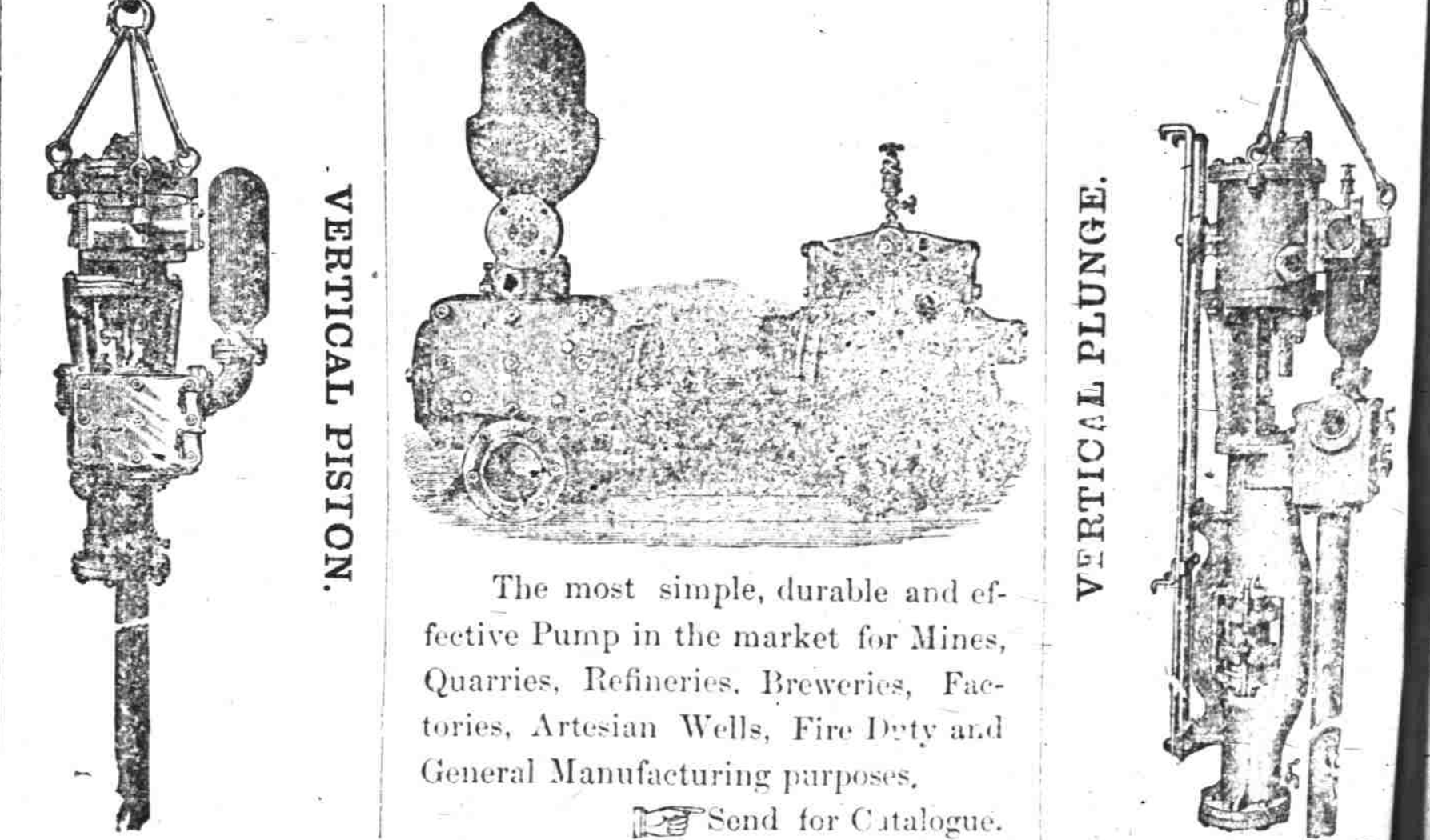
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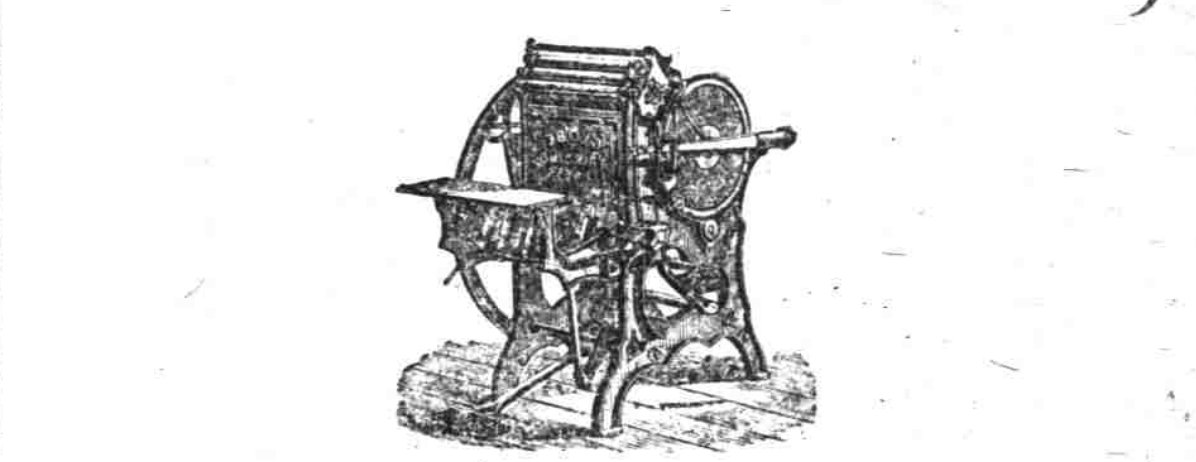
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