

# PINE KNOT.

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VOL. 2.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1888.

NO. 15.

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The twelve mines and mill of this Company have just been examined by the eminent English mining engineer, Mr. Francis D. Taylor, 24 Merchants' Exchange, Boston, whose report shows the property to be as represented. It is the best in America for its capitalization.

We have received an interesting letter from Mr. L. A. Dodge, of New England City, Dak., which we hope to publish next week. Mr. Dodge is well known to many of our readers, who have previously enjoyed several of his crisp and entertaining articles. This particular letter is the more gratifying to us, as we had hardly supposed it possible that communication between that "frozen region" and the outside world could be kept up at this season of the year.

"I never experienced such January weather as this," said a Pennsylvania gentleman a day or two since. An unusually balmy May in New England would very nearly correspond with the weather we are now enjoying. Mercury ranging from 52°, in the morning, to 71°, in the warmest part of the day; air soft and sweet, sunshine the brightest and sky the bluest,—surely we have reason to be thankful for our refuge here at Southern Pines. This is a spot where those who have been maimed and shattered in their long fight against Northern weather may find rest and healing.

### WHAT WE ARE ESCAPING.

"What dreadful weather you are escaping!" says a letter from New Hampshire, "first we have torrents of rain, then snow storms, then tremendous gales of wind and bitter, bitter cold!" (Poor things! and to think we read this seated on our shady piazza where the mercury stands at 70 degrees at four o'clock in the afternoon.) "This morning the program opened with a snow storm, by church time sleet prevailed and at three o'clock torrents of rain poured down. This evening the floods continue, and the wind seems to have thoughts of getting up a concert. You would have laughed to see me coming home this afternoon. I had high overshoes and a waterproof covered up everything else;—under one arm was a Bible, while one hand grasped petticoats, and the other held an umbrella. The sidewalks were coated with ice, covered treacherously with an inch or so of water. The roads were deep slush, and the intervening spaces were heaped, apparently, with snow. First I tried the sidewalks, where I slipped and slid and scuffled, stopping now and then from fear, fatigue or laughter. Having soaked my mittens by hanging on to a fence, I tried the middle of the street. Here I paddled along to the amusement of people indoors. The slush being extremely damp and unpleasant I "took to the drifts," only to find that they covered lakes. After wading knee deep in the stuff, and getting stuck there more than once, I returned to the middle of the street. "Did I get home at last?" Yes, and in a vigorously alive condition."

### "GOD BLESS OUR HOME."

A gentleman hunting in Dakota came across a boarded-up claim shanty with half a dozen boards across the door, upon which were the following touching inscriptions:

"Four miles from a nayber. Sixty miles from a postoffice. Twenty-five miles from a railroad. A hundred and fifty feet from water. God bless our home. We have gone east to spend the winter with my Wife's folks."—*Sun*, Jamestown, N. Y.

### A HOME PRODUCT.

In the state agricultural department there are on exhibition some handsome whisk-brooms, in manufacturing which nothing but native labor was used; and the brooms are as good, as cheap and as neat as any to be seen anywhere. The broom corn was grown by Mr. J. T. Patrick, Immigration Agent; the handles are of mountain mahogany from the western part of the State, and they were made by the Goldsboro broom factory.—*News and Observer*.

### BUILDING CANNING FACTORIES.

Some weeks since we told how the canning industry in Botetourt county, Va., starting a few years ago with one farmer canning his own fruits in his dwelling until gradually success enabled him to build a factory, had developed until there are now a dozen factories in operation in that county. Speaking of these twelve factories, the *Herald*, of Fincastle, the county seat, says: "If any of the twelve have failed to make money we have yet to hear of it. On the contrary, it is known that all the gentlemen engaged in the business made money, some of them making an exceedingly good thing of it, whilst the farmers and laborers around each establishment were greatly benefited, the farmers by the cultivation of tomatoes and fruit, and the latter by receiving regular employment. The articles canned the past season consisted chiefly of tomatoes, sweet corn, peaches and apples." So successful has been this industry that nineteen new factories will be established the coming spring, making a total of thirty-one in that county. In building up such an extensive canning business Botetourt county has set an example that might be followed with great profit by hundreds of other Southern counties. Here is one county in no way superior to many others in all parts of the South, for raising vegetables and fruits, that has twelve successful canning factories in operation and nineteen more preparing to start up in the spring. This is a business in which there is little danger of overproduction so long as first class goods are canned and the work well done. The best grades of canned goods meet with an ever increasing demand, and the South annually consumes hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of canned goods purchased of other sections. Let the example of Botetourt county stimulate others. There is room for all.—*Manufacturers' Record*.