

can be cultivated in this manner as well in the dry summer as in the winter time.—*J. W. Schmitz, Lux & Miller's Ranch.*

SORGHUM.—*Expositor*, Oct. 1: C. Myers, who lives in the Mendocino neighborhood, has this year put up a large quantity of sorghum syrup, from cane grown by himself and other farmers in his vicinity. He has had 14 years' experience in this line. We have tasted of syrup of his manufacture, and are free to pronounce it an excellent article. Sorghum cane grows readily on the irrigated lands of this county, and there is no reason why the manufacturing of syrup and sugar should not be profitably carried on here.

KERN.

ITEMS.—*Courier*, Oct. 2: The dairies in the Kern River valley have done a good business during the summer, in spite of the heat. There has been a home market for all the butter, at better prices than could be obtained in San Francisco. About 9,000 sheep have been shorn at the Bakersfield corrals the past week, and the work still goes on.

LASSEN.

CROPS, ETC.—*Cor. Reno Gazette*: We have had a pretty good grain crop this year. Several hundred tons will be sent away. It generally pays to raise wheat for the Reno market. The hay crop is a little short this season, but there is plenty to feed the cattle that are driven here from Oregon and fattened. You will see a good deal of it sticking to the ribs of the cattle that will go to Reno during the winter. There is always a chance to drive stock to your market at any time. No fruit crop to speak of this season. The late frost killed all the chances last spring. "Jack" bothers us a good deal. He comes early and stays late. We would have been glad of a little cool weather this summer. Now the nights are sultry, and have been so for a whole fortnight, so that the roosters keep awake all night and crow and flap their wings to get a little air. Everybody keeps well, however. It would be hard to find a healthier community than this. Fires are burning all around in the woods and the air is hazy with smoke.

LOS ANGELES.

GRAPE GROWING.—*Downey Outlook*, Oct. 4: We made a trip last Monday to Mr. J. H. Burke's vineyard, on the "Barton ranch," where we found him with a force picking grapes. There are about 7,000 vines on 8 acres of land. We have no remembrance of ever having seen a more thrifty vineyard. The vines, which are about 25 years old, were loaded down with grapes of the Mission variety, each averaging about 15 pounds. Mr. Burke has sold the crop to L. J. Rose, of San Gabriel valley, at \$16 per ton delivered, the cost of hauling and picking being about \$2 per ton. The bunches are very full and the flavor is excellent. The soil is on a sand-ridge, and the water is about 14 feet below the surface. No irrigation is required, and the soil needs but little working. Mr. Burke says that raising grapes at \$10 a ton is more profitable than corn at \$3 per cental. He proposes to plant 40 acres more with the Mission vine in the same vicinity.

SHEARING.—*Express*, Oct. 4: A gang of Indians has just finished the work of shearing 27,000 sheep on the Alamitos and Cerritos ranches, for which they received the aggregate sum of \$11,000.

GRAPE PRICES.—*Herald*, Oct. 3: Mr. L. J. Rose and other vignerons are buying all the grapes that reach the San Gabriel valley at 80 cents a hundred. Eight-mule teams are engaged in hauling grapes from Los Angeles to Mr. Rose's vats. The fact is that the whole grape crop of California is small this year, and that \$16 a ton, the price which is being realized hereabouts, is very moderate. But there is one pleasant feature about it, and that is that the Eastern demand for California wines and brandies is large and increasing, and the full crop next year will make the industrious vineyardist rich.

HIVE ROBBERS.—*Westminster Cor. Anaheim Gazette*: Mr. Rowell, of Santa Ana, who owns a bee ranch in Trabuco canyon, and who has suffered the loss of several stands of honey from the depredations of bears, determined to lie in wait for the unwelcome visitants, and last night succeeded in shooting a large grizzly who came for his regular meal of (bee) bread and honey. The bee-men are jubilant over the killing already of three or four of these grizzly knights of the mountains, but say that there are a few more left of the same sort. To-day Mr. Rowell is regaling the epicures of Santa Ana with a toothsome steak from bruin's carcass which had been made as sweet as honey and the honey-comb could make it.

MONTEREY.

FORBIDDEN.—*Cor. Index*: The occurrence of the recent fires, just at the opening of the hunting season, by which thousands of acres of feed and much other valuable property have been destroyed in this and adjoining counties, is bearing its legitimate fruit in the shape of numerous copies, on fences and other conspicuous places, of that suggestive legend: "Trespassers will be prosecuted to the extent of the law—no shooting or camping on these premises."

NAPA.

SHIPPING GRAPES.—*Register*, Oct. 4: Mr. T. B. McClure commenced shipping his grapes to San Francisco Monday, per steamer. The marketing of the crop of this vineyard will occupy three or four weeks. The shipping of large quantities of grapes to San Francisco will tend to decrease the amount of wine made in this city this fall. Another carload of choice

grapes, containing ten tons, from Pine Station, attached to the passenger train, went down the road this morning, destined for the East. This is the second carload shipped within the past week.

STEAM CRUSHER.—At Oakville grape crushing continues steadily. H. W. Crabb has facilities now, with his new steam crusher, to crush 100 tons a day, which is mashing grapes at a pretty rapid rate.

MONTICELLO.—The busy season is not yet over with us. All the farmers are hurrying to get their grain hauled to market, the more so that grain is raising in price. There will be a month's work yet.

SAN BENITO.

HOLDING GRAIN.—*Hollister Enterprise*, Oct. 4: Nearly all the grain raised in San Benito county has been stored in warehouses, the farmers preferring to wait until prices are higher rather than sell at the present rates.

DRY WORK.—The Moran Bros. are summer-fallowing and sowing grain in Grass valley. They have already put in 60 acres of wheat and barley, and we understand that it is their intention to plow and sow all the land they have before the fall rains set in. This is something new in the farming line in that district, and many have grave doubts over its success. Should it prove successful, however, there are many farmers of the county who will doubtless adopt this plan. The people of the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys successfully farm their land in this manner and we see no reason why our farmers should not do likewise here.

SAN DIEGO.

DRY WORK.—*News*, Oct. 3: We hear of a little doing in the way of planting potatoes in the dry earth, looking for the necessary moisture soon, and a little plowing in places that will hear it. Aside from this, the movement is in removing hay to town, and of this we do not see a great deal coming in and being stacked up as is usual in the fall of the year. The price of hay continues low, say \$10.

SAN JOAQUIN.

HOP HOUSES.—*Lodi Review*: Thomas Clement and Edwin Whipple are hop-growers, near the Poland. The former has three hop-houses, varying in size. The largest is a two-story brick, 30x90 feet, sitting on the brow of a hill that overlooks the hop yard; the other two, placed at some distance apart, are 30x50 and 18x40 respectively. The lower story of the building is used for a furnace; there are a good many hundred feet of hot-air pipes passing through the room in every direction. The upper story is used for drying the hops, and is divided as follows: The floor that divides the two stories is composed of narrow slats or edging laid some distance apart. Over this is a coarse thin canvas, stretched from side to side, and connected with a large round beam that extends across the building near the center. There are two of these beams on either side, with a narrow board chute or slide between. The hops are scattered evenly over the whole extent of the canvas, and after they have remained long enough to dry—about 12 hours is the time necessary for the drying process—then the canvas is rolled over these huge beams, and at every turn the hops are brought nearer to and emptied into the slide trough before described. Then they are pushed along on to another stretch of canvas into the air, with a covering to protect them from the wind. Here they are tossed and moved about till cooled sufficiently, from which place they are run into the press and are baled. This ranch has turned out about 16 bales per day, averaging 170 pounds per bale. Four pounds of green hops, however, make only one of dried. In favorable years the land has produced 2,000 pounds per acre, but this year the yield has been much less than the average.

SAN LUIS OBISPO.

SQUIRREL POISON.—*Tribune* Oct. 4: The following recipe has been used with good effect by Mr. A. J. Hudson, of Josephine. Mr. Hudson says that the mixture slays the squirrels by the thousands if spread around their haunts. The ingredients are simple and can be procured at any drug store. Four gallons of wheat washed clean; one quart of cleaned, strained honey; one gill of water, mixed with honey; one ounce cyanide of potassium; one ounce strychnine; five drops oil of peppermint; seven drops oil of annis. The cyanide of potassium and strychnine should be well pulverized. Mix the ingredients with the honey in the order that they are given, commencing with the water, and then mix all with the wheat. Stir into the mixture two quarts of flour; put out to dry and stir well continually until thoroughly dry, to prevent the wheat from clodding together in balls. When not in use keep in an air-tight vessel.

SANTA CLARA.

CANNING FACTORY.—*Mercury*: The San Jose Fruit Packing Company are just now overcrowded with business. They are engaged in putting up quinces, grapes and tomatoes, employing upwards of a hundred hands. The goods are being shipped directly East to supply orders which are coming in so fast that the company is afraid it will not be able to supply the demand. There is a constantly growing demand for Santa Clara county fruits in the Eastern market, which will necessitate on the part of the company a further increase of facilities to supply it.

SANTA CRUZ.

BET SUGAR.—*Courier*, Oct. 3: The beet sugar works at Soquel are running full blast

and turning out large quantities of sugar. Last Saturday 149 barrels were shipped to San Francisco on board the steamer *San Vicente*.

SONOMA.

LIFE ON A SMALL PLACE.—*Healdsburg Flag*: A. M. Baker, of the Island Gardens, makes a living off 14 acres, 6 of which were in a non-paying crop of spuds, this year, and two in corn, leaving the most of his income to proceed from six acres. The secret lies in the fact that he has a bit of our rich bottom land, which is annually overflowed. He keeps a good man at work on the place during six months, and is himself constantly on the road during that time disposing of his produce. He protects his place from the current of the winter stream with willows.

WHEAT.—*Enterprise*, Oct. 2: Up to the present time only a small per cent. of this year's wheat production has been shipped from Healdsburg, the farmers generally preferring to hold in anticipation of higher prices. At the Granger's warehouse upward of 2,000 tons are now stored, the building being almost completely filled, almost the only space remaining being in the aisles. Bloom & Cohn have in their warehouse on the island about 800 tons. The wheat this year is much cleaner than that of last season, and therefore but a small proportion has had to be run through the fanning mills at either warehouse.

WOOL.—During the week past considerable wool has been brought to town, the result of the fall clip. In Healdsburg 18 and 20 cents has been paid this week; some are holding for an advance, but most producers are satisfied with present quotations and sell to local buyers. The revenue from wool this year will be greater in Sonoma county than that of any previous year.

A CARP COMPANY.—On the 15th of last May the Lenni Fish Propagating Company was incorporated in San Francisco, for the purpose of propagating carp, trout and other fish. The works of the company are located on Sonoma creek, and about \$7,000 have already been expended in the erection of buildings, etc. One pond contains two and one-half acres, in which are probably 40,000 carp.

GRAPES.—*Healdsburg Enterprise*: A considerable part of the production will be used up in local wineries, though the largest per cent. will be shipped to San Francisco. Buyers are up from the city securing all they can and paying from \$12 to \$20 per ton, according to variety. The yield of Flaming Tokays and some other foreign varieties will be far short this year, owing to injury done by the hot spells in the early stage of their development.

YOLO.

ITEMS.—*Democrat*, Oct. 2: Stubble burning has already commenced in many portions of the county. It is yet early, however, and no one, except those desiring to dry plow will destroy their feed for some time yet. There is a considerable quantity of wool arriving, but the buyers complain of its inferior quality. While good wool is in demand and commands a good price, the majority of the fall clip is so dirty that it is scarcely salable at any price. Most of the farmers are just now engaged in putting up straw for winter use. The practice of preserving each year a good supply of this article has been found to work so well that it has become a general custom among farmers. No one thinks of destroying their stubble now until he has provided himself with an abundant supply of straw.

WASHINGTON.

SHIPPING GRAIN.—*Walla Walla Union*, Sept. 27: All the warehouses at the depot are full of wheat, and great piles of it are on the outside platforms. There are many thousand tons at the depot awaiting shipment. During the week the number of trains running to Wallula was reduced to two a day. Even with that number the boats cannot take away the grain as fast as it is hauled to Wallula. Good judges estimate that over one-third of the crop of Walla Walla valley will have to be held over until spring, while not a third of the product of Columbia and Whitman counties will be marketed this fall, owing to the low water in the Snake and the lack of means of transportation on the Columbia river.

A GHASTLY JOKE.—It is said that at an agricultural dinner which recently came off in England, at which the absence of tenant-farmers was the most conspicuous feature, the health of the farmers was drunk with some rather wry faces, but with curiously loud applause from the landlords round the table, one of whom, being the principal banker of the town, took upon himself to return thanks for the farmers, beginning his speech with the grim joke: "My lords and gentlemen, although you may not know it, I am really one of the largest farmers in the country." And so he was, for there was scarcely a man at the table who was not under his harrow and crusher. The thought arises whether something of this kind could not occur in this State.

PERSONAL.—The announcement is made that Mr. J. H. Nicholson, late of the Bank of California, has this day been admitted to a partnership in the bag and bagging business of E. Detrick & Co., which will be conducted under the same firm name and address as heretofore. Mr. Nicholson's recognized ability and his former acquaintance with the demands of the business, will give E. Detrick & Co., increased facilities for meeting the wants of their rapidly increasing trade and enable them to fill orders with still greater satisfaction to their patrons.

News in Brief.

A DAMAGING brush fire near Santa Cruz. GRANT will be in Chicago November 13th. A FISH-CULTURE ASSOCIATION has been formed in Chicago.

At Pittsburg 150 tanners struck for an increase of wages.

COOPER the American forger has been captured in London.

YELLOW FEVER has taken a fresh start at Concordia, Miss.

THE situation in Eastern Roumelia is considered very critical.

GORTSCHAKOFF will visit Berlin for a conference with Bismarck.

THE disturbance in Eastern Roumelia is becoming a guerrilla war.

THE Hyde Park Bank, at Scranton, Pa., has made an assignment.

MOBILE has removed her quarantine restrictions against New Orleans.

A REUNION of survivors of Southern prisons took place at Toledo, O.

THE weather last week was as warm in New York as in midsummer.

A STEAMER from Europe brought to New York, Oct. 1st, \$440,000 in gold.

PRESIDENT HAYES and party were warmly received at Springfield, Ill.

THE report of the Russian victory over the Tekke Turcomans is confirmed.

ST. GOTHARD PASS, in Switzerland, is hlocked with snow, suspending traffic.

DURING September the coinage of the U. S. Mints amounted to \$9,279,906.

THE Philadelphia Mint, during August, coined 1,808,050 silver dollars.

AN advance in freight rates from Chicago to New York will take effect Oct. 13th.

GEN. GRANT and party, en route to Yosemite, were warmly welcomed at Stockton.

THE Spanish government has sent 4,000 men to Cuba, and will soon send 4,500 more.

THE returns of the recent German elections indicate the success of the Conservatives.

IT is denied from Pittsburg that a general strike of Trades Unions is contemplated.

BARON CHALICE will succeed Count Zichy as Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople.

TWENTY-FIVE important political trials will be held in St. Petersburg during October.

Up to Oct. 1st arrears of pension claims had been settled to the amount of \$20,734,507.

AN earthquake was felt at Oakland and other places around the bay on the morning of the 2d.

THE United States Assay Office at New York, Oct. 1st, paid out \$639,127 in specie.

THE capital stock of the Bank of California is to be reduced from \$5,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

HON. FRANCIS GILLETTE, ex-United States Senator, died at Hartford, Conn., Sept. 30th.

THE United States steamer *Tuscarora* has been ordered to leave San Francisco for Mazatlan.

THE Treasury purchased 239,000 ounces of silver bullion for the Philadelphia Mint, Oct. 1st.

ACCORDING to dispatches, the insurgents in Cuba are being worsted by the Government troops.

In a fight between soldiers and desperadoes in Indian Territory, nine of the latter were killed.

BONDS amounting to \$28,000, stolen from the National bank of Baltimore in 1878, have been recovered.

SMITH, who stole bullion from the S. F. Mint, has been sentenced to four years in the State Prison.

THE industrial parade at Indianapolis was a great success, every branch of trade being represented.

SIXTY THOUSAND dollars in gold 20-franc pieces arrived at New York on the 2d inst. from France.

THE exports from the United States for the year ending August 31st exceeded the imports \$289,709,341.

YELLOW FEVER is abating somewhat at Memphis, and Nashville has raised its quarantine against that city.

UNITED STATES JUDGE DRUMMOND has decided to retire from the Bench on reaching his 70th year, Oct. 16th.

PROF. WISE, the aeronaut, ascended in a balloon from St. Louis Sept. 28th, and has not since been heard of.

THE Indian Salvador, who murdered Paul Rieger in Marin county, was hanged on the 2d inst. at San Rafael.

JOHN E. GREEN has been awarded \$15,833 for the loss of a leg in the Old Colony railroad disaster in Massachusetts.

MAJOR C. H. HEMPESTED, formerly Governor Bigler's Private Secretary, died in Salt Lake, Sunday, and was buried yesterday.

No further news is received from the scene of the Thornburgh disaster in Colorado, but troops are hastening to the relief of the corraled soldiers.

A DETERMINED attempt is being made in Washington Territory to recapture the escaped Perkins murderers—one of them having already been killed by officers.

THE Western Union Telegraph Company has made another reduction in its tariff, to take effect Nov. 1st, rates from San Francisco to Eastern cities will be \$2.

ANOTHER disaster to the Government troops is reported from Colorado—Major Thornburgh's command having been ambuscaded on Milk river by Ute Indians and suffering heavy loss, the commander of the expedition being among the slain. Active preparations are being made to capture the Indians.