

Slow News.

Much that is not very important is put into the newspapers nowadays; but the ideas of the more ancient editors as to what is really worth telling, were very defective indeed—as much so as were their means of getting news and sending it abroad.

Wendell Phillips in a lecture delivered in New York city, noted the wonderful growth and power of the press in the direction of journalism. This is an agent of civilization that has developed chiefly within fifty years.

The account of the battle of Waterloo, which, Phillips said, was the grandest event of European history in this century, occupied only one-third of a column of the London Times. Compare with this journalistic enterprise, that which lays a full-page history of the Ute massacre of ten persons in Colorado before the readers of our great dailies.

Garrison was mobbed in Boston in 1835, and narrowly escaped being hanged. With all the files of the Boston papers of that year before him, Mr. Phillips could not find anything like a detailed account of the event, "which shook the city while it lasted."

When President Harrison died in 1841, it took ten days for the news to reach Springfield, Ill., from Washington, and then Abraham Lincoln disbelieved the report because it seemed impossible it could reach there so soon.

Now in the newspapers you buy this afternoon you "may read the words Queen Victoria spoke to her Parliament since the sun rose in England," or what a congress of European representatives said and did on the banks of the Bosphorus the evening before. As Phillips pertinently says: "The man who reads the paper has a telegraph wire that connects him with the world, and the man that does not read might as well be Robinson Crusoe on his island."

Side-Hill Chicken Houses.

An Iowa correspondent writes to *The American Poultry Yard*: I have built several chicken houses in my day, having pitched my tent from time to time in several different States. I first used the south end of a barn cellar as winter quarters for my fowls, putting in windows to give plenty of light and heat. I have seen barn cellars very ill-suited for the purpose, being too damp for the confinement of any animal, and I would not use one for this purpose unless the site was dry and afforded a good southern exposure.

The next best chicken house that I am acquainted with is built into the south side of a hill. The front side is nearly all glass, with board shutters to close over the windows at night. Last winter when the mercury stood 22 degrees below zero outside, it was 2 degrees above the freezing point inside this house.

Another building was banked up to the eaves on the north and south sides and west end; four large windows in the south side of the roof, and door in east end. At night the windows were covered with straw mats and board shutters. Inside, the building was lathed and plastered, and the floor covered with gravel. This house would be just the thing for a flat country, but where hills are plenty and handy, I should build a side-hill house if I could not have a barn cellar.

But whatever style of house you may conclude to raise your chickens in, have it constructed so that it will be warm enough without the use of artificial heat. Stoves in poultry houses are a nuisance any way, and in the long run will do more harm than good. Put in plenty of window glass, and the sun will warm your chicken houses cheaper than you can do it with wood or coal.

It was the first experience a couple of Vermont men had enjoyed with a hammock, and the fellow who tried to step into it and then lie down went over head first, and got his nose rooted in the ground and scooped a lot of dirt in his mouth. On getting up he said to his friend, "Don't try it in that way!" And the friend indignantly replied, "You bet I won't. Do you take me for a fool?"

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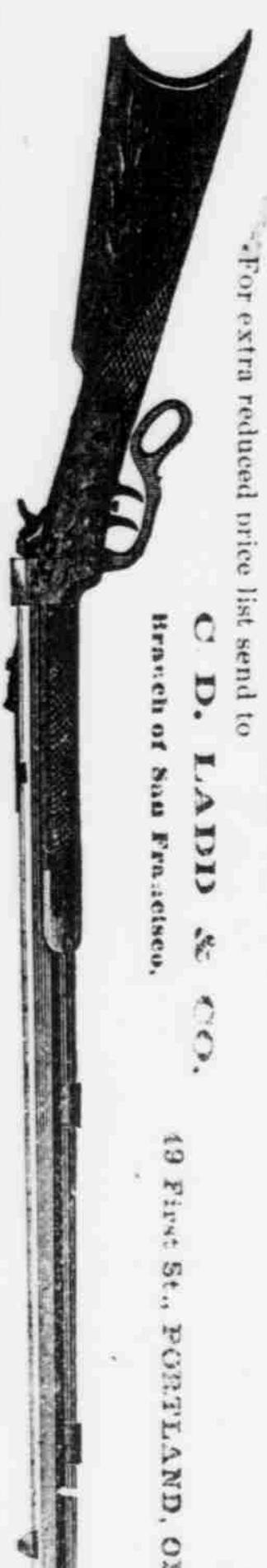
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