CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

THEY ARE GROWN IN NEARLY EVERY PART OF THE STATE.

There Is an Area of 400,000 Acres in Vines in the United States-The Produet Is 40,000,000 Gallons of Wine and 320,000 Tons of Table Grapes.

"I have no doubt that it will surprise even grape and wine growers themselves to know that there are invested in vineyards and wine cellars in the United States over \$155,000,000," said Col. H. Gardner, special agent of the census office for the collection of statistics relating to viticulture, a branch of agriculture which has never before received any official attention in this country. "I find by statistics, which are now collected for the first time," said Col. Gardner, "that there are in round numbers 400,000 acres of land in this country planted to vineyards.

"This is an increase of 220,000 acres in vineyard area during the past ten years, and an increase of over \$10,000,000 a year in the capital invested. Of the area of bearing vines in the country California alone has 150,000 acres, including 25,000 acres of raisin grapes. That state also has of the total investment of capital nearly \$78,000,000. Between 30,000,000 and 40,000,000 gallons of wine are made in the United States in a year, of which California produces more than half. Seven-eighths of the grapes of California go to the wine press. Four-fifths of the grapes grown in all the rest of the United States are for table use. California alone grows the raisin grape.

"I spent three months in California giving official attention to its viticultural interests. Although every county in the state produces grapes, the principal counties of the vine are Napa, Sonoma, Fresno, Santa Clara, San Diego. San Barnardina and Los Angeles, although there are many others of more or less importance. The counties of Fresno, San Barnardino, San Diego and Tulare comprise the great raisin district, and cure 2,000,000 boxes a year, a product worth at least \$3,000,000. The grapes grown for raisins are the Muscat of Alexandria and the Muscat del Gardo Blanco. These counties grow large quantities of wine grapes also, and the sweet wines of California come principally from that district. Fresno county has 25,000 acres of vineyards, Sonoma 21,000 and Napa 16,000.

"The grapes grown in California today include every variety that has made the vineyards of Europe famous The cultivation of the grape in California dates back to the days of the old Spanish friars, the Franciscan fathers. who brought with them from their native land cuttings of a grape popular there. Just what the true name of the grape was nobody seems to know now, and very few care, for while there are in bearing today some of the vineyards or vines set out by the jolly Franciscans a century or more ago, the grape is not in high esteem nowadays, It has al. ways been known as the mission grape

"The old mission vineyard supplied es for the table and the wine press in California until a comparatively short time ago. Then a Hungarian grape known as the Zinfandel was introduced. This newcomer was handsome, proved to be a generous producer, and took the popular heart.

"It proved to be an unfortunate one, for it seemed so easy to grow the Zinfandel that everybody planted vineyards. When they began to bear they bore with a vengeance. The markets became choked with grapes, and prices went down to disastrous figures. It became apparent that the Zinfandel was an in-

Relping the Heat He was a brisk little man with twinkling eyes, and as he stepped into the office of the hotel, wherein about twenty of us were lounging and smoking, he

cheerily called out: "Now, gentlemen, I want your atten-tion for a moment. You have all heard of Africa? It is a country of heathens. The nigger in his natural state is a bad, bad man. He must be improved morally and religiously. I am interested in improving him."

He took a watch from his handbag, and holding the face against his hand continued:

"Now, then, you see this watch? It is not going. The hands are set to a certain figure. The man who guesses nearest to that figure gets the watch. It is fifty cents per guess, and everything over and above expenses goes straight to Groceries and Provisions

"How do you know it will?" inquired a doubting Thomas.

"Because I shall leave the sum with the landlord, to be handed to any local preacher he elects."

Eighteen of us at once laid down our "halves" and recorded our guesses, and when the last one was in the little man held up the watch and announced the winner. Then he continued:

"Gentlemen, that watch cost \$2.80 at wholesale. I have received \$9. There appears to be a balance of \$6.20 in favor the dusky heathen who ache for religious comfort. But let us see. My railroad fare was \$4.20; dinner and supper, \$1.25; two drinks, 20 cents; two games of billiards, 40 cents, and a cigar, 10 cents, making in all \$6.15. Landlord, here is a nickel, and I charge you, as you are an honest man, to see that it goes to buy tracts for our fellow men in Africa. Gentlemen, good night."- New York Sun.

Jeweled Dog Collars.

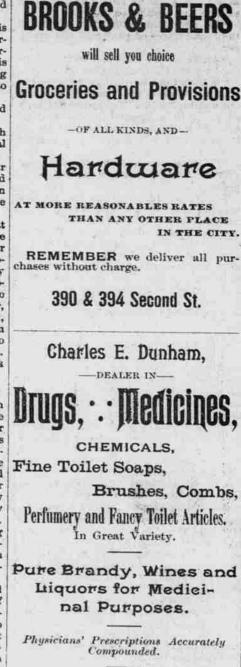
The ultra fashionable young woman who still clings to her dog is having the silver collar made to duplicate exactly her favorite bangle. The plain leather bands and those studded with metal are hopelessly old fashioned; chains have gone out, beaten into bracelet designs, and solid silver is the only sort of neckwear in which a self respecting dog will allow himself to appear. Some of these new collars are wonderfully rich and costly. One, the property of a luxurious King Charles spaniel, cost his mistress considerably over \$100. It was fully an inch wide, and as thick as the animal's comfort would allow.

The entire surface was richly engraved with a court scene from the reign of Charles II. The work was fine and artistic, and on either edge of this superb collar a line of tiny turquoises was set deep in silver. If the young woman affects cats she has the silversmith make six or eight light silver hoops, some cut and others plain, and these bright rings he welds around pussy's furry neck. A beautiful pet Angura, which lies on a cushion and feeds upon cream, wears fine cut silver hoops that sparkle like jewels every time she moves .-- Manufacturing Jeweler.

Irregular Working in Machinery. A simple method has been devised by means of which, in the midst of a busy workshop full of machinery in motion, any special noise, even though slight, can be distinguished and its origin traced. The apparatus consists of an ordinary india rubber gas tube about a yard in length; the length may, however, be varied to suit the nature of the investigation. The tube is unprovided with earpiece or bell. One end is applied to the ear of the observer while the other is moved about in order to explore the seat of the irregularity. Since the free orifice of the tube is comparaely small and is applied serv as possible to the vibrating surface it practically receives only those sonorous vibrations which are emitted by this surface Those who have to do with machinery will find it especially useful for observing noises due to irregularities in the working of small parts of machines, which may be either difficult or dangerous to approach in any other way.-New York Commercial Advertiser.

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The most prosperous family is the one that takes advantage of low prices.





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The paper, both daily and weekly, will be independent in politics, and in its criticism of political matters, as in its. handling of local affairs, it will be

ter all, and to cap the climax the phylloxera came down on the Hungarian importation and bore it away. vineyard after vineyard.

"No new vineyards were replanted with the Zinfandel, and the vine is being replaced with the choicest and hardiest varieties of wine grapes from the famous districts of Europe, including Cabernet Sauvignon, Carbanet Franc, Malbock, Tarnat, Merlot and St. Laurent grapes from the Bordeaux districts; Mataros grapes from Palos; Semillons and Sauvignons from Sauterne; Pinot and Petite Sirrah grapes from the Burgundy districts; Johannisbergers, Traminers and Franken Rieslings from the storied Rhine; Chasselos grapes from Alsace-Lorraine, and the rich Burgers that the wines of California are pressed.

"The famous Challose and Folle Blanche, cognac grapes, are also largely grown, the wine from them being made into brandy. Then there are the rich Spanish Muscats and the favorite Hungarian table grape, the Flaming Tokay. In no other vine region in the world are all these splendid grapes found growing side by side, and they make of California the wonderland of the vine.

"California has the largest vineyard in the world and the most extensive wine cellar. The vineyard is in Tehama famous 56,000 acre farm. It contains 4,000 acres.

"Among the curiosities of the California grape region is a vineyard that may well be called the smallest in the world as regards the number of vines, for it has but one vine. That is a most re-markable one, however, for its branches extend over a space of 12,000 feet, the cane being a foot in diameter. This ex-

cane being a foot in diameter. This ex-traordinary vine is over seventy years old, and was grown from an old mission cut-ting by a Mexican woman. It has borne grapes every year since it was two years old, and is good now they claim for six tons of grapes a year. I was told that clusters weighing seven pounds had been picked from this ancient relic of the mission days. "The phylloxera, which during the past few years played great havoc with California vineyards, is being gradually but surely overcome. The inferior varieties of grapes upon which the pest feeds are being rooted out, and the ohoice foreign varieties, which are sub-ject to it, are protected against it by grafting on native wild varieties, known as resistant vines, or vines which the

Wit Their Stock in Trade.

How many drummers owe their success to ready wit! How many more could tell of failures, if they would, traceable to the lack at an opportune moment of but a pinch of Attic salt. No one appreciates the force of these from Moselle. It is from these grapes questions better than the old traveler who gave me this choice morsel the other day. He had tried in vain to persuade a storekeeper to "look him through," and concluded with, "I am positive you cannot do better with any man. Our house is the oldest, largest and cheapest in the line."

Storekeeper-I hear that same story every day. Every drummer that comes here claims the same thing.

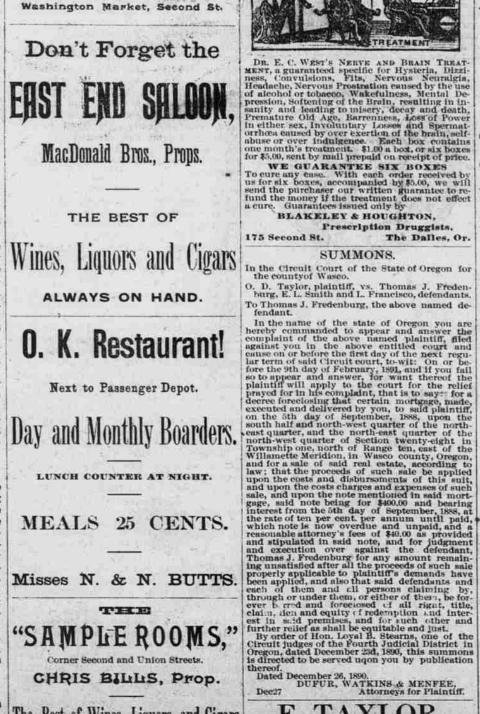
Traveler-There, that shows you how they all impose on people and imitate our methods.

During the laugh that followed the county, on Senator Leland Stanford's grip was opened and the owner's good humor was rewarded with an order .--Jewelers' Weekly.

Walking Sticks.

Nowadays there is hardly any limit to the kinds of material used in walking sticks. Formerly only a few native woods and some foreign species were used. Innovations in the style of walking sticks and umbrellas have been constantly introduced during the last forty years until their manufacture has become quite an art and a business of considerable importance. Natural sticks, that is, saplings of trees and climbing plants, whose roots will form handles or knots, are most used. They are sometimes mounted with precious metals, onyx, jasper, marble, precions stones, ivory and horns of all kinds.-Youth's Companion.

They Did. Bill Clark—If I had as much money as the old man I'd quit business and travel. The Best of Wines, Liquors and Cigars Ad Collum-So would I. Employer (entering unexpectedly)-I guess that's what you'd better do any-



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