Wit and Humor.

NEVER put a bottle of hair-restorer on the shelf with the butter-jar.

WHENEVER you have ten minutes to spare go and bother some one who hasn't.

WHY are balloons in the air like vagabonds? Because they have no visible means of support.

NOTHING brightens the life of an editor more than to be given tickets for a free lecture for advertising it.

NEVER write letters to a widow. She always takes down the old box and compares yours with the other man's.

To make a girl love you coax her to love some one else. If there is anything a woman relishes, it is to be contrary.

A CELEBRATED wit was asked if he knew Theodore Hook. "Yes," replied he: "Hook and eye are old associates."

"LOVE is an internal transport!" exclaimed an enthusiastic poet. "So is a canal boat," said an old forwarding merchant.

WHAT is the difference between an auctioneer and a postmaster? One does as he is bid, and the other as he is directed.

ATHLETIC sports for ladies—Jumping to conclusions; walking round a subject; running through a novel; skipping full descriptions.

A MISS TANNER, who recently married a widower named Hyde with eleven children, says she has given up tanning and is now dressing Hides.

A LITTLE boy whose sprained wrist had been cured by bathing in whisky surprised his mother by asking her if papa had sprained his throat.

A WISCONSIN lady opened a matrimonial intelligence-office recently, but she married the first man who applied, and the concern came to a speedy end.

"ARE you a Christian?" asked a spectacled colporteur of a flower girl on Broadway, the other day. "No, sir; I'm a Buddhist," was the prompt reply.

THE man who asked what the wild waves were saying got no satisfactory answer. The wild waves wouldn't listen to him, and said—'S-h!—'S-h!—'S-h!—'S-h!

A PHRENOLOGICAL journal says that unless young men in selecting a wife pay strict attention to the shape of the fair one's chin they are apt to be led by the nose.

IT is useless for physicians to argue against short-sleeved dresses. The Constitution of the United States says that "the right to bear arms shall not be interfered with."

STATISTICS show that the number of idiots is increasing, and yet some newspapers continue to make war on quack doctors. What is a quack doctor for but to kill off the fools?

"SIR, do you mean to say that I speak falsely?" said a person to a French gentleman. "No, sare; I say not dat. But sare, I say you walk round about the truth very much."

"GENTLEMEN, I introduce to you my friend, who is not so stupid as he appears to be." Introduced Friend (with vivacity): "That's precisely the difference between my friend and myself."

THEY say that after Dr. Mary Walker has crossed a muddy street you can't tell her foot tracks from the men's. This tickles Mary nearly to death, but she doesn't enjoy it half so much as the other women do.

OVER a bridge at Athens, Ga., was the following: "Any person driving over this bridge in a faster pace than a walk shall, if a white person, be fined $5, and if a negro, receive twenty-five lashes, half the penalty to be bestowed on the informer."

A LADY that would please herself in marrying was warned that her intended, although a good sort of a man, was very singular. "Well," replied the lady, "if he is very much more unlike other men, he is much more likely to be a good husband."

COUNTRY gentleman (to foreign friend)—"Hi, there; fire, man! don't you see that hare back there?" Foreigner—"Vat! shoot ze poor ting down as it retreat? No, no, my good sare; vait till he turn abouts and face me; then I vill—zing!"

"YOU never saw such a happy lot of people as we had here yesterday," said a landlord in Indiana, to a newly-arrived guest; "there were thirteen couples of 'em." "What! thirteen couples just married?" "Oh, no, sir; thirteen couples just divorced!"

CLAIBORNE F. JACKSON, once Governor of Missouri, married five sisters. When he went to ask for the last one his venerable father-in-law replied: "Yes, Calib, you can have her. You have got them all—but for goodness' sake don't ask me for the old woman!"

"WHEN does a man most feel the value of a wife?" asked a writer. That depends upon what the writer means by "value." If he means estimated value, we should say just after he gets her; if intrinsic value, when he pays the first bill for the Christmas presents she had made him.

THE manufacture of paper from wood has reached the altitude of perfection in Canada. The superintendent of a mill up there says a tree is cut down and shoved into one end of the mill and five minutes later there is a neighbor at the other end to borrow the paper.—*Danbury News.*

THE other day a mean man out in Western Iowa went off into a quiet country place and died so quick that his wife got his insurance money before the company had time to fail. The President says he never felt so swindled and cut up since he has been in the business.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

REV. JOHN BROWN, of Haddington, was in the habit of proposing on festive occasions a certain young lady as his toast. Having abandoned the practice he was asked for a reason. "Because," said he, "I have toasted her for sixteen years without making her Brown, and so I've resolved to toast her no more."

MR. GREEN SMITH, the son of Gerritt Smith, once told an inquiring friend that he and his father had a deuce of a time in the Adirondacks drinking brandy and water. "What!" said his astonished friend, "Gerritt drink brandy and water?" "No," said Green, "we drank it together. I drank the brandy and he drank the water."

FELLOW-TRAVELERS.—"Will you help me out of this hole?" said a traveling druggist, who had just been compelled to stop his team in a mud-hole, because his horses couldn't pull it out. "No, I can't stop," said the other, who was heavily loaded, and was fearful that he would be too late. "I would take it as a great favor, besides paying you," said the druggist. "What are you loaded with?" asked the Yankee. "Drugs and medicines," said he. "I guess I'll try to get you out, then, for I am loaded with tombstones." They were seen traveling together after that.

The Russian Nihilists.

The trial which has just been concluded at St. Petersburg is one of great political significance to the Russian empire. In October last nearly two hundred persons, after having suffered imprisonment for over a year, were placed on trial for alleged complicity in a great nihilistic conspiracy, and all but twenty of them have been acquitted. They were, technically speaking, accused of having taken part in "a criminal propaganda against the state." The tribunal before which these prisoners were tried consisted of six senators, two representatives of the nobility, a representative of the commercial class, and a representative of the peasantry. Nearly 500 witnesses were subpœnaed for the crown, and 150 for the defense. The prisoners were a very miscellaneous body indeed, including, as they did, 60 gentlemen and 22 ladies belonging to the aristocracy, 14 males and 5 females connected with the governing classes, 4 men and 3 women of military origin, 3 sons of priests, 10 merchants, 43 trades-people, 17 peasants, 14 Prussians, a forger, and perhaps a few others.

The actual existence of this propaganda was discovered quite accidentally, though it had long been known that some revolutionary association was at work throughout Russia. In May, 1874, one Ivan Pelkonen, a native of Finland, opened at Saratoff a boot and shoe shop, which was soon frequented by such strange people that the police thought it necessary to visit and search the place, when documents were found which proved beyond doubt that the shoemaker and his friends were members of a secret society, having branches in all parts of the empire. The society thus discovered was organized at the Russian capital, and was the offspring of earlier societies of the same kind, notably the Dolgonschin and the Nathanson. One of these adopted "Federalism" as its motto, and the aim of its members was the abolition of all government, and the creation of a new social edifice by means of a free federation of independent and productive consumers. It declared war against property, family and religion, and thus embraced Nihilism in its most pronounced form. These doctrines seem to have found a sympathetic echo in the revolutionary circles of St. Petersburg, where Pan-Slavists were already in great force. Naturally, there was considerable affinity between societies which represented, the one revolution at home, the other revolution abroad, and their arguments are repeated in pamphlets, one of which bore the startling title, "Ought We to Occupy Ourselves with the Ideal of the Social Edifice of the Future?" Determined to be consistent in everything, these revolutionists would have no grades, no officers, no giving or receiving of commands. All were equal, and each did what seemed best to himself or herself, both as to the matter and as to the manner of his or her propagandism. In order to gain the confidence of workmen, numbers of the revolutionists learned trades and opened shops. Toward the end of 1875 the police discovered that attempts were being made to excite the working population of St. Petersburg; but before any arrests could be made the persons suspected escaped to Moscow, where they lived under false names and started new circles, after the model of those to which they had belonged at the capital. Thus, by dispersing the propagandists, the area of propagandism had been greatly increased.

The method was the same everywhere. In the case of workmen and peasants, stress was laid on the insufficiency of the land allotted to the latter under the emancipation act, and on the severity of the taxation; and it was pointed out that if the possessors of land upon the upper classes were massacred, peasants and workmen might have land in plenty without being taxed at all. To persons higher up in the social scale, the plotters enlarged on the sufferings of the people and represented the economical position as hopeless, adding that there was no escape for them except through a revolution and the destruction of the present political system. These ideas were promulgated, not only among doctors, lawyers, mechanics, and peasants, but among the priests and army officers. They were whispered not only in the universities, the technological institutes, and the workshops, but in the ecclesiastical seminaries and the military schools of the empire. In the army, both Nihilism and Pan-Slavism prevail, although, in truth, the officers are said to bother themselves less about the latter than is generally supposed. The officers of the Russian army consist of three classes: The upper ranks, which are filled from the territorial gentry; the regimental officers, noble by reason of their parents' service; and those promoted from the ranks. All of these, no matter what their rank, who trouble themselves about politics are either Nihilists or Pan-Slavists. The former, like all Nihilists, believe that whatever is systematic in human affairs must come down, and nothing is to rule a prostrate universe. They condemn all philosophies and systems, religions and governments. They say none are perfect, and so dismiss them all. What they hope for is the ultimate triumph of nothingism. Their motto is that of Danton, *destruc!* The chief of the staff of the czarowitz, writes one correspondent, "is Pan-Slavic to an enthusiastic degree." Another correspondent goes so far as to say that "regimental officers are Nihilists to a man." So extensive have been these ideas that it is believed by many Russians that the war with Turkey alone prevented a revolution at home.

The trial just terminated, notwithstanding that only a very few of those indicted were convicted, may, and undoubtedly will, lead to substantial results. The fate of the convicted ones will, in all probability, be banishment to Siberia. In the meantime, preparations are going on at Odessa and Moscow for the trials of several hundred others charged with like political offenses against their country.—*New York Times.*

DOM PEDRO'S TURKISH BATH.—The Emperor of Brazil, during his stay in Paris, went to a Turkish bath-house on the Rue Auber, and after receiving every attention was informed by the proprietor that the honor of having an Imperial customer was ample payment for the bath. A reckless journalist described the Emperor's visit to the Hammam, and scolded the proprietor for charging him $100 for the bath. An action was brought to vindicate the reputation of the establishment, and the case was adjourned from time to time to enable the prosecution to communicate with Dom Pedro. Finally that indefatigable traveler received a letter from the lawyers, and early in January the court decreed that the *Monde* should pay $100 damages for publishing the libel.

RESPECT the counsel of your parents.

The Life-Saving Service.

Whatever may be the final verdict as to the responsibility for the loss of the *Metropolis*, there can be no reasonable doubt that the scandalous inefficiency of the Life-Saving Service on the North Carolina Coast must be held accountable for the awful sacrifice of human beings. The ship remained nearly twelve hours on the beach, at a distance of only 100 yards or so from the dry sand, before she broke up; and all the survivors agree in declaring that if they had obtained the assistance from the shore which they had a right to expect, nearly all on board could have been rescued. The nearest station was only three miles away. Yet it appears to have been five hours after the disaster before the patrol, which is supposed to be constantly on its rounds in dangerous weather, discovered the steamer, and when the crew of the station reached the spot they seem to have come almost empty handed. No surf-boat was launched; the faint attempt to get a line on board was abandoned, after two or three repetitions, because there was no more ammunition; and thereafter the life-savers stood helpless on the beach, watching a hundred men drown, or dragging living and dead bodies out of the water as the waves tossed them at their feet, while the gentle and beautiful people of the neighborhood rifled pockets and mail-bags and stripped the corpses and the senseless. We do not blame the members of the Life-Saving Service. They have been warmly praised for their care of the survivors, and we have no means of knowing as yet whether they failed in any part of their duty on that fatal morning. It may well be that the stations were not properly manned, that the equipment was insufficient, that the beat assigned to each patrol was too long. These are points to be decided by an official investigation. And it is quite certain that such an investigation must be ordered without delay. It is well known that the service has been seriously crippled on the North Carolina coast—and we may presume that it has been similarly crippled elsewhere—by the refusal of Congress to make the necessary appropriations for it, the idea of economy entertained by the present House of Representatives being apparently to cut and slash without reason at all items which affect the non-political service of the Government, and to appropriate unlimited millions for Southern claims and subsidies. It must be understood that a Life-Saving Service which consists of nothing better than a delusive man on horseback waving his hat, is no credit to the country that produces it; and if the whole force which could be brought to a frequented part of the coast in twelve hours of daylight did not suffice to establish communication with a stranded steamer across a hundred yards of surf, there is an outrageous fault somewhere, which cannot be too speedily exposed.—*New York Tribune.*

Eads's Plan.

Captain Eads's plan for the prevention of floods on the Mississippi does not contemplate either the construction of additional levees or the opening of fresh outlets. He wants to apply his jetty system to the whole river, from St. Louis to the sea. He wants to confine the river to one channel and make it scour that out until it becomes deep enough to carry off all the water which the great water-shed of the continent may pour into it. He gives the following table of flood levels:

"At the head of the Passes, a distance of 12 miles from the Gulf of Mexico, the flood level of the river was 12 feet above the Gulf's ocean level; at New Orleans, about 16 feet; at Red River, 50 feet; at Natchez, 66 feet; at Gaines' Landing, 149 feet; at Memphis, 221 feet; at Cairo, 322 feet; and at St. Louis, 412 feet above the Gulf's level. This line of flood slope fixed the height of the levees, and any treatment of the river that would lower this line would tend to make levees unnecessary. A remarkable difference, however, existed in the grade of this slope at different parts of the river. From New Orleans to the Passes the slope was not more than an inch and a half to the mile; from the Passes to Red River, 300 miles, it was less than two inches per mile; but, in the next 60 miles, it rose to three and one-fifth inches, and yet steeper, until, from Memphis to Cairo, it exceeded five inches, and from Cairo to St. Louis it exceeded six inches per mile."

He concludes that if the slope between Cairo and Red River—800 miles—can be reduced one-fourth inch per mile, it will reduce the flood level at Cairo 16 feet, and so avoid all chances of inundation, as the flood level at Cairo is but 12 feet above the land.

He believes that it is necessary to confine the waters in the stream not only to force them to cut deeper into the soil, but also that they may have the requisite velocity to carry off the sediment with which they are loaded. Else they would make shoals and bars, which facilitate overflows by retarding the passage of the water to the Gulf. The cost of the improvements by his plan will be $50,000,000, and he claims this will secure 20 feet of water at all times and all places between Cairo and New Orleans.—*Toledo Blade.*

The Poor.

Moore was sitting in his office one afternoon, some years ago, when a farmer friend came in and said: "Mr. Moore, I like your paper, but times are so hard that I cannot pay for it."

"Is that so, friend Jones? I am very sorry to hear that you are so poor; if you are so hard run I will give you my paper."

"Oh, no! I can't take it as a gift."

"Well, then, let's see how we can fix it. You raise chickens, I believe."

"Yes, a few, but they don't bring anything hardly."

"Don't they? Neither does my paper cost anything hardly. Now I have a proposition to make to you. I will continue your paper, and when you go home you may select from the lot one chicken and call her mine. Take good care of her and bring me the proceeds whether in eggs or chickens, and we will call it square."

"All right, Brother Moore," and the poor fellow chuckled at what he thought a capital bargain. He kept the contract strictly, and at the end of the year found that he had paid four prices for his paper. He often tells the joke himself and says he never had the face to say that he was too poor to take a paper from that day.

A PROSPEROUS STATE.—Kansas has good reason to be proud of her prosperity. Her population numbers 700,000; she has property valued at $229,000,000; she raised last year $66,000,000 in farm products; she has 2,310 miles of railroad, 233,000 school children, 4,008 schoolhouses, and her territory is not yet one-fourth developed.

The Stinging Sensation

In the gullet called "heartburn," (why, it is impossible to conceive, since the heart has nothing to do with it), is caused by the acetous fermentation in the stomach of the food contained in it; by an overplus of the gastric juice, which is itself a powerful acid, or by the unnaturally acrid quality of that secretion. The ordinary way of treating this symptom, for it is nothing else, is to administer bi-carbonate of soda, an alkali, to neutralize the acid. But sour stomach cannot be cured by alkalies, which tend to weaken the digestive apparatus. A far better remedy is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which strengthen the cellular membrane, the seat of the difficulty, regulates the flow of the gastric secretion, improves the quality if vitiated, and puts the stomach into good working order. Perfect digestion follows as a natural sequence, and there is no more trouble from heartburn or sour stomach. The liver and bowels are also thoroughly regulated by this sovereign alterative.

The Curse of Americans is Impetuosity.

We cannot do anything moderately. We don't take time to eat or drink. When the season of social gatherings comes on in winter, we rush from one to another, night after night, until we become tired out and the system is run down. In summer we fly to the watering places and idle away our time in luxury. No wonder that we become "blaze" in middle life. Then we try medicines to recuperate, and often resort to unfortunate stimulation in the vain hope of wooing back our youthful energies. Every European sees this. As things are, the best remedy, when the physical powers begin to decline, is the PERUVIAN SYRUP, which has for many years been used in exactly this direction. It is the best *tonic* known to man and the least injurious. It restores wasting energies, strengthens the system against the insidious maladies which are induced by weakness, and builds up the system properly and effectively. Sold by dealers generally.

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WE invite attention to the advertisement of Armes & Dallam in another place. This well known firm has moved into a large and convenient store on Front St., San Francisco.

WELL, that's all right, you can use anything you've a mind to. PRATT'S ABOLITION OIL is good enough for us. We have used it in our family for ten years. It never fails.

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THE DIME WALLET

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The American Pipe Company's Pipe.

Some 18 or 20 years ago the Wyckoff pipe was introduced into the Eastern States, and at once attention was attracted to its peculiar adaptation for the purpose of conveying gas or water. It was found that when compared with iron, the wooden pipe was not only cheaper but better for certain purposes, and in March last an organization styled the American Pipe Company was organized in this city with a capital stock of $250,000, for the purpose of manufacturing this pipe and thoroughly introducing it on this coast. The officers of this company are Robert G. Byxbee, of the firm of H. B. Tichenor & Co., President; John E. Chalfant, formerly of the Mendocino Lumber Company, Vice President; John F. Byrbee, of Duncan Mills Lumber Company, Secretary and Treasurer; Calvert Meade, Auditor; P. T. Dickinson, who has been for the last 20 years connected with the manufacture of this pipe, General Manager. On the organization of this company a mill was started at Olympia, Puget Sound, W. T., where the lumber is prepared, when it is brought to the city and taken to the factory of the company, on Channel street near Fourth, where it is finished ready for use. Some 50 or 60 men are employed at both places. The manner of making this pipe is peculiar, but may be easily understood by referring to the accompanying engravings. Fig. 1 shows a completed pipe; Fig. 2 the horizontal sections and connections; *aa*, cylinder of wood; *bb*, bands of iron; *cc*, coating of hydraulic or asphaltum cement. It is made in sections of eight feet long, from Puget Sound pine or Oregon fir. It is first bored, and then turned in a lathe to a uniform thickness of shell, removing all of the sap, and steamed thoroughly, to avoid any possibility of checking, or tasting the water. One end of each piece has a tenon of about three and a half inches, and the other is mortised to fit it closely. The swelling of this tenon, when driven home, makes a perfectly tight joint. The pipe is now ready for banding. This is done by winding the iron spirally around it, of a thickness and at intervals required by the pressure to be sustained. The iron is coated on the upper side as it is wound upon the pipe, producing a condition best calculated to resist decay in any form. The water pipe is coated on the outside only, as it is well known scientific fact that water, either salt, alkali or sulphur, does not affect wood, and in this city that this pipe is used at the Mint to carry off the waste acids, while it is as well known that water will find the smallest crack in the inside coating of iron pipe, and cut its way out in a few months.

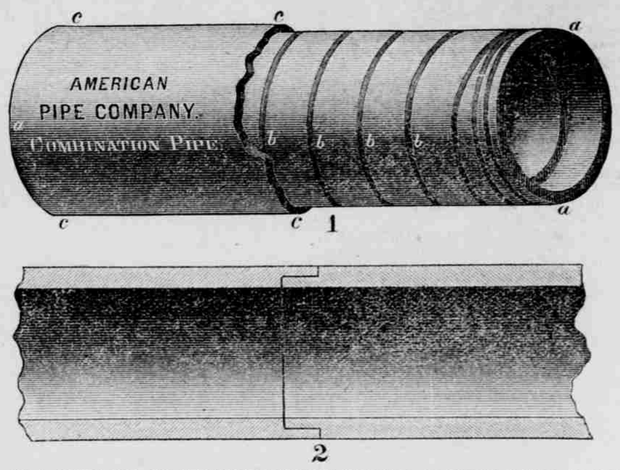

Fig. 1—View of Pipe. Fig. 2—Horizontal Section and Connection. *aa*—Cylinder of Wood. *bb*—Bands of Iron. *cc*—Coating of Hydraulic or Asphaltum Cement.

Mr. O. J. Preston, of Preston & McKinnon, lumber dealers, Pier 5, Steuart street, San Francisco, and President of the Alameda Water Company, says: The pipes laid by this Company are the Wyckoff wood, as manufactured by your company; and it affords me pleasure to say that in every way they give entire satisfaction. They are more easily laid, more easily tapped, cheaper and, we think, the best pipe we have ever known.

Mr. Claus Spreckels—the great sugar refiner—says the following of the Wyckoff pipe put down by him near Aptos:

I have now in use about three miles of your wooden pipe on my ranche in Santa Clara county, giving perfect satisfaction and in perfect order. I find it answers the same purposes as iron pipe. In fact I consider your pipe the best, considering the cost, in use, and cheerfully recommend it.

Mr. Alexander Duncan, President of Duncan Mills Land and Lumber Co., writes as follows: "It affords me pleasure to send you my hearty indorsement of all the claims made for your Combination Water Pipe. The 1,300 feet which we bought of you has been in constant use under a much greater pressure than at first intended, and stands it splendidly."

To make a long story short, I consider it the best pipe I ever saw.

A very fine endorsement of this pipe is made by E. M. Morgan, Esq., Chief Engineer and Superintendent of the Santa Cruz Water Works, where it has been in use two years. There they have 200 feet pressure all over the town, and he says he can lay 1,250 feet of six-inch pipe per day with four men, and that in all ways, tapping, laying, etc., the expense is far less than iron pipe. That this pipe must eventually come into general use, there can be no doubt, for it possesses the following advantages over any pipe in the world: 1st, it is the cheapest good pipe; 2d, it is the most durable of all pipes—practically imperishable; 3d, it neither expands nor contracts, and corrosion is impossible; 4th, it is more easily laid—can be tapped with an ordinary auger; 5th, it is more easily handled—lighter in weight, and perfectly tight; 6th, it is not liable to get out of order; 7th, it need not be laid so deep, and in cold climates will not freeze so quickly; 8th, when used for water, it neither tastes of, or can be affected by, chemical ingredients; 9th, when used for gas it prevents condensation.

The President of the Santa Cruz Water Company, Henry K. Moore, Esq., thus endorses the pipe in a letter addressed to the manager of the company: "I cheerfully comply with your request for my views respecting the Wyckoff combination pipe furnished by your company to the Santa Cruz Water Company. Over 11 miles of the above pipe have been laid in the town of Santa Cruz. It has been in constant use for nearly 18 months under a pressure of not less than 150 pounds, and has stood the pressure admirably. We find that it works in every respect to our entire satisfaction, and we shall most decidedly give your pipe the preference in all extensions made by our company.

In our opinion this pipe has decided advantages over iron pipe, such as saving of time and labor, in tapping and making connections, ease of repairing, cleanliness of water flowing in it, and great saving in cost and freight. With us the pipe is a success, and I can unhesitatingly recommend its use to any town or corporation, or persons desiring pipe for water works of any kind."

In June last this pipe was introduced upon the Central Pacific Railroad and its branches for all purposes where pressure is required, and the officers of the road give it their hearty endorsement. Since that time they have laid about 50,000 feet, and it is now superceding all other kinds of pipe.

By a special order issued from the War Department this pipe is now being used at all military posts, and it has been hauled over 400 miles into Arizona, to be used at Camp McDowell, where it gave entire satisfaction.

For use in mining purposes this pipe would be very economical. It possesses great strength and durability, and can be made to withstand a very heavy pressure. A great desideratum, acknowledged by all, is the ease with which it can be transported to the mines.

Messrs. J. S. and C. H. Briggs, owners of the Briggs mine, Central City, Colorado, write: "We take pleasure in recommending the pipe made by the American Pipe Company to miners in particular, as we have tried it in our Briggs mine, at Central City, Colorado; and found in better in every respect than we expected. We would not use iron pipe if it did not cost a cent a foot, if we could get wooden pipe."

The American Pipe Company, as now organized, is an active company, with ample capital, and they are energetically introducing the pipe in every direction. The office is at 22 California street, San Francisco. ☞ Please state where you saw this.

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