

The foreign shipments of lumber made direct from the mill ports of our Northern Pacific Coast, during the same period, amounted in all to fifty millions of feet. The total amount of Puget Sound and Oregon pine lumber (both rough and dressed), laid down in San Francisco, for 1873, aggregated one hundred and five million three hundred and seventy-four thousand and seventy-eight feet. The addition of the redwood, fir, cedar, laurel, spruce, and maple lumber received at this port in the same time, makes the total lumber receipts of San Francisco for 1873 aggregate two hundred and three million three hundred and twenty-nine thousand four hundred and forty-one feet.

A very fair percentage of the lumber cut on this coast during the year has been utilized at home in the construction of vessels for our coasting trade. Vessels of this class are in many instances built immediately at the mill-ports of Oregon, Puget Sound, etc., San Francisco only leading in the number turned out, in consequence of the greater facilities for construction obtainable here. In the business of providing both light and heavy spars for vessels of all sizes, this coast is fast asserting its superiority. For length, straightness, durability, elasticity, and freedom from natural blemishes, as well as the facility with which it can be worked, the fir produced by the forests of our Northern Pacific possessions, is second to none in the world. The admiration excited abroad by the unusual continuous length and strength of the spars of the ship *Three Brothers*, and other vessels fitted out here, is gaining for the fir grown upon this coast a deserved popularity among naval architects.

THE GROWTH AND MANUFACTURE OF DOMESTIC TOBACCO.—Among the recently organized industries of San Francisco, the curing and manufacture of California-raised tobacco at Gilroy, is beginning to assume a very prominent place. The Consolidated Tobacco Company now employs over one hundred hands in the manufacture of cigars, who turn out an average of fifty thousand per week. Besides the cigars made, this company also manufactures about six thousand pounds of home-grown tobacco every week. Twenty-two men are engaged in this branch of the business alone, one half of whom are Chinese. At this date they are all working on the new crop, which is said to be superior to that raised in any preceding year. As experience in local tobacco culture increases, each succeeding crop proves superior to its predecessor. Good judges of raw and manufactured tobacco pronounce last year's California article to be fully equal, when properly cured, to imported tobacco from Cuba, and to far exceed in quality that imported to this city from Manila and other Asiatic countries. This tobacco-manufacturing industry bids fair, therefore, to make San Francisco an active and successful rival to foreign cities hitherto noted for an almost exclusive monopoly of this trade. Besides cigars, the company referred to produces smoking tobacco of native growth fully equal to the best brands imported. We understand it is their intention to commence the manufacture of all grades of chewing tobacco. We also learn that this company proposes to plant six hundred acres of tobacco this season, from which over one million pounds of cured product may be safely anticipated.

The Theaters of San Francisco.

The theaters and other places of public amusement in this city are both numerous and well patronized. The class of dramas, comedies, burlesques, etc., enacted at these houses is generally of a high order of excellence—at least in so far as good stock and star acting in their rendition and the style of stage presentation can be said to make them so. Indeed, theatergoers and newspaper critics here are so fastidious and hard to please that managers are sure to lose money in the attempt to cater to the public taste with anything short of the best talent obtainable. The comparatively short time now taken to reach the Pacific Coast from the large cities of the Atlantic States renders the engagement of fresh faces and accompanying novelties in the theatrical line an easy matter to enterprising managers. The selections for this market, however, must be made judiciously. There is probably no city in the world in which an actor or actress sooner finds his or her true level than in San Francisco. No amount of preparatory trumpeting, newspaper puffery, and printer's ink, prior to arrival, seems to influence the public verdict here in regard to an actor's merits or the reverse; all depends on the manner in which he acquits himself on his first appearance. Theatrical people and public