Enough air should be let into the stove-room, through the openings already described, to keep up a steady draft through the hops, and out of the opening in the roof, else the vapors thrown off by the hops will not be carried away, but become chilled and fall back, and the drying process be retarded.

PRESSING HOPS.

There are several kinds of hop presses in use in the hop region. The one, however, combining the most points of excellence, is the "Bellinger Excelsior Hop Press," manufactured in this county. In using this press, the following is the modus operandi:

The press is stationed directly under a hole in the floor of the cooling-room, which should be about twelve by twenty four inches, and provided with a bottomless sack, securely tacked around the edges, to conduct the hops into the press. The press should be taken to pieces, and a piece of sacking one foot longer than the inside of the press (or half of a temporary field sack) should be placed on the bed so there will be just the same margin on each side, and six inches on each end beyond the inside of the press when it is set up. The sides and ends should then be replaced and the fastenings secured, the movable end-boards put in place and buttoned, and the movable side-boards on top put up. About three bushels of hops are first put in the press, and two men get in and tramp them down. Dancing is a favorite pastime in hop-picking time, and if any of the men about the place are inclined to "trip the light fantastic toe," now is a good time for them to exhibit their muscle. A couple of Indian braves, dancing the war dance, to the music of their tom-toms, would do excellent service. More hops must be added from time to time, and the tramping continued until the press is full. A bale should weigh about two hundred pounds, and after pressing one bale and weighing it, a very good idea may be obtained of the amount of tramping necessary. The press being full, take the board which goes under the follower and cover it with a piece of sacking of the same size as that at the bottom, leaving the margins the same as before. Gather up the ends and sides of the cloth, (the latter being wrapped around the board,) and put in the press. Arrange the folds of the cloth so the follower will not confine it and apply the power. As soon as fairly started remove the first of the movable boards at each end, and the others as the follower descends. When the bale is about twenty-seven inches in height, remove the ends and sides and lap the upper over the lower sacking, fasten with six or eight scratch-awls, or slim iron pins about six inches long, until the sewing is completed. Large, awl-shaped needles are used; and the best soft sail twine for thread. A little piece of tallow will be found useful to grease the needles. Commence sewing about two inches outside the bale, and end about the same. Draw the stitches tight, and let them be about an inch apart. Now remove the power and carefully roll the bale out. The ends are neatly fastened by means of twelve slim hard-wood pins about six inches long, six at each end. The bale should now be set on end to be capped at leisure, care being taken to leave space between the bales for the circulation of air. In capping no larger pieces of sacking should be used than is necessary to cover the pins. The raw edges should be turned under.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The weight of hop-sacking should be about one and a half pounds to the yard, as anything lighter than that is not sufficiently strong to bear shipping long distances, and anything heavier is objected to by brewers as an unnecessary tax on them. We have known hop-farmers to use two-pound sacking, and to put in pins large enough to pin together a barn frame, but as every man’s hops are marked by the buyer with lot and number, the fraud is easily traced back, and the dishonest farmer has to suffer for it. In training the vines wind to the left, or with the sun.