ing is more tiresome than to bore out a soft piece of wood with ordinary tools. The gouge, indeed, in one position, will do something, but is soon put out of the cut as the hollow deepens, and as to the chisel, or any similar tool, it has to be held flat so as to scrape and tear out the fibres in a manner unsatisfactory and provoking. Hook tools, and hook tools alone, are fit for such work as this. Lumber Trade.

THE BIG TREES OF CALIFORNIA.

I passed on the Hardins route (which is identical with the Coulterville for a large portion of the distance), from the Yosemite valley to Stockton, in October 1870, and about thirty miles southwest of the valley, passed through a grove on or near the banks of the Tuolumne river, in Tuolumne county. I measured one tree whose trunk was seventy feet in circumference four feet from the ground. There are also thirty trees in this grove, one of which is decidedly the best grown and handsomest tree of any I saw in either the Calaveras or the Mariposa Grove. I measured the Grizzly Giant in the Mariposa Grove and found it seventy feet six inches at eight feet from the ground. It is stated to be thirty feet in diameter; the fact is, this specimen like many others, swells out towards the root, and I consider the dimensions mislead one in forming an estimate of the size. I took my measurement where the trunk is straight. I must confess these gigantic trees did not at first strike me with the wonder I had laid in store for myself on seeing them. The fact of my having ridden for days through forests of giant pines, P. Ponderosa, P. Lambertina, and Abies Douglasii, whose trunks I measured and found to be from eighteen to twenty-six feet in circumference, had so prepared or accustomed the eye to such (to an Englishman) large trees, that the Sequoias did not at first strike me with that amount of surprise I expected them to do. I collected some seed, and I find I had no difficulty in raising seedlings in this variable climate (N. W. Yorkshire.) One fact struck me forcibly while I was in the Mariposa Grove as well as that of Tuolumne—namely, the total absence of seedling plants or young trees, which led me to put the inquiry, are these mammoth trees the last of their race, and, like many of the tribes of red men, to be wiped out in the next generation? —The Garden.

FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR LUMBER.

From the Manufacturer and Builder.

Some of the industrial papers are discussing the question as to the future supply of lumber, and as usual in such cases, take extreme opposite views. Thus the WISCONSIN LUMBERMAN fears a great scarcity, and says that the Atlantic states are almost devoid of forests; that the lumberlands of Wisconsin and Michigan are being rapidly used up, while the prairie states have no lumber at all. The Mining and Scientific Press of San Francisco maintains to the contrary that there is plenty of it, that the forests of the Sierra Nevada and the coast range for 3,000 miles in length can furnish lumber for the whole continent for untold centuries, and that the pine woods of Canada are also good for a supply of long duration. Without taking a too cheerful view, and so weaken the arguments in favor of forest culture and against reckless destruction of wood, we may remark that there is still much more forests in the Atlantic states than our western friends give us credit for. For instance, in New York state, the Catskill, Shawangunk, Adirondack, and other mountain ranges contain immense forests, covering lands unfit for farming purposes, and in which the denuded places will in a few decades be covered again by nature with a new crop of timber. It is the same in Vermont, New Hampshire, and still more in the southern states, especially in the Carolinas and Georgia, where, immense forests are still being utilized, and by the luxuriant southern climate replaced with wonderful rapidity.

Our only uneasiness in this regard proceeds firstly, from the unfortunate and fatal yearly fires, which sometimes burn up as much at one single sweep as a whole generation would consume during several years; secondly, from the increasing demands of our growing population, which, instead of needing 30,000,000,000 feet per year, will in a few decades need 300,000,000,000.

CALIFORNIA'S GRAIN SHIPMENTS.

California shipped, in 1872, 183,448 quartersacks of flour more than in 1871, and 2,083,437 pounds more of wool, or over $1,000,000 more of values in wool. Since July 1, 1872, and to January 1, 1873, California has cleared for the United Kingdom of Great Britain, by 198 ships, 5,385,445 centals of wheat, valued at $9,154,361. The smallest shipments were in July, the greatest in November.