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Production of turkeys for the city markets was a paying activity in early county days it is revealed by the following article which appeared in the Tulare County Times of November 18, 1871:

"On Wednesday, a drove of some ~~5000~~ 300 turkeys passed our office on their way, we are told, to San Francisco.

"In our peregrinations, we have seen a little of almost everything but this is the first flock of turkeys we ever saw that were being driven to market like other 'cattle' and they appeared as docile and tractable as so many sheep, strutting along in a manner that reminded us of 'the frog and the ox.' They were the property of Mr. James Elliott and were raised in this county."

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The Visalia newspapers, since their beginnings, have been active in urging civic progress and improvements. The following article which appeared in the Tulare County Times of November 30, 1872, indicates the stand of that newspaper at the time on a civic problem:

"WHAT SHOULD BE DONE:--We have a word to say ~~about~~ to our city fathers. We want and must have at least two additional cisterns, and a greater supply of hose for our fire company if we expect to be of service in case of fire.

"At present there are only about 900 feet of serviceable hose and it would be impossible, therefore, for a fire over 300 yards from the present cisterns on Main street, to be reached by water. There should be additional cisterns somewhere in the vicinity of the residence of John Graves and one in the neighborhood of Thompson and Ashton's blacksmith shop, we would say, and a ~~sufficient~~ sufficiency of hose provided to reach them from any reasonable part of town. Our trustees should pass measures to procure these needed improvements."

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Travelers of the 1870's were not making use of airplanes but the following article which was clipped from the Virginia City Chronicle of January 25, 1873, and printed in the Tulare County Times of February 1, 1873, shows that some attention was being given to aerial possibilities:

"FLYING MACHINE"---We were shown yesterday an unfinished portion of one wing which will be attached to a flying machine, the invention of a young mechanic which has recently arrived among us from the eastern states. The frame of the wing is made of *ermosa*, an exceedingly light wood, and a native of the Sandwich islands.

"The covering is a kind of cloth manufactured from pith of the common California tule, and is very light. There is also an outside covering of small goose feathers which the inventor says will buoy his aerial flight. The wings are to be attached to the arms and will have joints at the elbows that will allow him the free use of his limbs while flying through space. The young man says that he expects to be able to complete his machine and have it in running order in about a week and will then give an exhibition of his sailing qualities by ascending to the top of Mt. Davidson and flying off in the direction of Carson, which distance he says, can be made in seven minutes.

"Our citizens will anxiously look for the completion of this wonder and an exhibition of his powers."

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Great interest was shown locally in the Centennial of 1876 in Philadelphia but costs of exhibition which have been heard recently concerning other ~~world~~ world's fairs was heard even then.

The following articles appeared in the Tulare County Times of March 25, 1876:

"Mr. M. Vivian, the proprietor of the big tree taken from this county for exhibition at the Centennial is now at Philadelphia, making arrangements for removal of the tree from St. Louis where it has been on exhibition during the past winter. He has made negotiations for a small piece of ground for the use of which, during the season, he has to pay \$1700. This illustrates the exorbitant charges which people may expect who are in any way connected with the exposition."

3m

"On last evening, Mr. Hand of New York shipped 36 California mustang horses from here to exhibit at the Centennial to show California horsemanship and the great endurance of the native mustangs of this county. George Parker and John Francis accompanied them for the equestrians. We find that Tulare county will be represented at the Centennial in many particulars."

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"That composing room again!" ~~is~~ generally is the remark of a modern reporter when an error is discovered in his copy. However, in the Tulare County Times of July 16, 1885, is recorded an instance in which the editorial department assumed full responsibility. The following article appeared under the date noted:

"Last week the jaded and over-worked individual who occupies the exalted position of the reporter of the Times permitted his brain to be addled by the hot weather and made an unpardonable blunder.

"In describing the harvesters of J.A. Patterson, he said that each machine was worked by seven horses. The ~~xxxxxx~~ correct number ~~xxxx~~ is 14. Not content with such a grave offense against veracity, he asserted that the average cost of harvesting was 50 cents per day instead of 50 cents per acres. The proprietors of the Times, however, are pleased to inform an outraged ~~xb~~ public that they are closely watching their inaccurate reporter and a repetition of the offense will result in his summary discharge.

"This instance is notable as being the first case on record in the history of American journalism where the 'intelligent compositor' was not directly responsible for a blunder. Exchanges will please heed this remarkable circumstance."

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The following article which appeared in the Visalia Daily Times of September 13, 1893, is self-explanatory:

"A NEW SOCIETY:--A permanent organization of reformed drinkers was effected the first of the week in Visalia. The ~~XXXX~~ society was given the name of ~~XXXX~~ 'Practical Workers' and officers were elected to hold office until January 1, 1894. The officers represent graduates from the different liquor-cure institutions.

"An effort will be made to secure a comfortable and accessible club room where smoking, reading and card games may be indulged in but no gambling will be allowed. These men feel that the public reading room must be kept neater and quieter than is expected of a club room, hence their desire to have one of their own. The members will endeavor to raise money to send other afflicted men to the liquor-cure institutes, whenever necessary.

"The movement is a worthy one and should meet with encouragement and success."

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At least one old time resident of Visalia has recalled seeing a group of camels taken through Visalia to other points in the state where they were to be used as beasts of burden. The experiment did not turn out well, however, with further efforts to develop the animals for use in the valley were abandoned.

The following which appeared in the Tulare County Record of September 17, 1859 touches upon the subject:

"THE CAMELS ARE COMING:--The S.F. Alta states that Mr. Otto Esche, who started one of the first expeditions to the Amoor river from California and lately arrived in Europe by way of Siberia has informed his friends and correspondents, Messrs Knauth, Nachod and Kuhne of New York City that he has contracted for a number of superior camels to arrive in San Francisco by about September or the beginning of October, this year.

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Visalia from the beginning has taken pride in its building activities as demonstrated by the following article which appeared in the Visalia Delta of December 17, 1859:

"Improvements in our town s till continue, notwithstanding the bad weather and heavy roads. Mr. Wells is finishing a fine brick dwelling--Mr. Aunbaugh has completed his bakery, etc.--Dr. Baker is erecting a fine dwelling on C urt street and Mr. Goodhue has contracted for the building of a fine dwelling---besides these, there are many more in the vicinity of the town recently erected, the owners of which are unknown to us.

"And lastly, San S<sub>i</sub>ng has purchased a lot on the corner of C urt street and Court H<sub>o</sub>use S Square and erected thereon a splendid one story clap-board shanty, decorated with a canvas sign bearing the ominous words, "Washing and Ironing" on one side--the heiroglyphics on the other side, we leave for those to interpret who have more time than us to study foreign languages. It may mean anything--we don't know."

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Few of those who witnessed the inauguration recently of Visalia's enlarged lighting system realize that there was a period when about the only light from which the public might benefit was that which sifted through the doors of business establishments which were open at night.

The following appeared in the Visalia Weekly Delta of December 24, 1859:

"TOWN LAMP:--A portion of the citizens of the town have determined to have a lamp erected in the vicinity of their business houses and for that purpose raised a sufficient amount of money to defray the expense of its construction and its erection.

"The design and construction is by Mrs. Bostwick. The painting is by Mr. J.H. Richardson. The following are the dimensions: height of lamp, 12 feet; width, four feet--and composed of 30 panes of glass of six different colors. Twenty of the largest panes contain the names of the business houses in the vicinity.

"The lamp will be erected in front of the Fashion saloon, central to the subscribers, ~~at xxxxxxxxxxExxxzforzzhzzfizz~~ and will be lighted by four camphene lamps, with reflectors, on Christmas Eve, for the first time. The lamp, from present appearances, is one that cannot be excelled in the state for workmanship and beauty. When we see it hung up and lighted, we will judge further."

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The Visalia Weekly Delta of September 8, 1860, had its own peculiar method of welcoming another newspaper into the field.

The following appeared in the Delta on the date above noted:

"The Visalia S<sup>u</sup>n, after a hard struggle, has at length made its appearance and shines for the benefit of the benighted inhabitants of the valley. Pecuniarily, we wish it success and welcome it among our exchanges. Politically, it is nothing, but gives evidence of the previously avowed intentions to unite, if possible, all the opposing elements of the national democracy, ~~Frank~~ republicans, D<sup>u</sup>glasites, etc."

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