

D. J. Necker

APRIL, 1885.

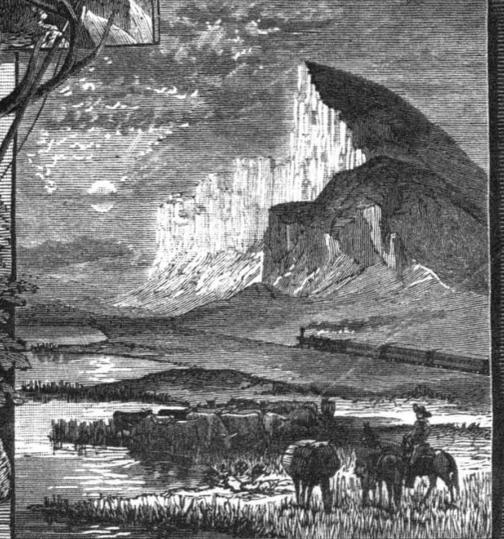
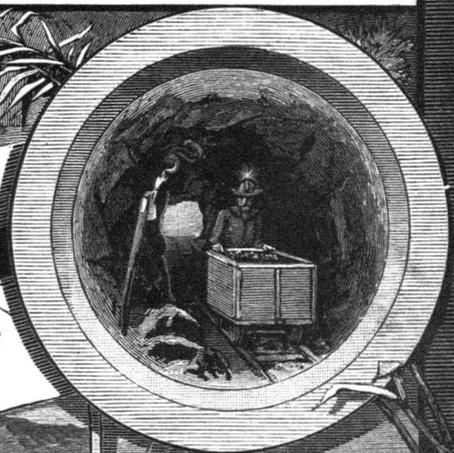
West Shore



ESTABLISHED 1875



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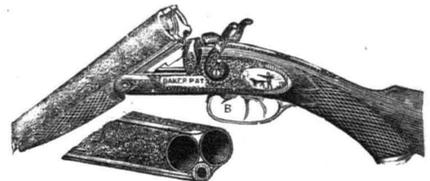
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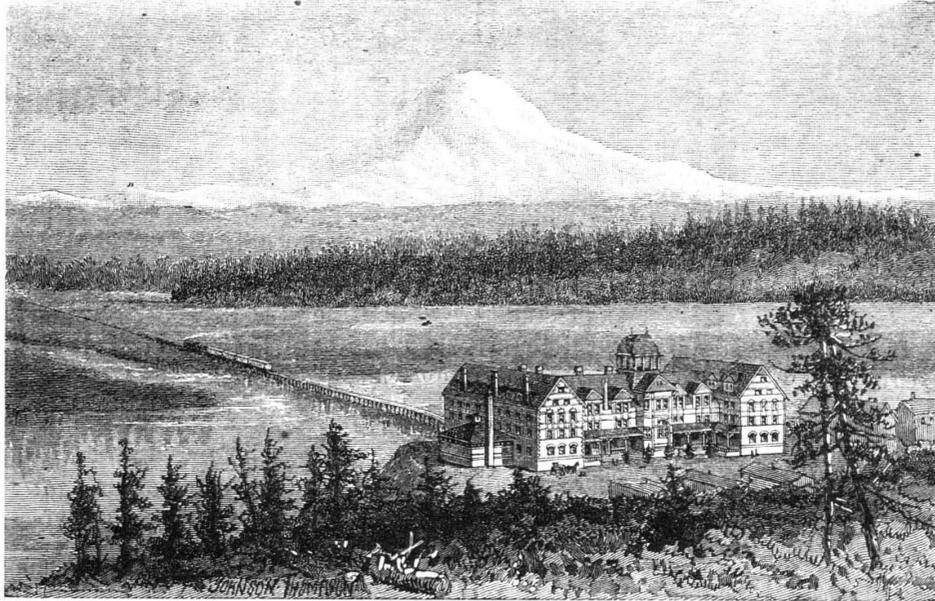
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THE WEST SHORE.

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Portland, Oregon, April, 1885.

No. 4.

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WORD comes from Philadelphia that the Northern Pacific has authorized the letting of a contract for the Cascades Tunnel. This is cheering news to the cities on Puget Sound, which can now look forward with certainty to speedily possessing the railroad facilities required for their future growth.

It is naturally gratifying to learn from the stream of immigrants now pouring into Southern Oregon that the great majority of them, who seem to be so well posted upon the place of their destination and pleased with the prospect before them, gained their information from a number of THE WEST SHORE issued some time ago, giving a complete description of that region. It is also highly pleasing to receive assurances from the leading citizens there of their knowledge and appreciation of that fact.

GOVERNOR MOODY has appointed to the Board of Immigration men whose character and ability give us the greatest confidence in the success that will attend their efforts. Each section of the State is represented by one of its foremost and most enterprising citizens, while Portland contributes two of her most energetic and public-spirited business men, who have been identified with the movement from the beginning. The Board is composed of the Hon. H. W. Corbett and Charles H. Dodd, of Portland; W. N. Ladue, of Salem; the Hon. H. B. Miller, of Josephine County; the Hon. L. B. Cox, of Pendleton.

OUR friends at Oregon City have struck upon a happy idea that not alone the power, but the beauty of the falls as well, should be utilized. On the west side lies a grand plateau, which has been subdivided for residence property, each block overlooking the river and falls, and affording a splendid point from which to view those snow-crowned monarchs of the Cascades—Hood, Adams and St. Helens. A substantial and ornamental wire suspension bridge will be thrown across the river immediately below the falls, commanding a fine view of them, as well as the locks and the river both above and below. This gives access to the town proper as well as to the railroad depot. In connection with this is a project to build a fast steamer, which will make two round trips daily between Oregon City and Portland, alternating with the cars, and thus offering an opportunity for travelers to go in either direction four times a day—twice by rail and twice on the river. The citizens and business men of Portland will thus be offered an easily accessible suburban residence place, possessing healthfulness of climate, beauty of location, and lying within sight and sound of the beautiful Willamette Falls. The gentlemen who have this enterprise in charge are Messrs. Charman, Harding, Walden, Pillsbury, Eastham, Logus, Stratton, Williams and others well known to the citizens of Portland. The subdivided tract contains 500 acres. Other projects are on foot looking to the greater utilization of the immense power of the falls, and everything indicates that Oregon City is about to enter that career of prosperity which has been universally believed to be only a question of time. A splendid view of the falls is given in the present number.

THE WEST SHORE illustrations for April consist of a varied assortment of Oregon views, such as fittingly accompany the exhaustive description of the State which the number contains. Several of our prominent public buildings and institutions of learning are presented for the inspection of strangers and our own citizens as well, who feel a natural pride in contemplating these evidences of prosperity and cultivation. At Salem are the large Insane Asylum (recently completed), the Penitentiary, Marion County Court House and the State Capitol, the last being all complete but the dome, work upon which is now in progress. The McMinnville College shows for itself. It is a well-established institution. The State University at Eugene City has received an appropriation of \$30,000, and plans are now being prepared for the erection of another large structure in the vicinity of the one shown in the engraving. The Court House at Oregon City was recently completed. It contains immense iron vaults for the protection of records and papers of every kind, which were put in by W. B. Wilshire & Co., of this city. The view given of a ship yard at Coos Bay simply shows a scene that may be witnessed there at any season of the year. The scene on the Nehalem is one which might be repeated on nearly every stream in the State. The mountains are full of game and the streams abound in voracious and gamey trout. The salmon season of the Columbia began on the 1st of April. There are some fifteen hundred boats at Astoria; but the tendency of cannery-

men to hold off and not begin active operations till later in the season, when salmon can be taken in greater numbers, will keep most of them out of the water for several weeks yet. The solid stone and iron bridge spanning Snake River near Huntington, on the Oregon Short Line, is the new connecting link between Oregon and Idaho. The beautiful and peculiar Falls of the Santiam are shown to good advantage. The Santiam is a tributary of the Willamette, flowing down from the Cascades, and is but one of numerous water power streams in the State. On the same page are several scenes along Crooked River, a tributary of the Des Chutes, including the great landmark, "Stein's Pillar." A glimpse is also given of a small portion of Rogue River Valley, the "Italy of Oregon."

THE REMEDY.

WHEN that drowsiness which presages death is upon us, the hand that shakes us the most roughly and beats us the most severely, in the effort to restore animation to our benumbed bodies, is the hand of our best friend; and though he excite our pugnacity and arouse us even to the point of abuse, we sooner or later learn that such was the sole object of his rough treatment, and the very ire and hot blood engendered by his conduct were the means of saving us from threatened death. Then, perhaps, we make a tardy acknowledgment of our gratitude. Such were, and are, the motives of THE WEST SHORE in endeavoring to arouse the merchants and capitalists of Portland from slothfulness and lethargy, and send the warm blood of healthful enterprise coursing through their veins. The only method of inducing a sufficient degree of animation was to first excite their pugnacity, and this THE WEST SHORE undertook to do, and apparently succeeded, trusting to time and the own better sense of the people themselves to have its action regarded in the proper light and a due acknowledgment made of its friendly offices. Even in the heat of anger they must admit that such a course is far preferable, and productive of immeasurably more good, than the sickly fawning of a certain weekly, which, for the sake of a few advertising crumbs that may be cast it, falls down in the dust and worships the donors. If such rapid adoration is pleasant to our business men they are welcome to it, but they can be assured that it will never spur them on to great achievements, or rouse them to the necessity for earnest and intelligent action to make Portland the city of their hopes. That such a journal, whose weekly issuance is a matter of uncertainty, and whose proprietors are never free from anxiety for their daily bread, should refer to the *Oregonian*, *Telegram*, *Standard*, *Welcome*, *New Northwest* and THE WEST SHORE as "irresponsible," is supremely ridiculous. But enough on this branch of the subject, since it is probable that the business men, for whose benefit that journal is supposed to be issued, are probably unaware that they have found in it a doughty champion and a sweet comforter, which seeks to gently stroke their backs until the drowsiness from which they have been aroused shall possess them again.

It must be distinctly and primarily understood that no "attack" has been made upon the business men of Portland. The press has simply made a plain statement of facts, the thoughtful consideration of which will redound to the interest of all concerned. Instead of being abused, it should be commended for its candor, and even if its advice be more wholesome than palatable, it should none the less be taken. Much less has an effort been made to injure Portland. On the contrary, it is solely for the good of the city, and the surrounding country as well, the press takes the stand it does, since in their prosperity the press finds its own. That this should not seem patent to all, or that it should be necessary to call attention to it at all, is a matter of surprise; and yet the contrary has been asserted by many, not the least of whom is a gentleman whose position as the head of a large wholesale house would seem to exempt him from even the suspicion of having so little good sense and judgment. Portland owes more to the press than she will ever be able to pay—certainly vastly more than she has ever attempted to pay in the past; and the debt will become greater as the years roll on. The press will not relax its efforts to build up the city, but it is a pity our business men do not keep it in better condition for the task.

A CERTAIN trader in leather, who gives employment to one man, acting in the triple capacity of bookkeeper, salesman and porter, and whose name is never heard of in connection with any public enterprise, and is never seen on any subscription list for the public welfare, has asserted rather blatantly that he will work up a list among his friends to boycott the *Oregonian* and THE WEST SHORE. So far as the latter is concerned, he has boycotted it always, and as his card does not appear in the former, it is probable that his patronage of that paper also is confined to borrowing occasional copies or reading it in places of public resort. The threat is unworthy serious consideration, for if the gentleman should attempt to execute it, he will quickly discover his painful lack of sense and how absurd and lonesome is the position he has taken. Nevertheless, it affords a proper opportunity to call attention to a few facts which, perhaps, the public does not fully appreciate. In the *Oregonian* the people of this city possess a paper superior in every sense to that published in any city of its size in the world. In enterprise and editorial ability it is the peer of any of the great metropolitan journals, and nothing but the lack of deserved financial support prevents it from being their equal in every respect. Take the *Oregonian* from Portland and a void would be left which would remain long unfilled, and a blow would be

struck at the city's prosperity such as the destruction of half a dozen of the city's greatest enterprises could not equal. The company which publishes that journal pays upward of \$100,000 annually in wages of employes alone, and though three-fourths of it is brought in from the outside, it is all spent and put in circulation in the city. Besides this, it gives employment to a paper mill, and thus directly sustains home manufactures. Its publishers are property owners, and naturally interested in the city's welfare. As for THE WEST SHORE, it has a salary list of \$35,000 per annum, which represents simply the help employed in the business, editorial, artistic and mechanical departments, exclusive of materials of any kind. This money is all spent in the city, though the city patronage does not exceed one-tenth of that sum. These figures simply show what those journals are doing directly for the financial welfare of the city, without referring to the great benefits they confer upon it in other directions. These figures also show how little either of those journals depends upon the city patronage for support, and they ought to contain food for considerable thought by such as may imagine that, because they pay either of them a few dollars, they are its sole means of support. Were it not for the large foreign revenues enjoyed by the papers of Portland, this city would be represented by a poorer lot of scrub journals than any city of its size can produce. Let not our people take too much credit to themselves when boasting of the superior character of Portland journals.

It is due to the retail merchants of the city to state that they are not included, as a class, in the criticisms of the press. They are as enterprising and public spirited, in the main, as the retail merchants of any city. In fact, they are the greatest sufferers from the prevailing apathy. With the capitalists doing nothing to build up the city or its trade, and confining their attention to mortgages and rent rolls, the poor retailer finds himself slowly being pulverized between exorbitant rents on one hand and stagnation in business on the other. It is the large dealers, and especially the capitalists and larger property owners, who are receiving the attention of the press. These men have made their money here, and it is a reasonable demand that they do something for the city's welfare—all the more reasonable because by so doing they are at the same time helping themselves. It is not a case of charity in any sense. It is simply a question whether by prompt and intelligent action, and the exhibition of a liberal spirit, Portland shall advance rapidly in population, wealth, trade and influence, or whether, by their present "masterly inactivity," our moneyed men will permit her to drop gradually back to the second or third place among the cities of the Northwest. Our theological friends say that the first stage in the act of conversion is a realization by the sinner of his lost condition. He is then in the frame of mind to see the need of saving grace and seek the proper remedy. To throw our people into this desirable mental condition was the sole object of the press. It seems to have been at least partially successful, and it is to be hoped they will see the necessity of applying the saving grace of intelligent enterprise.

MANY of our business men admit the full truth of the facts the press has asserted, and ask to be pointed to the remedy. The elixir exists, but it is no five-minute-headache-drop nor one-bottle-consumption-cure. It is a course of treatment which gradually builds up the patient's system until he becomes possessed of vigor and acts boldly in proud consciousness of health and strength. Broadly stated, it consists of a vigorous push in all directions of our wholesale trade, the establishment of manufactures, and the personal and business patronage of home industries. A few years of such a course of treatment will do wonders for Portland. For the first part, let the wholesalers make a vigorous effort to extend their trade and contest new fields with those now occupying them. If transportation or other obstacles prevent this, let them combine to have those barriers removed. Let them make a strenuous effort to do something, and much that now seems impossible will be accomplished. Let them not forget the strength that lies in united action. It has been one of our greatest faults that we have not been ready enough to combine for the public good. Too many hold themselves aloof for fear that others may reap a greater benefit than they. We lack that *esprit de corps* which is as essential to the welfare of a business community as it is to that of an army. What is wanted, then, is more individual energy and combined enterprise.

THE second remedy is the establishment of such manufactures as will utilize the great quantity of raw materials we annually export, and which return to us again in manufactured form. Home manufactures not only lessen the cost of goods, but they largely increase the population, stimulate retail trade, enhance the value of property and build up a market for the surrounding country; but it is unnecessary to repeat the arguments which have so often been advanced. If the Board of Trade has not sufficient energy or wise liberality to take the proper steps in this matter, and supply the needed means for sustaining a bureau for the encouragement of manufactures, let the citizens move in the matter as though such a body had no existence. Let a committee be appointed, consisting of three or five leading citizens, who have the confidence of the people both as to integrity and energy; let them be supplied with sufficient money to defray the expenses they will necessarily incur, and then have them investigate the question of what industries can be supported here, advertise the manufacturing advantages of this region, correspond with manufacturers in the East and induce them to locate here, guarantee them a reasonable bonus when necessary, and in every way seek to induce various industries to establish themselves in our midst. When this is done in the proper spirit, and our people are convinced that enterprises are legitimate and will be properly managed, there will be little difficulty in securing contributions to aid them or subscriptions to stock. Confidence that projects are for the public good, and that they are being honestly and candidly dealt with, will draw many from their shells who are now considered past all hope of redemption. Above all things, let not the narrow, selfish and short-

sighted policy of confining attention solely to Portland be pursued. Wherever there is an opening for an industry anywhere in the Northwest, let us help to fill it, and wherever there is a struggling one, let it receive our aid and encouragement. To make Portland great there must be a great country around and depending upon it. Every effort made to benefit the country will bear good fruit for the city both in added trade and increased good will. It has been asserted publicly and in communications to the press that manufactures are unprofitable here, and the great Portland Roller Mills are cited as an example. Those mills, and several up the valley, make a flour equalled by few mills in the world and superior to many more celebrated brands; and yet who knows it? What steps have been taken to impress this fact upon the great public. Flour is thrown promiscuously upon the home market or shipped on a venture—often a losing one—to Liverpool, but no intelligent effort is made to convince the people of its superiority or to introduce it into new markets. Annually a few sacks are displayed at our fairs, beautiful sacks, some of them, of silk and satin, which look quite attractive, piled up in pyramids, with their red and blue brands appealing to the eye; but as for the public, the sacks might as well be filled with sand or shavings, so far as impressing them with the quality of their contents is concerned. The same might be said of our displays of canned fruit, salmon, etc. Gaudy labels often cover the cheapest goods. No matter if a firm make something which everybody wants; how do they expect to sell it unless they inform people of the fact and convince them that it is in reality just the thing they desire. If they do not, some one else will sell an inferior article in its place, and the firm will then wisely inform us that manufactures do not pay. Suppose you actually have the best article in the world; it is not sufficient simply to be satisfied of that fact yourself or whisper it to your friends, or even to make public announcement of it. The great world is busy and hears such things daily. It is careless and indifferent. It does not send around smelling committees to investigate these things. The manufacturer himself must be aggressive and vigilant; must incessantly pour the fact into the people's ears and thrust the wares before their eyes; must push them vigorously into every State, county and town where there exists a possible market. By such means as this millions of bottles of tinted water have been sold as a sovereign remedy—a panacea for all fleshly ills. It is the great secret of successful manufacturing. It is equally the secret of successful business of any kind where aggressive competition exists, such as the new conditions have thrust upon our wholesale merchants.

THE third remedy is the personal and business patronage of home industries and enterprises. This spirit of petty greed and indifference to the success of others is suicidal in its effect. The spectacle we daily behold of wealthy men receiving high rents for stores and shops and then sending abroad to purchase the same articles manufactured on the very premises that are bringing them this revenue, should cause a blush to gather on the cheek of every man not devoid of the least spark of patriotism. Even granting, for the sake of argument, that goods purchased at a distance are better made, how will it ever be possible to make first class goods here if such a practice is to be maintained? People who thus send abroad for things take the chances of all the impositions that may be practiced upon them, while at home they are in a position to receive and insist upon proper work. It is not true that such manufactures as we have are not first class. Our wagons and buggies are not inferior to any imported; our machinery is the equal of that produced anywhere; our wooden and willow wares are first class; our furniture is acknowledged to be excellent; our stoves, pottery, canned goods, woolen goods and a score of other things are of standard quality; our shoemakers turn out good boots and shoes; our tailors make fine suits; and mechanics generally in all branches of trade are skillful and competent. Take, as an instance, job printing. The manager of a large wholesale house boasts that he buys all his stationery in New York. Twenty years ago there might have been an excuse for this, but not now. We now have large job printing establishments, employing as skillful men as do the work of this firm in New York. All its stationery can be duplicated here at the same price. There is no reason for sending it away, unless, possibly, the manager may consider it an evidence of "tone" to do so. This is not a solitary instance. There are numerous imitators, both large and small. Let our wholesalers jointly combine to push our home products upon the market in preference to imported goods; let our retailers do the same and recommend them to customers; let our people generally use them everywhere as a matter of principle, and it will not be long before our present industries and those we may establish in the future will rest upon the solid foundation of a home market. This is, to be sure, contrary to human nature in one sense. The indefinable charm of distance clings to manufactured articles as strongly as to other things. The magic word "imported" has great and mysterious influence with the people. Good oatmeal is made in Oregon, and yet our stores are filled with attractive boxes of it put up in Rockford, Ill., which are in great demand. The chances are that in Rockford itself the people are buying oatmeal made in New York or Massachusetts, simply because it is imported from a distance. It is natural, but unwise. Let us break away from the habit and insist upon buying home products. If we do this; if our wholesalers combine to handle and push home products; if they discard that petty spirit of greed which prompts them to infringe upon the legitimate trade of the retailer, by selling one-twelfth dozen of lamp chimneys or a dollar's worth of sugar to any one who calls for it; if they enter the field aggressively against other cities; if our manufactures are fostered and encouraged until they are strong enough to force their products upon outside markets; then we may expect the prosperity we hope for, and not till then. This has been a long sermon, but it is impossible to be brief and do the topic justice. THE WEST SHORE hopes and expects it will be the last on this subject, for it much prefers to chronicle the city's increasing prosperity, which, it trusts, will be its pleasant task in the future.

THE STATE OF OREGON.

HALF a century ago the term "Oregon" was used to designate the whole watershed of the mighty Columbia River, including the present political divisions of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and portions of British Columbia and Montana; but it now signifies definitely the State of Oregon, lying between the forty-second parallel on the south and the Columbia River and forty-sixth parallel on the north, and extending from the Pacific Ocean eastward to Snake River and the fortieth Washington meridian. On the north lies Washington Territory, on the east is Idaho, south are Nevada and California, while its western shore is swept by the waters of the vast Pacific. With a length from east to west of 350 miles, and a transverse width of 280 miles, the State embraces an area of 95,274 square miles, or 61,000,000 acres, of extremely diversified mountain, valley, hill and plateau lands. The proportion of arable land is indefinite, because much which is now classed simply as timber land will in future years be rendered fit for agriculture, while many square miles formerly deemed suitable for pastoral uses only have recently been decided fit subjects for the plow.

Three ranges of mountains traverse the State from north to south, between which lie great valleys, or expansive plateaus, giving a diversity of soil, climate and resources ranging over a wide scale. From Southern California to Alaska the Coast Range runs parallel to the ocean shore, its low summit ridge seldom (in Oregon) exceeding a score of miles from the water line, to which it gently slopes in some places, and in others projects into the water in bluffs and rocky headlands, that give the coast a rugged and forbidding aspect to the mariner. These mountains are covered with a dense growth of timber from base to summit on both sides. Parallel to this, about 100 miles further east, run the Cascades, extending from the California line north into British Columbia. These, also, are heavily timbered, with the exception of a series of lofty, snow-capped peaks, though on the eastern slope the timber is not so dense and does not extend into the lower land at the base. The Blue Mountains occupy the eastern end of the State, being a comparatively short range, extending from near the southern line to a few miles across the border into Washington Territory. A wealth of timber crowns this range also, being heavier in the northern portion. The lower levels of that portion east of the Cascades, fully two-thirds of the State, are generally devoid of timber, except along the watercourses, while west of those mountains, save numerous open spaces in the valleys, the country is one continuous forest, covering fully five-sixths of its area. The cause of this is clear when the climatic conditions are studied.

The forest trees of Oregon embrace many of the most commercially valuable kinds. The best trees are found at medium elevations, accessible by ordinary logging roads. Their value depends largely upon accessibility. The timber is worth from \$5 to \$50 per acre, depending upon quantity and quality of trees. Standing timber, or

"stumpage," ranges from \$1 to \$1.50 per thousand feet, board measure. The principal trees found on the low lands are fir, pine, cedar, yew, ash, oak, maple, balm, or cottonwood, alder and myrtle. On the higher levels are fir, pine, spruce, cedar, hemlock, larch and madrone. Of the firs and pines there are several varieties, but the most common and generally diffused is the *abies Dougllassii*, or Douglass fir, sometimes called "Oregon pine," which is the main reliance of the lumbermen. This noble tree grows to the height of 300 feet, with a perfectly straight trunk, and its lowest limb is frequently 100 feet from the ground. Specimens have been found eight feet in diameter and over 400 feet high. Besides being used almost exclusively in the State, it is shipped in great quantities to San Francisco, South American ports, Sandwich Islands, Australia and China. It possesses great toughness and durability, and is especially adapted to shipbuilding. Planks and spars of any length up to 100 feet are easily procurable. The common cedar is also well distributed and cut in quantity at the mills. The white cedar, growing in great bodies in the southern coast region, is an especially valuable tree, and is cut in great quantity, chiefly for shipment.

The climatic conditions are varied, giving three, and even four, distinct climatic areas. Yet all are in their way desirable, and compare favorably with other regions. It is well known that a wide difference in temperature exists in corresponding latitudes on the Atlantic coasts of the United States and of Europe, and the cause has been well established. While along the eastern shores of our own country courses the Arctic ocean current, bearing down from the northern sea its icy waters, the western countries of Europe are warmed by the mighty Gulf stream, which bears to their shores the thermal waters of the tropical ocean.

The Columbia River region is in the same latitude as sunny France, Switzerland and portions of Italy, Spain and Portugal. It is subject to oceanic influences very similar to those of the countries mentioned, and necessarily has a somewhat similar climate. All this region is near enough to the Pacific Ocean to be markedly affected by its currents. By reference to any map whereon the ocean currents are shown, it will be seen that the great Japan current (Kuro Siwo)—that mighty stream of warm water—bears directly against the western shores of America. The temperature of the winds blowing over it is affected by its heat, and they carry their modifying influences inland many hundred miles.

The average spring temperature of Western Oregon is 52 degrees; summer, 67; autumn, 53; winter, 39, or 52.75 degrees for the whole year. The thermometer seldom rises above 90 degrees in the hottest days in the summer, and rarely falls below 20 degrees in the winter, so that the most active outdoor labor may be performed at all times of the year and at all hours of the day. Considering the thermometer's limited range during the four seasons, and the other conditions peculiar to the locality, a year would be more properly divided into two seasons—the wet and the dry, the former lasting from the middle

of November until May, during which period the rainfall is copious and regular, insuring certain crops and good pasturage. In the Willamette Valley the annual rainfall is from 40 to 60 inches—averaging about 50 inches—the same as at Davenport, Memphis and Philadelphia, while in all other valleys it is sufficient to prevent any drought. The rain comes gently and without atmospheric disturbance; thunder storms are rare. The fact that the great bulk of the rain falls during the four months from November to March is what has given Oregon such a reputation for rainy weather.

The climate of Middle and Eastern Oregon differs in this from that of the western part of the State, that there is much less rainfall, because, before crossing the high summits of the Cascades, the ocean air currents have been robbed of the greatest part of their moisture. Consequently, it is colder in winter and drier at all seasons. The rainfall, however, throughout the greater part of Eastern Oregon is sufficient to insure large and remunerative crops, while in other places there is an ample supply in running streams for irrigation purposes. The range of the thermometer is rarely above the summer temperature of Western Oregon, sometimes reaching 100 degrees, but only at rare intervals. Ordinarily the thermometer indicates 90 degrees as about the highest summer temperature, and 10 degrees as the lowest for winter, with occasional lapses to points below the zero mark. For special features of the climate of "The Coast Region" and "Southern Oregon," see pages 106 and 116.

If these facts prove anything they prove that the habitable portions of this whole Northwestern region are singularly adapted, by virtue of their climates, to comfortable outdoor work at all prominent industries the year round; that with soils of ordinary fertility the various cereals, fruits and vegetables can be grown over a vast extent of now unoccupied territory; that millions of cattle, horses and sheep can thrive without shelter or prepared food on almost unlimited natural pasturage; and, best of all, that this is indisputably a healthful and invigorating climate, where epidemics are unknown and no distinguishing type of disease exists.

Hurricanes, floods or other storms destructive to life and property are almost unknown in the history of this region. The growing season along the coast is accompanied with bounteous showers, whose absence in the interior is not felt because of the beneficent distribution of lands and streams suitable for irrigation. During harvest time there is rarely any rainfall; in fact, such a catastrophe as loss of crops from drought or flood would be considered phenomenal.

The general topographical features, the natural resources, the present and possible future industries, the land under cultivation and that still open for settlement or purchase, together with a fund of information locally applied, will be found in the following detailed description of the State by districts and counties, and remarks on the condition and possibilities of agriculture, fruit growing, stock raising, mining, manufacturing, educational facilities, transportation lines, etc.

Willamette Valley.

WHEN, nearly half a century ago, the praises of Oregon were sung along the frontier by trappers, who spoke so glowingly of its great beauty, mild climate and wonderful fertility that a few venturesome men crossed the wilderness to reach it, the Willamette Valley alone was referred to; and a few years later, when long trains of creaking, white-topped wagons toiled annually across the plains and mountains, the hundreds of hardy pioneers from the Mississippi Valley were intent only upon reaching the great grassy vale through which courses the Willamette. It was then supposed to be the only portion of Oregon suited to agriculture; but though we all now understand how great an error that idea was, time has only served to confirm the exalted opinion they then possessed of its marvelous fertility and genial climate.

The Willamette Valley extends from the Coast Range Mountains on the west to the Cascades on the east, and from the Columbia River on the north to the Calapooia Mountains, which separate it from Southern Oregon on the south. Through it run the Willamette River and its numerous tributaries, such as the Clackamas, Molalla, Santiam, McKenzie's Fork, Long Tom, Mary's, Tualatin, etc. The valley is about 130 miles in length by an average width of 100, including the foothills of the Coast Range and Cascades. Lying wholly or partially within it are the counties of Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Linn, Lane, Benton, Polk, Yamhill, Washington and Columbia, possessing one-seventh of the area and three-fifths of the population and taxable property of the State. The altitude of the valley varies from twenty to four hundred feet above the level of the sea.

On the arrival of the earlier settlers the lands were found to consist of two sorts—forest and prairie—the latter bare of vegetation other than the rank grasses which then grew luxuriantly upon every open spot. The prairie extended at intervals on both sides of the river from the vicinity of the Falls of the Willamette southward to the Calapooias. Nearly all the elevations of land separating them were covered with timber and brush. Excepting the marks of tillage on cultivated fields, and the evidences of civilization, the valley remains, as regards its salient features, about as the first settlers found it. There are the broad and fertile prairies separated by ridges and by streams shaded by strips of woodland, and the heavy forests of timber trees, covering the mountains and hilly slopes as with a garment.

The first acts of the earlier settlers were to select the most available tracts of prairie, while some laid claim to such places as in the nature of things would become most valuable. Thus the lands in the vicinity of boat landings and water powers were soon taken. There was a sufficiency for all, though the Donation Land Act, passed by Congress for the exclusive benefit of Oregon, gave to each married settler the generous subsidy of 640 acres of land of his own selection, and to the single person 320 acres. That act was a temporary one only. With such inducements immigrants came in rapidly, and in due process of time the valley became, as to its prairie, covered by the

claims of permanent settlers. The level open land was nearly all occupied thirty years since, and the settlements extended to the edges of the great forests which clothe the flanks of the enclosing ranges. The later increase in population has been coincident with the division of the original donation claims, and, to a less extent, the settlement of vacant spaces or partially wooded tracts.

Outside of the level prairies there is a belt of rolling land, verging into hills and mountains in the higher portions, which extends almost entirely around the valley, and constitutes a very valuable part of the country. The soil is mainly basaltic and sandstone, and of great general fertility. Its products are more diversified than those of the lower lands and frequently exceed them in quality. These rolling or hill lands are usually covered with brush and require to be cleared before cultivation is possible. The principal advantages of these brushy tracts are good soil, natural drainage, good water, a climate beyond the reach of malaria, an ample and general supply of wood for fuel and building purposes, and comparative freedom from early frosts.

The tract now being described does not by any means embrace all the so-called brush lands of the valley, but includes the greater portion. There are comparatively small tracts of bushes and young trees scattered through the valley, but they are isolated by stretches of prairie. The foothill lands, as they are generally termed, lie at an elevation of from 500 to 2,000 feet, and vary greatly in width between those boundaries. In their present state it is only to stock growers that these lands present encouragement. To them the excellent water, green grass and freedom from burrs that injure wool are superior inducements. When cleared the brush lands will be as productive as any that exist. Such special occupations as bee keeping, the raising of sheep and hogs, the fattening of cattle for market, and the raising of most varieties of fruit and vegetables, will doubtless find a better location there than elsewhere.

Large quantities of these desirable lands, mostly wooded, lie about the upper courses of nearly every one of the tributaries of the Willamette, and only await the hand of the energetic settler to produce abundantly. Such lands have the advantage of drying earlier in the year than valley lands, whereby it becomes possible to cultivate the soil to better advantage. A greater variety of farm products can be raised in the hills, and their quality is choicer.

Much good agricultural land lies as high as 2,500 feet, being in small, isolated valleys and difficult of access. The quality of soil is good. They are particularly adapted to stock raising, and are partially occupied for that purpose. Still there are many thousands of acres yet subject to settlement.

As for the mode of clearing brush lands, it is recommended to slash down the bushes in June; by September they will be dry and may be burned. The larger poles are used oftentimes for fencing or for fuel. The growth usually consists of oak grubs, young fir, maple, hazel, etc. None of these trees reach much size except in age, and

hence may be easily handled and removed from the soil. The fern is a far more troublesome growth, requiring much labor, time and patience for its extirpation. It grows in many fields, both in the prairies and in the hills, and gives a vast deal of trouble by its presence. It lives at almost any altitude, and is found growing high up on the Cascades. The Chinese are frequently employed for clearing brush land, for which their charges are about \$10 per acre for felling and burning the growth, and eighty-five cents per cord for chopping the sticks into cordwood. The lands uncleared are considered to be worth at present about \$5 per acre. A great many rails are made from the fir saplings which grow in such profusion, and the newly-cleared fields are usually fenced with them. There are, approximately, 2,000,000 acres of brush lands lying unclaimed, a large portion of it in the central portion of the valley, the remainder verging into the great timber belts. Frequently the farmers slash and burn the brush at the proper season, and then sow wheat, which they brush into the ashes by dragging a clump of bushes over it, no plowing or harrowing being done. The result usually is a crop of wheat of twenty or more bushels per acre, which frequently pays all the expenses of bringing the soil into cultivation. The stumps of fir and hardwood trees rot quickly and disappear from the husbandman's track, and more enduring sorts are usually left alone until time compasses their destruction.

The vacant lands of the Willamette Valley, or those open to settlement, are of four kinds—United States Government, State, railroad and wagon road grants, and school and university lands. As elsewhere, the Government lands are held at the price of \$1.25 per acre, or in case of lands within the limits of railroad grants, at double this rate. The railroad lands are subject to a price which varies according to location, being from \$1.25 to \$7 per acre. They are, moreover, to be had on favorable terms as to time and modes of payment. Generally speaking, ten years' credit is given, or less, according to the requirements of the purchaser. The Oregon & California Railway has yet a large portion of its grant in its possession, and the character of the land is the same, of course, as that of the adjoining Government or private holdings. It is chiefly hill land, covered more or less thickly with brush, often bearing an immense amount of the finest timber, but sometimes is open prairie, suitable for cultivation and grazing. In respect to the cost of clearing, it is the same as the adjacent tracts. It is well for intending purchasers to bear in mind that the lands spoken of as vacant are so because they require to be cleared before they will be of any use. As for their productiveness, they are not generally a whit behind the best valley lands, and they have, as before pointed out, some advantages over any valley land. As to the total quantity of unoccupied or untilled lands suitable for settlement along the edges of the valley, there cannot be much less than 2,000,000 acres, making proper deductions for tracts which are worthless because too rocky or too steep. This amount would be, in the present condition of affairs in Oregon, capable of supporting from

50,000 to 100,000 persons; and a greater number, of course, when the conditions of trade and agriculture shall have advanced. At present such tracts yield no income to any person, excepting the few who graze cattle or sheep in the more open spots.

Other features of the Willamette Valley will appear in the following descriptions of the special resources and advantages and the general condition of the various counties lying within its limits, or in the accompanying remarks on other pages upon the climate, various industries, etc.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

The smallest, but none the less the richest and most populous, county in the State is Multnomah, lying along both sides of the Willamette near its mouth, and extending along the south side of the Columbia from below the mouth of the Willamette to the Cascades. Multnomah County consists chiefly of the city of Portland. There is surrounding it considerable good land for farming purposes, lying in small patches among the hills and along the river, and a wealth of timber covers all the upland and mountains, contributing its quota to the sum of the city's prosperity. There are many desirable spots where vegetables, etc., can be profitably raised for the city market, which can be had upon reasonable terms, and good opportunities are offered in that business to one who understands it. Dairy farms, also, offer an inviting field for intelligent enterprise.

PORTLAND AND ITS SUBURBS.

The city of Portland lies on the west bank of the Willamette River, twelve miles above its confluence with the Columbia. Its site is a beautiful slope, gradually rising to the ridge of fir-clad hills at its back, into which the city is rapidly extending. It also spreads up and down the stream, occupying several miles of good harbor front, much of which is bordered by expensive and commodious docks and warehouses. Opposite, on the east bank, are East Portland and the town of Albina, both of them practically a portion of the city, with which they are connected by four ferry lines, and to which will soon be added one, if not two, substantial iron bridges. Sellwood is a small residence suburb adjoining East Portland on the south. St. Johns, several miles down the stream, is a river shipping point.

Portland may be said to be the crystalized effort to establish a city at the head of deep water navigation, as near as possible to the great agricultural region of the Willamette Valley, and yet located so as to command the trade of the upper Columbia. Other points were chosen before this one, and many rivals have sprung up and lived a precarious life for a brief time, but the inevitable law of "natural selection" decreed that Portland should survive them all and become the metropolis of the Northwest. The city has now a firmly established trade, great concentrated capital, and vast sums invested in business and improvements; possesses several miles of solid business blocks; is protected from fire by a large and efficient fire department, and supplied with the electric fire alarm;

has three street railway companies, whose lines traverse the city in all directions; enjoys the conveniences of the telephone and the advantages of the electric light, and possesses complete systems of gas and water works.

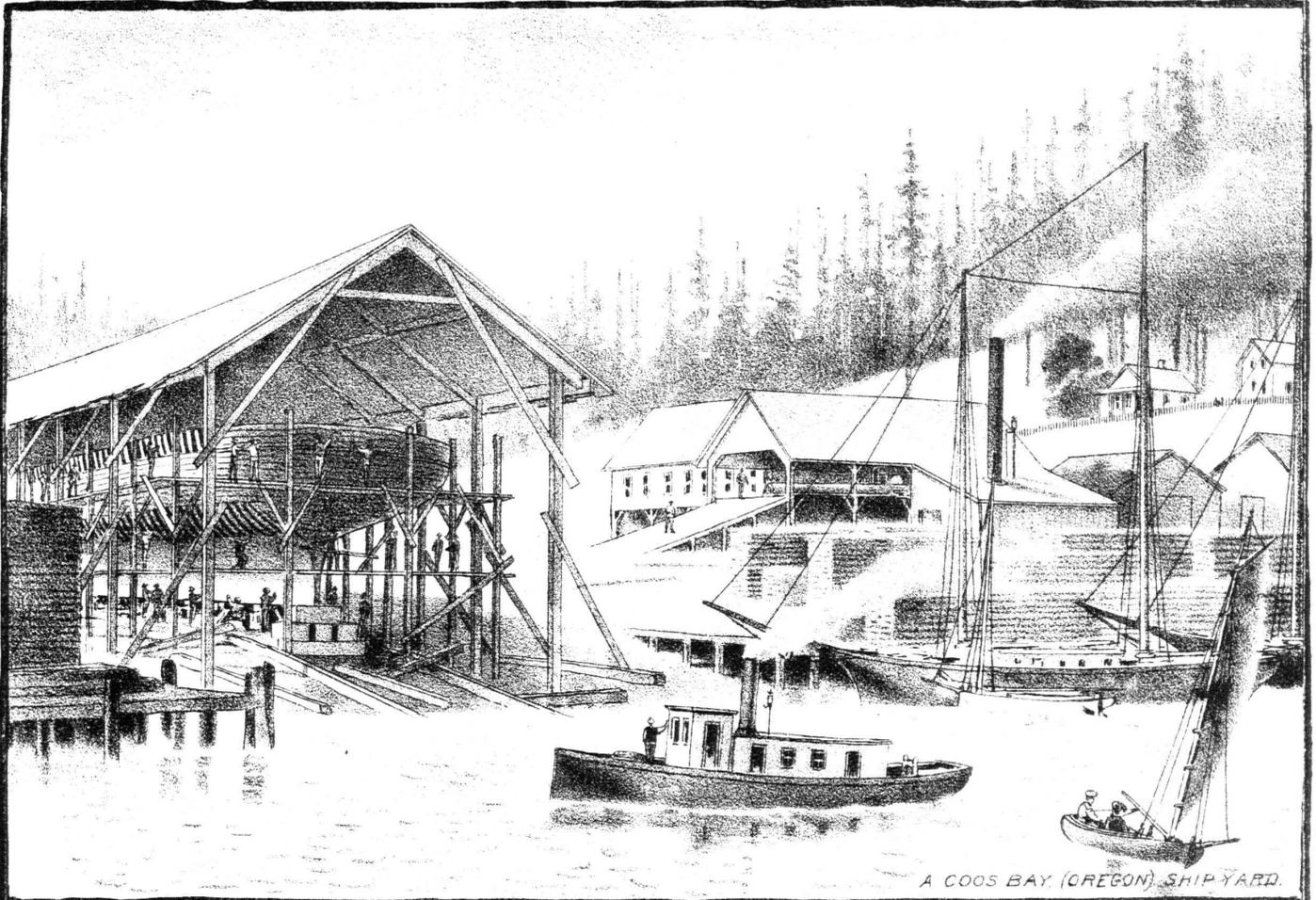
During the past three years more than \$10,000,000 have been expended in building improvements. A wholesale trade of upward of \$40,000,000 annually is transacted with the merchants of Oregon, Idaho, Washington and even more remote sections. The annual value of manufactures exceeds \$11,000,000. In 1884 foreign exports amounted to \$5,648,118, and domestic to \$6,284,735. The domestic imports were \$18,686,129, and foreign \$1,013,866. The merchants handled 5,045,102 bushels of wheat, 403,463 barrels of flour, 8,942,517 pounds of wool and 3,578,074 pounds of hops. These statistics indicate a city of vigorous growth and healthy business activity. The railroad and shipping facilities are such that Portland can be made a great manufacturing centre, and as such should receive the attention of capitalists. Educationally and socially the city compares favorably with those of like size in the East. There are six large graded schools and a high school, founded upon the most advanced system of education, and conducted by a corps of experienced teachers. There are, also, two excellent business colleges and half a dozen denominational schools and academies. Nearly all the religious denominations are represented, and have comfortable edifices, some of them quite commodious.

Besides being at the head of deep water navigation on the Columbia and Willamette, and thus being the shipping and receiving point for this region, Portland is the railroad city of the Northwest. Both the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific make this the operating terminus of their overland routes, the latter by its new line known as the "Oregon Short Line." The Northern Pacific has a line north to Puget Sound. The O. R. & N. Co. has a line running up the Columbia and branching out into the various sections of the great wheat and stock region east of the mountains. The O. & C. road connects the city with Rogue River Valley, passing directly south through the State. It also has a line to Corvallis, running up the west side of the Willamette. A line of narrow gauge road runs up the valley on each side of the river, and the Oregon Pacific runs from Yaquina Bay to Corvallis, where it connects with the O. & C. Steamers in great numbers ply on the Willamette, Columbia, Cowlitz and other tributary streams, all of them centreing in Portland, and a line of ocean steamers plies regularly between the city and San Francisco. The position of Portland is that of the natural metropolis of the Northwest, and all that is necessary to maintain it as such is enterprise on the part of its citizens and the establishment of the many industries for which it offers superior facilities.

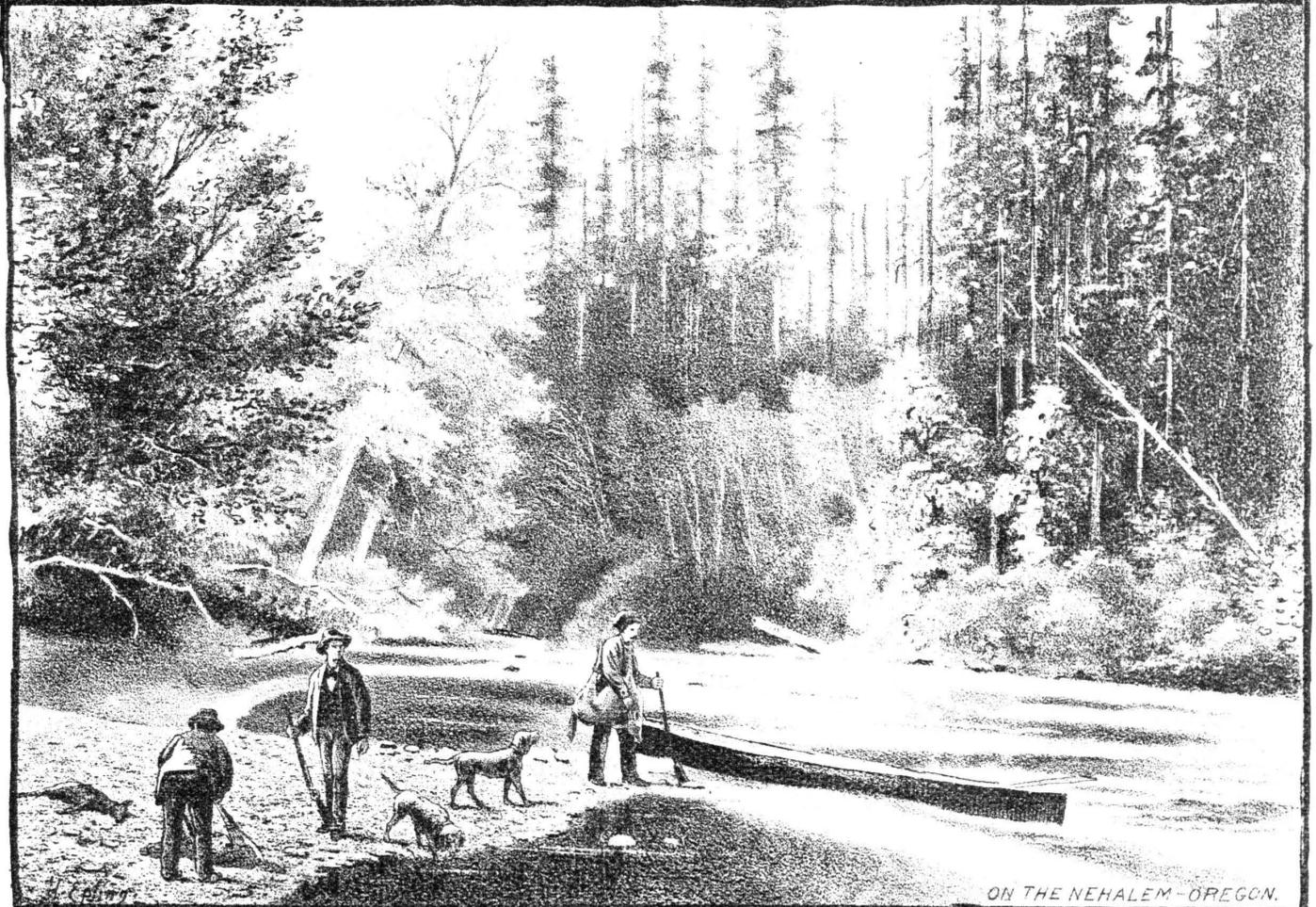
CLACKAMAS COUNTY.

Lying between Multnomah and Marion, and extending from a few miles west of the Willamette River to the summit of the Cascade Mountains, is the county of

THE WEST SHORE.



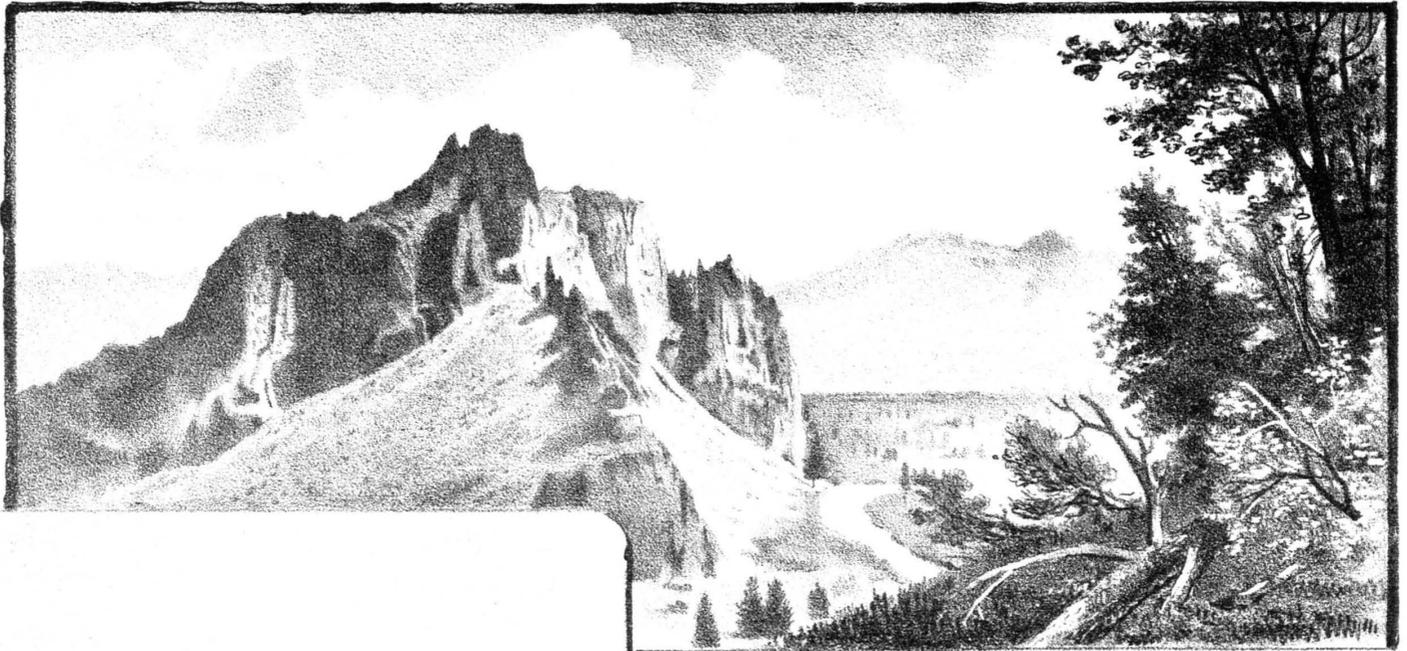
A COOS BAY, (OREGON) SHIP YARD.



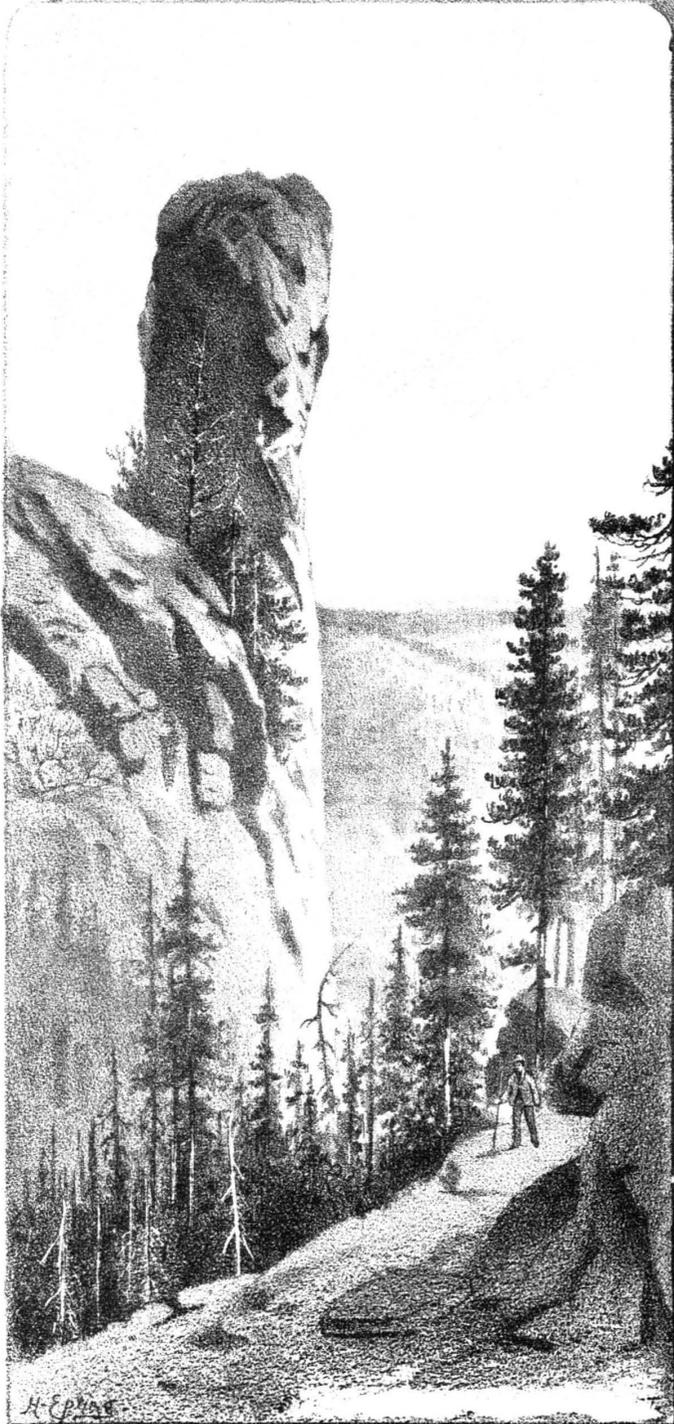
ON THE NEHALEM - OREGON.

WEST SHORE - LITH.

THE WEST SHORE.

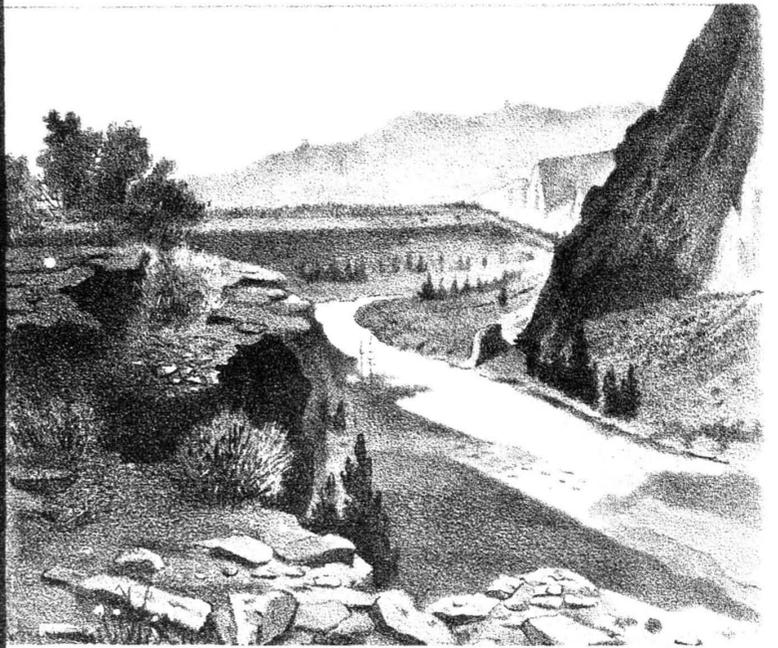


SMITH'S ROCK - CROOKED RIVER.

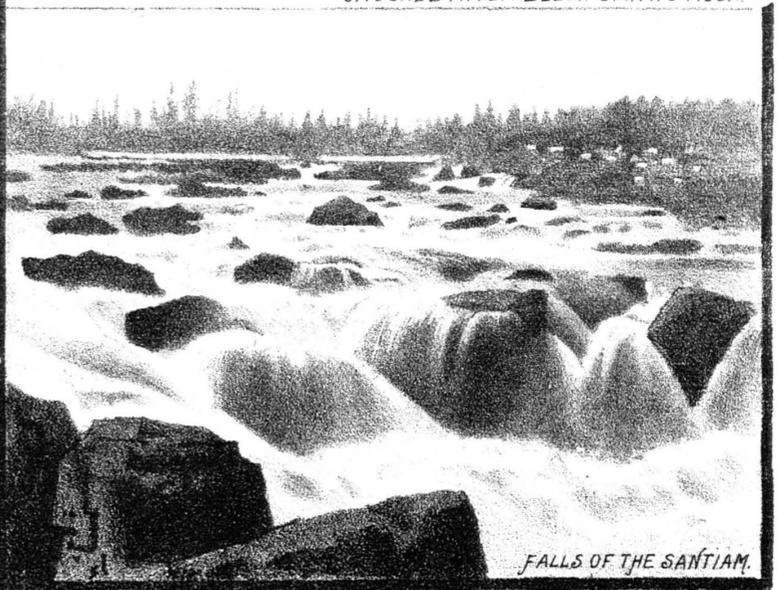


H. EPYAS

STEIN'S PILLAR HEIGHT 314 FEET.



CROOKED RIVER BELOW SMITH'S ROCK.



FALLS OF THE SANTIAM.

WEST SHORE-LITH.

Clackamas, containing an area of about 1,450 square miles. With the western end lying in the Willamette Valley, it reaches back into the mountains to such an extent that the greater portion of its area is hilly and mountainous. In the foothills and the many small valleys, some of which lie far up toward the summit ridges, are many acres of land open to settlement, while thousands of acres near the Willamette, and in the higher land back from the river, have been cultivated for many years. Of the 1,054,000 acres in the county, 325,000 are owned by private individuals, 58,000 by the O. & C. R. R. and 22,000 by the State. The remaining 700,000 acres are Government land, subject to entry under the general land laws. Fully one-half of it is good arable land, or an amount equal to that which is already taken. Hundreds of sections of such lands are in close proximity to schools, churches, post offices and stores, and are within one day's drive of either Oregon City or Portland. By living on such places the settler would have an almost unlimited stock range, and his fencing might altogether be confined to the land he wished to cultivate. The soil in the foothills is of the richest kind, well watered and no lack of timber, and no more healthful climate exists in the United States. Some portions of this vacant land are heavily timbered, while others are covered with but a light growth of trees and brush. No open prairie land is to be had. Grain, hay and vegetables are the chief crops, and fruit trees are very productive. The fact that green grass can be had by cattle the year round renders this region, and particularly the little well-watered valleys, especially adapted for dairying.

The western end of the county is traversed by two lines of the O. R. & N. Co.'s system, affording splendid shipping facilities, to which are added the numerous boats plying on the Willamette. These are enabled to pass the falls at Oregon City by means of locks and a short canal constructed jointly by the State and private enterprise.

The county seat and largest town is Oregon City, the oldest town in the Willamette Valley. It is situated at the famous Willamette Falls, whose beauty has won admiration from all travelers since the pioneers first beheld them, more than half a century ago. The amount of power running to waste there is sufficient to build up a large manufacturing city. In the almost unlimited quantity of its water power, its splendid shipping facilities by rail and river, its fine location in the edge of the great valley, Oregon City offers greater advantages to manufacturing enterprises than any other place in Oregon. At present there are two flouring mills and a woolen mill in Oregon City, but no doubt this great water power will at no distant day be utilized by more extensive industries. When this is done Oregon City will grow rapidly. This should be taken into consideration by those looking for homes or for safe investments for their capital.

Coal and limestone of a fair quality are found in the foothills. Iron ore is found in great quantities in several portions of the county, and especially along the Willamette. At Oswego, a small town on the river, a few miles below Oregon City, are iron works employing a number

of hands, and extensive rolling mills have been projected for erection at that place. Other small towns in the county are Milwaukie, Canby, New Era, etc. The assessed value of property for the year 1884 was \$3,844,146.

MARION COUNTY.

Lying between Clackamas and Linn, and separated from Yamhill and Polk by the Willamette River, is the county of Marion. It has a frontage on the river of sixty miles, but contracts quickly as it extends eastward, running up to the summit of the Cascades in a gradually narrowing strip. In its area it embraces some 1,200 miles of prairies, foothills and mountains, the greater portion of which is valuable for agriculture, and the remainder for grazing and timber. The western end is in the very heart of the Willamette Valley, and is watered by the great river from which the valley derives its name and by numerous tributaries of that stream. This section, some thirty-six miles long by fifteen wide, embraces some of the finest land in the valley. The general surface of the country is that of an undulating plain, with an ascending slope to the foothills and ranging up into the mountain peaks of the Cascades, in which are many valleys lying between the rocky ridges of mountains. While there are many detached and scattered prairies in the county, the principal ones are Salem, French and Howell prairies, exceedingly fine bodies of farming land, having a deep, rich soil. French Prairie has, however, much marshy land, owing to its flatness. The Waldo Hills and the hills south of Salem were, undoubtedly, once open prairies, but have been overspread with oak and fir. These rolling hills are among the best farming lands in Oregon. The first settlers naturally selected the prairie land, where the expense of preparing it for cultivation was comparatively light, but the later ones in these timber-covered hills seem to have secured equally as good soil, though at greater expense for clearing. The yield of wheat on both classes of land is from twenty-five to forty bushels per acre, and this rate has been maintained in some seasons under the most adverse circumstances; also oats, flax, barley, rye, buckwheat and vegetables produce well. Fruits flourish in the hill regions.

There is considerable alluvial bottom land along the Willamette, Santiam and Pudding rivers, having a rich, warm, sandy loam, and producing immense crops of vegetables. It is especially adapted to hop culture. Butter and cheese are made in considerable quantities, and the field for dairying is an inviting one. Good lands can be had in the foothills, where, by slashing off and burning the light fir brush, and sowing grass seed on the burn, a rich and permanent pasturage is secured, with ample supply of hay for winter use. This can also be done in lands too rough for cultivation, and the ground can then be used for grazing either cattle or sheep. The timber resources of the county are valuable. Along the streams and lowlands are ash, alder and maple, in the hills oak and yellow fir. In the Cascades are great bodies of fir, pine and cedar. Water power in abundance is running to waste in the streams, especially those in the Cascades.

Lands are for sale at all prices, ranging from highly improved farms near Salem for \$50 and even \$100 per acre, to the undisturbed brush and forest lands in the foothills and mountains at \$2.50 per acre to purchasers, or a free gift to homestead settlers.

Salem, the county seat, is the capital of Oregon, and disputes with Astoria the honor of being the second city in size in the State. It contains the capitol building, the Willamette University, the county buildings, two large flouring mills, oil works, foundry and machine shops, furniture factory, and many fine public, business and residence buildings. The water power at Salem is very extensive and valuable.

The other principal business centres are Silverton, Stayton, Jefferson, Gervais and Aurora. The county is well supplied with shipping facilities. The O. & C. crosses it from north to south near the river, while a narrow gauge division of the O. R. & N. traverses its entire width from northwest to southeast. The Willamette furnishes an independent waterway the entire year to Portland and the Columbia River towns. The advantages of securing land in old and well established communities are leading many to purchase improved farms in Marion County, while many more are settling upon the Government and railroad lands in the foothills.

LINN COUNTY.

Linn County extends from the Willamette River to the summit of the Cascade Mountains, and lies between Marion and Lane counties on the north and south, having Benton for its neighbor west of the river. In its area of about 2,400 square miles it embraces bottom lands, high prairies, foothills and mountains, having the most extensive prairies in the Willamette Valley. The best agricultural part of the county is a strip or belt bordering on the Willamette River, an open, fertile prairie region, thickly settled with thrifty farmers. This belt is from twelve to twenty-five miles wide, and is one of the finest wheat and oat growing regions in the State. East of this is a belt from ten to twenty miles wide, which is hilly and undulating, diversified with small valleys, in which are many quiet, pleasant homes. The uncultivated lands in this section are for the most part covered with brush and timber, such as oak, fir, ash and maple. The next belt, comprising the remainder of the county, and extending to the summit of the Cascade Mountains, is a mountainous region, almost wholly unsettled, and, in fact, generally unfit for settlement. It is covered with large forests of fine timber, which in time will become extremely valuable. The entire county is finely watered by large streams, of which the principal ones are the Willamette River, North Santiam and South Santiam. Besides these there are numerous small streams, all rising in the Cascade Mountains and emptying into the Willamette or its tributaries. The water in these streams is clear and pure, and furnishes abundant water power for manufacturing purposes. The Oregon & California Railroad enters Linn County on the north, about six miles east of the Willamette River, and runs about ten miles

southwest to Albany, and thence south and southwest about thirty-two miles to Harrisburg, a mile above which point it crosses the Willamette and passes on south through Lane County. There is a branch railroad from Albany east to Lebanon, a distance of fifteen miles, where it connects with the narrow gauge road running west of, and parallel to, the O. & C. These roads, with the Willamette River, afford transportation facilities both by rail and boat.

As in other counties in the valley, the vacant Government land is confined almost exclusively to the foothills and mountains. Improved lands in the valley section can be purchased at prices varying from \$15 to \$40 per acre, though many farms would, if sold at all, command a higher figure. The desirable land in the foothills and in sections more removed from market and transportation can be purchased at from \$5 to \$25 per acre. There is considerable land well adapted to hop culture, and that industry has already taken strong hold upon the county.

The county seat and chief business centre is Albany, a live town of 2,800 people, lying on the west bank of the Willamette. It possesses good water power, which is utilized by flouring mills, saw mills, sash and door factories, chair factory and a number of other industries. It lies on the line of the O. & C. R. R., and is reached by boats on the river at all seasons of the year. Other towns are Brownsville, where is a woolen mill which is one of the leading manufacturing industries in the State; Lebanon, which contains a flouring mill, sash and door factory and grain elevator; Harrisburg, containing a saw mill and flouring mill; Scio, possessing a flouring mill; Halsey, Shedd, Crawfordsville, Tangent, Peoria and Waterloo.

LANE COUNTY.

Lane County, with its area of 4,500 square miles, much of it fine agricultural land, is the largest one with any portion of its surface lying within the valley, and is one of the most productive in the State. The central portion of the county occupies the upper end of the Willamette Valley and the mountains that bound it on the south, while the remainder extends to the summit of the Cascades on the east, and crosses the Coast Range to the Pacific on the west. The valley portion is composed mainly of level or slightly rolling, fertile prairie, bordered next to the mountains with low foothills, covered with grass and scattering oak, pine, fir, maple, alder and other varieties of timber. Each river and creek flowing through the valley is fringed with a narrow strip of timber, consisting of fir, maple, balsam, ash, alder, cedar, etc. The mountain ranges on the south, west and east are heavily timbered with forests of fir, pine, cedar, hemlock, spruce and other varieties of giant growth. Besides the valley land, which never fails to produce abundant crops of wheat, oats, barley, rye and other cereals, as well as vegetables and fruits of nearly every variety, there is a good deal of splendid farming land along the rivers and smaller watercourses in the mountains, and in the foothills are many thousands of acres of valuable land belonging to

the Government or railroad. Lane County has an area of 2,500,000 acres, of which about one-fourth is level prairie and three-fourths timber and mountain land. About 1,500,000 acres are surveyed, and 1,000,000 acres, in the timber and mountains, are unsurveyed. Only 370,000 acres are now settled by a population of 12,000 or 13,000. Land can be purchased in the hills and in the little valleys in the mountains at \$1.25 to \$2.50 and \$5 per acre, and choice improved farming land in the valley at \$10 to \$30, and near town at \$40 and \$50, per acre, according to location and the value of improvements. The opportunities for farming, stock raising, lumbering and manufacturing are great. Splendid water power for manufacturing exists along nearly all the streams. Lane takes the lead in Oregon for the culture of hops, of which there are numerous fine fields near Eugene City and in other favorable localities. Lane offers a field for varied industries, such as wheat raising, general farming, hop growing, wool growing, fruit culture, stock raising, dairying, lumbering, miscellaneous manufacturing and other pursuits. Many highly desirable immigrants are annually settling within its limits, either purchasing land in the valley or entering foothill claims under the homestead and pre-emption laws. An important section is that lying west of the summit of the Coast Range, a description of which will be found under the head of "The Coast Region."

The chief town and business centre of the county is Eugene City, the county seat, lying on the Willamette River and O. & C. Railroad. This is the leading town in the upper end of the valley, and has a population of some 1,600. It possesses the State University, and has a flouring mill, fruit cannery, furniture factory, saddle tree factory and several other industries. It is favorably located for steady growth and prosperity. Junction City contains two warehouses and a population of 400. It is the selected point of junction between the two lines of the O. & C. when the west side line shall have been extended south from Corvallis. Cottage Grove is a town of 300 people on the O. & C. road, near the south line of the county, and contains two flouring mills and a planing mill. Latham is a small railroad town containing grist and saw mills. Irving, Goshen and Creswell are also stations on the road, the last named containing a flouring mill. Springfield, containing a flour and saw mill, Pleasant Hill, Willamette Forks, Lowell, Long Tom and Siuslaw are other small villages. The O. & C. runs through the heart of the county from north to south, furnishing shipping facilities for the most thickly settled portion.

BENTON COUNTY.

Benton embraces an area of 2,000 square miles, extending from the Willamette River to the Pacific, and lying between Polk and Tillamook counties on the north and Lane on the south. The eastern end lies within the limits of the Willamette Valley, and includes thousands of acres of the most fertile arable land in Oregon, much of which has been under cultivation for a third of a century. This is divided into three general classes—prairie,

bottom and foothills. The prairie land, extending for miles north and south of Corvallis, the county seat, lies within the great wheat belt of the valley. This is generally level or slightly rolling, becoming more broken as it approaches the base of the mountains. Under careful cultivation this land produces from twenty-five to forty bushels of winter wheat to the acre, in exceptional cases even large fields exceeding that limit. The farms are nearly all well improved, with comfortable and pleasant dwellings, commodious farm buildings and good fences. There are, however, many tracts not yet broken by the plow, over which a few sheep and cattle graze. Land will soon become too valuable to be used in that manner. Good farms can be purchased here at from \$25 to \$40 per acre; though the choice ones, with exceptionally good improvements, cannot be secured at such prices. Comparatively unimproved farms can be bought at much lower rates. A farmer with a little capital cannot do better in Oregon than to purchase land of this character in Benton County. Many such have located there the past two years. A few fruit trees are to be found on nearly every farm, while a considerable number of extensive orchards have been in bearing condition for years. Such fruit as pears, apples, plums, cherries, grapes, etc., are of superior quality, and the trees and vines yield abundantly.

Along the Willamette there are long stretches of bottom land, some of it overflowed in the spring time, which is extremely valuable. This land was formerly covered with a dense growth of fir, maple, balsam, ash, scrub oak, hazel, etc., and was cleared with much difficulty; but it is now well worth all the labor and expense of improving it. Timber and brush still standing here and there give an indication of the former condition of all the bottom lands. The higher portions of the bottoms make splendid wheat land, while the lower become natural meadows where the grass never fails. Dairying is an important and profitable industry along the river; also the raising of vegetables. This low land is especially adapted to the culture of hops. There are a number of hop fields in the county and plenty of excellent land upon which to start new ones.

The foothills lie between the prairie land and the mountains. Here is considerable land open to settlement, much of which is very desirable. In its natural state it is covered with oak trees and shrubs, beneath which there is fine pasturage, where sheep, cattle and hogs can be maintained at little expense. This submits readily to cultivation when properly situated, giving the possessor generally a combination of arable and pasture land. Much of this land in its unimproved state can be purchased at a nominal sum, while land with greater or less improvements is held at from \$5 to \$25 per acre. There is also considerable Government land, though not so desirable as that which is held for sale. The western end of the county, including the Alsea section, is treated of in "The Coast Region" description elsewhere.

The seat of justice is Corvallis, situated on the west bank of the Willamette River, and approachable by steamer from Portland. This is one of the oldest and

best towns of Oregon, and has now a population of 1,500, with a business established on a firm and permanent basis. Excellent schools and churches, an agricultural college, two well-conducted weekly papers, flouring mill, saw mill and sash and door factory are features of the town. Corvallis has within a few weeks become the point of junction between the Oregon Pacific Railroad, from Yaquina Bay, and the west side line of the O. & C. road, of which it has been the terminal point for a number of years. The benefits to be derived are many, and will considerably increase the population, business and value of property. When, as is confidently expected, the Yaquina Bay route becomes the outlet for a large portion of the products of the Willamette Valley, Corvallis will occupy a still more important position and enjoy a still greater measure of prosperity. Other towns in the western portion of the county are Philomath, which possesses a college of the same name and a flouring mill; Monroe, containing a flouring mill, and Alsea, where a saw mill and flouring mill are located.

POLK COUNTY.

North of Benton, and extending from the Willamette River to the summit of the Coast Range, lies the county of Polk, one of the oldest and best agricultural counties in the State. It has an area of some 800 square miles, about equally divided between valley and hill land, with a belt of timber-covered mountains on its extreme western end. The valley portion is occupied by well-improved farms, and is one of the best developed portions of the State. There are especially noticeable many excellent residences, some of them quite costly structures. Wheat raising and general farming, combined with incidental stock, dairy, hop and wool production, are the leading industries. Some of the best sheep in the State are to be found in Polk County. Nearly every farmer has a small orchard on his place, and the usual Oregon fruits do well in that section. Improved land is for sale at from \$30 to \$50, and unimproved from \$2.50 to \$10. The western section is hilly and covered with a fine growth of hardwood and fir, the latter being especially dense and valuable in the mountain region. This land is especially adapted to pasturage for cattle and sheep. Much of it is still open for settlement under the Government land laws, while there is also a considerable amount belonging to the railroad which may be purchased at a reasonable rate. Partially improved land can always be bought at low figures. The Luckiamute is a tributary of the Willamette and is navigable for small steamers. This stream, La Creole, Mill Creek and numerous others furnish an abundance of pure water and an almost unlimited water power, but little of which is now utilized.

The seat of justice is Dallas, a town of 800 people, situated on the narrow gauge line. It contains a sash and door factory, tannery, machine shops and academy, and is the business centre of a large and prosperous farming region. Independence is a thriving town of 700 people, and possesses saw and flouring mills. It is the shipping point for a large agricultural section, for which

its position on the Willamette River and the O. & C. Railroad give it special advantages. Monmouth is situated on the narrow gauge road, and contains a wagon factory, a college and a population of 150. Airlie, a village in the southern end of the county, is the terminus of the narrow gauge road. Other villages on that line are Perrydale and Ballstown. On or near the O. & C. road are Rickreall, Zena and McCoy's, which has saw and grist mills. Buena Vista, on the Willamette, has a feed mill and pottery. Polk possesses excellent shipping facilities. The Willamette forms its entire eastern boundary, while two lines of railroad traverse its entire length from north to south. One of these is the west side division of the O. & C., and the other a narrow gauge line of the Willamette Valley Railroad Company. Good county roads enable the farmers from every section to reach the railroad stations and steamer landings.

YAMHILL COUNTY.

Yamhill County extends from the Willamette River to the summit of the Coast Range, and is surrounded by the counties of Washington, Clackamas, Marion, Polk and Tillamook. It has an area of about 750 square miles, the larger portion lying in the great Willamette Valley. For twenty miles west from the Willamette River the country has an almost unbroken, gently rolling surface; thence west, north and southward, a succession of undulating ridges, hills and valleys, rising higher and higher into the chain of the Coast Range, which forms an imposing background in the shape of a half circle northwest and southwest. The soil is a rich, dark loam, specially adapted to the cultivation of wheat, which has always been the chief crop, and until recently nearly the only one. The great increase in the population of the Northwest has enlarged the market for general farm products, and the result is that more attention is being paid to mixed farming, which is recognized as being safer and more profitable than when one kind of crop is depended upon. Improved land is worth from \$10 to \$40 per acre, owing to location and character of improvements. In the foothills of the mountains there is yet some vacant land, but the best opportunities in Yamhill are for those who have the means to buy farms already improved and having a desirable location. In fertility of soil, nearness to market, class of population, business centres, shipping conveniences and educational facilities, Yamhill County has no superior in Oregon. The county is traversed by two lines of railroad—the west side division of the O. & C. and the narrow gauge line of the Willamette Valley Railroad Company. It has also the advantage of a free waterway down the river. Numerous streams furnish an abundance of pure water and power which might be utilized in many ways.

The county seat is Lafayette, situated on the Yamhill River, near the line of the O. & C. Railroad. It contains a population of 600, has a flouring mill, and is the business point of a large and prosperous commercial section. McMinnville is also situated on Yamhill River, and is an important shipping point on the O. & C. road. It con-

tains a college, flouring mill, sash and door factory and a population of 1,100. North Yamhill is another shipping point on the same line, and contains two flouring mills, a saw mill and a population of 300. Amity, on the same line, and in the southern portion of the county, possesses a flouring mill, and ships considerable farm produce. Sheridan, on the narrow gauge road, contains a grist mill and feed mill, and is an important shipping point. Another shipping point on the narrow gauge is Dayton, situated on Yamhill River, and containing a flouring mill, saw mill and a population of 400. Middletown is a village of seventy-five people, and contains grist and saw mills. Wheatland is a shipping point on the river, and contains about seventy-five people. Newberg is another village of about the same size, containing flouring and saw mills. Carlton on the O. & C., West Chehalem, Bellevue and Dundee are other villages in the county. Yamhill is thickly settled in the eastern and central portions, and contains a greater number of the early pioneers of Oregon than any other county in the valley.

WASHINGTON COUNTY.

In its area of some 650 square miles Washington County embraces a great diversity of mountains, hills and valleys, open prairies and dense forests. It is the most northerly of the counties lying partially in the Willamette Valley, and is surrounded by Columbia, Multnomah, Clackamas, Yamhill, Tillamook and Clatsop, extending from near the Willamette River on the east to the summit of the Coast Range on the west. It cannot be said to lie in the valley proper. Its valley land is known as the "Tualatin Plains," and occupies a region of its own, drained by the Tualatin River and hemmed in by the Chehalem Mountains, that occupy a prominent place in the Willamette region, dividing Washington County from the rest. Washington has beautiful prairie reaches all along the course of the Tualatin that are surrounded by forests of fir. You continually pass in and out of belts of timber and find fine farms occupying every available location. The soil of the county is excellent and is famous for good crops, but there is over much fern growing in places that farmers do not value as they might something else. The county has many good farmers and good farms, and quite an interest is taken in fine stock. Good horses of all kinds, cattle, sheep and swine are found there. Farmers in this section come nearer practicing mixed husbandry than in most other localities. Their nearness to Portland gives them better opportunity. The northwestern portion lies in the heavily timbered belt spoken of in Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook, and no doubt possesses iron and coal in common with those counties. A railroad has been surveyed from Forest Grove, in this county, to Astoria, passing through this mountain region, opening up a means of getting its lumber to market, as well as giving settlers an opportunity to make homes on the thousands of acres along the streams and in the little mountain valleys. There is a vast belt of foothill and mountain country wholly unclaimed that is well worth the attention of immigrants, as well for the timber as the soil.

The towns of Washington are all in the valley, and the more important ones are on the line of the O. & C. west side route, which traverses the county. The county seat and chief railroad point is Hillsboro, a good business town of 500 people, containing steam flouring mills. Forest Grove, the point of junction of the proposed Astoria railroad with the O. & C., is a beautiful town of some 500 inhabitants, containing flouring mills, sash and furniture factory, a popular university, an Indian training school, and a library of 5,000 volumes. Beaverton is a railroad shipping point, having a population of 100. Cornelius is another railroad village, containing 150 people, a saw mill and brick yard. Dilly, Summit and Reedville are other points on the railroad. Tualatin, on the Tualatin River, contains about fifty people, and possesses two saw mills and two grist mills. Scholl's Ferry, also on the Tualatin, is a small village, containing a grist mill. Other villages are Garden Home, having a saw mill; Laurel, Mountain Dale, containing saw and shingle mills; Glencoe, possessing a grist mill; Greenville and Ingles, in which a grist mill is located.

COLUMBIA COUNTY.

Though not in any sense lying in Willamette Valley, and, in fact, possessing but little valley land, Columbia County is by its location and interests more closely associated with that region than any other. It is situated north of Washington and east of Clatsop, and has for its northern and eastern boundary the great Columbia for fifty miles and Willamette Slough for ten miles. By means of these it is reached by the large river steamers, and as these were until recently the only means of transportation, the settlement of the county has been chiefly confined to the vicinity of the streams. The Northern Pacific road from Portland to Puget Sound runs along or near the river, passing through Columbia City, and crossing the river at Hunter's Point, opposite Kalama. This road will be an important factor in the future development of that region. The superficial area of the county is 680 square miles. Its chief resources are coal, iron and timber, though there is much good land but partially tilled. A range of high hills, covered with timber, runs nearly parallel with the river. On one side are the Columbia Bottoms, and on the other the fertile Nehalem Valley. The bottom lands along the river are subject to overflow in June, and when the water recedes a luxurious growth of grass springs up, making splendid pasturage and hay. The dairy business is quite extensively carried on in these favored localities. Comparatively little farming is done along the river, the lumbering business absorbing the attention of the people. Every stream of any size has been cleared of obstructions, so that logs can be run down them in high water season. Logs are also hauled to the bottom lands, and when they are floated by the freshets are made up into rafts and towed to the mills on the river, to Portland, and even to Astoria. On Scappoose Creek is the Richland Mill, whose product is hauled to Gosa's Landing for shipment. At St. Helens, the county seat, is the mill of Muckle Bros. It is the

largest in the county, has a capacity of 40,000 feet per day, and runs constantly. Quarries are in the vicinity where paving stones are taken out. At Columbia City, two miles below St. Helens, is another saw mill. In the country tributary to this place are extensive bodies of excellent iron ore and large coal deposits, which will, no doubt, be utilized at no distant day. Enterprise, ten miles further down the Columbia, is the shipping point for a saw mill situated several miles back from the river. Many fine farms are located in the vicinity. At Rainier is a mill cutting 25,000 feet per day. There is also a small ship yard; a barrel factory and a cannery, where salmon, smelt, salmon trout and caviar are prepared for market. In Beaver Valley there are two mills, and much lumber, shingles, cordwood and charcoal are sent out and shipped at Cedar Landing. There is a large settlement in the valley and plenty of room for others. Near Bradbury, twelve miles below Rainier, there is some good land along the river. Logging is the principal business. In the Clatskanie Valley are three saw mills. In the valley, and in the vicinity of Marshland and Wood's Landing, is some of the best farming land in the county. There is room for more settlers in that region. Across the mountains from Wood's Landing to Riverside, in Nehalem Valley, it is fifteen miles. Near this point there is a saw mill. Up the valley twelve miles is the town of Pittsburg, having both a saw and grist mill. Further up is the town of Vernonia, having a saw mill and sash factory. In the valley is much good land open to settlement, enough to give homes to 5,000 people. Much valuable land there has just been thrown open to settlement by the forfeiture of the Oregon Central land grant. The water power is excellent, large coal deposits have been discovered, and splendid timber covers both the valley and the surrounding mountains. The proposed railroad from Forest Grove to Astoria will pass through the valley, and thus bring it into free communication with the remainder of the State. The resources of Columbia County are almost entirely undeveloped, and great inducements are offered to settlers who can utilize them. Special attention is called to its advantages for dairying.

The Coast Region.

THAT portion of Oregon known as the "Coast Region" is a comparatively narrow strip, from twenty to thirty miles wide, lying between the summit of the Coast Range and the Pacific Ocean. It embraces the counties of Clatsop, Tillamook, Coos and Curry, and portions of Benton, Lane and Douglas, and has so many features peculiar to itself as to warrant a separate classification. It is densely covered with a giant growth of fir, cedar, spruce, hemlock and other valuable timber trees, which prevail on the uplands, and many kinds of desirable hardwoods, such as maple, alder, laurel, etc., along the courses of the numerous streams. The whole country is one vast forest, stretching out continuously from the Columbia River to the California line, except where great tracts have been swept by forest fires, as is notably the case in Benton County, or where strips of prairie land interpose, as in Tillamook.

The rainfall of this region in summer time is greater than in the Willamette Valley, while in winter the thermometer seldom falls below the freezing point. The vine maple bottoms, as the low lands along the streams are generally called, are the most desirable, and will prove themselves the poor men's homes of the future. To render them such work is necessary, either by the settler himself, as is generally the case, or by others whom he pays for their labor. Much of these lands have enough cottonwood to pay for their clearing, since barrel staves of that wood are in demand. The fir will make fence rails and shakes for houses and barns, the larger vine maples make durable posts, and the elders and quaking aspens can be slashed for burning. Next comes the fire, leaving the ashes to fertilize the soil, and up comes the shamrock, which is a natural growth and a great element of wealth. This tiny white clover is everywhere along the bottoms, and is the best butter food known. The streams are numerous, while springs of pure water burst from the ground in every gulch and at frequent intervals along the hillsides. Snow is unknown except on the hills, and grass and clover are perpetually fresh and green. As a dairy region this certainly has no superior in the world, while the incidental raising of beef cattle and hogs for market can be made extremely profitable. The indigenous ferns and brakes are a pest to the farmer. On the prairies, and where timber has been sufficiently cut or burned to give them a chance, they spring up thickly and grow to giant proportions, sometimes higher than a man's head. They can be subdued and kept down, and are to be preferred to burrs, thistles and many similar pests of older agricultural regions. Under them, especially in the large tracts which have been burned over in past years by forest fires, the wild pea vine grows, a very nutritious food for cattle.

It is not only the bottom lands, however, which are desirable or may be rendered suitable for agriculture. There is much hill land possessing a fertile soil. It has been indiscriminately asserted that the timbered land is not fertile and is not worth the cost of clearing, though how this can be maintained in the face of the hundreds of good farms that have been carved out of the forest it is difficult to tell. There is, to be sure, much hill and mountain land which is gravelly. This is true of the higher and steeper ridges of the Coast Range, but there are also many thousand acres of the most productive land now covered densely with timber. In fact, the very luxuriance of its growth of trees, vines and shrubs is proof of the richness of the soil. There are rolling hills which have a deep soil, producing the finest fruits, vegetables and grain, including corn, and there are extensive plateaus, with a deep, rich soil. In the main the forests are dense. To one unaccustomed to Oregon timber the trees seem formidable. There are giant firs and spruces, from eight to fourteen feet through, with huge roots and abutments reaching up twenty feet from the ground, and hemlocks standing in thick array, straddling old rotten logs or emerging from huge stumps, while an infinitude of salmon berry and salal and huckle berry bushes cover

the ground; but beneath this mass of wood and shrub lies a soil of remarkable fertility.

It is often stated that it does not pay to clear timber land—that it costs more than the land is worth. This is an error when such land as is spoken of above is meant. Suppose, for example, that a settler has located a homestead of 160 acres on that character of land, and begins his work of clearing in August. It is usually possible on a windy day, in the dry time, to get a fire started which will run a good many rods in the green timber. This fire will kill and burn up most of the brush, and consume much of the rotten wood on the ground. It will also kill the green timber. We may suppose that the settler makes a preliminary burn on fifty acres. It might take a week to do this. A great many fires would have to be started, feeble ones encouraged, or the fire checked by counter burning if running in a direction not desired. In some places the brush would be simply burned off at the roots and not burned up. Any quantity of logs would be left half burned on the ground; but, on the whole, the burn would be ready without more trouble to be seeded. The best time for this is just before the autumn rains in October. Grass seed scattered in the ashes in the fall makes abundant pasturage for the succeeding year. Our settler thus has pasturage secured for a number of years. He wants to get land ready for cultivation. As soon as the preliminary fire is out he must go to work in the most eligible spot to gather up the brush and haul up the logs in piles to burn. He can scarcely get along without a yoke of oxen in this work. The large spruce trees which remain standing he can bore and burn down. He can bore from a dozen to twenty in a day. The hemlocks which remain standing he can easily burn out by piling brush and logs around their roots. The solid timber on the ground must be cut open by saws and rolled together to burn. There would still be left roots in the ground, but a large part of them, as well as the butts of the trees, would be reduced to ashes. If the settler is clearing on the side of a hill he can roll the lengths of the logs down as he cuts them off. An able-bodied man, with a yoke of oxen, can clear almost any acre of land in a month. If he takes advantage of a thin patch in the woods, such as always are to be found, he can clear double that amount. By spring—for in burning logs by piling them into a pit or rolling them into a little gully where there is a fire it takes no difference how wet they are—he will have from four to ten acres of land cleared, ready for the plow, and forty or fifty acres of grass for pasture. He will have been able, too, to rive out a few thousand spruce shakes and make a shanty for himself and family, and to put up a slight shelter for his cows and oxen.

Suppose that he has ready only four acres of land for cultivation. One of these acres will raise all the vegetables his family needs for a year; two acres he can sow with carrots, which will make excellent feed for his stock, and part of which he can sell, if he be near market, at good profit. The other acre he can sow to oats, which he will cut for hay; yet if he has so much pasture and a supply of roots for winter feed he will need little hay.

He would in a short time burn up all the brush and rotten logs on some acre or two next his clearing, without bringing down the solid timber, and sow it to wheat. This he could cut with a sickle for his chickens. The second summer he would, perhaps, work some for his neighbors, to get some ready money. If he came with money enough to buy cows and hogs, he could begin at once making butter and fattening hogs. If he were not thus prepared he could, undoubtedly, get hold of several calves, and in a few years work into a dairy. Cattle and goats would tramp and eat down any fresh brush that began to grow on his burnt land. The dead timber would gradually rot away, and he could constantly increase his wholly cleared land. In ten years he could have every acre of his quarter section either wholly cleared or in productive pasture. He could have an orchard in bearing and comfortable buildings. Work can nearly always be had by an industrious man, to aid in the support of himself and family while clearing his land and securing title to his homestead.

If one goes into the woods in this way—and this is no imaginary picture, but what has been done—a few years' labor will make him a home and productive farm. It is not true that it costs \$50 an acre to clear heavily timbered land if one settles on the land and does the work himself; but even if it were true, the land is worth \$50 an acre, and will yield an interest of fully 12½ per cent. on the investment. Any one who has nerve and muscle, industry and sufficient steadiness of purpose to work at the same place a dozen years, has as good a thing as he wants in the woods of Western Oregon.

CLATSOP COUNTY.

This county occupies the extreme northwest corner of Oregon, its northern border being the waters of the mighty Columbia, and its western the rolling breakers of the Pacific; east and south lie Columbia and Tillamook. The county at present, so far as population and property are concerned, consists chiefly of the city of Astoria, a thriving business place of 8,000 people, lying on the south bank of the Columbia, about ten miles above the bar at the river's mouth. Here was made the first settlement in the whole region tributary to the Columbia River. In 1811 the Pacific Fur Company established a trading post and general headquarters for the immense business they expected to transact on the Pacific Coast, and the place was named Astoria in honor of John Jacob Astor, the founder and financial backer of the enterprise. A few years later it became the property of the Hudson's Bay Company. In 1848 a town began to spring up and a custom house was established. In 1866 the canning of salmon began on the river, and from that time Astoria grew rapidly. Twenty-four of the thirty-eight canneries now on the river are located there, and the others are tributary to that city. There were packed during the season of 1884 650,000 cases, or about 1,800,000 fish, of an average weight of twenty pounds each. In catching the salmon some 1,700 boats were employed, with two men in each, and more than \$1,500,000 were paid out to fisher-

men alone. There are between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 invested in the business, and the value of the season's pack, at the low rate of \$5 per case, is \$3,250,000. It can easily be understood how thriving must be a community supported by such an industry; yet this is but one of its advantages. Situated as it is at the mouth of the Columbia, with a good harbor and a custom house, it is the natural gateway of Oregon for all ocean commerce; and with a railroad connecting it with the Willamette Valley, a road that has been surveyed and may soon be constructed, Astoria will become an important shipping point for wheat and other valley products, and will no doubt become the stopping place of many vessels that now sail past its docks and go 100 miles inland to receive their cargoes at Portland. The facilities for shipbuilding on a large scale are very superior, and as a manufacturing point, especially of flour for foreign shipment and lumber for markets at home and abroad, she possesses great advantages. Two saw mills are located there.

Outside of the city Clatsop County has an area of 1,400 square miles. The surface of the country is chiefly mountainous, but many streams flow through, along which are areas of fine agricultural land. Even back from the streams, almost everywhere, the soil is excellent and well adapted to cultivation, when the ground has been cleared of its dense growth of timber. Clatsop Plains, a strip of land lying along the sea shore, which has been settled for thirty-five years, is the largest body of agricultural land in the county. The soil is light and sandy, and produces vegetables, grain and small fruits in abundance. But little wheat is raised, oats and barley being the principal cereals. Hay is the chief crop and dairying the leading feature of the farming business. The soil is well adapted to hop culture, though that industry is not yet carried on there. The same is generally true of the ranches on the Nehalem, Lewis and Clarke, Young's and other rivers in the county. On these streams and in the mountains are large areas of vacant land, covered with timber, still open to settlement.

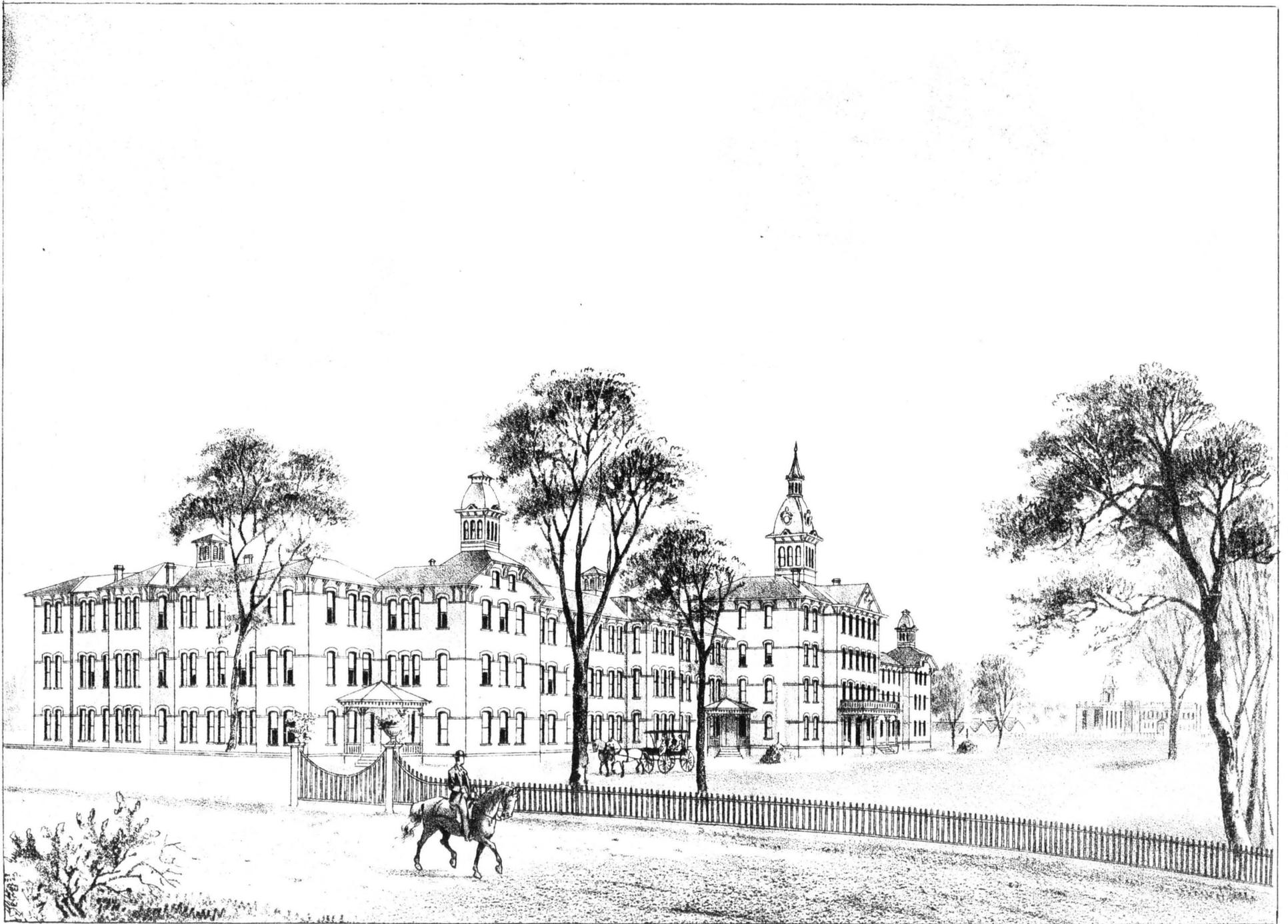
In the vicinity of Saddle Mountain, where rise the Lewis and Clarke, Nekanikan and North Nehalem, there is a large tract of desirable land. These streams diverge but slightly for a number of miles, and the ridges between them are easy of ascent. The streams are lined with bottom lands, which near their sources become several miles in width. In the whole region there are probably 500 square miles of excellent land, the meadows of these streams being the richest possible, and the soils of the intervening slopes equal to any upland. It is all timbered. For vegetables, hay, dairy products and small fruits there is a sure market at high prices. From end to end the county is covered with a dense growth of magnificent timber, and hundreds of men make money by logging into the streams from the claims of settlers and selling the logs to mill men at Astoria. Much charcoal and cordwood are also taken from the claims. In the Nehalem Valley, lying partly in Clatsop and partly in Columbia, is the largest body of the most desirable timber and the greatest extent of valley land. Great induc-

ments are offered there for settlers to locate and enjoy the benefits of the railroad when built through that section of the county. Coal of a superior quality has been discovered in the southern portion of the county, and it is probable that whole region is underlaid with seams of that valuable material. Iron ore has been found in several places to the east, and it probably exists in Clatsop as well.

TILLAMOOK COUNTY.

One of the most inviting of Oregon counties is Tillamook, as yet but thinly settled and almost entirely undeveloped. It lies for about seventy miles along the coast, reaching inland as far as the summit of the Coast Range Mountains, and having Clatsop adjoining it on the north and Benton on the south. From the mountains a number of rivers of considerable size and many smaller streams flow down to the ocean. The Nehalem flows out from Clatsop and enters Nehalem Bay at the county line; the Wilson, Trask and Tillamook flow into Tillamook Bay, and the Nestucca and Siletz enter the ocean direct further to the south. Along all the streams are many thousand acres of valley and bottom lands, the greater portion of which are as yet unsettled, and in the uplands lying along the coast, between the streams, are vast tracts of splendid grazing land, fitted, also, for agriculture when cleared, that remain still in their primitive state. The largest and oldest settled section of agricultural land is Tillamook Valley, surrounded by mountains on the north, east and south, and sheltered from the ocean winds by a range of high hills that rise between it and Tillamook Bay, it possesses the most delightful climate of the whole coast of Oregon. Back of the fringe of timber, a mile or two deep around the bay, the valley opens in a fine variety of prairie, woodland, knoll and ravine, stretching away for miles, to climb at last the easy and wooded slopes of the Coast Range. Three or four rivers come down from the mountain through narrowing arms of the valley, gathering the bright, pure waters of hundreds of mountain rivulets and brooks. The best of the valley land (meaning that which is prairie and most easily cleared) is, of course, occupied by settlers already there. But there is room for thousands of homesteads on Government land which can be put in cultivation at an expense of a few dollars per acre, which, if at first more encumbered and troublesome to subdue than prairies of Eastern Oregon, is, when once in cultivation, far more valuable.

Twenty miles south of Tillamook Bay is the Nestucca. The river has about ten miles of tidewater, with splendid soil on both sides of the stream for twenty miles up from the bay. The bottom land is narrow, not more than three-quarters of a mile wide on an average, but the foothills are low, with numerous small streams running down from the main mountains, on which there is considerable good land, as good as there is in the State, vacant. The country has no mills, although there is quite a demand for lumber, which has to be shipped from Yaquina by steamer. The timber is mostly dead from fires, but there

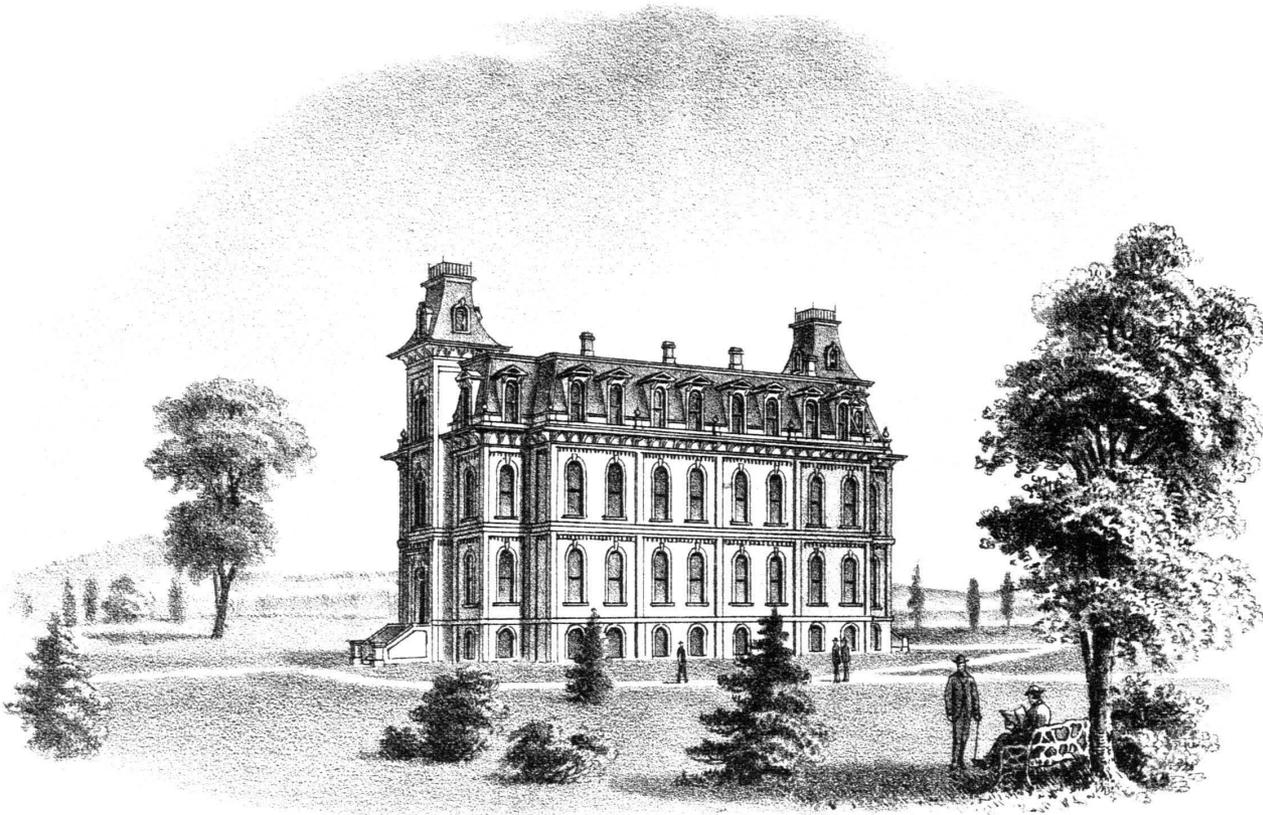


WEST SHORE LITH.

ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE, SALEM, OREGON.

PENITENTIARY.

THE WEST SHORE.

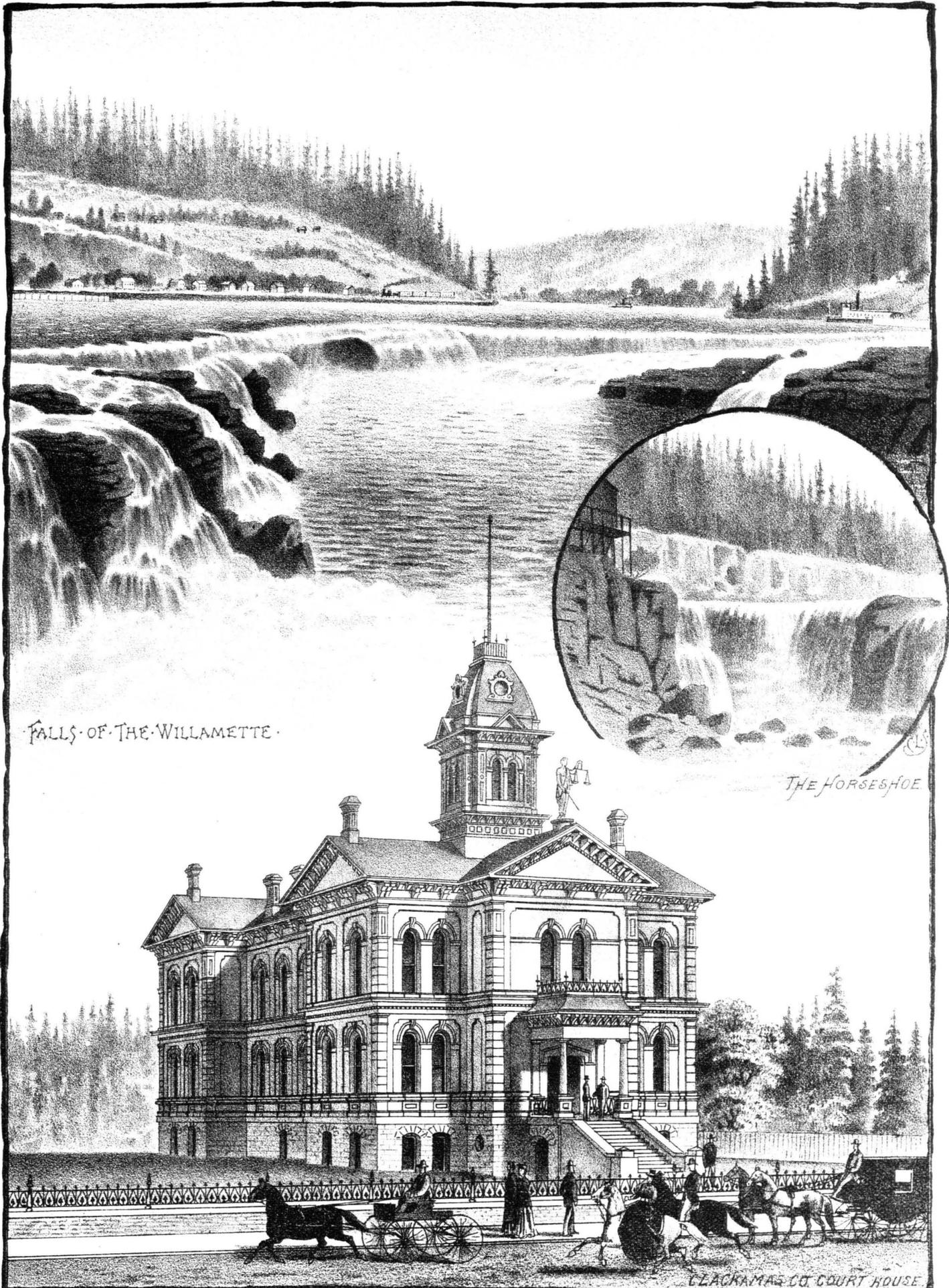


OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, EUGENE CITY.



COLLEGE AT Mc MINNVILLE, OREGON.

THE WEST SHORE.



FALLS OF THE WILLAMETTE.

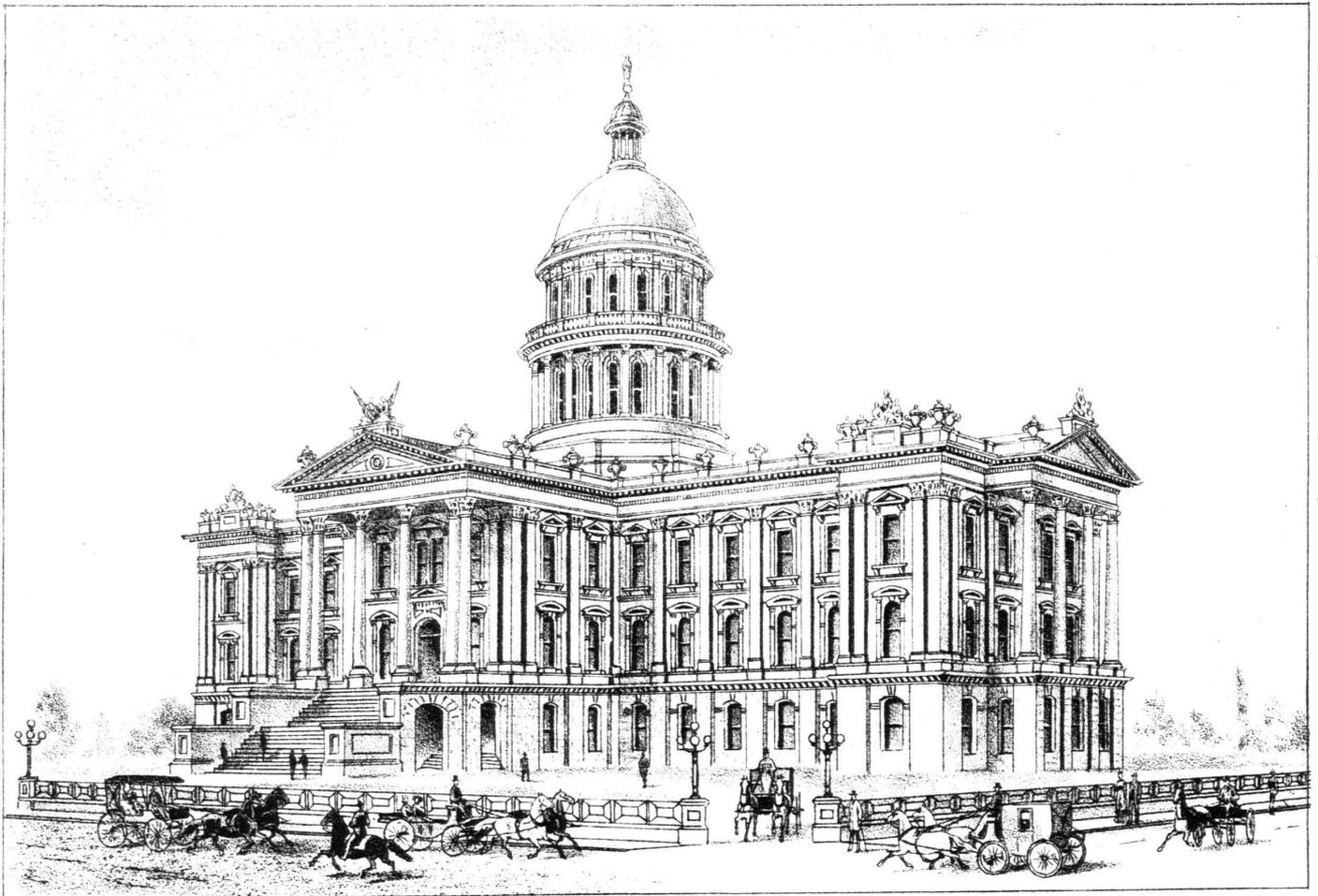
THE HORSESHOE

CLACKAMAS CO. COURT HOUSE.

OREGON CITY.

WEST SHORE - LITH

THE WEST SHORE.



STATE CAPITAL AT SALEM, OR.



MARION COUNTY COURT HOUSE, SALEM, OR.

is some yellow fir which is green near the river, enough to run a large mill for years, and good water power near at hand, immediately at the head of tidewater. There is a small bay with nine feet of water at low tide. The county is receiving many settlers, but there is yet much vacant land, where industrious men can make for themselves good homes.

The prairie lands or high plains, stretching up and down the coast for nearly sixty miles and back to the mountains for twelve miles, are the easiest reached, and but for the ferns and brakes that grow in profusion, absorbing the moisture and killing off other vegetation, would make the finest farms. As it is, the vine maple bottoms are the most desirable. With the exception of its dairy products, timber and fish, the county has but little to export. Agriculture has made but little progress, owing chiefly to a lack of transportation, but partly to the fact that with a few cattle, a fishing rod and a gun, the settler can live in royal style without the labor that accompanies grain farming. The barley of this region is superior to that of the Willamette Valley, and oats, potatoes, fruits and all kinds of vegetables are prolific. The county needs settlers to clear the land, cultivate it and make homes for their families; and when this is done, the other great need—sufficient transportation facilities—will surely be provided. One who has money can buy land at what would anywhere be considered low figures. He should have enough left after buying his land to stock it, and by fair industry he can make money and grow rich. The settler with limited means can find plenty of opportunities to make a home. He can homestead or pre-empt 160 acres of land, and from the start can make a living for himself and family. The waters will supply him with trout; the shores and inlets abound in clams; his rifle should furnish him plenty of fresh meat, and a small garden patch can supply vegetables which need only planting to grow. The lumber industry is being developed, and will in the future be a large one. The mountains are covered with fir and cedar of gigantic size, and the rivers are in every way suitable for floating logs to mills situated on the bays at their mouths, where vessels can be loaded. A large mill has been erected on Tillamook Bay, and others will surely follow. There is also a large salmon cannery on the bay. As to shipping facilities, they are at present confined to the small steamers that make periodical visits to the bay; but there is little doubt that a railroad will be run across the mountains, either from the Willamette Valley or branching from the road to be built to Astoria, as soon as the settlements are far enough advanced to make such a road profitable. Tillamook, the county seat, Hobsonville, Hebo and Oretown are the chief towns, none of them as yet advanced beyond the village state.

BENTON COUNTY.

The western portion of this county [see "Willamette Valley" for the eastern end] lies along the coast from Tillamook to Lane. Its characteristics are much similar to those of Tillamook, though for many square miles the

timber has been destroyed by forest fires. Where this has occurred a rank growth of giant ferns has sprung up, growing so thickly that at a distance their tops—several feet from the ground—present the appearance of a fine velvety turf; and with the exception of ranging cattle upon it, which fatten on the wild pea vine growing beneath the ferns, but little use has yet been made of this land, except along the river bottoms. Yaquina River flows westward across the northern end of the county and discharges into the bay of the same name. Farming and stock raising are carried on along the river and bay, but not on an extensive scale. There exist no broad levels for large fields of grain, and though the range over the hills is very wide, no one has entered largely into the stock or dairy business. The soil has been enriched by ashes from the burned forest, and yields abundantly in the bottoms, and on the hills when the ferns have been conquered. Potatoes are excellent, and large quantities are exported. Fruit does well, as is attested by several small orchards and one large one.

Yaquina Bay is destined to become quite an important receiving and shipping point. The Oregon Pacific road was recently completed from the bay across the mountains to Corvallis, where it reaches both the Willamette River and the O. & C. Railroad. Vessels of sixteen feet draught can cross the bar, but this depth will be increased several feet when the Government improvements now in progress are completed. The largest town on the bay is Newport, just within the entrance. It has considerable shipping trade, chiefly with San Francisco, and contains about 200 people. Yaquina City is an embryo town further up the bay, and is the terminus of the railroad, possessing terminal works, car shops, warehouses and docks. One mile south is Oneatta, the site of a good saw mill. Toledo and Oysterville are also small communities on the bay, and Elk City, at the head of navigation on the river. Lumber, oysters and miscellaneous products are the articles now shipped from Yaquina Bay, but it is the intention of the railroad to make it a shipping point for wheat, flour and other products of the great valley across the mountains.

Alsea River cuts through the mountains and enters the Pacific near the southern end of the county. Along its course is much good bottom land. Upper Alsea Valley is ten miles long and from one to three wide, and has a rich, deep alluvial soil. Grass is excellent the year round, and there is an abundance of pure water. The advantages offered for dairying are obvious. There are now some 350 people in the valley. The river from that point descends 1,000 feet in passing through the mountains to Alsea Bay, an estuary at its mouth. Flowing into the stream near its mouth are Five Rivers and Deep Creek, along whose fertile banks many settlers have located. There is room for many more along the Alsea and its tributaries.

LANE COUNTY.

That portion of Lane lying along the coast is quite mountainous and covered with dense forests. Except

along the Siuslaw it is almost wholly unoccupied. Many short streams pour into the ocean from the mountain sides, but there is no harbor for vessels, and the coast is rocky and perilous. The Siuslaw country is worthy of special mention. The river flows into the ocean, and for many miles forms the boundary line between Lane and Douglas counties. It is navigable for twenty-five miles, at only one point being less than twenty feet deep, and at that place having a depth of fourteen feet at low tide. The country along the Siuslaw is mountainous and densely covered with forest and undergrowth. Immediately along the river and its tributaries there are numerous small valleys or bottoms of the most fertile soil, suitable for the production of fruit, vegetables and grain. The hills are of sufficient fertility to subserve grazing purposes, and many good locations for dairies are to be found. The great drawback is the want of good roads and other means of communication with the Willamette Valley and the ocean. The lumber interests alone are of sufficient importance to warrant the opening of this region, which possesses the easiest natural route from the valley to the Pacific. Florence is the name of a small town near the mouth of the stream, where salmon are packed, and from which various products of that region are shipped.

DOUGLAS COUNTY.

In the main the coast region of Douglas is similar to that of Lane—mountainous and densely timbered, with a coast rocky and dangerous. A number of quite extensive lakes lie between the summit of the mountains and the ocean shore. The Umpqua River discharges into the ocean near the boundary line between Douglas and Coos. Thirty miles above its mouth, and at the head of navigation, lies the town of Scottsburg, once the most important commercial point in Southern Oregon. It now has a flouring mill, store, hotel and a population of seventy-five. The river flows through the mountains between steep and rugged hills of terraced sandstone, from 500 to 1,000 feet high. Five miles below Scottsburg the stream widens and the bases of the hills recede from the water, leaving strips of fertile land. All of the arable land on the Lower Umpqua is contained in three little meadows, aggregating about 2,000 acres. Smith River enters the Umpqua about eight miles above its mouth, having cut through the Coast Range from its source in the Calapooias. Several thousand acres of rich bottom land lie in long, narrow strips along its banks, also occasional marshes and mud flats. The upper portion of the stream runs through a more open country, where stock can find an extensive range on the hills. The timber is dense on the lower portion, and much logging is done for the mills at Gardiner, fir, cedar and maple being the leading varieties. A steamer ascends the river a distance of twenty-five miles.

Umpqua Bay, as the estuary at the mouth of the Umpqua is called, is eight miles long and somewhat less than a mile in width. On portions of both sides marshes, intersected by tidal sloughs, extend to the hills. These lands will be extremely valuable when reclaimed by dyking. The bay has a sheltered anchorage of 1,500 acres,

being perfectly land-locked. The entrance is abrupt, with a sand bar, having thirteen feet of water above it at the lowest point during low tide. Sailing vessels with a competent pilot can enter the bay in favorable weather. Gardiner, the seaport town of the Umpqua region, lies on the north bank of the river, or bay, nine miles above the entrance. Lumbering is quite extensively carried on in that region, and much lumber is shipped to San Francisco from the mills at Gardiner. Deep water vessels can reach the wharf, and all supplies for, or shipments from, the country lying further up the stream are handled at Gardiner. There is also a salmon cannery located at that point, which packs some 50,000 cases annually.

COOS COUNTY.

The county of Coos lies on the coast, being hemmed in between Douglas and Curry counties and the Pacific Ocean. It is chiefly mountainous, with but little level land, except along the Coos and Coquille rivers and their tributaries, and in little valleys here and there among the hills. There is yet open to settlement much Government land that will make excellent farms, while free grazing on the unclaimed hills is a privilege of no small value. The population is about 6,000, engaged chiefly in lumbering, coal mining and farming, the first two industries furnishing a market for the products of the last. The coal and lumber interests are among the most extensive on the coast, being in the hands of San Francisco capitalists, to which city the product is shipped. Coos Bay harbor furnishes good facilities for shipment of the county's products and the receipt of supplies, and it is for this reason, and because of there being no free communication inland, that Coos County is tributary to California instead of Oregon. This evil is about to be partially remedied, as a company has been organized to build a railroad from the bay to Roseburg, which will pass through many miles of valuable coal and timber lands. This will give Coos County access to the interior and Southern Oregon an outlet to the coast. Salmon canning is becoming one of the county's industries and will probably increase in importance. The lumber, coal and farm products are not the only resources of the county by any means. Gold mines have in the past been worked with profit, and in some localities are profitable to-day. The hills and mountains contain valuable iron ore. Lead of an excellent quality has been discovered on the Coquille River. The ore is very rich and easy of access, being on the line of the proposed railroad. The iron and lead are entirely undeveloped, farther than to know positively that they exist in abundance. A competent judge says: "I have been nearly thirty-one years in Oregon and Washington Territory, and have done considerable lumbering for the Columbia River mills and those on Shoalwater Bay, in Washington Territory, and have a very fair acquaintance with the timber regions of the Columbia, from the mouth of the Washougal to the sea, and have seen a good deal of the timber land of Puget Sound and Shoalwater Bay, and in all places have never seen the Coos County forests excelled for density or quality of

timber; and, indeed, the white, or Port Orford, cedar of Coos is, for fineness and excellency for finishing timber, the best we have in Oregon. Tributary to the Coquille River alone are millions of feet of that variety of timber waiting the lumberman's axes and saws; and yearly millions of feet of it are being destroyed by fire." A company has been formed to work the valuable stone and slate quarries on Coos Bay. The slate is said to be of a very superior quality, equal to the best Welsh, and stone similar to the renowned Caen of Normandy can be had in almost unlimited quantities. Farms with little improvements can be purchased very cheap, while more improved lands are held at higher figures. One of the advantages is that a settler can find plenty of work in the logging camps at from \$40 to \$60 per month and board, to help support himself while clearing his farm.

In common with other coast harbors, the entrance to Coos Bay is obstructed by a bar. A jetty has been constructed by the Government, which has secured a depth of eighteen feet at extreme low tide. The bay is large and offers absolute security to vessels lying at anchor. It is very irregular in shape, giving it an extended shore line. A large amount of marsh land is found on the tributary sloughs and creeks, which is susceptible of being reclaimed and rendered extremely valuable. On the Coos, Millicamas and other streams emptying into the bay is quite an extensive area of bottom land, known as "myrtle bottoms," because the principal tree is the myrtle. Much difficulty is experienced in clearing these lands, for the myrtle is extremely tenacious of life, and the old stumps retain their vitality for years, constantly putting out a rank growth of green shoots, which the farmer must trim off every year. The cost of clearing such land is placed at \$50 an acre, consequently there is much of it yet uncleared. Such as have been put under cultivation have paid their owners well, for the yield of grain, vegetables and grasses is prolific, and good prices are obtained for everything. On Coos River are many very valuable farms. Empire City, the county seat, lies on the southeast side of the bay, six miles from the bar. Formerly coal and lumber were shipped in quantities from that point. A United States custom house is located there. Marshfield, a town of 800 people, lies further up the bay. A large saw mill and ship yard is located there. At North Bend are located another large saw mill and ship yard. Sumner, Coos City, Coaledo, Utter City and Aaronville, the last having a saw mill, are other villages in that region.

In the southern end of the county is Coquille River, which has a large area of myrtle bottom land along its course, the greater portion of which is yet uncleared. Lumbering, salmon canning and shipbuilding are the leading industries. Randolph is a town of 100 inhabitants, near the mouth of the river, on the north bank, and Bandon another of about the same size, on the south bank. The former has two saw mills and the latter one. Parkersburg lies on the south bank, a few miles further up, and contains a salmon cannery, a salmon salting establishment, two saw mills and a ship yard. Coquille

City is the most populous town on the river, and contains saw and grist mills. Further up the stream are Norway, Myrtle Point, with grist and saw mills; Hermannsville, Dora, Ott, Gravel Ford, Sitkum and Fairview. There are several other saw and grist mills located at various points not designated above.

CURRY COUNTY.

The county of Curry lies in the extreme southwestern corner of Oregon, surrounded by Coos, Douglas and Josephine counties, in this State, and Del Norte County, in California, and having a coast line on the Pacific of more than 100 miles. In its area of 1,500 square miles it embraces hills, valleys, plains and mountains. Some of the elevations are covered with heavy growths of fir, live oak and cedar, while others are bald, supporting a luxuriant growth of grass. Rogue River, whose principal tributary is the Illinois, finds its way to the ocean across the central portion of Curry County. The other streams of the county, all of which flow into the ocean, are New, Sixes, Pistol, Chetco, Windchuck and Elk rivers, and Floras, Brush and Euchre creeks. On all these streams are tracts of rich alluvial bottom lands, while there is much fine agricultural land in the valleys scattered here and there in the mountains. The grassy hills afford splendid grazing for cattle and sheep. Much land is yet open to settlement, and desirable locations with improvements can be purchased at reasonable rates. The chief products are gold, grain, hay, butter, cheese, timber, cattle, sheep and fish. Placer mining has been carried on for years with good results. The timber of this region, especially the celebrated Port Orford cedar, is very superior, and lumbering is the leading industry. Thousands of acres of timber land, advantageously located, can be purchased from the Government at \$2.50 per acre, or can be homesteaded. The salmon run in all the rivers is large, and finer locations for canneries do not exist. A cannery at Ellensburg is doing an extensive business, and yet is not able to use all the fish offered it. The shipping points are Ellensburg and Port Orford, the latter needing only a small breakwater to make it accessible for shipping purposes to the largest vessels that float. Communication is had from these ports with San Francisco by means of sailing vessels, making Curry tributary to that city. In this respect, and in the matter of its resources and industries, it is similar to Coos, its nearest neighbor on the north.

Ellensburg is the county seat, and is situated at the mouth of Rogue River. It contains a salmon cannery, two saw mills and a grist mill. The population is about 300. Port Orford, some thirty miles up the coast, has two saw mills, and is the shipping and receiving point for the northern end of the county. Chetco, near the California line, is the seaport for the farmers on Chetco River and other portions of the southern end of the county. There are a number of quite extensive individual dairies in the county, several of them milking a hundred cows each, and many thousand pounds of butter are shipped annually.

Southern Oregon.

THE region here designated as "Southern Oregon" embraces the counties of Jackson and Josephine and the greater portion of Douglas. It lies between the Coast Range and Cascade mountains, and is cut off from the Willamette Valley by the Calapooia Mountains, a transverse range connecting the two great ranges, from which it extends southward a distance of 125 miles to the California line, where another high cross range—the Siskiyou—hems it in. Through it run two great rivers—Rogue and Umpqua—which, rising in the Cascades almost within a stone's throw of each other, diverge in their westward course, until they cut deep gorges through the Coast Range and enter the Pacific a distance of ninety miles apart. Instead of large valleys or plains of level land, bordered on either hand by the two great mountain ranges, the country consists of numerous small valleys, separated by mountain ranges and spurs of various heights, and drained by a large number of creeks which find their tortuous way into the two principal streams. Thus the country is exceedingly broken and its local divisions almost innumerable. Forests cover the greater portion of the entire region from the summit of one great range to that of the other, only the broader valleys, bottom lands and sidehills being to any extent free from timber and underbrush. All parts of this region are well watered. Save in some elevated portions of the Cascades, there is hardly a quarter section of land that does not possess an ample supply of clear, cold water. Springs burst forth in profusion, feeding the multitude of small streams.

The climate of Southern Oregon is, in many respects, superior to that of any other portion of the Pacific Coast. While its rainfall is ample, it is far less than in the region to the north, while the frequent droughts of the great Sacramento Valley south of it are unknown. Closed in by mountain chains, it is not swept by winds heated by a journey over vast stretches of level land, while across the low summits of the Coast Range steal the cooling breezes from the sea. Storms cannot reach it in the full strength of their power. Protected from hot winds in summer, exempt from excessive rains in winter, while coming fully within the influence of the warm Japan current, the climate is singularly equable, agreeable and healthful. With a natural drainage of its surface that renders large areas of swamp land impossible, it is never afflicted with pestilential or malarial fevers, nor has it any prevailing form of disease. It is a land where fertility of soil, a healthful and agreeable climate and beautiful scenery conspire to make life a pleasure to the well and to impart new vigor to the invalid.

DOUGLAS COUNTY.

The county of Douglas includes the region commonly known as the "Umpqua Valley," though, so far as the term indicates a valley as generally understood, it is a misnomer. The only resemblance to a valley it presents, as a whole, consists in a basin-like depression which the centre of the county forms when contrasted with the high

mountains encompassing it. The Calapooias on the north, Cascades on the east, Canyon and Rogue River mountains on the south, and that portion of the Coast Range known as the "Umpquas" on the west, hem it in with high walls of rock and timber. The interior of this great basin is composed of small valleys, plains, canyons, gorges and mountains. Irregular spurs shoot out from the main ranges, and cross the country in all directions, causing an endless variety of hill and vale, meadow and mountain. From the Cascades numerous large creeks, or rivers, flow down between these branching mountain spurs, until their waters are all united and cut through the Coast Range in the form of the Umpqua River. The largest of these are North Umpqua, South Umpqua, Calapooia, Deer, Cougar, Dead Man's, Bear, Coffee, Day's and Myrtle. Cow Creek enters the South Umpqua from the Canyon Mountains; also, from the hills further west, the Olalla, Ten Mile and Looking Glass. Hubbard, Lake and Camp creeks, rising in the Umpqua Mountains, flow into the main stream, as do Calapooia and Elk creeks from the Calapooias on the north. Smith and Siuslaw rivers, which flow across the mountains westward from their sources in the Calapooias, have been described in speaking of the coast region of Douglas and Lane counties.

The chief natural resources of Douglas are its wealth of timber, its many acres of fertile soil, its natural grazing advantages, and the precious and other metals in various localities. An incalculable amount of timber covers the sides of the main ranges and the numerous mountain spurs traversing the county, which may be said to still stand in its primitive condition, the few small saw mills at work having not yet made a perceptible impression upon it. In the Coast Range are several quite extensive tracts of charred and scorched timber, where fires have swept through the forest. Both gold and silver bearing quartz ledges are found in the mountains. Some work has been done on them, especially in the Bohemian District in the Calapooias, but no producing mine has been developed. More or less successful placer mining has been done along North Umpqua, Cow Creek and other streams, and on the last named hydraulic mining is now pursued in several places. Quicksilver is being produced from several cinnabar lodes. Tellurium is also being mined with success. Copper, nickel, lime rock and cement exist in quantity. A large tract in the western end of the county, adjoining Coos, is underlaid with broad carboniferous veins, and other coal measures exist in the Calapooias.

The most permanent, reliable and easily available source of wealth Douglas possesses is her winding valleys and fertile soil. Though small in proportion to the total area of the county, the combined valley and bottom lands aggregate many thousand acres. The valleys have, in the main, long since been subdued to the yoke of the plow, or fitted for the grazing of sheep and cattle. There are, however, much bottom land, and some valleys remote from the usual routes of travel, which still offer opportunities to home-seekers. When the land has been cleared

of its dense growth of trees and shrubs, the flats, hills and bottoms become extremely valuable for agriculture and grazing. The soil is good; no other could support the dense natural growth upon it. It is generally a dark mould, derived from the decomposition of vegetable matter, such as leaves, roots, fallen trees, which has been going on for ages, mingled in the valleys with the deposits brought down from the mountains in seasons of high water. A rich, red loam is frequently met with, and there are found some gravelly and sterile tracts, also various colored and sticky clays. The best soil often extends to the very top of high hills. Wheat, oats, barley, corn, flax, vegetables, etc., produce in abundance. Corn is especially fine, presenting a strong contrast with the Willamette Valley, where corn is not a successful cereal. Umpqua Valley shares with the Rogue River region the honor of producing the finest quality and greatest abundance of fruit in Oregon. Apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches, apricots and grapes grow in profusion. In the line of small fruits, especially strawberries, Douglas rules the Portland market. The first settlers found plums, raspberries, etc., growing wild in the greatest luxuriance, and time has shown how well the soil and climate that sustained them were adapted to the cultivated varieties.

Formerly the Umpqua was a great stock country, but gradually its pastures have disappeared before the plow, and cattle have given way to grain; still, the stock interests are considerable. Durham and Devon cattle are the prevailing breeds, though a number of pure and half blood Jerseys are to be found. Cattle thrive best when fed in the winter season, though they can pick their own living in the foothill ranges. On the bottom lands the excellent winter pasturage, at a season when stock on the Atlantic Coast are being fed on hay, renders the Umpqua region especially adapted to dairying. The blood of draught horses has been undergoing a process of improvement for a number of years by breeding to imported Percherons. The sheep and wool of the Umpqua are the most celebrated in Oregon, and Umpqua fleeces command the market in San Francisco. Special prominence has been given to merinos, and upon these the reputation of Umpqua wool has been made. Of late years a number of flocks of long-wool sheep, especially cotswold, have been introduced with good success.

The transportation facilities consist of the O. & C. Railroad, from Portland to the south line of the State, which traverses the centre of the county from north to south, passing through the most populous portion. The route to the sea by the way of Gardiner, at the mouth of the Umpqua, involves hauling by wagon to Scottsburg and transferring to a river steamer at that point. A project of much importance is the construction of a railroad from Roseburg to Coos Bay, passing, by way of the Coquille, through the heart of the vast timber and coal regions. As this would be a means of developing both of those valuable resources, and giving the Umpqua region easy access to a good harbor for deep water vessels, it would be of incalculable benefit to the producers of the valley. A company has been organized for this purpose,

and the prospect of its successful completion within a few years is bright.

The leading valleys, generally known by the name of the stream flowing through them, are North Umpqua, South Umpqua, Myrtle Creek, Cow Creek, Looking Glass, Ten Mile, Camas, Flournoy, Happy, Missouri Bottom, Cole's, French Settlement, Calapooia Creek, Elk Creek, Garden, Deer Creek and Yoncalla. East of Roseburg is a vast stretch of country unsettled, unsurveyed and practically unexplored. It is extremely mountainous, running up into the high peaks of the Cascades, but there is much excellent timber, and no doubt many good locations for settlement exist there. The Smith River country, lying north and west of Drain, is, perhaps, the best part of the unsettled portion of the county. The east fork for several miles flows through a beautiful, level plain, from one-half to two miles wide on either side of the stream. Below the forks there is also much valley land, and the stream has numerous tributaries on which is much good bottom land. In the older settlements land may be purchased at almost any price ranging from \$5 to \$50 per acre, according to location, quality and character of improvements.

The county seat is Roseburg, situated on the South Umpqua, at the junction of Deer Creek. The United States Land Office for Southern Oregon is located at that point. Roseburg contains a population of about 1,100, and has two flouring mills, a foundry, brewery, numerous stores, several large warehouses and an engine round house, being the end of a division on the railroad. It is a prosperous business town. South of Roseburg, on the railroad, are the villages of Myrtle Creek, with a grist and planing mill; Riddle, with a saw mill, and Glendale. On the old stage road is Canyonville, containing two saw mills and two grist mills. On the line of the road north of Roseburg are several flourishing towns. Oakland has a flouring mill and an academy, and is the shipping point of a large agricultural region. Drain, from which stages run to Scottsburg and Gardiner, is a good business and shipping point, and has two saw mills and a flouring mill. Yoncalla is a shipping station and has a saw mill. Wilbur contains the Umpqua Academy. Numerous other small business points and post offices are located in the various valleys. See "Coast Region" for the western end of the county.

JACKSON COUNTY.

Jackson County lies in the extreme southern end of Oregon, bordering on the California line, and is hemmed in between the Cascade Mountains on the east and those of the Coast Range on the west, the Rogue River Mountains on the north and the Siskiyou on the south, all of which occupy a portion of the 2,800 square miles embraced within its territory. Surrounded by these mountain ranges is the thickly settled portion of the county—the beautiful Rogue River Valley. The valley proper is about forty miles long by twenty wide, though sometimes the name is made to embrace the whole watershed of that turbulent stream. The mountains are heavily timbered

and rich in minerals; the foothills afford splendid grazing for cattle and sheep; the valley lands produce cereals, hay and vegetables in abundance, and the river bottoms fruit of unsurpassed excellence. In the diversity of its products and resources, Jackson is superior to any county in the State.

The market for the valley's products has hitherto been necessarily local and limited. The stage companies and teamsters have consumed large quantities of hay and grain, while the flour, vegetables and fruit of Jackson, Josephine, Curry, Del Norte, Klamath and Lake counties have been largely supplied from this region. Beyond what was necessary to supply this demand, however, has not been produced, and it can truly be said that the capabilities of the valley for extensive agriculture have never been fully tested. The arable land embraces about one-fifth of the entire area of the county, including foothills, plains and river bottoms. The foothills possess that rich soil to be found on the hilly lands of Western Oregon, while the plains have much adobe land, and the bottoms are composed of the most fertile alluvium. In the valley, wheat, oats, barley, corn, potatoes, hay, etc., yield abundantly, and anything less than a half crop has never been experienced during the thirty years of cultivation. Twenty bushels of wheat to the acre is considered a very unsatisfactory crop, while as high as sixty bushels have been realized. Barley and oats produce proportionately well, and potatoes and corn are of especial excellence and yield abundant crops.

The foothills furnish grazing of the finest quality, and there are in the county about 30,000 sheep, 10,000 cattle, 5,000 horses and 10,000 hogs. Great attention has been paid to the improvement of stock, and some of the best horses and sheep in Oregon are to be found in this region. Fine dairy cattle are kept, and the dairy products are among the best in the State. It is a well known fact that the finest flavored grapes of California are produced on the sunny slopes of the foothills, and the conditions there found exist in the foothill region of Jackson. The vines produce large clusters, and the grapes have a most excellent flavor, being very juicy, and making a superior quality of wine. The conditions of soil and climate are also very favorable to peaches, the fruit being superior in flavor, though a trifle smaller in size, to the California product. The slight touch of frost in winter, though too mild to injure the vines or trees, gives a flavor to the fruit that is lacking in that of the warmer regions of California. The bottom lands are especially adapted to fruit culture, and it is that class of soil that has been utilized the most by fruit growers. In addition to grapes and peaches, apricots, pears, plums, apples, cherries and the small fruits produce abundantly, and are of excellent quality, especially the apples, which have no superior anywhere. Snow falls occasionally to the depth of three or four inches, but rapidly disappears, while ice never exceeds two inches in thickness, and forms but a few times during the season. In the mountains, of course, there are more snow and ice.

Placer and quartz mining have been the leading indus-

tries since the county was first settled. Iron, coal, copper and cinnabar exist in varying quantities. Timber covers the mountains and promises a supply of lumber for years to come. Four good flouring mills, a large woolen mill and several saw and planing mills make up the sum of manufacturing enterprises. There is an abundance of good water power.

Good improved farming land can be bought from \$20 to \$50 per acre, though a few choice places would command a higher price. Other lands, not so well improved but just as fertile, and in some cases more desirable for fruit and grain culture, can be had as low as \$5 per acre. These prices depend upon the amount of improvements, location, character of soil, water facilities, etc. Many places partially covered with timber, or a portion of which is too steep or rocky for easy cultivation, can be purchased at low figures and turned into excellent farms. Small farms, upon which orchards could be made the principal source of income, can be bought at low prices, and there are many places where a little work in clearing off brush and timber would reward the industrious farmer with many acres of land of the best quality for grain, orchard and vineyard. Much of the hill land will produce good crops of grain, and its capabilities for grapes have been pointed out. It has been used chiefly for grazing, and is nearly all owned in large tracts, which will of necessity be cut up into smaller divisions for farming purposes and sold. The land is so well adapted to mixed farming that it is especially valuable, for with grain, fruit, hay, cattle, sheep, horses and hogs to depend upon, such a thing as an entire failure would be impossible. There is much Government land in the foothills and mountains, as well as large tracts reserved to the O. & C.

Jacksonville, the county seat, and for years the leading town of Southern Oregon, lies six miles from the railroad station of Medford. It has a population of 1,200, and contains numerous stores, etc. Ashland, the southern terminus of the O. & C. road, has about 1,400 people, and contains a woolen mill, flouring mill and sash and door factory; also the Ashland College and Normal School. Phoenix, on the line of the railroad, has 300 people and a flouring mill. Other railroad points are Medford, Woodville, with a saw mill; Rock Point and Central Point. The line of the O. & C. road runs through the valley, giving access to Portland markets, and good roads lead into the regions east and west which are, to a degree, tributary to the valley.

JOSEPHINE COUNTY.

The county of Josephine adjoins California, and is hemmed in between Jackson on the east and Curry on the west. It is essentially a region of mountains, and its population of 2,500 live chiefly by mining, stock raising and dairying. Rogue River flows across the upper portion in a northwesterly direction, while Illinois River pursues the same general course further to the southwest. The valley land is confined to the comparatively narrow strips lying along those streams and their tributaries. The lower end of Rogue River Valley extends from Jack-

son to Josephine, and there is much good arable land along Applegate, Slate and other tributaries of the main stream. The greater portion of arable land lies along the Illinois River and its tributaries, such as Deer, Sucker, Althouse and other creeks. The tillable land is very rich, and produces excellent crops of grain, corn, fruit and potatoes. In nearly all other respects Josephine resembles Jackson, and is probably capable of duplicating the products of its neighbor so far as quality is concerned. Farms are offered for sale in Illinois Valley at about half the price asked in Rogue River Valley, and Government land is to be had there by those seeking locations. The greater portion of the county—the mountainous regions—is unsurveyed. Kirbyville, the county seat, lies on Illinois River. The O. & C. road traverses the northeast corner of the county. The chief town on the line is Grant's Pass, recently annexed from Jackson. Other points in the county are Waldo, Althouse, Murphy, Slate Creek, Lucky Queen and Wolf Creek. Josephine has always been a mining county, and nearly every stream has yielded its store of gold. Placer mining—in some places by hydraulic process—is still carried on extensively, and is the leading industry of that region. Good but undeveloped quartz ledges exist.

Eastern Oregon.

THE region embraced under the general title of Eastern Oregon includes that portion of the State lying east of the Cascade Mountains, embracing about two-thirds its entire area. It is by no means as populous as the older settled portion west of the mountains, and is divided into counties of gigantic proportions, some of them larger than certain States on the Atlantic Slope. In many respects that region differs radically from the regions described above, as fully appears in the accompanying remarks on climate, agriculture, stock raising, etc. Wheat, wool, cattle and gold are the leading products, stock raising, except in the northern portion, being the one great leading industry. The settlements are newer, and greater progress has been made the last five years, than in any other portion. In that region are to be found the only open, untimbered prairie and valley land now subject to location under the land laws, and it will be a matter of a few years only when even this will be all seized upon by the numerous immigrants annually seeking locations. The special features of each section are noted in the following detailed description by counties.

WASCO COUNTY.

The county of Wasco lies on the eastern slope of the Cascade Mountains, the Columbia River forming its northern boundary. The surface of the western half of the county is very broken and mountainous, though small valleys and plateaus abound; the eastern half consists chiefly of a broad sweep of table land and prairie. In the county are the celebrated Mount Hood, whose snowy crest receives so much admiration from travelers, and the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Des Chutes and Hood rivers, with numerous smaller streams flowing into

them or the Columbia, furnish plenty of running water. The mountains are covered to their tops with a dense growth of timber—a source of wealth as yet scarcely touched. Until recently Wasco has been looked upon as an excellent stock region and nothing more; but it has gradually become known that it contains more than 1,000,000 acres of as fine grain land as can be found in the West. Thousands of acres have been taken, and there yet remain thousands lying vacant and at the disposal of any one who may desire them. The climate is neither excessively cold in winter nor too changeable in summer. The winter is short and cattle range out the entire season. About 13,000 cattle and 175,000 sheep are grazed on the bunch grass hills. In summer there is little rain, but the moist winds from the ocean supply all that vegetation requires. By reason of these winds a failure of crops is rendered impossible, experience showing that such has never been the case during the thirty years the county has been settled. Apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, apricots and berries, equal in beauty and flavor to any on the Coast, are raised in certain localities, and vegetables are very superior, melons, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, peas, etc., being ready for market two weeks earlier than in the Willamette Valley. The largest body of agricultural land is between the Des Chutes and John Day rivers, and is an extensive bunch grass region known as "John Day Prairie." Until three years ago it was used as a stock range by cattle men, who did not think it necessary or profitable to secure title to it, and for years thousands of cattle fattened on the nutritious bunch grass that grew luxuriantly to the height of twenty inches when not eaten off. In 1880 a few settlers attempted to cultivate fields, and were surprised to find the soil highly productive. The result was that many settlements have been made during the past four years. Wheat, barley, oats, corn, potatoes and vegetables produce abundantly. Unimproved land in special localities has sold as high as \$8 per acre, and school houses, churches and stores are springing up where towns will, beyond doubt, soon appear. The area of the prairie is equal to that of the State of New Jersey, and there is abundant room for thousands. Immigrants have thronged past this fertile prairie and traveled many miles to settle upon land far less desirable, and in a region whose climate is less agreeable and whose surroundings are far from being as attractive.

Dalles City, the county seat, is a thriving business place, with several manufacturing industries and a population of nearly 3,000. It is situated on the Columbia, just below the rapids known as The Dalles, and was for years the point where all freight going up or down the river was handled in making a portage around that great barrier to navigation. The main line of the O. R. & N. Company running up the river passes through the city. The company has extensive round houses and machine and car shops here. The city is a trading point for Wasco, and for Skamania and Klickitat counties across the Columbia. Hood River is a small town and railroad station in Hood River Valley, a noted agricultural and fruit section. Other towns on the railroad are Cascade

Locks, Celilo, Bonneville, Oneonta, Fultonville and Grant. In the interior are the small post villages of Dufur, Nonsene, Fossil, Wapinitia, Tygh, Bake Oven, Mono, Antelope, Warnic, Kingsley, Sherar Bridge, Grass Valley, Erskineville, Badger and Wasco.

GILLIAM COUNTY.

The last Legislature created a new county with the name of Gilliam, taking land for that purpose from Wasco and Umatilla. Through it flows the John Day River to its junction with the Columbia, and within its limits lies much of the John Day region described in Wasco County. The leading industry is wool growing, though yearly agriculture is increasing, as land is being taken from the ranges and given to the plow. There are thousands of acres of good prairie wheat land open for settlement. The county seat is Alkali, a bustling town of a few years' growth, lying on the Columbia and the O. R. & N. Company's line, which crosses the northern end of the county skirting the river. Blalock and Willows are other railroad stations.

UMATILLA COUNTY.

The county of Umatilla has the Columbia on its north-western side, Washington Territory on the north, the Blue Mountains on the east and south, and on the southwest and west the new counties of Morrow and Gilliam, both of which took considerable slices from its former area. It is the banner wheat county of the State. Lying along the base of the Blue Mountains for miles is a soil that in patches of 1,000 acres has averaged thirty-five bushels of wheat to the acre, while smaller fields have averaged fifty. There are also large tracts now used simply for grazing purposes that are arable land, and a large belt of upland toward the Columbia, but back from that stream a few miles, that was formerly considered to have too light a rainfall and too sandy a soil to be valuable, but the past few years have demonstrated that a great deal of it will produce large crops of grain without irrigation. Indeed, even in the extremely dry season of 1883, one farm of 5,000 acres averaged thirty bushels to the acre, and another of 1,000 acres yielded an average of twenty-five bushels. There is much of this land open to settlement or purchase. Thousands of acres of good soil remain unsettled, and but a small percentage of the ground claimed is cultivated. When the land is all brought under the plow the amount of grain produced will be enormous almost beyond comprehension.

Umatilla was formerly a great stock region, but that industry has of late years been superseded largely by wheat raising and wool growing. Though the sections in which wool growing is carried on the most extensively have been given to the new counties, there are a great many sheep still within the limits of Umatilla. A large tract of land along the base of the mountains, of the same quality as that which has given Umatilla its wheat reputation, is embraced in the Umatilla Indian Reservation. This will unquestionably soon be on the market, as a bill to that end has passed Congress and awaits only the

sanction of the few Indians on the reserve. The county is well watered by the Umatilla River and its tributaries, such as Butter, Wild Horse, Birch creeks and others in the central portion, and the Walla Walla, Tumalum and Pine Creek further north. There is also an abundance of springs, and water is found almost anywhere at a depth of fifteen to sixty feet. The main line of the O. R. & N. runs along the Columbia. A branch crosses the centre of the county and passes over the mountains to Baker City. This forms part of the route from Omaha to Portland. From Pendleton a branch is constructed north to Walla Walla. These afford good shipping facilities.

Pendleton, the county seat, lies on the Umatilla River and the Baker City Branch of the O. R. & N., at the edge of the reservation, and is the largest town in the county. It contains a large roller flouring mill, a sash and door factory, and a population of 1,800. Echo, on the same line, has 150 people and a flouring mill. Foster is another station. Umatilla, the point of junction with the main line, also has a mill. On the branch line from Pendleton north are Adams, a new town of promise; Centreville, with a population of 400; Weston, just off the line, with 600 people, a flouring mill and planing mill; and Milton, with a flouring mill and planing mill. Pilot Rock is an interior village south of Pendleton, and Castle Rock is a railroad point on the Columbia.

MORROW COUNTY.

The southwestern portion of Umatilla, the great sheep country of that region, was recently given to the new county of Morrow, of which Heppner, the centre of the wool industry, is the county seat. This county is surrounded irregularly by Umatilla, Grant, Wasco and Gilliam. Until recent years the principal source of revenue of that region was the stock industry, and there is probably no country in which the raising of cattle, horses and sheep could be more profitably engaged. Of late years sheep have superseded cattle to a large extent, there being 200,000 of them in the vicinity of Heppner. Owing to a large influx of immigrants during the past two years, large areas of grazing land are now being rapidly transformed into grain fields. Land that was formerly thought valuable only for grazing is now producing from twenty to forty bushels of wheat to the acre, or from two to three tons of hay. There is much of this quality of land still open to settlement. Heppner is sixty miles distant from Alkali, the nearest railroad point, and is a good business town, with a flouring mill and planing mill.

UNION COUNTY.

That portion of Oregon lying between the summit of the Blue Mountains and Snake River, and extending from Baker County to the line of Washington Territory, is known as the "County of Union." It has a superficial area of 5,400 square miles, the surface being much broken by the Blue Mountains on the west, and the Eagle Creek Mountains in the eastern portion. The most western portion consists of the eastern slope of the Blue Moun-

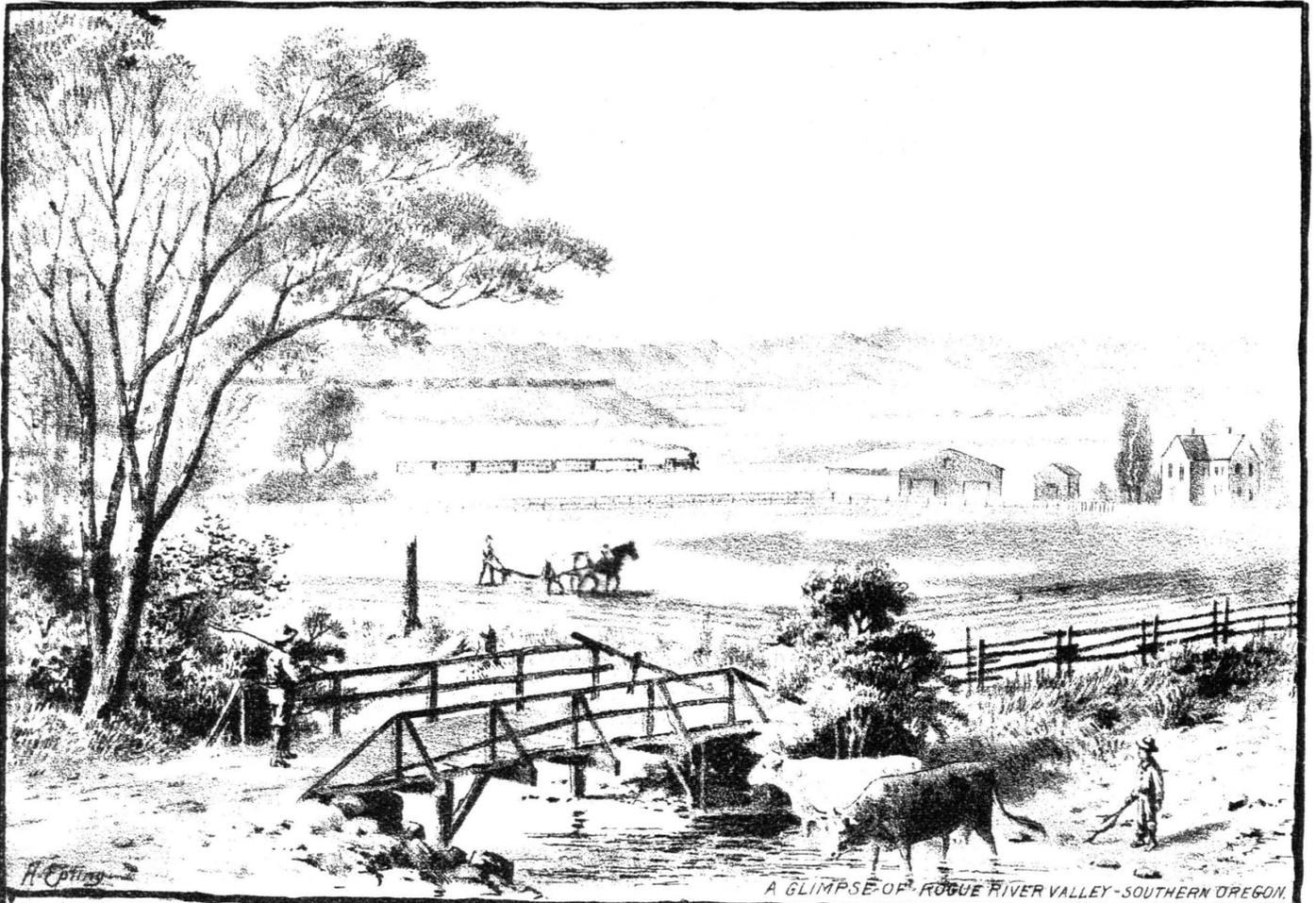


THE WEST SHORE.

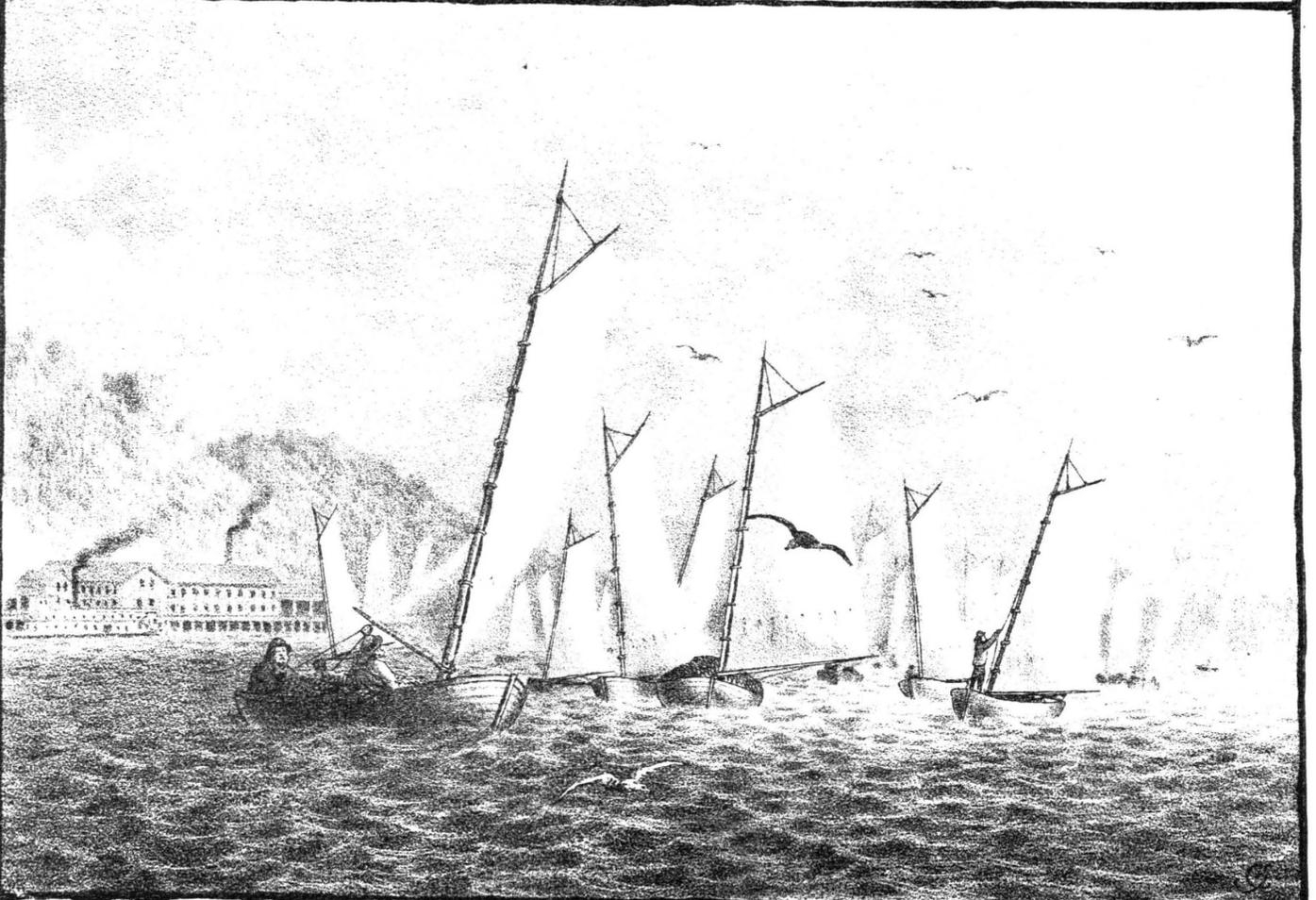
CROSSING THE SNAKE RIVER INTO OREGON,
NEAR HUNTINGTON - "OREGON SHORT LINE"

WEST SHORE - LITH.

THE WEST SHORE.



A GLIMPSE OF ROGUE RIVER VALLEY - SOUTHERN OREGON.



APRIL 1ST, OPENING OF THE FISHING SEASON.
ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER.

WEST SHORE-LITH.

tains. It is about twenty-five miles wide, and extends the full length of the county. It supports large forests of timber, including fir, pine, spruce and tamarack. Along the larger streams are narrow valleys, where the soil is exceedingly fertile, and where wild redtop and several other grasses grow, affording excellent hay and pasturage for live stock. Many places in the mountains are susceptible of cultivation, yet but few settlements have been made. In the summer time sheep herders and stockmen resort to this region with their stock, for here they find valuable pasturage for sheep, horses and cattle.

East of the Blue Mountains is Grande Ronde Valley, a circular grassy plain, thirty miles in diameter. It is one of the most fertile valleys on the Pacific Slope, well watered, and very productive of fruit, grain, vegetables and hay. Wheat often yields from forty to sixty bushels to the acre, and oats and barley from sixty to eighty. Grande Ronde River flows in from the Blue Mountains and follows an exceedingly crooked channel through the valley. There are many smaller streams running down from the mountains, and along the foothills copious springs break forth, thus affording an abundance of water, which converts much of the valley into a natural meadow. Timber is conveniently near in the surrounding mountains. The climate is subject to greater extremes than that of Umatilla County, west of the Blue Mountains, though the winters are not extremely severe. Snow seldom lies on the ground more than three weeks, and, as a general thing, cattle remain out all winter, only occasionally requiring care or feeding at any time. Though there is considerable agriculture, stock raising and dairying are the leading industries. Thousands of cattle, sheep and hogs are raised, the cattle grazing on the fine grass of the rolling hills and up the mountain sides, and the sheep in the mountain valleys in summer and the lower valleys in winter.

The Eagle Creek Mountains are very rugged, and valuable only for timber and grazing, so far as their surface is concerned, but they are known to contain gold, silver and copper quartz ledges, which have yet to be sufficiently developed to ascertain their true value.

A section of the county as yet but thinly settled is the beautiful Wallowa Valley. The valley proper is some forty miles long and about twenty wide, including the arable foothills. It is occupied chiefly by stockmen, and is for the most part unfenced, though there are a number of fine farms, gardens and orchards. In general it is a high, rolling country, with a colder climate than any other portion of Union County, excepting, of course, the mountainous regions. It is an excellent stock country, and the inhabitants are largely occupied in stock raising. The hardiest vegetables are grown, and various kinds of grain in most localities mature and ripen, but often more or less injured by frosts. Although the country has been settling up very rapidly during the last three years, there is yet room for many thousand immigrants.

Another locality is the great Imnaha Canyon. It is best described as a huge crack in the surface of the earth. The bed of the canyon is about 1,500 feet lower than the

Wallowa Valley and the table lands, which lie on either side of it. A clear stream of water runs swiftly through it, and in many places there are small tracts of very fertile soil. The climate is semi-tropical, and the cactus grows in abundance. Several families have taken up their homes there, and have found the soil and climate well adapted to the culture of grapes, peaches and many other varieties of tender fruits. Snow seldom falls in this canyon, and stock fatten upon the green bunch grass which comes and matures before the snow is fairly off of the high lands adjacent. The Imnaha will, in the near future, be noted for its delicious fruits and early vegetables. To the east and north of Wallowa Valley lies a belt of open, rolling hills similar to the celebrated wheat lands at the western base of the Blue Mountains. This belt is forty miles long and about twelve wide, fully one-third being good arable land, and nearly all of it subject to location under the land laws.

There are several small valleys in the county. One of these, Indian Valley, situated north of Grande Ronde Valley, is quite thickly settled, and is a rich grain producing section. Pine Valley is a very beautiful place, nestling high up in the roughest part of the Eagle Creek Mountains, very much isolated, but containing at present about one hundred families. Eagle Valley and Lower Powder River, in the southeastern part of the county, are places occupied by but a few people, who are engaged in gold mining and stock raising. North Powder is a new place, which promises to become an important railroad depot. It is supported by a large farming community which has settled along the valleys of Wolf Creek, North Powder River and Clover Creek. There is room in this vicinity for many families to find good homes. The Big Creek country, in which is the little community of Jamestown, is also a growing one, and offers good opportunities for settlement.

Bunch grass ranges border the valleys on all sides, making the county one of the best stock regions on the Coast. More than one-half of the farming lands are yet open to settlement under the homestead and pre-emption laws. Saw mills to cut the heavy timber of the mountains, and grist mills to grind the wheat of the valleys, already exist. The Baker City Branch of the O. R. & N. Co. passes through Grande Ronde Valley, and stock, grain, butter, cheese, etc., can be shipped to markets either east or west.

Union is the county seat and largest town, having a population of 800. It is situated in the southern end of Grande Ronde Valley, and has good water power. A large flouring mill, furniture factory, sash and door factory, tannery, brewery, soda water factory and planing mill constitute its industries. La Grande, on the western side of the valley, has a population of 600, and contains two saw and planing mills, soap factory, furniture factory, flouring mill and United States Land Office, and will soon have railroad machine shops. Island City, on the river, has 250 people, a large flouring mill and a planing mill. Oro Dell, at the entrance to Grande Ronde Canyon, has a flouring mill and planing mill. Many

large and productive orchards are in that vicinity. Summerville, in the north end of the valley, has two flouring mills, a planing mill and a population of 300. In Wallowa Valley are several small towns, the leading ones being Joseph, Lostine and Alder.

BAKER COUNTY.

The county of Baker occupies the extreme southeastern corner of Oregon, and is the second largest in the State. Its length from north to south is 200 miles and its width sixty. High timber-clad mountains in the north, breaking, as progress is made southward, into lower and more barren mountains, elevated plateaus, sage-covered or barren plains, characteristic of the great Nevada Basin on whose edge it lies, and many streams, both large and small, along whose courses are numerous fertile valleys and natural meadows, are the leading topographical features. Of the estimated area of 11,000,000 acres only one-third has been surveyed. The O. R. & N. Co.'s line, which joins with the Oregon Short Line to make a through route from Omaha to Portland, passes through Powder River Valley and Baker City and runs down Burnt River.

The watercourses of the county are numerous and convey continuously a great volume of water. Flowing northward along the upper half of its eastern boundary is the great Snake River, the leading tributaries of which are Powder, Burnt, Malheur and Owyhee, each of which has numerous large and small feeders. The bottom lands along these streams are very fertile, and frequently spread out into grassy valleys of considerable width. Some of this land lying back from the streams, and slightly elevated above them, requires irrigating to render it productive, much of it being favorably located for that purpose. Some of it, however, requires but slight irrigation, and still other portions none whatever. When all the land in Baker County which can be irrigated cheaply and handily shall be placed under cultivation, the productive area will be increased tenfold. The land nearly all belongs to the Government, and the most desirable portions have been surveyed.

The most thickly settled portion is the northern, in the region of Powder and Burnt rivers. Powder River Valley is twenty miles long and about sixteen miles wide. Along its whole course the Powder has fertile bottom lands, spreading out at times into quite considerable valleys, in many of which there may be found excellent vacant locations for settlement. The large valley is well settled, and is the centre of the greatest population of the county. The soil is fertile and susceptible of the highest state of cultivation. At the upper end of the valley lies Baker City, the county seat and largest commercial point in that portion of Oregon. The city is substantially built, containing many quite expensive business blocks and private residences, and a population approximating 1,500. There are two planing mills, one saw mill, one grist mill, four newspapers, three breweries and numerous stores, shops, etc. Below the great valley, both along the main stream and the North Powder, is much fine arable land

not yet fully occupied, where settlers can find some most desirable locations.

Burnt River has along its course, as have also many of its numerous tributaries, a strip of fine bottom land, occasionally widening out into little valleys. Many settlements have been made by men who are prosperously engaged in farming and raising sheep and cattle. Near the mouth of the stream is the new town of Huntington, the point of junction between the Oregon Short Line and the O. R. & N. Co.

Near the mouth of the Malheur is the new town of Ontario, situated on the bank of Snake River and on the Oregon Short Line. From Ontario, following up the Malheur, the valley has an average width of four miles until the canyon is reached, thirty miles above. Three ditches have been constructed, which supply all the water needed for irrigating this tract. Grain, vegetables and fruits produce abundantly, and the climate of the valley proper is extremely mild. Near the centre of the valley is the little town of Vale. Willow Creek Valley is one of the oldest settlements in the county, and is an excellent farming country. Just above Vale, Bully Creek enters the Malheur. With its tributaries—Cottonwood, Indian, Clover and Dry creeks—this stream drains an area of 400 square miles, which is now ranged by stockmen, with the exception of that portion along the creek bottoms occupied by farmers. This is a newly settled region, but one which a little enterprise can convert into a veritable garden spot. Above the canyon the valley land along the Malheur varies in width from absolutely none whatever to a strip six miles across. Wherever it thus opens out into valleys facilities exist for irrigating, the construction of ditches being all that is required. Along the three branches near the headwater there is much excellent land, similar in many respects to that lower down the main stream. It is only of late years that the value of this region has been recognized and its agricultural possibilities known. Stock raising in connection with farming will always be a profitable industry, as there are thousands of acres lying contiguous to the valleys which will never be valuable for any purpose but grazing. Every farmer will have a free range for a limited number of cattle.

The Snake River Valley, between the Owyhee and Malheur, consists of the river bottom and a bench, elevated above the river from twenty to forty feet, and three to six miles wide. Water for irrigating can be brought from the Owyhee, and, when done, will bring into cultivation about 40,000 acres of good land.

The southern end of the county is drained by the Owyhee and its forks and tributaries. It is a region of short mountain ranges, plateaus and vast plains, some of them covered with the choicest bunch grass, and others having no vegetation but sage brush. Along the streams are numerous fertile valleys, which form the headquarters of stockmen, who own great bands of cattle. Much of that region is worthless for any purpose whatever, other portions of it make excellent cattle ranges, while there is not a little which is adapted to the pursuit of

agriculture. The stock ranges of the Malheur and Owyhee are among the best in the West. Cattle have grazed there for fifteen years without other food than that obtained by them on the ranges and have never suffered serious loss. Generally they are fat and in good condition in the spring. It is estimated that 80,000 cattle are grazed in the county, valued at \$2,000,000. The wool interests are also quite considerable, and large bands of sheep graze on the hills and in the little mountain valleys. Gold and silver quartz ledges and gold placers have annually yielded large returns. Copper ore has been found in good working quantities. The great drawback has been a lack of capital. Now, happily, the railroad affords an opportunity to either bring in machinery or ship selected ore to other points for reduction, and the attention of capitalists has been attracted.

The bottom lands of Snake River and its tributaries, where sheltered from the rigors of winter by the high bluffs on either side, are especially adapted to orchards. Peaches, plums, pears, etc., yield prolifically, and Baker has never wanted for the choicest of fruit in abundance. When everything is considered, it is evident that Baker offers inducements to immigrants that should draw thither during the next few years both population and capital. The large amount of arable Government land, and the fact that good improved land may now be purchased at from \$5 to \$30 per acre, combined with the fact that the heart of the county can be reached by rail, guarantee a rapid increase in population and wealth.

GRANT COUNTY.

The largest and least developed county in Oregon is Grant, lying just west of Baker. It contains an area of 13,000 square miles, and stands at the head of the stock industry in Oregon. Its 6,000 people are engaged chiefly in mining and stock raising. There is little land, except on the Lower John Day and its tributaries, that is less than 3,000 feet above the sea level. The mercury falls sometimes quite low, but those cold snaps are infrequent and of short duration. Among the mountains, of course, the climate is subject to sudden changes. Snow seldom falls to any great depth, except in the mountains, and seldom remains on the ground more than a few days below the timber line. Rain seldom falls from June to September, except in sudden thunder showers that sometimes occur with great fury. Although the summers are warm, the heat is not uncomfortable, owing to the dryness and rarity of the atmosphere. The nights are always cool.

The agricultural possibilities of that region have never been fully recognized. The farming lands consist chiefly of narrow valleys and adjacent foothills. The small farm, producing diversified crops of grain, hay and vegetables, and giving support to a limited number of cattle, sheep, horses and swine, can be made to yield a splendid living to thousands of energetic families. The great trouble with that region at present is that a few wealthy men have monopolized the valleys and hills and covered them with vast bands of stock, to the exclusion of the

small farmer. There are thousands upon thousands of acres of arable land, most of it requiring irrigation, which are suitable for farms, where farming and stock raising may be profitably united.

The soil and climate are adapted to the raising of all the hardier grains, fruits and vegetables. Wheat, oats, barley and hay are the leading crops. The nights are too cool for corn to do well, though corn is raised in the warmer valleys. Apples, pears, plums, cherries and berries of all kinds thrive, but peaches cannot be depended upon; yet good peaches are raised in certain portions of the county, where the topography favors them and gives them shelter from the extreme cold. Except in the southern portion, the country is well watered by numerous large and small streams and springs of pure water. The northern portion is well timbered, while the southern is nearly barren of trees. The leading varieties of timber are pine, fir and tamarack. A dozen saw mills are at work cutting lumber for the home market.

In proportion to its total area the amount of arable land is small, but when the areas of the numerous valleys are added together the result carries the total far up into the millions of acres. Put together in one body, it would make a compact arable tract equal in size to some of the best counties in the State. The valleys in the northern portion, in the vicinity of the John Day, vary in area from twenty-five to two hundred square miles, a portion of each suited for agriculture and the remainder for grazing. The more desirable of these are already settled. The valleys lying south of the John Day, though dominated by cattle men, are subject to location under the land laws. They contain, as a general thing, more than fifty square miles each, many of them being very large. Among them is Harney, the second largest valley in the State. Harney is composed of a succession of large valleys, through which runs a lake, forty miles in length, and a number of lateral and tributary valleys, each possessing a distinct appellation. Lake Harney is fresh water, but has no visible outlet, and varies from eight to fifty feet in depth. All the land in the upper portion belongs to the Government, except the school sections and a strip six miles wide, granted to the Cascade Mountains Military Road. Much land has been taken up under the State Swamp Land Act, all land of that character having been granted to the State by Congress. A number of settlers have recently gone into Harney Valley, disregarding the assertion of cattle men that it is unfit for agriculture, and it is to be hoped their success will induce homesteaders to seek locations in all those valleys.

There are about 200,000 cattle in the county, some farms having as many as 40,000, valued at \$6,000,000. To this must be added 15,000 horses and 130,000 sheep. Gold mining is a leading industry in the John Day region. For years placer mining was the sole occupation of the people. Gradually the ground easily worked was used up and mining declined. There are yet many good claims being worked, and the large gravel channels are yielding good returns under the hydraulic process. Numerous valuable quartz ledges have been discovered, but

none have yet been developed to any extent. Capital is required for that purpose, and good opportunities exist for practical miners with money. Copper, galena, coal, limestone, marble and iron ore exist in various places. The largest towns are Canyon City, the county seat; John Day and Prairie City, in John Day Valley; Burns, in Harney Valley, and Drewsy, in Malheur Valley.

CROOK COUNTY.

Crook is a new county cut off from the southern end of Wasco in 1882. It lies on the eastern slope of the Cascades, in the very heart of Oregon. Its many mountain valleys and long ranges of rolling hills are covered with grass, and for years this has been a vast grazing ground for immense bands of cattle. Prineville, the county seat, is the trade centre and supply point for this industry, and is a thriving town, situated on Ochoco River, near its junction with Crooked River, a branch of the Des Chutes. The country is well watered by the tributaries of these streams. There are many thousands of acres of valuable agricultural land along the streams and in the numerous valleys yet open to settlement. These lands are of undoubted fertility. There are also the vast stretches of bunch grass lands, which have been generally considered of no value without irrigation. This opinion is being somewhat modified under the experiments that have been made the last few years, and many now believe that any soil rich and moist enough to support a luxuriant growth of bunch grass will produce good crops of grain when properly cultivated.

As the principal industry is stock raising, and as stockmen generally pay no attention to cultivation of the soil, those engaged in farming find a ready market at home for all they can produce, and at prices that rule as high or higher than those of any other locality in the State. Only a small percentage are engaged in agriculture, hence the demand for grain and vegetables is equal to the supply of those articles. And while the great grass region holds good, tilling the soil will be a secondary consideration, thereby insuring the few farmers a ready sale and good prices for their produce. Such things should be taken into consideration by those seeking a home. There are in the county some 40,000 cattle and 120,000 sheep.

KLAMATH COUNTY.

The county of Klamath lies on the southern border of the State, adjoining Modoc County, California, and Jackson County, Oregon. In the western end are Big and Little Klamath lakes, from which the county derives its name. It was formed in 1882 out of the western end of Lake, which lies adjacent to it on the east. The county seat is Linkville, on Link River, the short but turbulent stream connecting the two lakes. The leading industry of the county is stock raising, large bands of cattle, horses and sheep grazing on the bunch grass that grows in great luxuriance on the rolling hills. Along Lost River, which flows into Tule Lake, the original home of the celebrated Captain Jack, are many ranchers who do a little farming in connection with their stock business. It is only during the past few years that much effort has

been made to raise grain and vegetables, and as these have met with good success, there will undoubtedly be much more farming in the county in the future. The climate is somewhat different from that in Rogue River Valley, just across the mountains, being warmer in summer and colder in winter, less rain at any season and more snow. It is less severe, however, than in other portions of Eastern Oregon. There is much Government land unappropriated that can be used for grazing or for farming, an irrigating ditch being a necessary adjunct to a farm. There are also business opportunities.

LAKE COUNTY.

The county of Lake embraces that region of large lakes lying on the California border and between the counties of Klamath and Grant. Topographically it is a series of ridges, rolling hills and valleys, all covered with sage brush and bunch grass, interspersed with lakes and streams, making it one of the finest grazing regions of Oregon. It is pre-eminently a stock raising region, and this industry occupies the entire attention of the people. That agriculture can be carried on profitably in the valleys is certain, and it is equally certain that but little effort in that direction has as yet been made. But little attention has ever been paid to agriculture in the great stock regions, as the two interests are to a degree adverse. Stockmen do not like to see the land fenced in, and yet some of it must be cultivated to supply the needs of the people. Irrigation is necessary and can be had at a comparatively light expense from the many lakes and streams. It is only a matter of a few years when the pent-up waters of these lakes will be conducted over the wide stretches of dreary sage lands, and fields of green grass and nodding grain will greet the eye on every hand. Lakeview is the county seat.

Social and Industrial Summary.

MUCH of interest could be said of the social and industrial condition of Oregon, but which can here only be briefly alluded to. One of the most important considerations to the man of family is the school question, and it is a pleasure to be able to refer to the educational facilities of the State as ample and superior. The common school system in all its perfection is found here, and the district school house can be seen in the most remote and newly settled regions, while in the older and more populous portions are full graded schools with high school departments, normal schools, academies, colleges, State University and numerous private schools and seminaries. Schools are supported by district taxes and by apportionment to each of a certain part of the State tax. The higher institutions maintained by the State are normal schools at McMinnville and Ashland, State University at Eugene City and Agricultural College at Corvallis. The most prominent institutions of a private and denominational character are Willamette University at Salem, Pacific University at Forest Grove, McMinnville College, Ashland College, and others at Philomath, Wilbur, Weston, La Grande, Portland, Salem, The Dalles and other points. The Catholics have schools for both sexes in various towns and a college in Portland. Not only are schools numerous, but the qualifications required of teachers are high and salaries paid are good, ensuring efficiency. Some of the edifices are quite commodious, as will be seen by reference to accompanying illustrations. In religious matters nearly every denomination is represented, the five or six leading ones having an organization in all the principal towns. The people are moral,

law abiding and industrious. As a rule they have lived here long enough—some of them forty years—to have acquired all that pride and love of home which is the bulwark of society and fountain of patriotism the world over. But few traces of the "Rowdy West" will be found in Oregon.

The leading industry of the State is agriculture, and this is, no doubt, the attraction of four-fifths of the immigrants who come among us. The one universal crop is wheat, and there are but few sections where it does not thrive wonderfully. The broad fields of the Willamette Valley with its copious winter rains, the rich valleys of Southern Oregon, and the drier rolling plateaus and prairies east of the mountains all seem the natural home of the winter wheat. No one can look upon the growing fields, or examine the large, plump berries of the matured wheat, without expressing surprise and astonishment, which is deepened by the knowledge that the fields give an average yield of from twenty-five to forty bushels to the acre, often largely exceeding the latter amount. There is a tendency, more especially west of the Cascades, to raise a greater diversity of crops and cease to make wheat the sole reliance, and in this direction lies the future progress of agriculture. This movement is the double result of the recent low price of the staple crop and the strong infusion of Eastern farmers, who have been accustomed to that more economical and practical method of farming. Oats, barley, cultivated grass and clover, vegetables and general farm products yield prolifically. Hops are a profitable crop on the alluvial bottom lands, the cones being large and free from disease, and the yield per acre prolific. East of the mountains wheat is, and will continue to be, the one great crop. Other cereals thrive, especially corn, which is not a successful crop elsewhere in the State, except in Southern Oregon. Vegetables there also grow to great size, and are of fine quality and prolific yield. Oregon potatoes, from all sections of the State, can contest the palm with the whole world. They grow to enormous size, and are dry, sound and of fine flavor. Many tons of them are exported annually.

Every section west of the mountains, and many places east of them, offer special advantages to the dairyman, the greatest of which are to be found along the coast, as is more particularly shown in the various detailed descriptions given elsewhere. The growth of natural grasses is prolific, and in Western Oregon, owing to the moisture and mildness of the climate, continues green and fresh nearly the entire year. It naturally follows that but little hay is required for cattle, and the expense of caring for them and protecting them from severe storms is unnecessary. The market for dairy products is good and can be widely extended. Thousands of pounds of butter and cheese are annually imported from California. The dairy farmer will find here an inviting field.

Stock raising is one of the prime industries of the State. There are more than 400,000 cattle grazing within her limits, more than one-half of which roam the valleys and bunch grass hills east of the Cascades in great bands. The cattle business there is carried on in the same general style as throughout the entire cattle belt of the West. West of the mountains cattle are generally raised in connection with other farming pursuits. Sheep are to be found in all sections of the State, Southern Oregon bearing off the palm in quantity of wool, though the distinction is becoming less marked yearly. Along the Columbia east of the Cascades, and in the foothills of the Blue Mountains, wool growing is an important industry. In the State are 1,500,000 sheep, which are yearly increasing in numbers and value.

Fruit growing is destined to become an industry of great importance. The superior quality of Oregon fruit

has long been known to our people, but the lack of adequate transportation facilities has prevented this knowledge from spreading abroad. There being no outside market, many good orchards were neglected and permitted to go to decay. During the last two years, under the changed conditions resulting from the construction of railroads, the reputation of this fruit has spread, and created for it a demand which the present orchards are unable to supply. Thousands of apple, pear, plum, prune, cherry, peach and apricot trees are being set out. Southern Oregon is the best adapted to fruit culture, and that is the region which produces such fruits as the peach and apricot. Its sunny hill slopes are the natural home of the grape, and grapes thrive in all portions of the State west of the mountains. East of the Cascades there are many places where the topography of the country creates conditions favorable to fruit and grapes, even to peaches and other semi-tropical varieties. In apples, plums and cherries, Oregon fruit surpasses the best produced in California. Fruit canning is beginning to obtain a hold here, and Oregon canned and dried fruits will not have to wait long for a reputation.

The mineral wealth of the State is great, though its extent cannot even be surmised. The precious metals are mined in Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Grant, Baker and Union counties, in some of which mining was in past years the one great industry, and yet remains an important one. Gold is found in other localities, but not in such quantities. Mining has always been chiefly in placers or in gravel beds, the hydraulic process being used in many localities. Comparatively little quartz mining has been done. The lack of sufficient capital and the great expense of transporting machinery have operated to check the progress of quartz mining. Transportation to those regions has been greatly improved the last two years, and it is confidently believed that capital will soon take hold of these undeveloped ledges. Coal is found in great fields throughout the Coast Range, and discoveries of it have been made in the Blue Mountains. It has been mined to considerable extent in the vicinity of Coos Bay, but our coal measures may be said to be practically undeveloped and their extent unknown, save that they are known to underlie many thousand acres of forest lands. Iron is found in large quantities in several localities. Copper has been found in large quantities east of the Blue Mountains.

Variou manufactures exist in the State. Three good woolen mills are in operation. There is abundant room here for manufactures of various kinds. Water power incalculable is now running to waste, much of it along the line of railroads already constructed.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS.

March.

- 2—Rear-Admiral George H. Preble died in Brookline, Mass.
- 3—Forty-one men killed by explosion in Usworth Colliery, England.
- 4—General U. S. Grant made General of the Army and placed on retired list.
- 8—General Delos Sackett died in Washington, D. C. News of French victories in Tonquin.
- 11—Republic of Central America proclaimed by General Barrios, President of Guatemala, to be established by force of arms.
- 13—\$25,000 fire in Ellensburg, W. T.
- 15—Train fell through bridge at Arlington, Tex.; 1 killed and several wounded.
- 16—Revolution inaugurated in Colombia and Panama attacked.
- 18—Two hundred men killed by explosion in colliery at Camphausen, Prussia.
- 19—Oriental Hotel at Seattle burned; 3 lives lost.
- 20—Arabs defeated near Suakem by English under General Graham.
- 21—Capitol of New Jersey burned....Langham Hotel, Chicago, burned; 5 lives lost.
- 22—British under General McNeil defeated by Arabs near Suakem, with loss of 500 men killed and wounded and 1,000 camels.
- 23—\$25,000 fire in Astoria.
- 24—French defeated by Chinese at Dong Dang.
- 26—English reserves and militia called out because of threatened war with Russia.

Captain W. P. Gray, favorably known in Portland, is now in charge of the Northern Pacific transfer steamer *Billings*, at the crossing of the Cascades Branch over the Columbia. As a side issue he is associated with C. E. Lum in the hotel business at Pasco Junction and Kennewick. Oregonians will be sure to call at Capt. Gray's hostelries when traveling to or from the Yakima country.



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The town of La Grande is laid out with streets 80 feet wide and alleys 20 feet. Business lots are 30x110 feet, and residence lots 60x110 feet. It has hydraulic water mains. Its population is about 1,200. Its business is represented by eight dry goods and general merchandise stores, two drug stores, two furniture, two tobacco and notions, two tin and hardware stores, four livery stables, four blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, two planing mills, three meat markets, four hotels, two restaurants, four warehouses, one weekly newspaper (*La Grande Gazette*), three shoe shops, one harness shop, three town halls, Odd Fellows, Masonic and Workmen's halls, one soap factory, one cooper shop, United States Land Office, two law offices, three churches (Methodist, Episcopal and Baptist), two public school houses, one of which is just completed at a cost of \$10,000, and the Blue Mountain University, a three-story brick building, where are taught the higher mathematics and a collegiate preparatory course; eleven saloons, one brewery, one music store, two barber shops, four millinery and dressmaking shops, United States post office and Wells-Fargo and Northern Pacific express, one steam flouring mill and an undeveloped water power, one real estate and engineer's office, one agricultural implement store, four physicians.

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Dayton, Or.						
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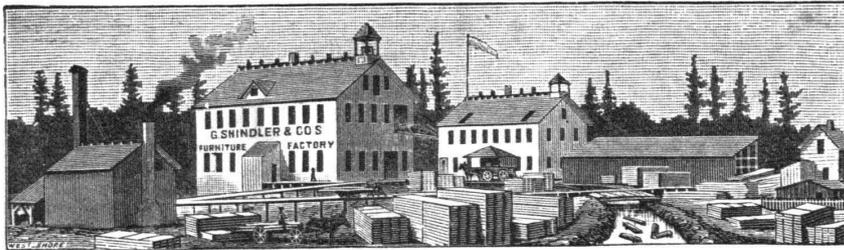
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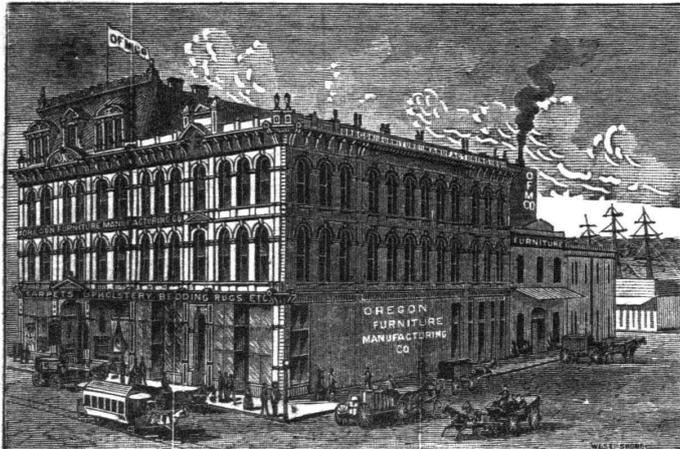
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PORTLAND, Or., March 6, 1885.

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