



BUSINESS OPENINGS AND OPPORTUNITIES.

In a review of the general characteristics and advantages of Eastern and Western Oregon and Washington, we have shown that while the country east of the Cascade range offers inducements to a farming and pastoral population, as it lies in a measure open for the plow, that the western region, with its different climate and much of its area heavily timbered, also possesses great resources, that entitle it to be in time the seat of immense wealth and prosperity of an enduring nature.

This journal naturally views this great field, newly developing, with an eye to agricultural advantages, and as calculated to invite and support a farming population, but we propose now to consider the inducements that exist here for the fostering of all business enterprises and manufacturing interests, as well as the field that lies open for the investment of capital in the development of our great natural resources.

TRADE OPENINGS.

Of course, it does not need to be said that the settling up of new districts, and the construction of additional railroad lines, create openings for trade continually. This retail trade is supplied from wholesale houses in Portland and Walla Walla. The opportunity for business enterprise includes the establishment of wholesale houses at suitable points, down to the opening of retail stores in the remote districts of a country that possesses more territory than the six New England States and New York and Pennsylvania all combined. There is no portion of our continent that to-day offers greater rewards for investment of business capital.

COAL AND COAL LANDS.

Taking a more comprehensive view of our dormant resources, it is apparent that capital can find here a wide field for speculative investment. This is not particularly advisable, so far as the people here are concerned, but reviewing the situation we see that such is the fact. A milling concern on Puget Sound is said to have millions of capital. It owns immense mills; has a fleet of ships to carry the lumber these mills make, and has secured perhaps a hundred thousand acres of the best timber land adjacent to the Sound. This is only one company. Take the coal lands along the Sound: These are of immense extent and not practically located, but already some of the greatest capitalists of the nation are securing interests in them and running branch railroads to develop them. The Willard interest has secured much of these lands, is already mining coal of good quality extensively, and has heavy steam colliers engaged in carrying coal to the markets of the Columbia river and California. The coal fields of the Sound country are not by any means definitely located; coal exists all along the coast of Oregon and Washington, and probably of equal extent and value along the Willamette, Umpqua and Rogue River valleys; also an excellent quality of coal is shown in this city, near Heppner, in Umatilla county, east of the Cascade range. We cite these facts to show that while capital is on the *qui vive* it has not by any means exhausted the opportunity.

DEPOSITS OF IRON ORE.

Take the iron interest: Certainly any company, with sufficient capital and experience, that would commence manufacture of steel and iron rails, and manufacture of iron generally, suited to the needs of the Pacific region, must succeed. There will be cheap Chinese labor for the common work, and skilled labor can be brought here; we have illimitable forests to yield charcoal, and coal mines are almost contiguous to the iron beds on the Sound, while limestone, to use as a flux, also abounds there. The iron worker has in his favor the protective tariff, and the heavy freight charge on all iron brought here, and it would seem that this ought to secure success for the manufacturer who comes properly equipped for the work.

SHIPBUILDING.

Shipbuilding is successfully inaugurated on Coos Bay, as well as at Puget Sound, and whatever advantage the possession of the best forests of ship timber give, we have an excess of quantity, and at practically no cost. If wooden vessels can be made available in commerce, then our western bays and harbors invite shipbuilders from Maine and Nova Scotia to come here and commence work under advantages, such as Maine and Nova Scotia never knew. We could recite the achievements made and swift voyages accomplished by ships built here, if it was necessary, but the shipbuilder can appreciate the situation from what we have said, and can see, also, that instead of having to make a five months' voyage to come here for a cargo, the new ship would find a good charter for a wheat freight to Europe, waiting its completion.

WOODEN WARE.

The world uses an immense quantity of wooden ware, and our vast forests offer an op-

portunity, in connection with our abundant and convenient water powers, to establish factories on a large scale, and furnish such wares to the world at large. We have wondered that such an enterprise was not commenced here long ago. On the Sound we hear of a stove factory that does a great business, which is carried on by San Francisco capital. Hoop poles, also, are abundant; the manufacture of barrels could be made an immense business, and the product shipped to all parts of the world. Our woods consist of pine, cedar, spruce, fir, tamarack, hackmetuck, hemlock, oak, alder, maple, balsam or cottonwood, ash, and still other varieties, in great abundance. Our ashes, oaks, maples, myrtles, and laurels, are among the most beautiful of woods used for furniture. We have three factories in or near this city that turn out furniture of beautiful design, much of it made from native woods, and sash, blinds and doors, etc., are made throughout the whole region from pine, cedar and other woods.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

This country imports enormous shipments of wagons, carriages and agricultural machinery, while we also have growing establishments that make carriages, wagons, plows, etc., using Eastern hickory for carriage and wagon work. The success of these establishments proves that whenever a great establishment shall start here for manufacture of agricultural machinery on a large scale, it will be a success. We have all the timber necessary for making plow beams and every part of cultivators, reapers, harvesters and threshers; our iron of home manufacture is equal to the best Sweden or Norway. It is not possible, with native woods at such small cost, and iron of such quality, home-made, that such a manufactory, on the largest scale, could not be made to succeed by using our domestic products, and be kept successfully at work to supply the harvest fields of this coast. There would be ample protection in the heavy freight charge, and a loyal spirit would induce our farmers to welcome and sustain such an enterprise.

HIDES AND LEATHER.

California tanners have put an end to our manufacture of leather, almost entirely, by discriminating against us in sale of leather. Now, nearly all our hides are sent to San Francisco, and they sell them back to us as leather. Here is a great opening for a tanner with enterprise, and money to back it. Hides sell here at the rates we quote in our price current. A tannery, on a large scale, well conducted would be a success, and connected with a boot and shoe factory, would be a still greater success. As it is, we import harness leather for the use of our harness makers, for that is a branch of manufacturing that is extensively and successfully carried on. About the only tannery of any extent, in the country now, is at Astoria. Its proprietors carry on the manufacture of boots and shoes with it, and have had to enlarge their business of late years to supply the increasing demand for their goods.

WOOL AND WOOLENS.

Woolen manufacture has had fair success here for many years, and as we grow ten millions of pounds of excellent clothing wool (medium grade Merino,) it would be possible for a large woolen factory to procure, at prime cost, wools of the several qualities needed to sustain any ordinary business. The Oregon City mills, under close management and using Chinese labor to some extent—which is tractable, reliable and efficient, and obtainable when white labor sometimes cannot be had—is successful and finds a market through the Pacific States, and as far East as Montana, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico. This concern makes up a great deal of clothing of all kinds, and so works up a trade under all possible advantages. There are excellent water powers to be had on the line of Willamette Valley railroads, and an experienced manufacturer will find capital here ready to assist him if he can show that he has experience, and capital of his own that has been made in that business.

FLAX AND LINES.

This country is as naturally adapted to flax culture as Ireland, and its flax sent back to Belfast factories is pronounced of the best fiber. We have an oil mill that manufactures linseed oil at a profit, and also have a twine factory at Albany that works up the fiber, but the time is to come when the growing of flax and manufacture of linen will be as distinct a business as it is in the North of Ireland. Our climate and soil produce a fiber of such quality that it can be woven into delicate fabrics. At the Mechanic's Fair, held in this city last fall, Mr. Molson showed a rope-making machine in full operation. We should produce the hemp and jute here to make what rope and cord we require, and to supply the millions of bags needed to convey our grain and vegetables to market.

WHEAT AND FLOUR.
Our country abounds in water privileges that are convenient to water ways or railways, and offer every convenience to those who need cheap power to drive machinery; which fact must be borne in mind by all who contemplate entering upon an industrial career in this region. East of the mountains there are sites for the location of flouring mills, and probably there is no business that will afford more reliable returns than flouring the wheat of the newly developing wheat-growing districts, as good flour, that obtains a merchantable reputation, if produced in greater quantity than is needed for the home market, can be shipped to Europe at a profit. We know a miller in this valley, who says he sends his flour to England, and does better than when he sells in this market. The great merchant mills of Oregon, that depend on the foreign trade and send off whole cargoes, cleared about twenty cents per bushel on the wheat shipped during the harvest year, that ended July 1st, 1881, which we know to be the fact in at least two instances.

FOUNDRIES AND MACHINE SHOPS.

In the city of Portland there are several large foundries and machine shops; some of these were started by industrious but prudent men, who had hardly enough capital to own their tools, but who now own large works and have heavy interests in real estate to show their positive success. There are smaller establishments through the country. Stove manufacture has become a successful branch of iron working, and is carried on here, at Gervais, and at Salem, so that we are independent of foreign work in that respect. Iron manufacture in all its branches is but in its infancy, and the situation here is so new and favorable that it invites the attention of those who have the means at command, and have gained the experience necessary to carry on such business successfully.

PAPER MANUFACTURE.

There is one paper mill in the country, which does a fair but not heavy business. Most of our paper supply, for newspapers, comes from the East. The present need of the country is for a complete paper manufactory that will turn out a supply of all kinds of paper suited to this growing trade.

FISH AND FISHERIES.

Enterprising steamboat men could find a field for energy and capital here as there are many bays and streams that need small boats, and the greater rivers and Puget Sound have a growing commerce that requires more and better facilities. Our fisheries furnish a topic that cannot easily be exhausted. There are scores of great canning concerns along the Columbia and still more are contemplated, but there are small streams putting into the bays and ocean, that have not yet been tested, that would pay well if canneries could be placed there. It is not probable that any great length of time will elapse before these streams are all occupied from Mount St. Elias to San Francisco, but the ocean furnishes a field for enterprise that cannot be easily occupied or monopolized, and which to-day invites the attention of those who have prosecuted the same business on the northeastern coast of our continent. It is safe to say that the North Pacific deep sea fisheries are fully as extensive as those on the North Atlantic, and far more inviting to the fishermen, and those who own the fishing flats, because they present few such dangers as arise from storms along the North Atlantic seaboard. Here, there is never, or scarcely ever, a wind or storm that cannot be weathered on the open sea, or danger that a vessel will be driven ashore. The frightful loss of life that we so frequently hear of as occurring there need not occur on this coast, and the fish supply will answer all the demands upon it for all time.

We have touched casually on many important topics, so that Eastern readers may form some idea of the inducements our Northwest coast and its interior offer to labor and capital. We have magnified nothing, and, in fact, have not done anything like justice to the topics we have treated, but have only aimed to present the crude outlines of matters that the intelligent reader can fill up as he reads. These topics are of scope and magnitude far beyond the capacity of ordinary journalism to treat in full.

From Cottage Grove.

A correspondent writing to us from Cottage Grove, under date of March 15th, says:

Last week we had a snow storm here, heavier than we had for years before; the snow was eight inches deep in the valley, and is said to have been five feet where the road crosses the Callisnoo mountains. This week the ground is in good condition for the plow and is getting a lively stirring.

Surgical Appointment.

Owing to change in steamers the surgeons of the Pacific Surgical Institute have fixed their appointment for Portland on April 4th and 5th, when they will be pleased to meet all their old patients at the St. Charles Hotel, and such new ones as may desire treatment. This Institute will establish a permanent board at Portland next fall.

Correspondence.

What a Friend Has to Say.

CROWLEY, Polk County, Or., March 16.
Editor Willamette Farmer:
Permit me to write a few lines in commendation of the WILLAMETTE FARMER as a farming journal away ahead of all others. We find items and leaders in the FARMER that to us are worth the whole year's subscription. Take, for instance, the leader on "Citizenship" in No. 2, of Feb. 24, 1882; it contains more solid truth than many political hacks will publish. Please republish at least the following portion beginning at: "As snowflake falls upon the sod" to end of sentence, "If any man wants office nominate someone else." But rather give us the whole article; it will make the FARMER many friends. We also find a valuable article in No. 4, March 10, with the heading "Assessment and Taxation." But we think, Mr. Editor, upon further reflection, that you would hardly agree with Mr. B. in "believing it inexpedient to assess notes and accounts, which are mere representatives of value," etc. Now, Mr. Editor, what is money, if not a representative of value? And would you not tax cash in hand? In my opinion it would be a law in harmony with many other bad laws we have to carry in favor of the rich and against the laboring farmer. It used to be the watchword of our fathers, "Protect the poor, capital is able to protect itself." But how do we find it now? Capital combines and crushes honest labor throughout the United States. Manufacturers can combine under our present high protective laws and charge exorbitant prices for their goods, but the producer can "grin and bear it." Time was, when we had but two or three millionaires in the United States, that all worked singly along together, but now, when we have millionaires by the hundreds, things grind and cause friction. It takes no prophet to see what this will finally end in. Some one has said, "unrestrained liberty is licentiousness," and that is precisely the disease capital suffers from, or will suffer from. It is so aggressive that it will finally accomplish its own destruction. But, Mr. Editor, these remarks are getting too lengthy, and I will close. Yours truly,
GEO. H. ELLERS.

Assessment and Taxes.

JUNCTION CITY, Or., March 16, 1882.
Editor Willamette Farmer:
I see in your last issue some amendments to the assessment laws of Oregon suggested. While I am free to admit that there is still room for improvement, I do not think the one proposed would be just and equal; that is, "assess all property wherever found, at its full cash value, to the persons in whose hands it is found, allowing no exemptions except notes and accounts, which would include mortgages and all paper representatives of value." Now this, to my mind, would work as a great hardship to all poor enterprising men, as it would force them to pay from 1 1/2 to 2 per cent. more on all the borrowed capital they would employ, and at the same time exempt their more wealthy neighbors almost entirely from taxation; as, for instance, A. is worth \$40,000, he lives in town, has a comfortable city residence valued, we will say, at \$4,000, on which he will pay tax at 2 per cent., which would amount to \$80, which would be all the taxes he would have to pay; while on the \$36,000 loaned out he would make (or save, which is the same thing) at the same rate \$720 in addition to his stipulated interest, which amount the poor but enterprising farmer who had this money borrowed would have to pay. I think this would be a serious drawback to those who might wish to purchase or improve farms, while the inducement to loan money would be increased to the detriment of all enterprises that would require borrowed capital, without reducing the rate of interest or taxation in a commensurate proportion. Now, as to the valuation of property, no doubt in many instances it is undervalued; at the same time those who loan money do not take property at its assessed value in liquidation of their demands, which goes to show that the discrepancy in valuation is not so great as generally supposed. I claim that taxation should be based on intrinsic values. Now, if a man has \$100 dollars in cash, he knows just what he has; but if he has a horse that he paid \$100 for, he must find a man whose circumstances demand such a horse before he can get his \$100 back for it (and generally he don't find him). The same way with a farm. The necessity for every man to have a home, places a commercial value on land far above its intrinsic value, taking the assessed value of a farm as its intrinsic value. Then we will take a farm valued at \$10 per acre, which may have a commercial value of \$20 per acre. Now I will venture the assertion that not more than three in five of the farms in Lane county will pay interest and taxes at current rates on the intrinsic value, (or assessment). Now this is proven by the statement of many persons, that it don't pay to rent out a farm, as the rent will not pay interest and taxes. Now, if these statements are true, I think they prove that real estate should not be taxed at more than 50 or 60 per cent. of its commercial value, which would be about equal to its intrinsic value. Another evidence of this is the fact that capitalists will

not loan more than 40 or 50 per cent. of the commercial value on any farm. My motto is, equal and exact justice to all; special favors to none.
J. C. JENNINGS.

Redhibition on Butter.

SHERIDAN, March 10, 1882.
Editor Willamette Farmer:
Reading an article in your issue of the 3d inst. entitled "What is the Matter with the Butter?" I would say that Mr. Knapp has good advice on the butter question in general, and what I want to speak of is in behalf of the country and the country butter. The poor price arises from various causes, but I don't blame the Portland buyers for any of them. Of course some farmers' wives make as fine gilt edged butter as is made in any dairy in the State, while it is true that some make the poorest. It all goes to the country store together, where all are in debt from one year's end to the other. The store keeper piles it up in buckets, pans, boxes, or anything that is handy, and it lies around in the dust for a week or so, when it is shipped to Portland, and looks bad, smells bad and brings a bad price. I have known butter to be brought to the store by well-to-do farmers' wives that was in such a bad condition that when they had done their trading and had gone home, the merchant would take it out of doors and throw it away. He dared not say anything about it or he would lose customers. Of course he did not have many such customers. I know of some women who only work their butter once, mold it out and take it to the store; there would be lots of milk and water left in it, which would soon sour and spoil the butter. They also let the milk stand until it is funky, in order to get the last drop of cream from it. This is how a great deal of the country store butter is managed, and it spoils the good country store butter, as it all goes to Portland together. On the other hand, if farmers who make butter to sell would do as Mr. Knapp says, have a creamery where the neighborhood could put their milk together, or make the best they can themselves, and send it fresh to Portland to some good firm that is prepared to handle it as J. B. Knapp does, and get the best cash price, and take the cash and do their trading on the cash system, farmers would certainly realize more satisfactory results. The same rule will also apply to the management and marketing of any other kind of farm products. For example: While potatoes are selling in Portland at from 80 to 95 cents per bushel, the country buyers here at Sheridan are only paying from 50 to 60 cents per bushel. Chickens, when they are quoted in Portland at from \$1 to \$5 per dozen, were only selling here for trade at \$3 per dozen; but if sugar goes up a few cents we get the benefit of that. So, hoping that all the farmers will make a better quality of butter and manage it so as to get the best market price for it, I remain yours truly,
A REDHILLIAN.

The Owl as an Exterminator.

TURNER, March 22, 1882.
Editor Willamette Farmer:
In your issue of the 17th inst., Mr. J. S. Churchill, of Mohawk, undertakes to give what he calls "the other side" of my article on the owl.
I take up the question, because I believe it to be an important one, and well worth discussion, not only to farmers, but to those of all ranks, grades and callings, being one which affects the welfare of people, State and nation; and I shall be very glad of correction if I fall into error (which is not unlikely), as the truth of the matter, and not any one's pet theory, is that which should be established. Very few persons deny the usefulness of the insectivorous birds, and yet very few indeed have any adequate conception of the extent of their usefulness to mankind. But this fact can be fully demonstrated, not only that they are very useful, but that they are practically indispensable to our welfare. It follows therefore that an exterminator, or even a devourer of the birds under consideration is an enemy against whom "we should invoke the aid of our law makers in an aggressive warfare of extermination" in our own defense.
And now, Mr. Churchill, please read my article again, and more carefully. I think you will find that instead of my saying that the owl "very likely destroys 1,000 or 1,200 quail during the year," I said, "Supposing Mr. Owl lived exclusively upon quail, 365 of these would be destroyed each year; but counting the eggs and young destroyed, I assume that there would be 500 less each year." Then I go on to say: "But as the owl does not confine himself exclusively to quail, but eats every grouse, pheasant, plover, sparrow, thrush, lark or other useful bird that he can catch happening, from the egg in the nest to the full grown bird, it is very probable that 1,000 or 1,200 useful birds are annually sacrificed to keep one large owl in good condition." This is what I did say, and what little observation I have had, and what little thought I have given the subject, bears me out in my conclusions. A neighbor of mine, whom I consider reliable, told me of a nest of hawks, of a variety which build on the ground, whose young were killed by a hail storm, when the old ones, appearing not to understand the situation, continued to bring food to the nest for two days, and in that time they had accumulated nearly thirty young grouse, pheasants and quail. Nothing else was brought, and I once had a pet hawk that wouldn't eat a

mouse if he could get all the birds he wanted. Now, as to Mr. Churchill's side of the argument:

"Owls fly during the night." "Rats, mice and gophers are likewise out at night, consequently it is more likely that the latter animals make up a greater portion of the food of owls than quails, grouse, &c." Well, let us see. Owls fly at night and can see well at that time, also. "Quails, grouse, &c.," can't see, and as they roost on trees where the owl can see them, while they can't see him, and as he flies noiselessly, they are not warned of his approach while they are asleep with their heads under their wings, "consequently it is more likely that the latter" birds "make up a greater portion of the food of owls" than do "rats, mice and gophers," which, although "out of nights," can see well, are very likely on the alert, and from their habits, and facilities for hiding, for escape or defence, it is not probable that owls get many of them. Another thing which tends to favor my theory, is that owls kept in captivity appear to prefer birds to rats, mice, &c., as food.

But I am open to conviction or criticism; and if my views are correct, our Legislature ought certainly to "lend its aid to an aggressive war of extermination on owls," hawks, crows, jays, &c.; only please read my articles carefully and quote them properly, and I won't complain.
NATURALIST.

Blackleg—Causes and Possible Remedy.

Blackleg or malignant anthrax is probably the most dreaded disease that exists in this North Pacific country. It may be interesting, as well as profitable, to some of our readers to know what the disease really is, and how its ravages may possibly be mitigated. Anthrax is a blood disease due to a parasitic germ (bacillus) which comes in contact with the blood, either by contagion or inoculation. Animals that are subject to a sudden access to plethora, or those that are thriving and growing rapidly, are in a predisposing condition which renders them very susceptible to the disease. It spreads among herds principally through animals that are in a favorable condition to contract the disease, coming in contact with the exudation of animals that have recently died from the disease. It is also conveyed by insects that perforate the skin, caused by their first dipping their perforating apparatus into some diseased product, and then carrying it with them to inoculate other portions of the herd. If the germs are exposed to the open air for a short length of time they become devitalized, owing to putrefaction, which destroys their vitality. Some soils are very favorable towards retaining the vitality of the germs, especially wet soils of a retentive character, the impervious subsoil, preventing natural drainage, and also excluding the air, for whenever the germs become embedded in such soil, they retain their vitality and multiply for an indefinite length of time; such lands, until they are thoroughly underdrained, are continuously infecting herds that are pastured on them. If it were not for insects, the best way to dispose of diseased carcasses in the summer time would be to lay them on the surface of an enclosed dry piece of ground until putrefaction takes place, which destroys the vitality of the germs. As I have already said that animals under certain conditions are very susceptible to the disease I will endeavor to point out those conditions, and how they might be obviated. Stock men who have had the disease in their herds have undoubtedly noticed that it was almost invariably the fattest and most thrifty calves and yearlings that became victims to the disease, or animals that were thriving very rapidly at the time; also they possibly have noticed that the disease was very prevalent on bottom land. The most rational preventive would be to prevent the animal's becoming in a condition that is favorable to the development and reproduction of the germs when introduced into the system, by changing them to drier and less luxuriant pastures. Small doses of sulphate of soda or iodide of potash, given daily, are sometimes serviceable. The giving of medicine is totally impracticable on large cattle ranches. The best preventive, and one that can be used by all stockmen, is the insertion of a seton in the dewlap, which produces a heavy secretion of pus, consequently materially lessens the tendency towards a plethoric condition. The material used should be three strips of strong tape, about a foot long, braided together and soaked in turpentine or tincture of cantharides for several days before using. The operation consists of running a sharp knife or seton needle through the dewlap, just in front of the knees, then pass the tape through and fasten to each end a piece of stick or a round piece of leather, large enough so that the orifice will not admit of its passage through, insert the seton between the skin and the flesh, and let it remain until it drops off.
JAMES WITHEYCOMB, V. S.

Bridging the Willamette.

Citizens of Albany and vicinity met at the Court House last Friday to consider the proposition of the Oregon Pacific Railroad Company to put a railroad and wagon bridge across the Willamette at some point within the corporate limits of Albany. After stirring speeches delivered, on motion, the chair appointed L. Winn, R. S. Strahan, T. Monteith, Jason Wheeler, John Crawford and F. L. Hackleman, a committee to confer with the railroad company and learn what was necessary to be done to secure the building of the bridge. The sense of the meeting favored contributing \$20,000 for that purpose, and a committee, consisting of N. Baum, G. F. Simpson, D. B. Monteith, J. H. Foster Jr., and A. Pierce, were appointed to solicit subscriptions. It is thought that sum can be raised.