

the fire as I put it out, and have felt the change produced in the air at the mouth of the chimney; for after the third stone descended, no more followed it. As for either of the ruffians themselves dropping down by the same road along which the stones had come, that was not to be dreaded. The chimney, as I well knew by my experience in cleaning it, was too narrow to give passage to any one above the size of a small boy.

I looked upward as that comforting reflection crossed my mind—I looked up, and saw, as plainly as I see the paper I am now writing on, the point of a knife coming through the inside of the roof just over my head. Our cottage had no upper story, and our rooms had no ceilings. Slowly and wickedly the knife wriggled its way through the dry inside thatch between the rafters. It stopped for a while, and there came a sound of tearing. That in its turn, stopped too; there was a great fall of dry thatch on the floor; and I saw the heavy, hairy hand of Shifty Dick, armed with the knife, come through after the fallen fragments. He leaped at the rafters with the back of the knife, as if to test their strength. Thank God, they were substantial and close together! Nothing lighter than a hatchet would have sufficed to remove any part of them.

The murderous hand was still tapping with the knife, when I heard a shout from the man Jerry, coming from the neighborhood of my father's stone yard in the back yard. The hand and knife disappeared instantly. I ran to the back door and put my ear to it and listened.

Both men were now in the shed. I made the most desperate efforts to call to mind what tools and other things were left in it, which might be used against me. But my agitation confused me. I could remember nothing except my father's big stone axe, which was far too heavy and unwieldy to be used on the roof of the cottage. I was still puzzling my brains and making my head swim to no purpose, when I heard the man dragging something out of the shed. At the same instant when the noise caught my ear, the remembrance flashed across my lightning-like mind, of a bundle of wood which had lain in the shed for years past. I had hardly time to feel certain that they were remaining one of these beams, before I heard Shifty Dick say to Jerry:

"Which door?"

"The front was the answer. "We've cracked it, already; we'll have it down in no time."

Scenes less sharpened by danger than mine would have understood too easily, from these words, that they were about to use the beam as a battering-ram against the door. When that conviction overcame me, I lost courage at last. I felt that the door must be broken down, and that as I had constructed could support it, for more than a few minutes, against such shocks as it was now to receive.

"I can do no more to keep the house against them," I said to myself, with my knees knocking together, and the door just beginning to wobble and creak. "I must trust to the night and the thick darkness, and save my life by running for it while there is yet time."

I huddled on my cloak and hood, and laid my hand on the bar of the back door, when a piteous howl from the bedroom reminded me of the existence of poor Mary. I ran in, and huddled the creature up in my apron. Before I was out in the passage again, the first shock from the beam fell on the door.

The upper hinge gave way. The chairs and the coal-stove forming the top of my barricade were hurled, rattling, into the room; but the lower hinge of the door, and the chest of drawers and tool-chest, still kept their places.

"One more," I heard the villain cry, "one more run with the beam, and down it comes!" Just as they must have been starting for that "one more run," I opened the heavy door and fled out into the night, with the book full of bank-notes in my bosom, the silver spoons in my pocket, and the cat in my arms. I threaded my way easily enough through the familiar obstacles in the back yard, and was out in the pitch darkness of the night, before I heard the second shock, and the crash which told me that the whole door had given way.

In a few minutes they must have discovered the fact of my flight with the pocket-book, for I heard shouts in the distance as if they were running out to pursue me. I kept on at the top of my speed, and the noise soon died away. It was so dark that twenty thieves, instead of two, would have found it useless to follow me.

How long it was before I reached the farmhouse—the nearest place to which I could fly for refuge—I cannot tell you. I remember that I had just seen enough to keep the wind at my back, having observed in the beginning of the evening that it blew toward Moor Farm, and to go on resolutely through the darkness. In all other respects, I was by this time half crazed by what I had gone through. If it had so happened that the wind had changed after I had observed its direction early in the evening, I should have gone astray, and have perished, as I just mustered strength enough to gasp out a few words, telling him what was the matter, and then fell down at his feet, for the first time in my life, in a dead swoon.

That swoon was followed by a severe illness. When I got strong enough to look about me again, I found myself in one of the farm-house beds—my father, Mrs. Knifton, and the doctor, were all in the room—my cat was asleep at my feet, and the pocket-book that I had saved lay on the table by my side.

There was plenty of news for me to hear, as soon as I was fit to listen to it. Shifty Dick and the other rascal had been caught, and were in prison, waiting their trial at the next assize. Mr. and Mrs. Knifton had been so shocked at the danger I had run—for which they blamed their own want of thoughtfulness in leaving the pocket-book in their care—that they had insisted on my father's removing from our lonely home to a cottage on their land, which we were to inhabit rent free. The bank-notes and silver spoons were given to me for furniture with, in place of the things that the thieves had broken. These pleasant tidings assisted so greatly in promoting my recovery, that I was soon able to relate to my friends at the farmhouse the particulars that I have written here. They were all much surprised and interested; but so one, as I thought, looked with such breathless attention as the farmer's oldest son. Mrs. Knifton noticed this, too, and began to make jokes about it, in her light-hearted way, as soon as we were alone. I thought little of her jesting at the time; but when I got well, and we went to live at our new home, I saw the farmer, as he was called in our parts, constantly come to see us, and constantly managed to meet me out of doors. I had my share of vanity, like other young women, and I began to think of Mrs. Knifton's jokes with some attention. To be brief, the young farmer managed one Sunday—I never could tell how—to

lose his way with me in returning from church, and before we found out the right road home again, he had asked me to be his wife.

His relations did all they could to keep us asunder and break off the match, thinking a poor stone-mason's daughter was fit for a prosperous yeoman. But the farmer was too obstinate for them. He had one form of answer to all their objections. "A man, if he is worth the name, marries according to his own notions, and to please himself," he used to say. "My notion is, that when I take a wife I am pleasing my character and my happiness—the most precious things I have to trust—in one woman's care. The woman I mean to marry had a small charge confided to her care, and showed herself worthy of it at the risk of her life. That is proof enough for me that she is worthy of the greatest charge I can put into her hands. Rank and riches are fine things, but the certainty of getting a good wife is something better still. I'm of age, I know my own mind, and I mean to marry the stone-mason's daughter."

And he did marry me. Whether I proved myself worthy or not of his good opinion, is a question which I must leave you to ask my husband. All that I can relate to myself and my doings is now told. Whatever interest my perfunctory narrative may excite, ends, I am well aware, with my escape to the farm-house. I have only ventured on writing these few additional sentences, because my marriage is the moral of my story. It has given me the choicest blessings of happiness and prosperity, and I owe them all to my night adventure in *The Black Cottage*.

INFORMATION FOR IMMIGRANTS.

In order to enable immigrants arriving in this State to obtain suitable lands and farms for settlement immediately after their arrival in Oregon, the publisher of *The West Shore* caused the following advertisement to be inserted in all the leading country papers:

Important Notice.
Farmers and others having improved or unimproved farms to let or for sale can have them advertised free of charge in *The West Shore*, an anti-trust monthly illustrated paper published at Portland. State location of land, improvements, price asked, name of owner, and where to inquire. Address: Publisher West Shore, Portland, Oregon.

Below will be found the answers received to the advertisement. The publisher of *The West Shore* is not a real estate or land agent, and therefore in no way undertakes the sale or negotiation for any of these lands, nor does he verify the accuracy of the statements made therein, but refers purchasers to the owners or agents of same.

Railroad Lands in Oregon.
The Oregon & California R. R. Company have a large grant of land from the United States Government, which they sell on very liberal conditions at the low prices of \$1.25 to \$7 per acre, payable in United States currency. The purchaser can pay cash, in which case he will be allowed a discount of ten per cent on the purchase price, or he can have ten years' time in which to make up the same by small annual payments, with interest at seven per cent per annum. In this case the purchaser pays down one-tenth of the price. One year from the sale he pays seven per cent interest on the remaining nine-tenths of the principal. At the end of the second year he pays one-tenth of the principal and one year's interest on the remainder, and the same at the end of each successive year until all has been paid at the end of the ten years.

Government Lands.
Although surveys have been carried on for many years, vast tracts of public lands still remain unsurveyed. More government land is, however, now in the market than is likely to be taken up for a long time to come. There are three land offices in this State, located respectively at Oregon City, Roseburg, and La Grande (in Eastern Oregon), which afford the usual facilities to settlers wishing to avail themselves of the homestead and pre-emption laws. Under the "Homestead Law," every head of a family, male or female, or single man over twenty-one years, a citizen of the United States or having declared his intention to become such, can enter, on payment of the registry fees, ranging from seven to twenty-two dollars, eighty acres of any of the lands reserved by the government within the limits of the railroad grants, excepting lands bearing gold, silver, cinnabar or copper, and one hundred and sixty acres if the claim is situated outside of the latter. After five years *bona-fide* residence upon and improvement of the land, the Government will give the claimant a regular title. Under the "pre-emption laws," persons possessing the same qualifications as claimants under the homestead law, may "enter" at a land office, on payment of one of \$20, obtaining a pre-emption right, that is, a right to take a tract of eighty acres, if within the limits of a railroad grant, or one hundred and sixty acres, if without, whenever the land shall be offered for sale by the government, at \$2.50 per acre in the former, and at \$1.25 per acre in the latter case.

How to get to Oregon.

Emigrants from the Eastern States and Canada will do best to purchase tickets to Portland, Oregon, at the price named below. On emigrant trains to San Francisco, and thence by steamer on steamer to Portland, will be as follows: From Baltimore, \$75; from Boston, \$75; from Chicago, \$70.50; from Galveston, \$98; Montreal, \$75; New York, \$75; Omaha, \$60; Portland (Maine), \$75; Quebec, \$75; St. Louis, \$75; United States currency. Emigrants from Europe can reach Oregon either via Panama or New York. The steamer fare by English or German steamers from Hamburg or Southampton to Colon, thence by railroad to Panama, and thence by steamer to Portland, Oregon, is \$92.50, gold, including food. For the New York route, emigrants can obtain through tickets from Glasgow or Liverpool to Portland, Oregon, for \$75, gold, by applying to Mr. P. Fleming, Government Emigration Agent, 41 Reform Street, Dundee, Scotland. On arriving in Portland, immigrants should call at the Bureau of Board of Immigration, where all information regarding lands will be furnished free of charge. They will also receive Immigrant Certificates, which entitles them to half fare rates on all the leading lines of travel in this State.

LIST OF LANDS FOR SALE OR RENT.

Beaumont County.
220 Acres fifteen miles from Corvallis, two and one-half from King's Valley. 60 acres in cultivation, 160 acres of tillable land, 60 acres fence, 90 ft timber, plenty of water. An outside range for stock. A house and barn, out building, and other improvements. Price \$2,500; \$1,000 cash, balance on time. Address: W. M. MARTZGALL, Corvallis.

brush and timber land. Price \$12 per acre, terms reasonable. Address: J. T. FRIENDLEY, Corvallis.

171 Acres one-fourth mile south of Monroe. House, barn and orchard, nearly all fenced; 100 acres of it under cultivation. Also 10 acres timber land three miles east of Monroe. Terms reasonable. Enquire of Wm. Speer, on the farm.

1230 Acres five miles from Monroe. 400 of it in cultivation, the balance grazing land with good soil. All fenced. Three houses and two barns. Orchard with varied fruit. Well watered and wooded; 500 of it can be irrigated. Price \$24 per acre. One-half cash, balance time. Address: ALBERT HUMPHREY, Monroe.

304 Acres seventeen miles south of Corvallis and one mile north of Monroe, on the stage route. All of the land under fence; 250 of it good tillable land, with new two-story frame house, two orchards and small vineyard. Plenty of good running water and firewood on the place. Price \$20 per acre; terms easy. Inquire on the premises, or address: SAMUEL STANNUS, Monroe.

300 Acres 1500 farming land; 50 of it in grain, 10 acres meadow. Good garden, water, and orchard of various fruits. House with six rooms, barn, grassy, blacksmith shop, wood-house, 10 x 40, and other buildings. Price \$3,500, including crop. Apply to Wm. Harris on premises, 12 miles south of Corvallis, 2 1/2 miles north-west of Monroe.

60 Acres, 3 miles west of Albany, near forks of Buena Vista and Albany Road. 40 acres of it under fence and in cultivation. All of it bottom land and prairie, except a little timber on the west. The orchard is a good selection, buildings good, and a splendid well watered with stone. Plenty of running water for stock on the place all the year. Price \$1,100; \$400 down, the balance in two equal annual installments. Inquire at the Democratic office, Corvallis, or of A. R. Brown, Buena Vista, Polk County.

300 Acres, T 13 S, R 5 W, including frame houses of 10 rooms and all necessary outbuildings. Barn and implement and tool house. There is a small lake of living water on the premises. It is situated 12 miles south of Corvallis, in a flourishing settlement, with a good school 1/2 of a mile distant. There is also a good and substantial granary at the steamboat landing on the premises. Inquire of owner, JAMES BRUCE.

Clackamas County.
80 Acres at Damascus, 14 miles from Portland; 15 acres in cultivation—all good tillable land. A small lake of living water on the premises. Price \$800; reasonable terms. Address: N. DARLING, Damascus.

160 Acres near Damascus, 14 miles from Portland. Level improved timber land; soil is very good. Price \$1,000; reasonable terms. Address: S. S. JOHNSON, Damascus.

80 Acres near Damascus, 14 miles from Portland. Good house and orchard, with other improvements. Price \$2,000; terms reasonable. Address: SAMUEL HINK, Damascus.

240 Acres near Damascus, 40 acres in cultivation, most all good tillable land, and well watered, with good houses and barn and fair improvements. Price \$2,400; terms easy. Address: S. R. JOHNSON, Damascus.

640 Acres about nine miles from Portland. 100 acres cleared, ready for cultivation—divided into three fields, the balance heavy timber, and 320 acres fenced, 20 acres of good orchard; barn 50x30, house will be built. Rent, first year, \$100. Address: A. WATTS, Portland.

400 Acres on Clackamas River, 12 miles from Mountfield, 200 acres of it under fence, 75 in cultivation, the rest brush and timber land; a small house and good orchard, with other improvements. \$2,000 currency; 1,200 down, balance on time. Address: H. W. LAKE, Eagle Creek.

320 Acres on Eagle Creek, near Foster's, 20 miles from Portland, 100 acres under fence, 45 acres of it under cultivation; the greater part of it bottom land with scattering timber; a good house and barn. Price \$2,000; 1/2 cash, balance on time. Address: W. H. MINNEN, Eagle Creek.

160 Acres on Eagle Creek, near Foster's, 20 miles from Portland, 20 acres under fence, 6 under cultivation; house and other improvements. Price \$250 cash. FRED. NEIDMARK, Eagle Creek.

800 Acres, 2 miles from Oswego, 10 miles from Portland, 80 acres under fence, 20 in cultivation, balance bottom timbered land, well watered; Price \$10 per acre, 1/2 cash, balance on time. Address: A. R. SHIPLEY, Oswego.

300 Acres 14 miles from Portland, 7 miles north east of Oregon City, 4 1/2 miles south-east of Clackamas Station on the O. & C. R. R. 150 acres of it under cultivation, there is also a small orchard, house, barn, stock shed and a good fence enclosing 250 acres with crop fence. Price \$3,000; \$2,000 down, balance in one and three years. This place was first settled on in 1815. Address: J. T. APPERSON, Oregon City.

100 Acres, under fence, good house, barn, orchard, &c. 1 mile from school house, 3 miles from railroad. Price \$2,000. J. W. OFFIELD, Clatsop Station.

100 Acres, 1/2 mile north of Oregon City; 90 of it in cultivation, the rest timber land with good soil. House and orchard, with other improvements. Well watered. Price \$1,200; one-half cash, balance time. Address: S. R. SMITH, New Tacoma, W. T.

80 Acres, near Damascus, 11 miles from Portland; 7 acres of it in cultivation, the rest part timber part open land. No improvements, except 20 acres fenced. Price \$500; one-half cash, balance time. Address: E. B. CLEMENS, Oregon City.

299 Acres, rolling hill land, a small stream of water running through the center, 40 acres of it timber, 80 acres open; could be divided in two farms. Improvements—25 acres under cultivation, 150 under fence, log barn 24 x 29, granary 16 x 24, store and half hewed log house 26 x 26, work-shop 20 x 30, milk cellar, dry house, half acre picketed for garden, 1800 ft trees, 150 1 span horse and wagon, plow, harrow, garden tools, mule cows, 1 yearling heifer, 3 steads of bees, &c. Price \$2,500; \$1,000 down, balance in 1 year. Inquire of H. B. May, on premises, 5 miles south-east of Oregon City, 7 miles east of Canby Station, on Upper Molech Road.

Columbia County.
320 Acres, school land. Price \$1 per acre. Inquire of EDWIN BUSEL, at Bank of British Columbia.

Douglas County.
150 Acres, five miles from Drain Station on the O. & C. R. R. and seven miles from Yoncalla; 50 acres of good farm land, outside range for stock, a water power sawmill on the place. Plenty of timber and water. Price \$10 per acre; terms easy. Address: J. F. BRADLEY, Drain.

504 Acres, four miles east of Oakland, all under fence, 450 of it good plow land. Plenty of timber for fuel. House, barn, orchard, at \$14 per acre; one-third down, balance time. Address: L. I. KELLOGG, Oakland.

640 Acres, on south side of the Calapoosia mountains, known as Estes Station. Place is well improved. Good two-story house, costing \$1,000; barn costing \$350; orchard and meadow, 100 acres. Entire farm can be bought for \$12 per acre, or 100 acres of it for \$10 per acre. Address: E. A. ESTES, Constock Mill.

Grant County.
160 Acres, Stock Ranch, 130 miles from the Dalles, on the Canyon City Road; 30 of it under cultivation. Water and wood convenient. 1 1/2 miles from Post Office, a lively mining camp, offering ready market for vegetables, butter, &c. Price, \$1,500; part cash, balance in one year. Address: W. G. KERRIS, Camp Watson.

Jackson County.
Sheep Ranch of 100 acres on Little Applegate, 10 miles south of Jacksonville, 10 acres of it under cultivation, good log house and out buildings, orchard, &c. Price, 1,000 dollars. Inquire on the place, or address: F. M. SMITH, Jacksonville.

Lane County.
2000 Acres ten miles northwest of Eugene City, eight miles west of Junction City, and four miles from the O. & C. R. R. 190 acres in cultivation; 2000 acres good grain growing land. Plenty of wood and water, and all the land under fence. Price of the whole property, \$10 per acre; or \$5 to \$11 per acre for tracts of 400-1,100 acres; two-thirds cash, balance four to six years time. Address: W. M. GIBNEY, Eugene City.

320 Acres twelve miles from Junction City. A good stock range for cattle and sheep. There is also a saw mill and saw factory, run by water power, to 8,000 feet of lumber per day, and is capable of cutting 20,000 per day, having one of the best dams, millraces and water power in the State. The land has on it some very fine timber wood, while adjoining there are thousands of acres of good timber. Price for the land, mill, etc., \$5,000; part cash, part time. Address: SMITH & BRASFIELD, Junction.

1,700 Acres, Stock ranch, 100 of good farming land in Willamette precinct, seven miles from Eugene. On the place is a two year old barn 48x32, also a good house, nearly new 20x24, young orchard, abundance of water and timber. Price \$3.50 per acre; half down, or will sell 250 acres of the unimproved land at 4.00 per acre. Address: JOHN DIAMOND, Willamette Forks.

480 Acres, nine miles west of Eugene; \$10 per acre in a body, or in 160 acre lots. Address: H. C. LEIKINS, Eugene City.

250 Acres in Mohawk Valley, 10 miles east of Eugene. Price \$2,700; one-half down. Address: THOMAS WALKER, Mohawk Valley.

Linn County.
314 Acres, one and one-half miles northwest of Halsey. 61 acres in fall grain. All good improved land. Price \$9,000; one-half cash, balance on time. Address: JOSEPH LAME, Halsey.

340 Acres, three miles west of Halsey; 40 acres in cultivation. All good open prairie land, with plenty of water, house and farm, with other improvements. For Rent. Price per acre \$125. English or Scotch farmers preferred. Address: ROBERT JOHNS, Halsey.

400 Acres, 300 of it under fence and orchard living water in fall grain. All good improved down, balance 2 years. Situated miles north of Albany, 2 1/2 miles west of Jefferson. Address: J. J. DAVIS, Miller's Station.

Mason County.
120 Acres, four and one-half miles south of Salem, on the road to Buena Vista. 50 acres in cultivation, well watered. A good house and barn, and orchard, with other improvements. Price \$2,500; terms easy. Address: W. HOOVER, Salem.

131 Acres, a mile east of Buena Vista, 50 acres in cultivation. Fine bottom land for hop culture. Price \$1,000; terms easy. Address: S. GUNNINGHAM & CO., Salem.

140 1/2 Acres, near Sheridan. 15 acres in cultivation, about 120 acres timber land, \$750 worth of finished rock on hand, together with all the machinery, tools, household furniture, with other improvements belonging to the place. Price \$2,500; terms reasonable. Address: J. W. CARPENTER, Sheridan.

30 Acres, near Silverton. 3 acres in cultivation, and all good tillable land. A good barn, house, and orchard. Address: O. F. HIBBARD, Silverton.

110 Acres, near Union, on the Canyon City Road, near school house, 60 acres in cultivation, 15 in timber, all good land. A good house and barn, with a fine young orchard, and other fair improvements, well watered, and a desirable home. Price \$1,000; \$1,000 cash, balance on time. Address: G. W. HUNT, Sublimity.

140 Acres, near Sublimity. 70 acres cleared land, rest fair grazing land. House, barn and orchard in tolerable repair, good fences. Price \$1,500; terms easy. Address: G. W. HUNT, Sublimity.

250 Acres, near Butteville, two miles from Willamette river, at Graham's ferry. About 40 acres open for cultivation, an old house and small orchard, and the very best soil for wheat. Price \$2,000. Address: J. D. CRAWFORD, Butteville.

200 Acres, near the Willamette river; 50 acres open for cultivation, good house and barn, and abundance of fruit. Price \$2,500. Address: W. M. MANNING, Sublimity.

80 Acres, near Sublimity. 40 acres in cultivation, with a fair house and barn, and choice young orchard. The land is good, well watered. Price \$1,150; terms easy. Address: G. W. HUNT, Sublimity.

Half block in Salem with fine orchard of grafted fruits. Price \$1,000; address P. O. Box 49, Portland, for further particulars.

147 Acres three miles from Hubbard's Station, good new house all fenced and on public road. Price 1,800. Address: J. W. OFFIELD, Canby Station.

940 Acres four miles south-east of Salem, 60 acres of it in cultivation, pasture and timber land, well watered, with good soil. Two houses and three barns with other improvements. Price \$0.90 per acre, one half cash, balance on time. Address: THOMAS CROSS, Salem.

400 Acres within one mile of Salem. Address: J. A. JOHNS, Salem.

Washington Territory.
60 Acres, four miles from Seattle, W. T. Price, \$1,200. Address: Box 49, Portland.

20 Acres, in Casanua Valley, W. T. Price, \$150. Address: Box 49, Portland.

11 Acres, one mile from Steilacoom, Price, \$200. Address: Box 49, Portland.

300 Acres, 4 1/2 miles north-east of Vancouver; 15 acres in cultivation, 150 fenced, with house and barn. Price, \$2,000. Address: J. H. ALLYN, Vancouver.