

THE CASCADES OF THE COLUMBIA.

Located about 165 miles from its mouth are the fierce and whirling rapids where the river falls forty feet.

For five miles the river is a seething whirlpool, and a railroad on the Washington Territory side affords the portage. The track runs so near the water's edge that one has a view of these rapids nearly the entire distance from the middle blockhouse to the drowned forests above the upper landing. The river bed is mostly composed of gigantic rocks, sometimes hidden by the water, sometimes their heads above the water to make sharp islands, between which the current rushes down, white with foam and with a roar like the sea. Around, between, over, almost burrowing the rocks in its force, in these five miles, the river takes every possible form of cascade. The writer's pen and artist's pencil fail to do it justice.

LA CONNER, W. T.

This place has much upon which to base its claims for a flourishing town, chief among which is the fact that it is surrounded by a large body of fine farming land, in fact of the most fruitful soil in the Territory. A feature, however, depreciating somewhat the prospect of a rapid development of the farming interests is the fact that a majority of the settlers in this vicinity are not practical farmers, many of them being men who, after roving over the world, during the best period of their lives, have finally settled down to farming for a living. The consequence is that they are several years in learning how to farm profitably, while enterprising and practical farmers from Illinois and Iowa would get rich along side of them.

The Skagit valley embraces a larger body of first class agricultural land than any other in the Puget Sound basin. It is fast being settled up and brought under cultivation, and the immense crops of grain which are being annually harvested, attest the fruitfulness of the soil. The large tide flats near the salt water, have been formed by the alluvial deposits from the river. These lands are very rich and extend from the highlands on the south side of the valley across to the Saamish, including the famous Swinomish flats.—*Puget Sound Argus.*

Baker county is now the fifth county in the State in population, and is very sparsely settled. It is one of the largest counties in the State. There are localities for beautiful farms and stock ranches without number unoccupied, subject to pre-emption or to be taken up as homesteads, or to be entered as State or United States lands. Immigrants would do well to take a look over the county before proceeding further west, where they may not do as well as they could by stopping in Baker county.

L. W. Davenport, Esq., was in town this week from Pine creek, he tells us that his oats this season yielded 110 bushels per acre of measured ground, and that his wheat averaged 45 bushels per acre. He further says that immigration is flowing into that section of country very rapidly, that much of it is from California, and many of the newcomers are men of means sufficient to make a good start in improving their lands.—*Lewiston Teller.*

PERIODS OF INCUBATION.—Canary, 14 days; duck, 28 days; goose, 35 days; hen, 21 days; parrot, 40 days; pheasant, 35 days; pigeon, 14 days; swan, 42 days; turkey, 28 days.

PROGRESS OF OREGON.

The advances made by our sister State of Oregon during the last few years, in the development of its products and resources, have been very remarkable, and its steady progress seems to be marked by an enlightened and systematic system on the part of its leading men, of making its condition and prospects known, in all quarters from which a desirable class of immigrants may be attracted. Oregon can not, in the ordinary sense of the term, be said to have been "written up," and so far as the diffusion of information and advice can operate towards that end, all that is possible has been done to discourage pauper immigration. At the same time neither expense nor trouble have been spared to disseminate both by written information, and when opportunity has offered, by tangible displays, the nature of its resources and the grand opening it presents, not only to the class of agricultural settlers, but to capitalists, whose spirit of enterprise can there find vast and profitable fields for its exercise. The establishment and support by the State of an efficient, well organized Immigration Bureau, has been of great advantage to Oregon, and now that its ramifications have acquired the reputation

of the most favorable character, and being the result of a season's personal inspection in all portions of Oregon, they will carry with them a weight which the most enthusiastic information from other sources could not command.

That these favorable opinions are fully justified a few comprehensive statements of facts will abundantly show. Oregon to-day comprises an extent of rich agricultural lands still uncultivated, greater than the whole area of the State of New York, while her population does not at present exceed 120,000 souls. Yet with this sparse population her exports exceed in value \$15,000,000 per annum. Without any sensible pressure of population on the soil, she could easily accommodate 3,000,000 inhabitants. Her wheat and wool, lumber, salmon and fruits, make up an aggregate of commercial resources which must be considered extraordinary for a State so sparsely settled. Besides these, other resources of almost unlimited capacity may be enumerated, such as water privileges, coal fields, iron mines, gold-quartz and placer mines, and a variety of manufacturing enterprises. It is easy to understand how these various interests will assume augmented proportions under the influence of increased population, sup-

than in California, owing mainly to the comparative cheapness of land, while the expenses of shipment to eastern and foreign ports, including freight, insurance and incidental charges, are not likely to decrease the margin in favor of the Oregon shipper, to the same extent as formerly, under the system which is now more and more being adopted. The conveyance of freight from Portland, in small coasting craft, free on board in San Francisco, is less, all charges included, than for direct shipments, owing to the higher rates demanded by the sea-going vessels for change of port, and the increased rate of insurance, consequent on the existence of the bar at the mouth of the Columbia river. It is not probable that railroad communication will cause any alteration of conditions, as regards shipment of the more bulky articles of farm produce, so that this innovation will, no doubt in time, become the established custom.

For cattle breeding, no part of the continent offers finer chances than Oregon, with its perpetually fresh and rich pastures of practically boundless extent. Grazing lands can now be secured at very moderate prices that will, in the future be of great value. Those who are aware of how profitable the cattle business has been in California, and how greatly all descriptions of lands suitable for pasturage have increased in price, will be able to form an idea of the future openings presented by Oregon in this direction. Some of our richest citizens have acquired their fortunes in this branch of agricultural business—and prospectively, it is hardly too much to say that they will be the most wealthy men in the State.

In her timber resources, Oregon has a vast amount of wealth stored up, which the future wants of the State will gradually develop. Prices of choice timber are advancing in all parts of the world, as with a constantly increasing consumption, nothing like adequate attention has hitherto been paid to the necessity of preparing a future supply by planting trees in something like proportion to the number of those annually felled.

Salmon fisheries have been for sometime an important source of prosperity to Oregon, and with due care as to the observance of the laws regulating the seasons for catching, there is no reason to anticipate any abatement in the returns from this perpetually prolific source of revenue.

With the abundant water power possessed by Oregon in the numerous streams which intersect such large portions of her territory, mechanical and industrial enterprises will spring up with increase of population, which will help to consolidate and augment her numerous sources of wealth and furnish both occupation and means of investment to those whom her varied openings will attract within her borders. In all its aspects, the future of Oregon is bright with promise and they will do well who aim at securing an interest in her territory before a great advance in prices takes place.—*The Resources of California.*

The *Olympia Standard* has entered its 18th year, and we can well imagine the just pride of John Miller Murphy, its publisher, when he looks back and in his mind's eye sees the first number of his little paper, issued nearly a fifth of a century ago, and compares it with his magnificent 8-page paper of to-day. Mr. Murphy is the founder of the *Standard*, is safely over the measles, whooping cough, and kindred diseases, which young concerns are subject to, and to-day owns the handsomest and completest newspaper office in Washington Territory, a just reward for industry and enterprise.



THE CASCADES OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER.

and influence of a practical system, its usefulness will increase year by year. In a new State, to which increase of desirable population is the most paramount of all considerations, the expenditure bestowed on such an institution is repaid ten-fold to each individual taxpayer, by various indirect advantages. Our views on this subject in relation to California, have been too frequently expressed in these columns to require repetition.

The enterprise and public spirit of Oregon on the occasion of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in like manner offered a marked contrast to the parsimony and neglect which characterized our own State, in its failure to take advantage of the brilliant opportunities then presented. She is already beginning to reap handsome remuneration from the care which her citizens then devoted to their display of wheat, wool, dried fruit, canned salmon and other products. Those exhibits have attached to the State large numbers, not only of immigrants, but of agents and representatives of societies and capitalists, who have been induced to acquire by personal observation a better knowledge of its capacity. From various intimations we learn that their reports will in every instance be

ported by an adequate investment of capital to turn them to proper account.

The drawback to Oregon hitherto, has been the want of railway connection with California and the East. This want supplied, as it will be before long, Oregon will at once take a prominent position among the great producing States of the Union, and its advantages will attract a large flow of immigration. The future of the State is well assured, and her enlightened efforts, as above stated, have given a great impetus to its development.

As stated in a recent number of this Journal, Oregon, without having the variety of soil and climate, which render the cultivation of such a diversity of products possible as in California, is one of the finest farming countries in the world. For wheat growing it may be considered unsurpassed, as it has always such an abundant supply of moisture, that a failure of crops is unknown. During the present season, which has been one of draught over such a large extent of the Pacific slope, not a word of complaint has been heard from Oregon. On the contrary, its crops promise to be more abundant, than during any previous year. The cost of production for cereals is considerably less