

INFORMATION WANTED.

Word has reached Council Bluffs, Iowa, that Dennis Hight was murdered in Washington Territory last February, and his relatives are very anxious to learn his fate. Dennis, or Capt. Hight, is described as a man of about 55 years of age, and formerly from northern Vermont. He has been on this coast for twenty years. Any information about him will be gratefully received by his brother, B. W. Hight, at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

IF L. W. SULLINS will send his address to this office, or to his folks in Missouri, he will hear something to his advantage.

WASHINGTON COUNTY IMPROVEMENTS.—Forest Grove is looking up. Real estate is rapidly changing hands there, at present, at advanced prices. A new road to Tillamook is being laid out by the O. & C. R. R., under the superintendency of Mr. A. Tyler. This road will open up a fine body of government and railroad lands, thirty-five miles in length by one to one and one-half miles in width. The lands are as fine as any in the Willamette valley, are covered with brush and timber, and offer an excellent opportunity for homes for incoming immigrants.

THE Assotin Flat, located in Columbia county, W. T., where only two years ago the first settlers located their claims, is rapidly filling up. It already has a good school-house, a store, a post-office, with a weekly mail, a blacksmith shop and a lumbering mill, in the midst of an abundance of timber convenient for the settlement. Two hundred settlers are already located there, but there is room for more.

The country in the vicinity of Pomeroy and Pataha City, in Columbia county, is one of the finest sections in Washington Territory. It is now fast filling up with an industrious and prosperous class of people, and before the lapse of many years it will enjoy all the advantages of enlightened civilization. Good school houses, mills, etc., are already in operation or in course of construction to supply the growing wants of the community. These are the best evidences of a permanent and prosperous country, and we are glad to note that the people of the locality named have faith in it, and are laying the foundations of the future society of the country on an enduring basis. The villages are also growing rapidly, and from the character of some of the buildings, we judge their proprietors have unbounded faith in their future.

OREGON—OPINION OF AN OUTSIDER.

The *Territorial Enterprise*, of Virginia City, Nevada, says:

"A great State is Oregon, greater than those who have never been there comprehend. Its rivers, its forests, its mountains and its valleys are colossal. It grows an immensity as one studies it, until at length even the careless visitor wakes up to realize that the State is an empire of itself; that if it were by some convulsion of nature wrenched from the continent and made an island in the sea, it would possess every attribute necessary to supply the needs of a mighty people. It is yet in many respects rude and uncouth; the road overland is a difficult and weary one; the bar at the mouth of the magnificent Columbia is a perpetual menace to inland denizens, and so, in some places, progress is slow; but this does not alter the character of the State, or dim for a moment its wonderful possibilities. It is a better place for the young and industrious than Nevada. It gives no promise of a swift fortune, but its promise is sure of an honest and beautiful home to anyone who with humbleness and with faith makes an honest struggle to win one. There is less oxygen in the blood in Oregon than in Nevada, but gray hairs do not come so quickly there as here. All the material prosperity of the State has for its backing an agricultural region which is the best on the coast, and so broad in extent that there is room for all who may go there for a long time to come. The San Joaquin and Lower Sacramento valleys to-day hardly give a sign of approaching spring. In the great Willamette valley, 600 miles north, the wheat fields are green. Twenty years hence the face of this State cannot be much changed, but in that time there will be a hundred thousand new homes, and a hundred thousand new gardens and orchards established in Oregon. It is a good field for the prospector; its mines have hardly as yet been scratched over. It is a splendid place for the farmer, for Oregon and the vast country to the north of it is yet to be the granary of the coast. We know of no places which promise better returns to the capitalist, for investment, than Portland and Albany, in Oregon. One is to be a great entry and shipping port, the other a great commercial center, and both are backed by a vast agricultural region—the surest guarantee which capital can have—while with its endless forests and measureless iron and coal fields, Oregon gives a sure promise of steady and limited progress. And the men and women of the greater portion of Oregon are a strong, bright race. They are more careful and more thrifty than our own people, for what they have has been obtained by toil and care and thrift."

Oregon's crop prospects are good.

SOUTHERN OREGON MINES.

The claim of V. S. Ralls, at Willow Springs, is paying five ounces per day for the work of four hands, ground sluicing.

News from Silver creek is still favorable. A piece worth nearly seven hundred dollars has been found in the claim of Black & Co.

Chinaman Lin's ground is evidently better than it was last year when it paid over a hundred dollars per day to the pipe.

News from Briggs' creek, in Josephine county, is flattering. Ferren & Co. have recently found some heavy gold in their claim, one nugget weighing \$37 and another \$26, being found in the gravel three feet from the bed rock.

Robb, Eckleson & Co., of the Star Gulch mine, made a partial clean up last week after eight days' run, washing up sixty-one ounces. It is known that there is still a considerable amount in their rock race which will not be cleaned up till the end of the season.—*Sentinel*.

Walla Walla is one of the most beautiful and desirable cities on the Pacific Coast. All its residences are neat and cozy, and the houses generally are surrounded by shrubbery, fruit and shade trees. The Lombardy poplar is very common, and some of them have attained to a great height. All its streets and lots are well watered—some think that they are too well watered, in some cases, for health or comfort—which is probably correct. But this can easily be remedied by the city authorities.—*Dayton News*.

FAST TIME.—Recently the steamer *John Gates*, Capt. James Troup, made the fastest time on record between Wallula and Lewiston. She went up in fourteen hours and thirty-five minutes, and discharged her cargo and returned to Wallula in ten hours and thirty minutes, making a total of 344 miles in twenty-five hours and five minutes, including four landings. This is an average of 14½ miles either way. The rate is over ten miles an hour up stream and about twenty down stream.

A parsnip was dug in a Baker City garden recently which measured 26½ inches in length and 15 inches in circumference.

A HALF interest in the Douglas county "big steer," previously mentioned in these columns, sold for \$300.

Over 1,400 immigrants arrived here during the week ending April 19th.