

THE WEST SHORE.

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YONCALLA VALLEY.

This beautiful valley is situated in the northern portion of Douglas county, is about eight miles long from north to south, and from three to five miles wide from east to west. It derives its name from the Yoncalla tribe of Indians who occupied it previous to its settlement by the whites. A few of the tribe still live in the vicinity, having settled down on land of their own, and are good farmers. They are well civilized, send their children to school, and are anxious to secure for them a good education. One of the tribe, well known amongst the settlers as old Halo, died about a year and a half ago. From his appearance, he must have been near a hundred years old, and he claimed that to be about his age. His wife, who was about the same age, died about a year before the old man. They were respected in the community, and every one treated them kindly. Their children still live near, have quite large families, vote regularly at elections, and are esteemed by the settlers.

The village of Yoncalla is on the O. & C. R. R., five and a half miles from Drain, fourteen miles by railroad from Oakland, and thirty-three miles from Roseburg.

No place in Oregon enjoys a more pleasant or more healthy climate, the thermometer ranging from thirty to fifty degrees, on an average, in the winter, and from seventy to eighty-five in the summer, rarely going above or below those figures. The soil is generally of the first-class, and in past years has produced immense crops of grain and grass, but owing to long continued, *one-idea* farming, the fertility of the soil is greatly exhausted, and nearly all the land requires rest, and will not produce as it formerly did until it gets it.

Yoncalla village contains two stores and a postoffice, and three grain warehouses. It is surrounded by a large and wealthy community, who are noted for their general intelligence and enterprise, and probably no farming community in Oregon, of the same number of persons, will equal them in wealth *per capita*.

The first whites, consisting, of Robert and Thomas Cowan and a Mr. Jeffries, settled in this valley in 1848.

Lindsay lives in the extreme southern part of Oregon. Messrs. Long, Richard Smith, Robert Smith, W. H. Wilson and A. T. Ambrose, came about the same time that the Applegates did. Nearly all the first settlers, who have not died, are still residents of the valley,

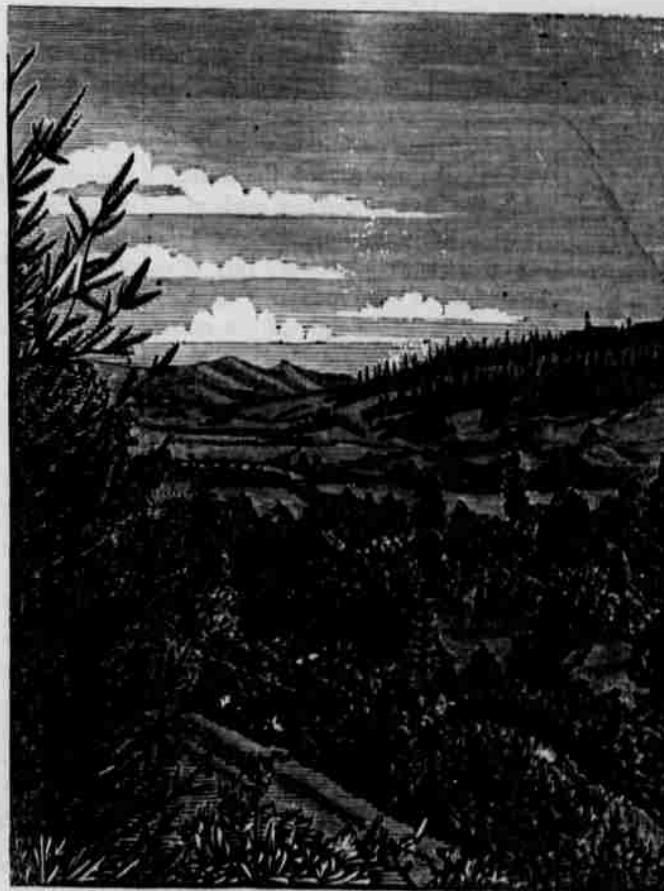
Yoncalla village seems to be at a standstill at present, but with so large and wealthy a farming country to sustain it, the town is sure to grow to a place of some importance. There is a

splendid opening here for a steam flouring mill. Saw mills are conveniently located near, and good lumber can be had at ten dollars per thousand.

A NEW OREGON FLOWER.

The *Polemonium* is one of a genus of plants of the order Polemoniaceæ, to which belongs the well known Phlox, and is the representative of the order. The species of which I write is by far the prettiest of the whole genus. So far as I know, it grows only in a few places along the South Umpqua river, Oregon. I have never found this species described in any work on botany that has come under my notice. It grows in clumps of about a dozen or two stalks about eighteen inches high, each stalk bearing a cluster of funnel-shaped flowers, which, when first blown, are of a light cream-color, with orange centre, changing gradually to a pink, or rose-color, so that there will be a half-dozen different shades on one stalk. The plant is perennial; grows on sandy soil in its wild state, dying down after blooming. When cultivated it remains green the year round, and the pretty pinnate leaves are highly ornamental.

But it is about the plant in cultivation that I wish to speak. I have grown it for a number of years, and find it of easy culture, growing anywhere it is



YONCALLA VALLEY—OREGON.

Robert Cowan was killed by the falling of a tree which he was cutting for rails. He left a large family, most of whom still reside in the valley. Thos. Cowan died recently, at an advanced age, unmarried. Mr. Jeffries now lives in Benton county. In 1849, Jesse Applegate and his brother Charles came to the valley from Polk county, and the next year, Lindsay, another brother, came. Hon. Jesse Applegate still lives here; Charles died last year, and