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MEN OF MARK.

Foremost amongst the men who have made the wilderness to blossom as the rose is the subject of our sketch, Dr. N. G. Blalock, of Walla Walla. He is a native of North Carolina and just in the prime of life, being 44 years of age. Completing his education in North Carolina and Tennessee he graduated at the age of 25 from the Jefferson Medical College, and at once commenced practice in Central Illinois. During the rebellion he served as surgeon for three years in an Illinois Regiment, after which, resuming practice, a close application to it caused his health to fail; to regain it he started west, arriving in Walla Walla in 1872. He was so charmed with the country and its prospects that the following year he removed here with his family. A fine practice soon enabled the Doctor to invest the surplus of his earnings in uncultivated lands. These he did not allow to lie idle, but brought them into cultivation as fast as purchased. He is now farming 3,200 acres, 30 of which is in the very choicest plum and prune orchard of his own planting, and now in full bearing. To prepare these for market a fine Plummer Fruit Dryer has been erected in the orchard.

MEN OF MARK—DR. N. G. BLALOCK, WALLA WALLA.—From a photo by Brodeck.



All his farming operations, although carried on an extensive scale, are so systematic that they annually yield him a handsome revenue. From one farm of 2,300 acres he has sold 103,000 bushels of wheat in two years. The Doctor is also president and chief owner of the Blalock Flume and Lumbering Company, who, in order to facilitate the bringing of timber from the Blue Mountains, have constructed a flume 28 miles in length, at an expense of \$50,000 and which is now in successful operation. This

Company are just finishing up a contract made with the O. R. & N. Co., to furnish 130,000 R. R. ties for their new lines. The Doctor is also president of the Blalock Wheat Growing Company just formed, with a capital stock of \$120,000. They will carry on farming operations very extensively, having already secured between the John Day and Columbia river 60,000 acres of fine agricultural land. This they are fencing as fast as possible, and 1881 will witness 12,500 acres of it in wheat.

This extensive business has of course compelled the doctor to relinquish his

lucrative and universally successful practice, much to the regret of his former patients. In the city of Walla Walla he has just completed for himself a very handsome residence at an expense of \$12,000. The Doctor's business tact and enterprise have been the means of giving employment to hundreds of men, and whilst he has received a generous share of the profits of their labor he is yet a blessing to the community in which he resides.

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