

OREGON'S MEDICAL TOPOGRAPHY.

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ENDEMIC AND EPIDEMICS.

The following reports from responsible physicians furnishes our readers a valuable compilation of the general health of this State:

VICINITY OF FORT KLAMATH, LAKE COUNTY.

Fort Klamath is situated in Lake county, in southwestern Oregon. Latitude, 42 deg. 39 min. 4 sec. north; longitude, 44 deg. 40 min. west; altitude, 4,200 feet above the sea. It is on the eastern margin of a valley in the Cascade mountains. The valley runs north and south; it is about twenty miles long and seven miles wide at the point where the post is located. Towards the south it widens somewhat, and extends to upper Klamath lake about seven miles distant. High hills and mountains surround the valley on the north, east and west. The site of the post and the ground immediately about it is somewhat above the general level of the valley and is tolerably well drained. Between the post and Wood river, however, the ground is low in places, and in the spring and summer is marshy. It is not until the latter part of July or the beginning of August, that the marshy places become dry. During those two months the mosquitoes are generally very troublesome at the post and the prevailing wind, blowing over these flats towards the post, brings with it the germs of miasmatic diseases, which affect the garrison more or less at that season of the year. The rocks about the post are mostly of volcanic origin. At least a layer, more or less thick, of lava-rock seems to overlie the older formations, pumice abounding in the forest and on the hill. A good arable alluvium covers the general surface of the valley, but in consequence of the frosty nights that are liable to occur at all seasons of the year, only a very few vegetables can be raised. The foothills and mountains are covered with evergreen foliage. Six streams, the waters of which are all, excepting that of one, of crystal clearness, flow through the valley within a short distance of the post. All these streams, as well as Klamath lake, abound in a very superior quality of salmon trout, ranging from a few ounces to fifteen pounds in weight. The waters of Linn creek, which heads in a spring a short distance from the

post, is supplied for drinking purposes. The water of this stream has a constant temperature of about 40 deg. Fah., and is of excellent quality.

BENTON COUNTY, CORVALLIS.

Reported by Drs. Franklin, Cauthorn, G. R. Farra and J. B. Lee. Corvallis is situated on a level, elevated tract of land in the angle of a stream uniting with the Willamette. The country east is timbered. Drainage in the winter is good, but in the summer stagnant pools become breeding places for malarial diseases. Numerous swampy tracts are near. The usual rainy and wet seasons of the Willamette prevail. Winter winds usually from the north or northwest. Summers not usually hot. Last summer entero-colitis and dysentery prevailed to some extent. The prevailing diseases are of malarial origin, pneumonia, typhoid fever, malarial fever, rheumatic fever, bronchitis and neuralgia are common. Phthisis and asthma are frequently met with. Exanthemata, with the exception of scarlatina, have their usual average appearance. Diphtheria of a very malignant form appeared in 1877, none since. The general health is good and the rate of mortality low.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY, NEW ERA.

By Dr. J. Casto. Country rough and hilly, timbered on the Willamette. No endemic or epidemics. One mineral spring not analyzed. No lakes or swamps. Water hard. Drainage good. Climate usually damp, but general health good. Mortality of children very slight.

OREGON CITY.

By Dr. J. A. White. Country timbered with fir. No lakes or swamps. One soda spring. Range of temperature not known. Prevailing diseases are thoracic. Diphtheria appears occasionally as our local epidemic. Average mortality of children, medium.

CLATSOP COUNTY, CLIFTON.

By the postmaster. Country mountainous and woody with much underbrush. On Columbia river strong sea breezes; climate mild with but little snow. General health good, no epidemics, children healthy.

COOS COUNTY, MARSHFIELD.

By Dr. C. W. Tower. Country well timbered. No mineral springs. Water soft. Drainage good. Climate damp from December to May. Moderate winds from north during the summer;

from the south during the winter. No prevailing diseases. Coos Bay is considered one of the healthiest places in the world. Typhoid cases extremely rare. Small-pox been imported twice during the past twelve years. No malarial diseases. Diphtheria has never appeared. Average temperature for 1879 was 52. 20. During the year there were 129 rainy days with a fall of about 70 inches of water.

CURRY COUNTY, ELLENSBURG.

By Dr. F. O. Vander Green. Country mountainous, extensive forests. Drainage good except north of Port Orford where there are lakes, lagoons and swampy lands. No lime. The water is soft. A few springs of a chalybeate nature. Climate usually wet, with cold northwest winds. Temperature very even—neither cold nor hot, summer nights are delightfully cool. The general health is excellent. Mortality among children very slight. Endemics and epidemics are unknown. Dr. Vander Green is the only physician in the county, which speaks well for the health of the locality.

DOUGLAS COUNTY, SULPHUR SPRINGS.

By Mr. John Cowan, the postmaster. Reports no physician within twenty-five miles. Country mountainous. Heavy fir timber, sulphur springs. No swamps. Water clear and soft. No diseases. A mixed people as to nationality. All hail and hearty, with no thought of death.

DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Roseburg is situated in a circle of hills on high ground. The drainage is excellent, but in winter the continued rains on the black muck soil renders the roads almost impassable. The water is generally soft. The health of the community is fair. Timber not plenty. No mineral springs, lakes or swamps. The climate is very even. The usual variety of diseases are met with, but the rate of mortality is quite low.

CANYONVILLE.

By Dr. C. H. Merrick. Very similar to Roseburg except in character of soil and roads. Here the roads are sandy or rather gravelly, and are never very muddy. The village is on the south Umpqua, and the drainage is excellent. Water soft. Teeth of children generally bad. An epidemic of rubeola and one of pertussis, attacking adults as well as children, two years ago, but with no