

remarkable facilities and advantages that extend to droves of cattle and horses and flocks of sheep. The hills and valleys that invite the labor of the husbandman and so faithfully promise rich rewards are rivalled in value by the grasses of the Eastern Oregon uplands that offer pasturage to a thousand flocks and herds. Why, with all these advantages at command, cannot Oregon be pronounced incomparable among the States, and be looked to as the future seat of wonderful wealth and un-failing prosperity? As the facts become known and the conditions that characterize this and other States draw their own parallel, why should we not expect steady immigration of enterprising and adventurous men to perfect our greatness and build up our institutions?

In addition to the natural products of the soil, so easily realized by efficient cultivation, we have wonderful resources that await development which cannot come in our day but promises rich rewards to the enterprise of the future. The sooner this development commences the better for Oregon. When the time shall come that in addition to the domain of agriculture and its unfailing rewards we add the full development of the various mines of precious metals, iron, copper, lead and coal, and the utilization of our forests, this region will resound to a commerce that shall attract the world and teem with industries that can rival the results achieved by the artisans and toilers of the Eastern hemisphere.

The vision of greatness belongs to the future, but its foundations are in the present and are for us to lay strong and well. The prosperity of the present producer will lead to the workshops, mills and factories, and greater enterprises of the future. We go before to establish society and cement it with law and sound principle; we build the school house to mould the coming age; we sow the seed that will ripen in the field that shall wait for harvesters. We win our children an unequalled country and a wonderful future. It is no mere vanity and affectation to say and believe that we have a country of unequalled advantages, for where is its rival? Through all the States of the Union there is not one where such unvarying prosperity has resided for the past decade, or that

promise so much for the decade to come.

If the agriculture of a country prospers its other industries cannot fall far behind. Where else in the United States have the farmers, for many years past, thriven as well as here? We know that many talk of "hard times," but the farmers of Oregon have had no such struggle for existence as have the farmers of the East. We would impress on the minds of all, the fact that the future belongs to us as well as the present. We should perfect our system of agriculture as carefully as we would our laws, and avoid faults in one as well as the errors in the other. We should, as nearly as possible, preserve intact the soil's capacity for production and take pride to retain for our acres their well deserved reputation as carefully as we would transmit to the dumb animals we raise, the best qualities that belong to their race.

OUR STATE.

Oregon is geographically divided into two separate and distinct parts, by the high range of the Cascade mountains running across the State from north to south, as much unlike each other in climate and general physical characteristics as can be. The climate of Eastern Oregon is dry, with long, dry summers, generally accompanied with quite warm, but not sultry weather. The winter season is short, usually of not more than four or six weeks duration, and quite cold, with but little snow, however, except on the mountains. These general peculiarities of climate are the same that exist throughout all that region of country extending from the Rocky mountains to the Cascades or Sierra Nevadas, and from Mexico to British America. They are modified in some places by the prevailing winds and mountain ranges, and depend in a measure for the variations of heat and cold throughout its entire extent to the degree of latitude, although this last is not an index in all cases of the severity or mildness of the climate west of the Rocky mountains. The northern part of this region, commonly known as the great plain of the Columbia, has a climate almost as mild, and far more salubrious and even in the distributions of heat and cold, than the middle or southern part. While the heat of summer in the valley of the

Humboldt is almost tropical in its severity, the frosts of winter are only a trifle less severe than those of the Columbia. The constant westerly winds coming from the warm waters of the Pacific mollifies to a wonderful extent that which would be without them, a climate equal in severity to Minnesota or Montana, and gives to Eastern Oregon and Washington Territory a temperature as warm in winter as that of Southern Virginia, and as cool in summer as that of Canada.

The mean annual temperature of Eastern Oregon varies considerably with different localities depending in a great measure on the altitude above the level of the sea. For instance, on the summit of the Blue Mountains snow falls to the depth of ten or twelve feet, and everything is locked up in winter five or six months of the year; while in the valleys and in the lower altitudes there is scarcely any snow, and winter lasts only a few weeks. In these last the highest range of the thermometer is about 90 deg., very rarely it goes to 100 deg.; the lowest is about 10 deg. The mean annual temperature of the Dalles is 52.79; at Walla Walla, 54.25. The highest monthly mean temperature during a series of years was 74 deg.; the lowest, 32 deg.; the highest daily mean, 86 deg.; the lowest, 22 deg.

Eastern Oregon is now of easy access by water and rail from all points on this coast. But a little while longer and the iron roads and locomotives will connect the Eastern World and the waters of the Columbia. Then as the travel and trade of half the world passes over the Great Plain of the Columbia, its grand scenery, and clear, bracing atmosphere are destined to attract the tourist and invalid from every land.

Even some of the "slang" phrases of the day have a legitimate origin. "Putting your foot in it," is certainly not a very elegant mode of expression, but, according to Asiatic Researches it is quite a fine point of law; when the title of land is disputed in Hindostan, two holes are dug in the ground and used to incase a limb of each lawyer (?), and the one who tires first loses his client's case. Fancy if you can, some of our famous "limbs of the law" pleading in such a manner! it is generally the client who "puts his foot in it."

The rain annually carries to the earth a quantity of nitrate and ammonia equivalent to three pounds per acre.