



WESTERN OREGON.

The First National Bank of Salem has commenced business. The business men are endeavoring to secure a woolen mill in the city.

Albany is showing commendable enterprise in its efforts to establish a woolen mill. A national bank was recently opened, and other business projects are under consideration.

At Oregon City they are feeling quite happy over the assurances of Mr. Villard that the splendid water power at that place will be utilized in the near future by extensive manufacturing enterprises. Clackamas county offers great inducements to settlers. In the foothills of the Cascade mountains, says the *Enterprise*:

There are yet thousands of acres of good government or railroad lands open for settlement, or purchase at reasonable figures. Hundreds of sections of such lands are in close proximity to schools, churches, post offices and stores, and are within one day's drive of either Oregon City or Portland. By living on such places the settler would have an almost unlimited stock range and his fencing might altogether be confined to the land he wished to cultivate. The soil in the foot hills is of the richest kind, well watered and no lack of timber, and no healthier climate exists in the United States.

COLUMBIA COUNTY has an area of 680 square miles and a population of 2,500. It has a water frontage of ten miles on Willamette slough and fifty on the Columbia. Its chief resources are coal, iron and timber, though there is much good agricultural land untilled. The bottom lands along the rivers are subject to overflow in June, and when the water recedes a luxurious growth of grass springs up, making splendid pasturage and hay. The dairy business is quite extensively carried on in these favored localities. Comparatively little farming is done along the river, the lumbering business absorbing the attention of the people. Every stream of any size has been cleared of obstructions, so that logs can be run down them in high water season. Logs are also hauled to the bottom lands and when they are floated by the freshets are made up into rafts and towed to the mills on the river, to Portland, and even to Astoria. On Scappoose creek is the Richland mill, whose product is hauled to Gosa's Landing for shipment. At St. Helens, the county seat, is the mill of Muckle Brothers. It is the largest in the county, has a capacity of 40,000 feet per day, and runs constantly. The proprietors, James and Charles Muckle, are enterprising business men and reside at St. Helens. They have recently filled a contract for 20,000,000 feet of ties and bridge timber for the railroad. They supply the local market and also make direct shipments to Hongkong, Australia, and California. The mills were built fifteen years ago and have been under the present management eight years. Connected with them are 4,000 acres of fine timber land. Muckle Bros. also have a large

store and carry a heavy stock of goods, two warehouses being used besides the salesroom. They also own the steamer *Latona*, which is used for the mill and business generally. Quarries are in the vicinity where paving stones are taken out. At Columbia City, two miles below St. Helens, is another saw mill. In the country tributary to this place are extensive bodies of excellent iron ore and large coal deposits, both of which will no doubt be utilized at no distant day. Enterprise, ten miles further down the Columbia, is the shipping point for a saw mill situated several miles back from the river. Many fine farms are located in the vicinity. At Rainier is a mill cutting 25,000 feet per day. There are also a small ship yard, a barrel factory and the cannery of A. W. Berry & Co., where salmon, smelt, salmon trout and caviar are prepared for market. In Beaver valley there are two mills, and much lumber, shingles, cordwood and charcoal are sent out and shipped at Cedar Landing. There is a large settlement in the valley and plenty of room for others. Near Bradbury, twelve miles below Rainier, there is some good land along the river. Logging is the principal business. In the Clatskanie valley and in the vicinity of Marshland and Woods' Landing is the best farming land in the county. A large mill will soon be put up in the valley. Across the mountains from Woods' Landing to Riverside, in Nehalem valley, it is fifteen miles. Near this point there is a saw mill. Up the valley twelve miles is the town of Pittsburg, having both a saw and grist mill. In the valley is much good land open to settlement, enough to give homes to 5,000 people. The water power is excellent, large coal deposits have been discovered and splendid timber covers both the valley and the surrounding mountains. The proposed railroad from Forest Grove to Astoria will pass through the valley and thus bring it into free communication with the remainder of the state. The resources of Columbia county are almost entirely undeveloped, and great inducements are offered to settlers who can utilize them. The railroad from Portland to Kalama runs along or near the Columbia and passes through Columbia City. This will also be a great factor in developing the county.

LANE COUNTY is one of the largest and most productive in the state of Oregon. All the upper part of this grand valley of the Willamette—a valley unsurpassed in the world for the salubrity of its climate, the fertility of its soil and the beauty of its scenery—lies in Lane county. The valley is composed mainly of level or slightly rolling, fertile prairie, bordered next to the mountains with low foot hills, covered with grass and scattering oak, pine, fir, maple, alder and other varieties of timber. Each river and creek flowing through the valley is fringed with a narrow strip of timber, consisting of fir, maple, balsam, ash, alder, cedar, etc. The mountain ranges on the south, west and east are heavily timbered with forests of fir, pine, cedar, hemlock, spruce and other varieties of giant growth. Besides the valley land, which never fails to produce abundant crops of wheat, oats, barley, rye, and other cereals, as well as vegetables and fruits of nearly every variety, there is a good deal of splendid farming land along the rivers and smaller water courses in the mountains, and in the foot hills are many thousands of acres of valuable land belonging to the government or the railroad. The scenery, viewed from almost any point in the valley, is grand and beautiful. On the east, is seen the blue range of Cascade mountains, with their snow-

covered summits looming up in the distance in summer and winter alike; on the south, the Calapooya mountains, their foot hills covered with oak and their summits with evergreen; and on the west the heavily timbered Coast mountains. The valley is green with verdure during the winter, while the mountains are covered with snow almost to their base. Lane county has an area of 2,500,000 acres, of which about one-fourth is level prairie and three-fourths timber and mountain land. About 1,500,000 acres are surveyed, and 1,000,000 acres, in the timber and mountains, are unsurveyed. Only 370,000 acres are now settled by a population of 12,000 or 13,000. Land can be purchased in the hills and in the little valleys in the mountains at \$1.25 to \$2.50 and \$5 per acre, and choice improved farming land in the valley at ten, twenty, thirty and, near town, at forty and fifty dollars per acre, according to location and the value of improvements.

The opportunities for farming, stock raising, lumbering and manufacturing are great. Ten times the present population would not settle the county as thickly as many parts of the country along the Atlantic coast and in the Mississippi valley. Splendid water power for manufacturing exists along nearly all the streams. The gross valuation of property in 1882 was \$5,234,984. In addition to the staple crops of wheat, oats, potatoes, vegetables, etc., of which the yield is large every year, Lane county produced and sold, in 1882 about \$100,000 worth of hops. It is now the leading hop-growing county in the state.

Eugene City, the county seat, is one of the most important towns on the line of the Oregon and California road and has a population of over 1,500. It contains the state university, court house, a large public school, five churches, two newspapers, a flouring mill, wool carding and spinning mill, two sash and door factories, iron foundry, furniture factory, tannery, and many substantial business houses and neat residences. The other principal towns are Junction, Springfield, Cottage Grove, Cresswell, Coburg and Florence.

SOUTHERN OREGON.

It has been the general opinion that Klamath county was unfit for grain growing, but this seems to have been erroneous. At Fort Klamath all the grain needed for the post is being raised this year. On Little Klamath lake is a field of 300 acres of three kinds of grain, growing splendidly, and near Linkville and on Klamath lake are several small fields, all doing well.

The Oregon Southern Improvement Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$4,000,000, "to purchase, improve, lease, mortgage and dispose of land, town and city lots, etc., to build, equip and maintain one or more lines of railroad and telegraph lines from the waters of Coos bay, via Roseburg, to the eastern boundary of the state, and to build and run steamships between Coos bay and all points between San Francisco and Sitka." This means the development of Coos county, and the transformation of Roseburg into a railroad center of considerable importance. When the Oregon and California road was extended and all the transfer business was lost, the town retrograded somewhat, though not as much as was predicted. The Oregon and California road has decided to make Roseburg