

TEXAS VS. OREGON.

A LETTER recently published in a Texas paper drew out a statistical reply in the *Eugene City Guard*, written by Mr. George Belshaw, one of the most prominent and successful agriculturists of the State, from which a few comparisons are selected: "The first place he says the land is poor and so are the people. Oregon is not a corn country; but I see in the statistical report for last year that our corn crop averaged 23.9 bushels per acre, while Texas averaged only 19.8 bushels. The average for Oregon wheat per acre was 16.7 bushels; Texas, 8.5; Oregon wheat production, 13,122,400 bushels; Texas, 4,301,000. Of oats Oregon's average was 24.6; Texas, 22.8. So you see that Oregon leads her in wheat 8 bushels per acre, and produces over three times as many bushels. Barley, Oregon, 27.4 per acre; Texas, 18.8. Potatoes, Oregon, 110.6 bushels per acre; Texas, 60.9. Hay, Oregon, per acre, 1.39 tons; Texas, 1.15 tons. Now about the great Willamette Valley not making more than five good farms in Texas. I am at a loss to know what he calls good farms, but suppose he means size in place of good soil and well cultivated ones, so I will take size as his meaning. The trouble is, nearly all the farms are too large, my own being 1,280 acres, and my neighbors' on three sides averaging as large, and there are thousands of such farms in the great Willamette Valley, and larger. It would be much better for the country if they were made smaller. Cash value of farm products per acre in 1882: Oregon, corn, \$19.12; Texas, \$11.19; wheat, Oregon, \$14.19; Texas, \$8.92; rye, Oregon, \$14.85; Texas, \$11.68, and so on. Value of farm animals: Oregon horses, average price per head over three years old, \$80; Texas, \$42; Oregon mules, \$91; Texas, \$66; Oregon milk cows, \$31; Texas, \$22; the average difference in price being the same with sheep, hogs and other stock. Now about this bacon being shipped from the East. I am aware that some have tried the experiment and have shipped small amounts, but they have generally suffered a loss by so doing. Now about our exports, as the writer intimates that we ship nothing abroad. In 1882 the Columbia River exports amounted to \$15,560,930, including a large amount of bacon. I could name all the articles separately, but they are too numerous. I will now show the difference in value of all farm products sold, exported, consumed or on hand by each agriculturist, value per capita, made annually: Oregon, \$485.52, while Texas is only \$181.47, cash value. Average value per acre of farms, Oregon, \$13.50; Texas, \$4.70. How the health of Oregon compares with that of Texas: From an official report of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army the deaths at the military posts in Oregon are 1 to a population of 529; frontier of Texas, 1 to 67. What the State debt of Texas is I am not informed, therefore I will not mention any estimate; at any rate, the State debt of Oregon is small. At the Centennial Oregon received more premiums from her agricultural productions than any other State, and at the two world fairs, held at Philadelphia and Paris, received a gold medal and diploma for the best wheat of all nations.

This wheat was all from the great Willamette Valley of which the gentleman speaks so disrespectfully. Difference in weight of 100 grains of wheat weighed at Washington at the Department of Agriculture: Oregon's heaviest 100 grains, 5.745 grammes; lightest, 4.253; Texas' heaviest, 4.740; lightest, 2.409. The Willamette Valley soil and climate is adapted to raising all varieties of white wheat, while Texas only grows three, having to be satisfied with the red-bearded low grade varieties."

ERRATA.—In the list of officers of Oregon Pacific Railroad Company, on page 232, read T. Edgerton Hogg for T. Edgerton Hogg, and Norman S. Bentley for Norman S. Beatty.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS.

July.

- 1—Egyptian rebels defeated, with loss of 2,000, by the Mudir of Dongala.... W. C. Squires, of Seattle, appointed Governor of Washington Territory.... Allan Pinkerton, the great detective, died in Chicago.
- 2—Fitz John Porter relief bill voted by the President.
- 3—Revere rubber factory, Chelsea, Mass., burned; loss, \$100,000.
- 4—Bartholdi's statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World" presented to the United States, through Minister Morton, at Paris.
- 6—Accident on Atlantic and Pacific road, near Needles, Cal.; conductor killed and 6 wounded.
- 7—Forty-eighth Congress adjourned.... Steamer *Sarnia* ashore on Rattle Island, Ireland; passengers and crew saved.
- 10—Two fires in Portland, Or.; loss, \$22,000.
- 11—Grover Cleveland and Thomas A. Hendricks nominated for President and Vice-President by the Democratic National Convention at Chicago.
- 15—\$15,000 fire in Billings, Montana.
- 16—Railroad accident near Peniston, England; 25 killed and 40 wounded.
- 17—Rescue of Lieutenant A. W. Greely and four companions in Smith Sound by Commander W. S. Schley, of the ship *Thetis*.
- 21—Belknap, Montana, nearly destroyed by fire.
- 22—Death of Jane Gray Swisholm.
- 23—Collision in Atlantic between Spanish steamer *Gilian* and English steamer *Luxham*; both sank; 150 people missing.
- 24—Death of Rear-Admiral George F. Emmons, at Princeton, N. J.... John P. St. John nominated for the Presidency by Prohibition Convention at Pittsburg.
- 25—Thirty-two frame buildings burned at Tacoma, W. T.; loss, \$40,000.
- 27—Four buildings burned at Devil's Lake, Dakota; loss, \$200,000.
- 28—Train fell through a bridge at Bloomfield, Ind.; 1 killed and several injured.
- 29—Propeller *J. M. Osborne* sank in Lake Superior; 8 persons drowned.

Scenery of the Pacific Northwest.

The desire to possess artistic pictures of the scenery of the Pacific Northwest is a feeling shared in common by the residents of this region and the thousands of tourists who annually travel great distances to behold it. To make a satisfactory collection of photographs is almost impossible, and is only accomplished at an expense far greater than the majority of people are willing or able to undergo. To meet this urgent want a "Souvenir Album of the Pacific Northwest" has been issued, containing 35 art photographs of the most prominent and representative scenes of Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho and Montana. Among them are excellent pictures of Pyramid Park, Lake Ower d'Alene, Mount Hood, Multnomah Falls, Yellowstone Park, etc. The album is neatly bound in cloth, embossed with gold, and makes a neat ornament for the center table. The price, 75 cents, only represents the cost of three ordinary photographs, and brings this collection of 35 beautiful scenes within the means of all. Sent postage paid upon the receipt of 75 cents. L. Samuel, Publisher, Portland, Oregon.—*East Oregonian*.

There is a general desire among people acquainted with the enterprises in progress about Yaquina Bay to invest in property at that favorite resort and future great commercial port. Those desiring to learn more of that region are referred to this description and illustrations on another page of this number. Some of the best property about the bay now in private hands is owned by Mr. J. W. Brassfield, an old and respected business man of the Willamette Valley. He has for sale forty acres not more than 1,800 feet above the O. P. R. Co.'s terminal wharf; thirty-five acres near the custom house, about 800 feet from the water line; sixty-three acres within three-fourths of a mile of the custom house, and adjoining the town of Alexandria on the east; also some valuable lots in Buford's addition to Alexandria. Mr. Brassfield is owner of the famous Seal Rocks, lying at the end of the drive on South Beach, which is destined to become the favorite resort for pleasure-seekers in the Northwest. Any of this property can be purchased at reasonable rates. His terms and any further information desired can be had by addressing him at Newport, Benton County, Or.

Real estate transactions in Tacoma do not seem to be seriously affected by the hard times prevailing throughout this region in common with the whole Union. On the contrary, there seems to be a disposition to take money from hazardous enterprises and invest it in real estate, where it cannot take to itself wings, but must rest quietly and safely until it has largely increased in amount. Tacoma offers such investments to those who desire to thus place money, either in large or small sums. Beginners of all kinds, suitable to the means of all, can be secured by dealing with Messrs. Traver & Colburn, leading real estate agents of that city. These gentlemen are thoroughly acquainted with the character and value of property of all descriptions, and their advice in the matter of investments is extremely valuable and reliable. Letters of inquiry will meet with full and prompt response, and their office is always open to those seeking information. They make a specialty of attending to the business of non-residents, who can rely upon a careful and judicious investment of all moneys placed in their hands.