

along the Siuslaw it is almost wholly unoccupied. Many short streams pour into the ocean from the mountain sides, but there is no harbor for vessels, and the coast is rocky and perilous. The Siuslaw country is worthy of special mention. The river flows into the ocean, and for many miles forms the boundary line between Lane and Douglas counties. It is navigable for twenty-five miles, at only one point being less than twenty feet deep, and at that place having a depth of fourteen feet at low tide. The country along the Siuslaw is mountainous and densely covered with forest and undergrowth. Immediately along the river and its tributaries there are numerous small valleys or bottoms of the most fertile soil, suitable for the production of fruit, vegetables and grain. The hills are of sufficient fertility to subserve grazing purposes, and many good locations for dairies are to be found. The great drawback is the want of good roads and other means of communication with the Willamette Valley and the ocean. The lumber interests alone are of sufficient importance to warrant the opening of this region, which possesses the easiest natural route from the valley to the Pacific. Florence is the name of a small town near the mouth of the stream, where salmon are packed, and from which various products of that region are shipped.

#### DOUGLAS COUNTY.

In the main the coast region of Douglas is similar to that of Lane—mountainous and densely timbered, with a coast rocky and dangerous. A number of quite extensive lakes lie between the summit of the mountains and the ocean shore. The Umpqua River discharges into the ocean near the boundary line between Douglas and Coos. Thirty miles above its mouth, and at the head of navigation, lies the town of Scottsburg, once the most important commercial point in Southern Oregon. It now has a flouring mill, store, hotel and a population of seventy-five. The river flows through the mountains between steep and rugged hills of terraced sandstone, from 500 to 1,000 feet high. Five miles below Scottsburg the stream widens and the bases of the hills recede from the water, leaving strips of fertile land. All of the arable land on the Lower Umpqua is contained in three little meadows, aggregating about 2,000 acres. Smith River enters the Umpqua about eight miles above its mouth, having cut through the Coast Range from its source in the Calapooias. Several thousand acres of rich bottom land lie in long, narrow strips along its banks, also occasional marshes and mud flats. The upper portion of the stream runs through a more open country, where stock can find an extensive range on the hills. The timber is dense on the lower portion, and much logging is done for the mills at Gardiner, fir, cedar and maple being the leading varieties. A steamer ascends the river a distance of twenty-five miles.

Umpqua Bay, as the estuary at the mouth of the Umpqua is called, is eight miles long and somewhat less than a mile in width. On portions of both sides marshes, intersected by tidal sloughs, extend to the hills. These lands will be extremely valuable when reclaimed by dyking. The bay has a sheltered anchorage of 1,500 acres,

being perfectly land-locked. The entrance is abrupt, with a sand bar, having thirteen feet of water above it at the lowest point during low tide. Sailing vessels with a competent pilot can enter the bay in favorable weather. Gardiner, the seaport town of the Umpqua region, lies on the north bank of the river, or bay, nine miles above the entrance. Lumbering is quite extensively carried on in that region, and much lumber is shipped to San Francisco from the mills at Gardiner. Deep water vessels can reach the wharf, and all supplies for, or shipments from, the country lying further up the stream are handled at Gardiner. There is also a salmon cannery located at that point, which packs some 50,000 cases annually.

#### COOS COUNTY.

The county of Coos lies on the coast, being hemmed in between Douglas and Curry counties and the Pacific Ocean. It is chiefly mountainous, with but little level land, except along the Coos and Coquille rivers and their tributaries, and in little valleys here and there among the hills. There is yet open to settlement much Government land that will make excellent farms, while free grazing on the unclaimed hills is a privilege of no small value. The population is about 6,000, engaged chiefly in lumbering, coal mining and farming, the first two industries furnishing a market for the products of the last. The coal and lumber interests are among the most extensive on the coast, being in the hands of San Francisco capitalists, to which city the product is shipped. Coos Bay harbor furnishes good facilities for shipment of the county's products and the receipt of supplies, and it is for this reason, and because of there being no free communication inland, that Coos County is tributary to California instead of Oregon. This evil is about to be partially remedied, as a company has been organized to build a railroad from the bay to Roseburg, which will pass through many miles of valuable coal and timber lands. This will give Coos County access to the interior and Southern Oregon an outlet to the coast. Salmon canning is becoming one of the county's industries and will probably increase in importance. The lumber, coal and farm products are not the only resources of the county by any means. Gold mines have in the past been worked with profit, and in some localities are profitable to-day. The hills and mountains contain valuable iron ore. Lead of an excellent quality has been discovered on the Coquille River. The ore is very rich and easy of access, being on the line of the proposed railroad. The iron and lead are entirely undeveloped, farther than to know positively that they exist in abundance. A competent judge says: "I have been nearly thirty-one years in Oregon and Washington Territory, and have done considerable lumbering for the Columbia River mills and those on Shoalwater Bay, in Washington Territory, and have a very fair acquaintance with the timber regions of the Columbia, from the mouth of the Washougal to the sea, and have seen a good deal of the timber land of Puget Sound and Shoalwater Bay, and in all places have never seen the Coos County forests excelled for density or quality of