

son to Josephine, and there is much good arable land along Applegate, Slate and other tributaries of the main stream. The greater portion of arable land lies along the Illinois River and its tributaries, such as Deer, Sucker, Althouse and other creeks. The tillable land is very rich, and produces excellent crops of grain, corn, fruit and potatoes. In nearly all other respects Josephine resembles Jackson, and is probably capable of duplicating the products of its neighbor so far as quality is concerned. Farms are offered for sale in Illinois Valley at about half the price asked in Rogue River Valley, and Government land is to be had there by those seeking locations. The greater portion of the county—the mountainous regions—is unsurveyed. Kirbyville, the county seat, lies on Illinois River. The O. & C. road traverses the northeast corner of the county. The chief town on the line is Grant's Pass, recently annexed from Jackson. Other points in the county are Waldo, Althouse, Murphy, Slate Creek, Lucky Queen and Wolf Creek. Josephine has always been a mining county, and nearly every stream has yielded its store of gold. Placer mining—in some places by hydraulic process—is still carried on extensively, and is the leading industry of that region. Good but undeveloped quartz ledges exist.

Eastern Oregon.

The region embraced under the general title of Eastern Oregon includes that portion of the State lying east of the Cascade Mountains, embracing about two-thirds its entire area. It is by no means as populous as the older settled portion west of the mountains, and is divided into counties of gigantic proportions, some of them larger than certain States on the Atlantic Slope. In many respects that region differs radically from the regions described above, as fully appears in the accompanying remarks on climate, agriculture, stock raising, etc. Wheat, wool, cattle and gold are the leading products, stock raising, except in the northern portion, being the one great leading industry. The settlements are newer, and greater progress has been made the last five years, than in any other portion. In that region are to be found the only open, untimbered prairie and valley land now subject to location under the land laws, and it will be a matter of a few years only when even this will be all seized upon by the numerous immigrants annually seeking locations. The special features of each section are noted in the following detailed description by counties.

WASCO COUNTY.

The county of Wasco lies on the eastern slope of the Cascade Mountains, the Columbia River forming its northern boundary. The surface of the western half of the county is very broken and mountainous, though small valleys and plateaus abound; the eastern half consists chiefly of a broad sweep of table land and prairie. In the county are the celebrated Mount Hood, whose snowy crest receives so much admiration from travelers, and the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Des Chutes and Hood rivers, with numerous smaller streams flowing into

them or the Columbia, furnish plenty of running water. The mountains are covered to their tops with a dense growth of timber—a source of wealth as yet scarcely touched. Until recently Wasco has been looked upon as an excellent stock region and nothing more; but it has gradually become known that it contains more than 1,000,000 acres of as fine grain land as can be found in the West. Thousands of acres have been taken, and there yet remain thousands lying vacant and at the disposal of any one who may desire them. The climate is neither excessively cold in winter nor too changeable in summer. The winter is short and cattle range out the entire season. About 13,000 cattle and 175,000 sheep are grazed on the bunch grass hills. In summer there is little rain, but the moist winds from the ocean supply all that vegetation requires. By reason of these winds a failure of crops is rendered impossible, experience showing that such has never been the case during the thirty years the county has been settled. Apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, apricots and berries, equal in beauty and flavor to any on the Coast, are raised in certain localities, and vegetables are very superior, melons, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, peas, etc., being ready for market two weeks earlier than in the Willamette Valley. The largest body of agricultural land is between the Des Chutes and John Day rivers, and is an extensive bunch grass region known as "John Day Prairie." Until three years ago it was used as a stock range by cattle men, who did not think it necessary or profitable to secure title to it, and for years thousands of cattle fattened on the nutritious bunch grass that grew luxuriantly to the height of twenty inches when not eaten off. In 1880 a few settlers attempted to cultivate fields, and were surprised to find the soil highly productive. The result was that many settlements have been made during the past four years. Wheat, barley, oats, corn, potatoes and vegetables produce abundantly. Unimproved land in special localities has sold as high as \$8 per acre, and school houses, churches and stores are springing up where towns will, beyond doubt, soon appear. The area of the prairie is equal to that of the State of New Jersey, and there is abundant room for thousands. Immigrants have thronged past this fertile prairie and traveled many miles to settle upon land far less desirable, and in a region whose climate is less agreeable and whose surroundings are far from being as attractive.

Dalles City, the county seat, is a thriving business place, with several manufacturing industries and a population of nearly 3,000. It is situated on the Columbia, just below the rapids known as The Dalles, and was for years the point where all freight going up or down the river was handled in making a portage around that great barrier to navigation. The main line of the O. R. & N. Company running up the river passes through the city. The company has extensive round houses and machine and car shops here. The city is a trading point for Wasco, and for Skamania and Klickitat counties across the Columbia. Hood River is a small town and railroad station in Hood River Valley, a noted agricultural and fruit section. Other towns on the railroad are Cascade