

law abiding and industrious. As a rule they have lived here long enough—some of them forty years—to have acquired all that pride and love of home which is the bulwark of society and fountain of patriotism the world over. But few traces of the "Rowdy West" will be found in Oregon.

The leading industry of the State is agriculture, and this is, no doubt, the attraction of four-fifths of the immigrants who come among us. The one universal crop is wheat, and there are but few sections where it does not thrive wonderfully. The broad fields of the Willamette Valley with its copious winter rains, the rich valleys of Southern Oregon, and the drier rolling plateaus and prairies east of the mountains all seem the natural home of the winter wheat. No one can look upon the growing fields, or examine the large, plump berries of the matured wheat, without expressing surprise and astonishment, which is deepened by the knowledge that the fields give an average yield of from twenty-five to forty bushels to the acre, often largely exceeding the latter amount. There is a tendency, more especially west of the Cascades, to raise a greater diversity of crops and cease to make wheat the sole reliance, and in this direction lies the future progress of agriculture. This movement is the double result of the recent low price of the staple crop and the strong infusion of Eastern farmers, who have been accustomed to that more economical and practical method of farming. Oats, barley, cultivated grass and clover, vegetables and general farm products yield prolifically. Hops are a profitable crop on the alluvial bottom lands, the cones being large and free from disease, and the yield per acre prolific. East of the mountains wheat is, and will continue to be, the one great crop. Other cereals thrive, especially corn, which is not a successful crop elsewhere in the State, except in Southern Oregon. Vegetables there also grow to great size, and are of fine quality and prolific yield. Oregon potatoes, from all sections of the State, can contest the palm with the whole world. They grow to enormous size, and are dry, sound and of fine flavor. Many tons of them are exported annually.

Every section west of the mountains, and many places east of them, offer special advantages to the dairyman, the greatest of which are to be found along the coast, as is more particularly shown in the various detailed descriptions given elsewhere. The growth of natural grasses is prolific, and in Western Oregon, owing to the moisture and mildness of the climate, continues green and fresh nearly the entire year. It naturally follows that but little hay is required for cattle, and the expense of caring for them and protecting them from severe storms is unnecessary. The market for dairy products is good and can be widely extended. Thousands of pounds of butter and cheese are annually imported from California. The dairy farmer will find here an inviting field.

Stock raising is one of the prime industries of the State. There are more than 400,000 cattle grazing within her limits, more than one-half of which roam the valleys and bunch grass hills east of the Cascades in great bands. The cattle business there is carried on in the same general style as throughout the entire cattle belt of the West. West of the mountains cattle are generally raised in connection with other farming pursuits. Sheep are to be found in all sections of the State, Southern Oregon bearing off the palm in quantity of wool, though the distinction is becoming less marked yearly. Along the Columbia east of the Cascades, and in the foothills of the Blue Mountains, wool growing is an important industry. In the State are 1,500,000 sheep, which are yearly increasing in numbers and value.

Fruit growing is destined to become an industry of great importance. The superior quality of Oregon fruit

has long been known to our people, but the lack of adequate transportation facilities has prevented this knowledge from spreading abroad. There being no outside market, many good orchards were neglected and permitted to go to decay. During the last two years, under the changed conditions resulting from the construction of railroads, the reputation of this fruit has spread, and created for it a demand which the present orchards are unable to supply. Thousands of apple, pear, plum, prune, cherry, peach and apricot trees are being set out. Southern Oregon is the best adapted to fruit culture, and that is the region which produces such fruits as the peach and apricot. Its sunny hill slopes are the natural home of the grape, and grapes thrive in all portions of the State west of the mountains. East of the Cascades there are many places where the topography of the country creates conditions favorable to fruit and grapes, even to peaches and other semi-tropical varieties. In apples, plums and cherries, Oregon fruit surpasses the best produced in California. Fruit canning is beginning to obtain a hold here, and Oregon canned and dried fruits will not have to wait long for a reputation.

The mineral wealth of the State is great, though its extent cannot even be surmised. The precious metals are mined in Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Grant, Baker and Union counties, in some of which mining was in past years the one great industry, and yet remains an important one. Gold is found in other localities, but not in such quantities. Mining has always been chiefly in placers or in gravel beds, the hydraulic process being used in many localities. Comparatively little quartz mining has been done. The lack of sufficient capital and the great expense of transporting machinery have operated to check the progress of quartz mining. Transportation to those regions has been greatly improved the last two years, and it is confidently believed that capital will soon take hold of these undeveloped ledges. Coal is found in great fields throughout the Coast Range, and discoveries of it have been made in the Blue Mountains. It has been mined to considerable extent in the vicinity of Coos Bay, but our coal measures may be said to be practically undeveloped and their extent unknown, save that they are known to underlie many thousand acres of forest lands. Iron is found in large quantities in several localities. Copper has been found in large quantities east of the Blue Mountains.

Various manufactures exist in the State. Three good woolen mills are in operation. There is abundant room here for manufactures of various kinds. Water power incalculable is now running to waste, much of it along the line of railroads already constructed.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS.

March.

- 2—Rear-Admiral George H. Peble died in Brookline, Mass.
- 3—Forty-one men killed by explosion in Usworth Colliery, England.
- 4—General U. S. Grant made General of the Army and placed on retired list.
- 8—General Dejos-Buchett died in Washington, D. C. News of French victories in Tonquin.
- 11—Republic of Central America proclaimed by General Barrios, President of Guatemala, to be established by force of arms.
- 12—\$25,000 fire in Ellensburg, W. T.
- 15—Train fell through bridge at Arlington, Tex.; 1 killed and several wounded.
- 16—Revolution inaugurated in Colombia and Panama attacked.
- 18—Two hundred men killed by explosion in colliery at Camphansen, Prussia.
- 19—Oriental Hotel at Seattle burned; 3 lives lost.
- 20—Arabs defeated near Huskon by English under General Graham.
- 21—Capital of New Jersey burned. Langham Hotel, Chicago, burned; 5 lives lost.
- 22—British under General McNeil defeated by Arabs near Huskon, with loss of 500 men killed and wounded and 1,000 camels.
- 23—\$25,000 fire in Astoria.
- 24—French defeated by Chinese at Dong Dang.
- 26—English reserves and militia called out because of threatened war with Russia.

Captain W. F. Gray, favorably known in Portland, is now in charge of the Northern Pacific transfer steamer *Bellings*, at the crossing of the Cascade Branch over the Columbia. As a side issue he is associated with C. E. Lum in the hotel business at Pasco Junction and Kennewick. Organitions will be sure to call at Capt. Gray's hotel when traveling to or from the Yakima country.