

also has very fine soil, especially the portion south of the Red hills and west of Jefferson. While the greater part of this county is level, its hills are equally fertile and even more beautiful. On the east of French prairie the foot hill country is becoming well settled and valuable. The "Horse Heaven" section is near the line of Clackamas and Marion. The Waldo hills begin about six miles from the Willamette and rise gradually for ten miles toward Sublimity, which was named from its outlook. Beyond there they join the foot hills. You can follow the hills and valleys far into and among the Cascades, finding settlements hid away in cosy recesses, or planted on mountain plateaus, where stock interests prevail. Mehama is a village on the North Santiam that has quite an extensive country beyond it. This is a famous summer resort, and many while away July or August lounging or fishing in the vicinity, camping in the woods, or stopping with Mrs. Mehama Smith, for whom the place is well named. "No one ever knew her but to love her" excellent meals. There are settlements miles and miles beyond there. Silver creek, which puts into the Olequa below Silverton, is another favorite place for summer camping parties. The falls of this creek form a very grand and beautiful natural object, one of the most attractive to be found anywhere. There are many beautiful places among the foot hills and mountain valleys, and mineral springs, with health-giving properties, exist all along the Cascade range.

Salem has, besides the old established Willamette University, public schools of high excellence. The Catholics have there one of their best schools, where a great number of the young are educated. Four miles north of Salem the Indian school, originally established at Forest Grove, is now in operation. It has several hundred pupils, comprising young of both sexes, from Alaska to the southern tribes, including some from nearly every tribe north of California. Chemawa, as the place is called, little over a year ago was a wilderness. One of the aboriginal forests stood there, and great work had to be done to hew down the lofty firs and prepare the place for civilized uses. The boys of the Indian school have done this work, and now beautiful grounds are there, on which stand elegant buildings. The old time forest is cleared away, but the new growth remains in places, giving relief to the landscape by shapely groves. This school is doing an excellent work, as the Indian lads and lasses are becoming genuinely civilized. The boys have military training, and show that their tastes and capacity are not inferior to the whites. A brass band is organized among them, and the young fellows who compose it play well for their time of training.

Marion county has the three characteristics of Oregon. It represents the state admirably, and while no better, more beautiful, fertile or excellent than other parts, it possesses historical interest peculiar to itself. Oregon is full of beauty and romance, as well as of practical value as a most productive region. Every county in the state will furnish matter of especial interest to the

public. There is no land that is more attractive or desirable as homes.

S. A. CLARKE.

"TOO MANY IRONS IN THE FIRE."

This is an old proverb, another version of which is: "He that hath too many irons in the fire, some of them will burn." This morsel of metaphorical wisdom, evidently the work of a blacksmith, is, of course, intended as a warning against undertaking too much, and, at first sight, sounds like a prudential maxim, well adapted to secure efficiency and singleness of aim on the part of all workers. But, more closely considered, the precept shows for itself what it really is—a piece of narrow-minded, petty prudence, adapted only to the guidance of incapables and fools. The fact is, nobody who is good for anything needs any such cowardly caution about having too many irons in the fire. Shovel, poker, tongs and all, these masterly workmen keep always hot and always busy. The rapidity of their daily accomplishment is only equaled by its variety. Both their combinations and their execution are such as perplex and startle little minds, and lead them to repeat in full chatter such petty maxims as the one now under consideration. It is by such men that human progress is advanced, inventions and discoveries are made, fortunes are won, and all valuable improvements and reforms are achieved.

HOW TO COOL A CELLAR.

A great mistake is sometimes made in ventilating cellars and milk houses. The object of ventilation is to keep the cellar cool and dry, but this object often fails of being accomplished by a common mistake, and instead the cellar is made both warm and damp. A cool place should never be ventilated, unless the air admitted is cooler than the air within, or is at least as cool as that, or a very little warmer. The warmer the air the more moisture it holds in suspension. Necessarily, the cooler the air the more this moisture is condensed and precipitated. When a cool cellar is aired on a warm day, the entering air being in motion appears cool, but as it fills the cellar the cooler air with which it becomes mixed chills it, the moisture is condensed, and dew is deposited on the cold walls, and may often be seen running down them in streams. Then the cellar is damp, and soon becomes mouldy. To avoid this, the windows should only be opened at night, and late—the last thing before retiring. There is no need to fear that the night air is unhealthy—it is as pure as the air of midday, and is really drier. The cool air enters the apartment during the night, and circulates through it. The windows should be closed before sunrise in the morning, and kept closed and shaded during the day. If the air of the cellar is damp, it may be thoroughly dried by placing in it a peck of fresh lime in an open box. A peck of lime will absorb about seven pounds, or more than three quarts, of water, and in this way a cellar or milk room may be dried, even in the hottest weather.