

at Independence, and terminating at Corvallis, in Benton county. Between this line and the foothills of the Coast range, runs the narrow gauge line of the Oregonian railway, passing through Dallas, and terminating at Airfie, on the southern verge of the county. This road will probably be extended to a connection with the Oregon Pacific, thus offering the country along the route the same competitive advantages enjoyed by points on the river. It is within the bounds of truth to say that scarcely a farm in the county is more than five miles distant, by good wagon road, from a railroad or the river.

The largest town in the county is Dallas, the county seat, situated on the line of the narrow gauge, near the foothills, and not far from the geographical center of the county. It lies in the midst of a multitude of farms, stretching out across the prairies to the north, east and south, and over and among the hills to the west. From this point, about sixty thousand bushels of wheat are shipped by rail to Portland annually. This does not, by any means, represent the total crop of the country immediately surrounding the town, since more than twice that quantity is purchased by the large flouring mill at Dixie, only four and one-half miles distant. Through the edge of the city runs the La Creole (commonly called the Rickreall), a tributary of the Willamette, whose water power is utilized by a large sash and door factory, combined with an extensive foundry and machine shop. Three miles west of Dallas, at Ellendale, is a valuable water power, formerly used by a woolen mill, which has not been utilized since the mill was destroyed by fire. By the expenditure of a little money, water power can be had for several factories. Other forms of manufacturing consist of two machines for brace-wire fencing, a tin shop and wagon shops. A tannery turns

out annually large quantities of leather of superior quality, which finds market chiefly in San Francisco. Near the town is a free-stone quarry, where dimension stone is taken out for trimmings for buildings and bases for monuments, etc. This is a valuable resource, and will be worked more extensively as the demand for such material increases. Dallas is a quiet place, though full of business and thrift. Its streets are broad and its residences neat and tasteful, some of them being quite large and ornamental. In the center of a large square, fronting on the chief business street, stands the court house, a large frame structure, with Corinthian columns before the entrance. The jail, a brick structure, with a second story of wood, stands on one side of the enclosure. The business houses occupy one street, nearly all facing the public square. It consists of four good brick buildings and many substantial frame ones. One block back from this street is being erected a large frame city hall, thirty-six by eighty feet in size, two stories high, and surmounted by a bell tower. These features of the city appear distinctly in the engraving on page 633.

Dallas has two large general stores, carrying stocks of from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00; three groceries; two hardware stores; two drug stores; one furniture store; one jewelry store, and numerous other stores and shops. There is an opening for a good hotel. The fact that there has never been a business failure in Dallas, speaks volumes for the region upon which it depends for trade. The city has a volunteer fire department, whose apparatus consists of a good hand engine and a hose cart. Cisterns in some portions of the town, and the mill race in others, afford an abundant supply of water for fire purposes.

From an educational point of view,