

Dallas is a desirable place of residence. It has a good graded school, employing three teachers, and having two hundred scholars. The edifice is a large frame structure, standing not far from the depot. In addition to this, the La Creole academy has about one hundred pupils. This is an institution founded many years ago, by the gift of the land upon which the city stands. The site was laid out in lots and sold, the proceeds being used to establish the school. It now occupies a site of ten acres on the edge of the city. It is non-sectarian, and is managed by a board of trustees. An endowment of \$5,000.00, for the salaries of teachers, has been given the institution.

The *Hemizer* is an excellent weekly paper, published by Graham Glass, Jr., and is full of news and matters of interest pertaining to Polk county. There are three churches, belonging, respectively, to the Methodists, Baptists and Southern Methodists. The Christians have an organization, but no church edifice. Taken altogether, Dallas is a pleasant place of residence and a prosperous business community. The people are intelligent, refined, and extremely hospitable, and he who takes up his residence among them will have occasion to feel that his lines have been cast in pleasant places.

The second town in size is Independence, on the west bank of the Willamette, a live and growing place of about nine hundred inhabitants. The town is compactly built, as appears in the engraving on page 616, the business portion lying along two streets, one parallel with the river, and the other crossing this one at right angles, being the street leading to the ferry landing. There are about thirty business houses, one of them carrying a stock of \$25,000.00, and three others from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 each. There are two banks, and

two hotels. There is an opening for a good furniture store with a capital of about \$5,000.00. The country for many miles around is more or less tributary to Independence, and this is a favorite shipping point, owing to the fact that there is active competition between three lines of transportation, the Oregon & California railroad, and the boats of the O. R. & N. Co. and the Oregon Pacific. There are four warehouses, handling fully two hundred thousand bushels of wheat, all under the control of J. C. Cooper, at whose bank the business is transacted. Three of these are along the railroad, and the fourth, a huge one with a capacity of one hundred and fifty thousand bushels, stands on the bank of the river.

The manufacturing enterprises consist of a good sash and door factory, a large saw mill, cutting twenty-five thousand feet per day, and a custom grist mill. There is a small saw mill not running. This is one of the best flouring points in the Willamette valley. Excellent water power can be had by the expenditure of a little money, and the shipping facilities, by rail and river, are unsurpassed, while the best quality of wheat is unlimited. The citizens would take stock in an enterprise of that kind, if on a sufficiently large scale to be a benefit to the place.

Independence is a progressive town. It already possesses ten brick buildings, all erected within the past five years, and two others are in contemplation. It has a large depot for agricultural machinery, from which nearly the whole county is supplied. A large brick yard in the vicinity manufactures brick for all the towns of that region. It has an excellent graded school, with four teachers and two hundred scholars; and the old town, that portion lying north of the bridge and not included in the corporate limits, has another school, employ-