

school, with six teachers and an attendance of two hundred and fifty scholars. A new frame building is in process of erection, and will be completed before the close of the year. It will cost \$8,000.00, and will not only be ample in size to accommodate the growth of the town for a number of years, but will be highly ornamental, as will be seen by referring to the engraving on page 576. There is, also, a good school which has been maintained many years by the Benedictine sisters, an order of the Catholic church. This has an attendance of sixty scholars. There are five good church buildings, belonging to the Methodist Episcopal, Baptist, Episcopal, Congregational and Catholic denominations. The Odd Fellows and Masons have each a good hall building, and various organizations of those orders. The A. O. U. W. and the K. of L. also have organizations. By far the most costly and ornamental structure is the county court house, completed in 1886. It is a solid brick and cement structure, with stone facing, two stories and a basement in height, and surmounted by a cupola, from which is obtained a splendid view of the river above and below the falls, and a large stretch of the fields and timbered hills by which the city is surrounded. It stands between the main street and the river, in the center of a block (see engraving on page 615), and a broad flight of stone steps leads up to the first floor entrance. This edifice cost \$60,000.00, and represents more for the money expended than any other public structure in Oregon. There are many handsome, and even elegant, private residences, nearly all of them so situated as to command beautiful views of the river and surrounding hills. The greater number are located on the bluffs, where the cool summer breezes render life there most agreeable. Indeed, this is one of the best points near Portland

for a summer residence. Cool, healthy, free from all taint of malaria, easily accessible from the city by both boat and rail, with good fishing and hunting close at hand, it offers excellent advantages as a summer resort. A large hotel to accommodate boarders of this class is one of the urgent needs of the city. As it is, a number of Portland families spend their summers here, finding homes in private residences. One improvement of interest in this connection should not be overlooked. The celebrated drive from Portland to the White House is to be extended to Oregon City next year, the work having been authorized by the counties of Multnomah and Clackamas, and the surveys made.

Clackamas county lies on both sides of the Willamette, though chiefly east of the river, and extends to the summit of the Cascade mountains. It embraces an area of a million acres, one-half of which is in the hands of private individuals, and the remainder subject to entry under the homestead, preemption and timber laws of the United States. The O. & C. railroad owns considerable land, which it sells at graded prices, and on liberal terms of payment. The surface of the country is, in the main, hilly. The streams, of which there are many, run through canyons, the land between them being rolling plateau, rising into mountains as the Cascades are reached. Along the streams are many acres of alluvial bottom lands, the soil black, deep and rich. The greater portion of the surface is of the hill class, the soil being a red loam, partaking of the nature of a clay, with a hard clay sub-soil. These rolling plateaus are covered with timber, there being but a few small tracts of open prairie land. The prevailing timber is fir, while cedar, spruce, hemlock and larch are found in quantity. Ash, maple, alder and cottonwood grow along the streams. Owing to the