


THE WEST SHORE.

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HEPPNER AND MORROW COUNTY.



STRETCHING away The center of the county embraces the due south from the Heppner Hill region, one of the best Columbia river, is stock raising sections in the state. Here Morrow county, yet wool, beef and horse flesh are produced in its isolated in in profusion. The sheep industry of fancy, and embrac- Morrow county is a very important one, ing within its bor- and wool is the staple product. Most ders, sage brushflats, men engaged in the sheep business here rolling prairies, pla- have been moderately successful at it. teaus, foothills and tim- The stock man was the pioneer of the bered mountains. Along county, and still holds his own as the its northern end is a stretch leader in finance and forehanded pros- of sand and sage, anything perity. Of late years, sheep have su- but inviting, and yet forming perseded cattle to a large extent, fully a favorite range for cattle and two hundred thousand of them being horses, which seem to thrive and find now kept in the vicinity of Heppner. grass where there is none in sight, al- Owing to the rapid influx of immigrants, though it does exist and keep green in large areas of grazing land are being the shelter of the sage and greasewood. transformed into grain fields. Land for- Passing southward, you emerge from merly considered valuable only for graz- this desolate stretch and enter a gently ing, is now producing from twenty to undulating country, where the native forty bushels of wheat to the acre, and bunch grass flourishes, and many farms from two to three tons of hay. There have been, and are being, opened up. is much of this excellent land still open More or less wheat is being raised, and to settlement.

The southern scope of Morrow county embraces a large area of the western spur of the Blue mountains, and is destined to become a region of rich resources. It is well watered and timbered, and will soon be sought out by energetic people who are not afraid of a little

General agriculture may be said to be, as yet, experimental in the county. Along the water courses good crops are the rule, but the extent of the narrow bottoms is quite limited.