

and McMinnville, its county seat and chief town, is enjoying the prosperity naturally expected in a town so surrounded. During the year 1888 forty-two new dwelling houses were built in the city, a court house costing \$45,000.00, a school house costing \$15,000.00, and several business houses costing \$5,000.00 were erected. Jones & Co., owners of a saw mill and sash and door factory, have just purchased a tract of land and water power, where they will at once build a large factory and equip it with new machinery, and will also build a brick business block. A creamery company has recently been organized, the stock being freely subscribed by both the citizens and the farmers of the surrounding country, to whom it will be a mutual benefit. Another project, that of a large fruit cannery, is under consideration. This enterprise will require a capital of \$60,000.00, and a gentleman interested in it and willing to invest a large sum of money is negotiating with Chicago gentlemen for the required capital. A building and loan association is being organized, similar in scope to those that have been so successful in Portland and elsewhere, and will be of great assistance in providing homes for the people. During the current year many improvements will be made. Water works, a sewer system, electric light plant and graded streets are the public improvements expected to be made, and several new business blocks are promised, while the number of new residences will undoubtedly exceed those of the past year. With such a solid foundation for its business to rest upon, McMinnville is one of the most substantial and prosperous cities of the Willamette valley, and in a few years will surpass, in business and population, some which have now attained a larger growth, but which do not possess the elements of steady and permanent advancement to be found in Yamhill's metropolis.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON.

L YING immediately adjacent to Portland on the south and west, and connected with its markets by two lines of railway and excellent wagon roads, is the county of Washington, most excellently adapted, both by location and resources, to diversified farming, such as dairy, fruit, vegetables, poultry, grain, hay, etc. The farmers have improved the extremely favorable weather of the past few weeks to get in their crops, put their land and orchards in first-class condition, and in every way provide for a bountiful harvest the coming summer and fall. As has been intimated, nearness to Portland is one of the chief advantages of Washington county, as it enables them to reach market quickly and cheaply, and therefore secures a larger net return for labor and capital invested in agricul-

tural pursuits. The prosperity of the country is shown in the thriving condition of Hillsboro, the county seat, and Forest Grove, the site of the Pacific University. Both of these towns depend upon the surrounding country for support, and are making a steady and permanent growth as the resources about them are developed. There are large quantities of unimproved and partially improved land for sale at reasonable rates, which is well adapted to diversified forms of agriculture, and an industrious man with but little capital can secure for himself a good home in a few years, chiefly by the work of his own hands, steadily and intelligently applied. Improved land can also be bought, but at much higher figures, yet at rates which would be considered low by the owners of high priced land in eastern states. There is room in Washington county for ten times the population it now contains, and choice land for all who seek it intelligently. Hillsboro has shown decided advancement during the past year, and the indications point to increased prosperity the coming year. Forest Grove is a most delightful town, occupying a beautiful site and possessing charming residences. It is one of the most pleasant residence towns in Oregon, and near enough to Portland to feel the effects of metropolitan improvements and growth.

THE TOWN OF NEWBERG.

T HE remarkably fine weather of the past month has been improved to the utmost by the energetic citizens of Newberg in doing work which had been planned to be done at the earliest opportunity. The progress being made in the matter of building up the town, clearing adjacent tracts of land, setting out fruit orchards and improving the highways, is astonishing, and is equaled by none of the new towns of Oregon. Lying in the midst of a beautiful and fertile valley, where both soil and climate render fruit culture and all branches of agriculture specially profitable, and enjoying both rail and water communication with the Portland market, Newberg certainly possesses elements of growth and prosperity that must recommend it to every thoughtful man seeking a location, either in town or country. The Chehalem valley, though all owned by settlers, is not one-fourth under cultivation, and opportunities for purchasing the finest quality of unimproved lands within a short distance of Newberg, and at extremely low figures, can be found by any man seeking them. Small tracts for fruit culture have been cleared by the citizens and are offered for sale at prices below those charged in some other localities, the object of the citizens being to fill the vicinity with an industrious and intelligent class of people, and thus build up the town in a substantial manner. The Chehalem Valley Board of Immigration, of Newberg, is handling land of this kind for the accommodation of home seekers, and will cheerfully give information to all who apply in person or by mail.