

vember, 1885, when a total of a trifle more than eight inches was measured. There are no destructive tornadoes in summer nor cold blasts in winter. Mercury seldom gets below ten degrees above zero, although snow usually falls to the depth of a few inches in the winter time, and remains on the ground several days. There is a cool breeze in the afternoon and evening of the hottest days in summer. Crops grow without irrigation, but gardeners sometimes resort to artificial means of watering their plants so as to prolong the bearing season or to get more than one yield in a season from the same ground. The streams flowing from the adjacent hills make irrigation convenient for those who choose to employ it.

In the rough land bordering the valley there is an attractive field for stockmen. Generally the locality can be chosen so that by going into the mountains in summer time and coming out in the valley in the winter cattle find good grazing the entire year. The stock interests of the Rogue river country are quite extensive and profitable. There are large numbers of sheep on the ranges, and the wool product is said to be the best in the United States. It is entirely free from sand and burrs and the sheep are well bred. The animals are almost entirely high grade merinos, but steps are being taken to introduce

long wool breeds to mix with them and bring the grade down to a more profitable basis according to the present tendency of the market. Jackson county, in which Ashland is situated, and its sister county in the Rogue river country, Josephine, are among the important wool producers of the state. The woolen mill now in operation at Ashland does not by any means consume all the product that naturally goes to that market.

Ashland has one of the best water powers in the state. Ashland creek, which flows through the center of the city, has a fall of about two hundred and fifty feet to the mile, so the water can be used several times as it passes through the city. The volume is sufficient at all seasons for manufacturing purposes. It is so easily controlled that it has a special value for manufacturers of modest means who are in search of a place for safe and profitable investment. There are many choice sites along the stream and conveni-

ent to railroad transportation where furniture factories, flouring mills, woolen mills, machine shops and many other manufacturing institutions could be operated to advantage. It is a live and progressive community and inducements are offered that are worthy of careful consideration by investors.

The city of Ashland is a most pleasant place of residence. It has broad, well graded streets and the general appearance of the town impresses one with a sense of its neatness and hospitality. It is laid off on a generous plan and some of the avenues lead through peach orchards and fields of waving grain even within the city limits. Many pleasing architectural features are observed in both public and private buildings. Every house has its lawn and flower and vegetable garden. The business streets are full of life and energy and an air of comfort and refinement pervades the homes of all the people.



ASHLAND WOOLEN MILLS.

The education of the children of Ashland is well provided for. The city has two public school buildings and seven teachers are employed. A state normal school is maintained and liberally patronized. There are also three private schools, including a kindergarten. The city has a large public hall and six handsome church edifices belonging to the Roman Catholics, Methodists, Presbyter-

ians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Dunkards. The Episcopalians have an organization and will soon build a church. Of fraternal and benevolent societies there are lodges of Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. The city has one of the best companies of militia in the state. A public reading room under the auspices of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the libraries of the different societies place good literature within the reach of everyone. The board of trade numbers among its members the live business men of the city, and it is, of course, a flourishing organization and one that is of inestimable value in promoting the welfare of the community.

A very important consideration in connection with the healthfulness of Ashland is the abundant supply of the purest water that is furnished its citizens. Good water is something that western cities sometimes lack, but the water supply of Ashland can