

under escort to cut firewood. At night they had to crouch in a dark corner of the house, out of sight of the common fire, and were fed on such scraps of offal as their masters deigned to pitch to them. But there was a poor old squaw who could not get much of the warmth herself, and so pitied the slaves. They were indebted to her for many a dried clam stealthily hidden under the matting within reach of them. Also they had a friend in the son of Bearskin, and afterwards when he came to Victoria Lang often entertained him and treated him like a white man out of gratitude. Bearskin himself was a good hearted man, but Edenshaw was a horror to both of them. These two slaves were worth having, Rooney being an able-bodied Irishman, and Lang a tall broad-shouldered Scotchman, though this matter turned his hair gray. The vessel meanwhile had been plundered and broken up, and now a dispute arose between Edenshaw and Bearskin as to a division of the spoil. Edenshaw said he would kill Lang rather than surrender him to Bearskin, and twice Lang had his head on a block to be chopped off before Bearskin gave in. The latter liked Lang, and would rather lose him than see him killed.

At last the unfortunates were taken to Fort Simpson and there purchased by Captain McNeill, who was then second in command under John Work. McNeill gave them each a striped shirt, corduroy trousers and shoes, and shipped them on the *Beaver* to be taken to Victoria, where they did not arrive before September. Mr. Lang afterwards became a most respected citizen and the pioneer ship builder of Victoria. The authorities for this story, which now sees the light for the first time, are Mr. Lang, Edenshaw, (who is still living), the *Beaver's* log, Dr. Dawson, F. Whymper and others.

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#### WOODBURN, OREGON.

THE vast and rich agricultural country that is tributary to Woodburn, and the great railroad facilities here afforded, are rapidly tending to make it one of the large towns in the Willamette valley. A portion of the territory included in the corporate limits was first platted in 1871. Its progress was slow at first, but being upon the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad, which connects Portland with San Francisco, it gradually became the trading point for the large section of country immediately surrounding it. Upon the completion of the Oregonian Railway Co's narrow gauge line—now belonging to the Southern Pacific, and soon to be made standard gauge—a more extended agricultural district was made tributary to Woodburn. The place is admirably situated, being about thirty-five miles distant from Portland, and is the center of one of the most

fertile districts in Oregon. This section has long been famous as being one of the best producing portions of the Willamette valley. It is now nearly fifty years since this part of the valley was first settled, and it is doubtful if, during that time, any other portion of the United States could show better agricultural returns than the tillers of the soil have obtained in this portion of the state. Large crops of wheat, oats, barley, corn, hops and fruits are annually obtained.

The district that looks to Woodburn for its supplies extends north a distance of about ten miles, west to the Willamette river, south about six or eight miles, and east to the foot of the Cascade mountains, which are about twenty miles distant. All the land lying north and west is prairie, and that lying south and east was originally nearly all timber land. In the prairie section the land is almost entirely under cultivation, and is mostly held in large tracts, while about one-half the land in the timber section is under cultivation, and is held by small owners.

Up to two years ago Woodburn contained a population of only 250, and to-day it numbers within the one mile square—the incorporated limits of the town—a population of about 800. The many advantages surrounding it are rapidly tending to increase the number of its inhabitants. Woodburn has much to be proud of. It possesses a fine graded school, upon whose rolls are the names of about 200 children. It is about to build another school in order to accommodate the fifty additional children now seeking admission, and to meet the wants of its rapidly increasing population. A \$2,000 church is to be built immediately by the Presbyterians. The largest nursery in the northwest is located here. The first cannery erected in Oregon, outside of Portland, is located here. Woodburn possesses a number of prosperous merchants who carry large stocks of goods, capable of supplying the needs of the town and the great number of farmers who come here to do their trading. A good hotel is one of the attractive features of the town. A substantial brick building with iron trimmings will soon be erected, which will be occupied as a bank by the banking company recently organized in Woodburn. This bank will be neatly furnished and provided with fire and burglar proof vault and safe. Arrangements are now being made looking to the establishment here of a large flouring mill, to be equipped with the most approved roller machinery. A water works system will soon be completed which will furnish the town with an abundant supply of good water. The people of this section have for many years pursued the even tenor of their way, unharrassed by booms, so that the inflated prices known elsewhere are here unknown. Prices are founded on absolute values, and are steadily advancing as the town grows.