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BENTON COUNTY.

Description of Its Appearance and Present
 Condition by Voting Precincts.

SOAP CREEK PRECINCT

Is located in the northeast portion of the county and extends from the north line of the county to Corvallis precinct, a distance of 4 miles from north to south; and from the Willamette river on the east to the divide towards King's valley being one mile from east to west. Along the Willamette river which runs on the east of the precinct is a strip of timber consisting of cotton-wood, fir, ash and maple timber with an undergrowth of hazel and vine maple brush. The soil along this hill is a rich alluvial and wherever brought into cultivation yields abundant crops. Away from the river the precinct consists of rolling hills interspersed with valleys and level plains.

Soap creek rises in the chain of hills on the west near the southwest corner of the precinct and flows in a north-easterly direction and empties into the Willamette river near the northeast corner, at first the bottoms are narrow and timber covered hills rise on each side but at the distance of 3 or 4 miles it emerges from the hills and then flows through a level plane skirted with a narrow belt of timber.

The land along the Soap creek is of the black sticky nature difficult to cultivate but yielding excellent crops when well put in. The precinct throughout is well adapted to grain growing. The native grasses have always yielded abundant feed so that stock raising has been an important item with the farmer, but not so much now as formerly, as much of the grass lands have been broken up and sowed in wheat. Land rates from \$10.00 to \$30.00 per acre. Fir timber is abundant on the head of Soap creek and along the Willamette river and also on some of the hill sides. Oak timber of excellent quality is found on most of the hill lands. There is we believe at this time no saw mills in the precinct, the supply of timber being mostly derived from King's valley mills. There is a good mill site near the head of Soap creek with a good supply of good timber near at hand, and certainly a good market for timber.

The road from Corvallis to Albany runs down the river and a like road extends on through the precinct. A road branches from Corvallis and Albany road and runs to Independence. A road runs from Corvallis to Mouth along the foot hills with a branch to Lewisville. The general course of these is north and south. There are numerous cross roads running east and west leading in the direction of Albany. The Western Oregon railroad runs through the precinct with a station at Wells 11 miles from Corvallis where is the post office, 1 general store, 1 warehouse for the storage of grain, 1 blacksmith shop, and 1 church house belonging to the Evangelists. There is no saloon and no intoxicating liquors sold, the sale of such being prohibited by a stipulation in all the original deeds.

There is still an opportunity for taking a few Homesteads in the hills along the western portion of the precinct. The Baptists have a fine building situated on a slightly eminence about 2 miles east of Wells station. Among the substantial men are James Gingles and Tolbert Carter who have each represented the county in the State Legislature. These men have been a power in the community, always taking high grounds, and being foremost in every good work for the improvement of society; but in mentioning these we would not detract from many of their neighbors such as John Willes, the late Francis Wrigglesman, D. H. Vanderpool, Drury Hodges and many others; these are all prominent and substantial farmers.

Many old timers will remember Tampico, situated on the old pack trail of the old time, just south of the crossing of Soap creek. This 25 years ago was a place of considerable importance, and noted for the high carnivals held within its bar rooms. But the glory of Tampico has departed and for years past it has been turned into

a pasture, and only a few tumble down unoccupied buildings remain. The population of the precinct is about 800. There is what has for years been known as the Gingles school house, about a mile east of Wells station; another school house in the hills a few miles west of Albany near Mr. Williams and near the Albany ferry and what is known as the Halter school house. In these schools are regularly kept.

The following contains a list of the names of persons paying tax upon property in Soap creek precinct and the amount of tax paid by each as shown by the last assessment roll of Benton County.

Wm. Alphin, estate of.....	1 60
Thos. Armstrong.....	58 83
Geo. Bemis.....	72 96
J. Bryant.....	64
D. A. Blake.....	23 55
G. W. Brown.....	26 52
P. H. Bowman.....	25 28
Mrs. E. Brown.....	27 92
James H. Brown.....	44 71
G. A. Brock.....	3 40
Samuel Beal.....	53 53
H. Baker.....	17
John Creel, estate of.....	10 63
W. R. Callaway.....	199 42
Tolbert Carter.....	158 87
W. L. Cauthorn.....	5 46
D. W. Collins.....	16 00
Corbett & Macleay.....	9 60
Eugene Dodele.....	9 96
P. E. Dodele.....	32 32
G. H. Dodele.....	133 39
James Gingles.....	66 84
Sarah Gingles.....	15 26
J. M. Moore, estate of.....	35 84
D. R. Hodges.....	120 99
Jos. Hecker.....	51 70
H. Hewitt.....	42 51
Walker & Teal.....	112 00
Wm. Hale, estate of.....	104 00
R. C. Hill.....	144 00
J. L. Halter, estate of.....	29 46
L. J. Holman.....	35 12
Wiley Holman.....	117 80
John Hannon.....	23 40
John Harcrater.....	14 40
A. Johnson.....	82 28
H. Johnson.....	18 78
T. Kelly.....	16 94
H. M. Kelly.....	4 36
R. D. Murray.....	40 00
J. H. Morris.....	33 61
J. S. Miller.....	26 68
J. H. Miller.....	45 62
G. A. Murray.....	2 40
W. H. Miller.....	8 85
W. T. Norton.....	112 76
W. D. Prettyman.....	22 40
Ashby Pearce.....	91 32
E. Phillips.....	4 06
John Riley.....	12 80
Columbia Road.....	109 85
T. M. Read.....	159 69
W. Rumbach.....	40 64
A. M. Rainwater.....	46 73
J. R. Rainwater.....	15 59
Wm Ryals.....	56 09
A. E. Rainwater.....	17 00
D. W. Rainwater.....	28 23
Miss Emma Rainwater.....	8 00
J. H. Rothel.....	113 82
J. M. Risley.....	21 33
John Rogers.....	69 36
Geo. Ridders.....	4 90
T. M. Read, guardian.....	24 00
A. Snell.....	11 70
H. Skeels.....	31 72
Perry Spink.....	12 00
J. J. Scraftord.....	8 80
C. Skeels.....	14 42
D. D. Stroud.....	34 24
R. J. Taylor.....	1 39
J. Thomas.....	44 80
J. Tomlinson.....	35 25
D. H. Vanderpool.....	37 20
D. A. Vance.....	17 38
Christian Vass.....	23 99
C. M. Vanderpool.....	127 32
A. A. Williamson.....	13 00
Mrs. L. Writsman.....	15 04
John Willes.....	355 43
P. R. Williamson.....	53 72
P. R. Williamson Jr.....	14 99
J. Wheeler.....	1 12
R. L. Williamson.....	5 56
J. O. Writsman.....	139 12
T. B. Williamson.....	6 98
A. Fleming.....	22 25
C. Dow.....	4 80
W. Armstrong.....	4 80
W. H. Johnson.....	6 40
R. A. Habersham.....	4 80
J. S. Maxwell.....	8 00
B. Cutler.....	4 80
J. F. Davis.....	7 85
John Prentice.....	3 25

W. McIlree..... 3 20
 John Barton..... 3 20
 Total..... \$4000 84

THE GOOD FELLOWS.

The world is full of a class of men popularly known as good fellows. They are in every walk of life, in greater or less numbers, but are especially apt to occupy political positions and places of trust in moneyed or commercial institutions. The good fellow has many amiable and attractive qualities. He has a pleasant smile for everybody and a hearty grasp of the hand for all his acquaintances. He hates to wound anybody by saying no to their requests when the word yes is just as easy pronounced. If he is in politics he has cigars and drinks for the boys as often as they want them. If he is bank cashier he is ever ready to accommodate his friends with loans to the full extent of his discretionary powers without very strict regard to their financial soundness. He dislikes to stop people's mouths with security. His name heads the church subscription list, and the poor are loud in their praises of his liberality. He delights in making everybody enjoy themselves, and on the whole, is a devilish good fellow. So everybody says, and what everybody says must be true.

And being a good fellow, avenues to place and employment seem to open to him much more readily than to common mortals. If he runs for an office, he is sure to be elected. The average voter is extremely fond of the good fellow. If he is an applicant for a public position, he can get more endorsements on his petition than General Grant could. Everybody wants to see him prosper, he is such a good fellow. He has no trouble in getting cashierships, confidential clerkships, treasurerships and in fact any place of trust or profit he may desire. All roads to prosperity seem to be open and smooth to the good fellow. People who enjoy his acquaintance rarely get envious at his good fortune, either. He is such a good fellow that he disarms envy and captures criticism.

With all this wealth of good-will at his command and the advantage which popularity are sure to bring, it would appear that the good fellow ought to prosper and increase in goods and graces to a green old age. But he hardly ever does. If he is in politics he somehow acquires the habit of spending the public funds when his own are exhausted. He drinks for companionship first, and ends drinking to gratify appetite. If he is a bank cashier he spends his salary and makes up for its deficiency by spending the money of the depositors. If he is a salesman he has an unconquerable tendency to put his hand in his employer's till. The outcome of his good-fellowship is an involuntary trip to Canada or Brazil to avoid the minions of an unsympathetic law. Then everybody declares that the aforementioned good fellow is a very bad fellow.

The temptation to young men to embark in the calling or profession of good fellows, is very strong. But it doesn't pay in the long run. There is no more pitiable sight in the world than one of these played-out good fellows. Poor fellow, is the kindest epithet which will be bestowed upon him, even by the best friend he has left, while by the great mass of mankind he is denounced and cursed without stint. It will be better for young men not to be quite such good fellows at first. They will last longer and be more useful in the end.

The Coming Newspaper.
 From the New York Graphic.

Complaints are now made that many newspapers give too much reading matter. Or rather too little fact in too many words; too much verbosity and fine print; too much taxing of the eye to its utmost power of vision to read what is printed. People are dismayed at the amount put before them in the morning to read. It is predicted that the newspaper of 1900 will be smaller than that of to-day, of larger type, fewer words, and more idea and fact to the line.

ECONOMY ON THE FARM.

On the farm, and in all the various details of rural and domestic life, says the Germantown Telegraph, prudence and a just economy of time and means are incumbent in an eminent degree. The earth itself is composed of atoms, and the most gigantic fortunes consist of aggregated items, insignificant in themselves individually considered, but majestic when contemplated in unity and as a whole. In the management of a farm all needless expenditure should be systematically avoided, and the income made to exceed the outlay as far as possible. Pecuniary embarrassment should always be regarded as a contingency of evil happenings, and if contended against with energy and preserving fortitude, it must soon be overcome. Debt, with little hope of its removal, is a mill-stone dragging us down and crushing the life-blood out of us. Be careful, therefore, in incurring any peculiar responsibility which does not present a clear deliverance with the advantages which a wise use of it ought to insure.

A farmer who purchases a good farm and can pay down one-third of the price, give a mortgage for the other two-thirds, and possesses the heart and resolution to work it faithfully and well, enters upon the true path of success. He will labor with the encouraging knowledge that each day's exertions will lessen his indebtedness and bring him nearer to the goal when he shall be disentangled and become a free holder in his most cheering sense. But without due economy in every department, in the dwelling, as well as in the barn and in the fields, the gratifying achievement may not be reached until late in life, or may be indefinitely postponed. A prudent oversight, therefore, over all the operations of a farm, in order that everything may be done as it ought to be done and nothing wasted, will exert a powerful influence in placing a family on the high road to an early independence.

VALUABLE TIN DISCOVERIES IN ALABAMA.

From a late number of the Ashland Banner, Clay County, Alabama we learn of the discovery of large and valuable lodes of tin bearing rocks, at the Broad Arrow Mines near that place. Within the last year Mr. G. W. Gesner, of this city having secured proprietary rights to the above lands, has erected machinery for crushing, stamping, and washing the ores, and is now engaged in working on an extensive scale.

The ore has hitherto been found chiefly as a finely disseminated oxide in gneiss, as in Germany and other localities, but indications strongly point to the existence of the compact oxide, cassiterite, somewhere in the lake. As the locality is readily accessible by railroads to Talladega, Alabama, and thence about twenty-five miles to Ashland it is confidently expected that this discovery and enterprise will be the means of attracting attention to a section hitherto little known. The country is well wooded and watered, of a mountainous character, and eminently adapted for mining pursuits. It is worthy of mention that this is the first attempt in the United States to work tin ore on the spot where found.

A MEXICAN PYRAMID.

The pyramid which is the most memorable relic to antiquaries on the American continent lies a few miles to the west of Pueblo, Old Mexico, and has been visited by every traveler of note who has interested himself in the antiquities of the country. It rises sudden and unassociated from the midst of the plain, built in pyramidal form of adobes, or large unburned bricks, and though mutilated and overgrown with trees, the massive base and four stories of the monument are nearly entire. Humboldt describes it as a work of such magnitude and vastness as, next to the Pyramids of Egypt, approaches nearest to the mighty creations of nature. Its height is 172 feet and the sides of its base 1,355, being 275 feet lower than the great Pyramid of Cheops and 627 feet longer. The brick material is interspersed with layers of stone and plaster, and the four stories connected with each other

Real Estate Agency!

CORVALLIS, BENTON CO., OREGON.
 WAGGONER & BUFORD,
 Real Estate Agents, will buy, sell, or lease farms or farm property on commission.
 Having made arrangements for co-operation with agents in Portland, and being fully acquainted with real property in Benton county, we feel assured of giving entire satisfaction to all who may favor us with their patronage.
 G. A. WAGGONER,
 T. J. BUFORD.

The Gazette Job Printing Office

By or by terrace. These again are ascended from bench to bench by regular and oblique flights of steps, cut by the old Spaniards, as a way to the little chapel on the platform dedicated to the Virgin of Remedios. In straightening the road from Mexico to Puebla, it became necessary to traverse a portion of the base, when the section laid open an interior chamber, built of stone and roofed with beams of eypress. In it were found skeletons, idols of basalt and a number of vases curiously varnished and painted.

CORN AND HOES.

An exchange says: From carefully conducted experiments by different persons, it has been ascertained that one bushel of corn will make a little over 104 pounds of pork (gross). Taking this result as a basis, the following deductions are made, which all our farmers would do well to lay by for a convenient reference:—That when corn sells for 12 1/2 cents per bushel, pork costs 15 cents per pound. When corn costs 17 cents per bushel, pork costs 12 cents per pound. When corn costs 25 cents per bushel, pork costs 4 cents per pound. When corn costs 50 cents per bushel, pork costs 5 cents per pound. The following statements show what the farmer realizes on his corn when sold in the form of pork: When pork sells for three cents per pound, it brings 25 cents per bushel in corn. When pork sells for 4 cents per pound, it brings 32 cents per bushel in corn. When pork sells for 5 cents per pound, it brings 45 cents per bushel in corn.

WHY HE DIDN'T TAKE IT.

Not long ago an old pioneer, who lived in Texas in the days of the early colonists, was boasting of the good old times. "Why, sir," said he, "I was offered leagues of land for a pair of old boots." "Did you take it?" said the party he was talking to. "No, sir, I didn't." "No account land, I reckon?" "Why bless your heart, sir, it was the best piece of land out doors. Grass five feet high, clear stream of water running through it, and an undeveloped silver mine in one corner." "And why in thunder didn't you make the trade?" said the other. "Because," said the old man, in a sad and regretful tone of voice, "because I didn't have the boots."

HOW THE WESTERN CITIES GROW.

A western man has been telling some Philadelphia boys how western cities grow. He says he went off into the mountains hunting, and, night coming on, he went to sleep in a tree to be out of reach of the wolves. He was awakened early the next morning by some workmen, who told him to get down and finish his nap on the court house steps as they wanted to turn that tree into a flag-pole for the hotel across the way. He got down, and while rubbing his eyes, was nearly turned over by a street car and got his feet tangled in an electric light wire.—Philadelphia News.

A Hermit in a Georgia Cave.

Just week some negroes were out on a hill chestnut hunting, near the river beyond Pleasant Hill, in this county, and their dogs treed something in a cave in a secluded forest that proved to be a man, who ran off as the negroes approached. When they came up to his hiding place they found a small cave and the interior presented a cosy retreat, well supplied with bedding, cooking utensils, provisions, tobacco, cigars, newspapers and many other things, indicating that the occupant of the cave had come to stay and had inhabited this retired home for some time.

A person who says he has tried it several times, and always with success, recommends washing cows infested with lice with strong (but not too strong) carbolic soap suds. Washing with strong tobacco water will have the same effect. So greasing the parts affected with lard just gets away with the little pests. Any oil will destroy lice on cattle.