

# THE WEEKLY ENTERPRISE.

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**THE WEEKLY ENTERPRISE.**  
AN INDEPENDENT PAPER.  
FOR THE  
**Business Man, the Farmer**  
And the **FAMILY CIRCLE.**

**PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY**  
AT THE  
**OFFICE—CORNER OF FIFTH and Main streets**  
Oregon City, Oregon.

**THE WEALTH OF OREGON** shall at all times constitute the paramount interest to which our columns will be devoted. Every measure for the good of the State, whether of private or public interest, irrespective of party, will find in us an advocate and a defender to the extent of our ability. We shall aim to attract the attention of the millions of POPULATION AND MONEY seeking profitable places, to that channel which is now making this the first of the globe, and rendering Oregon with other Pacific States the granaries of the world, with a centre of trade second to none.

**AGRICULTURE** will continue to receive that attention which it merits, as the basis of every intelligent Journalist. "The Farmer's Friend" will be watched carefully, and such information as we shall be able to compile will be published.

**MANUFACTURERS** are earnestly requested to inform us with respect to their various interests, to the end that we may be able to make the *Enterprise* as near an encyclopedia of the business of Oregon as can be.

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## THE LEARNED NEGRO.

There was a negro preacher, I have heard, In Southern parts, before rebellion stirred, Who did not spend his strength in empty sound; His was a mind deep reaching, and profound.

Others might heat the air, and make a noise, And help to amuse the silly girls and boys; But as for him he was a man of thought, Deep in theology, although untaught.

He could not read or write, but he was wise, And knew right smart how to extemporize. One Sunday morn, when hymns and prayers were said, The preacher rose, and rubbing up his head:

"Brethren and sisterin, and companions dear, Our preaching to-day, as you shall hear, Will be of ob de creation—ob de plan On which God fashioned Adam, de first man.

When God made Adam, in de ancient day, He made his body out of earth and clay. He set him up all right, den by-and-by, He set him up agin de fence to dry."

"Stop," said a voice, and straightway there arose, An ancient negro in his master's clothes; "Tell me," said he, "before you farther go, One little thing which I should like to know,

It does not quite get through dis nigger's har, How came dat fence so nice and handly dar?"

Like one who in the mud is tightly stuck, Or one non-plussed, astonished, thunder struck, The preacher looked severely on the pews, And rubbed his hair to know what words to use.

"Brethren," said he, "dis word I hab to say, De preacher can't be bothered in dis way. For he is, it's just as like as not, Our whole theology will be upset!"

—Congregationalist and Recorder.

## OUR OWN OREGON.

**Agricultural and Geographical Statistics,**  
by A. J. Dufur.  
No. 2  
COLUMBIA COUNTY.

The following information, relative to the resources of Columbia county, has been furnished the *Commercial* by H. J. Stevenson, Esq., a practical surveyor and civil engineer, together with an outline map of the most important localities in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Washington, Clackamas, Multnomah, Clatsop, Columbia, Wasco and Umatilla counties, their connection with the Pacific ocean by the waters of the Willamette and Columbia rivers; also, the feasibility of uniting by railroad the most prominent places in these counties with Puget Sound.

With a water line on the Columbia river, the entire length of its northern boundary, a safe river channel for navigation and harbors, capable of accommodating ocean steamers and sailing vessels of the largest size, this county is not only of importance to the farmer for its fertile soil, and adaptation to stock raising and dairying, but to the lumberman, mechanic and manufacturer, for its extensive forests of valuable timber, numerous mill-sites and water-powers; to the manufacturer of iron, for its rich beds of coal and iron ore; and although now but thinly settled, is destined to become of importance at no distant period, in a commercial point of view.

Improved farming land of the best quality, in favorable localities, can be obtained at from eight to ten dollars per acre, with unimproved at four. There is about two hundred and twenty thousand (220,000) acres of unimproved upland, principally covered with a heavy growth of excellent timber, mostly yellow fir.

Also, about eighty thousand (80,000) acres of bottom land along the Willamette and Columbia rivers, a large portion of which is subject to periodical overflow, from the first of June to the middle of July. But during the rest of the year, it is covered with a luxuriant growth of very nutritious grass, yielding from two to three tons of hay to the acre, or furnishing an almost inexhaustible supply of pasturage for stock raising and dairy purposes. The higher portions of this bottom land, known as hard-back ridges, seldom overflows, being an alluvial deposit of vegetable mould; is of almost inexhaustible fertility; and when cultivated produces all kinds of grain in perfection, good butter and cheese always commanding paying prices in the different markets on this coast.

Dairy productions always command a ready sale in this locality, at remunerative prices. The experienced dairyman and stock grower, with ordinary economy and industry, can in a few years place himself in independent circumstances, with a comfortable home.

Apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, quinces, grapes, and the different varieties of small fruits, do well when planted in favorable localities; and ornamental shrubbery, with beautiful flower gardens, can be successfully cultivated, so as to suit the most fastidious taste.

Good government land can be obtained within a mile of navigable water, at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, currency; also, State and School land at two dollars. The principal kinds of timber are fir, cedar, cottonwood, ash, oak, maple, alder and willow, given in the order in which they predominate.

Pure water is abundant for stock and domestic purposes. There are also about forty natural mill sites in this county, situated in the vicinity of the navigable waters of the Columbia and Willamette rivers.

A tract of land known to be rich in iron ore, exists in the vicinity of St. Helens. A portion of these iron lands are owned by capitalists, who contemplate erecting smelting works there as soon as practicable.

## CLACKAMAS COUNTY.

This county is situated on the navigable waters of the Willamette river, and probably holds out greater inducements to the capitalist who wishes to make successful investment in the various manufacturing enterprises, or to the industrious mechanic with limited means, than any other locality of equal size on the Pacific coast, or even in the United States.

The following information relative to the present resources and natural advantages of this county, was furnished the *Commercial* by D. C. Ireland, Esq., editor of the *Oregon City Enterprise*, a gentleman who has taken great pains to obtain and circulate valuable information through the columns of his paper, relative to the mineral, mechanical and agricultural wealth of this State:

First—There are no public buildings in Clackamas county worthy of note, if we except the Seminary at Oregon City. The County Jail is a miserable structure, but we have very little use for a jail in this region.

Second—The average price of farming land, improved and unimproved, is from three to five dollars per acre. Wild lands is abundant at from one dollar and twenty-five cents to two dollars per acre.

Third—The assessed value of property in Clackamas county, and the tax levied, is as follows, for the four years past.

Years.	Valuation.	Mills Tax.
1864	\$1,255,377 00	5
1865	1,650,204 00	5
1866	1,824,706 00	5
1867	1,648,576 00	5

The last levy was for extraordinary expenses in purchasing bridges, etc., by which all of our bridges were made free from toll. The figures under the head of valuation, show a healthy increase in the development of the resources of the county after the damage by floods of the winter of 1861-62.

Fourth—The general nature of the soil for farming purposes is good. Grain, vegetables, and the various kinds of fruit, grow in abundance here, even on our poorest lands. Stock raising and dairying could be entered upon at small expense. There is no better country for timothy grass than this; its growth on our highest hills is luxuriant, and it serves to kill out fern.

Fifth—We have all the varieties of timber common to Oregon, in Clackamas county. Oak and ash, suitable for wagon timber and the woodwork of agricultural implements, is said to be more abundant and of better quality in this than in any other county, and has been worked out by parties in years past with profit to themselves, and the opportunity still remains. The amount of material for building, fencing, etc., is inexhaustible in this county, and a general lumbering business is now being carried on by ten or a dozen companies, with available space for a hundred more.

Sixth—The quality of water for family use in Clackamas county cannot be excelled—pure living springs and mountain streams course through every section. The amount of water available for power, is far in excess of any other single county in the world, perhaps.

## WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Washington county is situated in the northwest corner of the Willamette Valley, and is one of the best grain growing counties of the State, watered by the Tualatin river and its tributaries, with beautiful prairies of unsurpassed fertility, timber and woodland more than sufficient to supply the home demand, and within an easy day's drive of navigable water, makes it among the most desirable locations for a home in the State.

In answer to inquiries made by the Committee, asking for information relative to the resources of Oregon, the following communication has been received from J. M. Scott, Esq., which, for its clear and comprehensive statement of facts, the Committee has thought best to insert entire:

FOREST GROVE, Washington County, September 23, 1868.  
Hon. A. J. Dufur, Chairman of the Oregon Agricultural Society:  
DEAR SIR:—In compliance with the circular, I will briefly answer the several inquiries in their order.

First—The character of public buildings: We have located in our county the Pacific University. The buildings consist of three large and commodious framed structures, sufficient to accommodate the present wants of the community. And I may here remark, that this Institute is well patronized, and the corps of teachers is not excelled in the State.

Second—The average price of farming land, improved and unimproved: Improved farms can be obtained from ten to twenty dollars per acre, according to the amount of improvements; unimproved, at from three to four dollars.

Third—The amount of tax on the dollar in this county is fourteen mills. Fourth—The general nature of the soil, etc.: Our county contains some of the best farming lands in the State. The Tualatin Plains are well adapted to the growth of grain and large, as well as to vegetables, and fruit of all kinds.

Fifth—The different kinds of timber and adaptation to building, lumber, fence, etc.: We have all the different varieties that are to be found throughout our State, conveniently located for farming and lumbering purposes. Our water power is abundant and ample.

Sixth—Quality and convenience of water for stock and domestic purposes: Wells are mostly used for families; water soft, pure and easily obtained; numerous creeks and springs abound.

Seventh—Climate, health, etc.: We are situated in the northwest corner of the Willamette Valley; our climate is mild and of an even temperature; the general health of the country is good.

Eighth—Inducements held out to mechanics, professional men and tradesmen: The various mechanical professions thrive well here, although there is not a sufficient supply for the demand; in fact, we want more population to develop our vast resources.

## THE LABOR QUESTION.

Both the Democratic papers in this city are agonizing in the most fearful manner because some Chinese have been employed in the woolen factory at Oregon City. But with all their not discuss anything; they have nothing to say about the relations of labor and capital; they simply rant after the fashion of shallow demagogues, and try to turn the circumstance at Oregon City to political account. A storm of obloquy is showered upon the "Radicals" for their alleged agency in "ousting poor but honest white laborers from our factories;" and the Republican party is charged with the odium of being the enemy of our laboring classes. Says one of these organs: "White men, who voted with the Republican party must not complain if the men they assisted to place in power now carry out the programme contrary to their wishes and injurious to their interests." Indeed! Let us see what manner of men they are who are putting into practice these odious "Radical" principles. Who are they who have engaged in this effort "to degrade white labor?"

## THE MEN WHO OWN AND CONTROL THE OREGON CITY FACTORY ARE DEMOCRATS.

No Republican is connected with the management of the establishment. It is Democrats, then, who are engaged in the work which our neighbors stigmatize as atrocious. It is Democrats who have done this thing which these partisan organs, in their excessive zeal, denounce as an indefensible outrage. These "heartless capitalists" are Democrats, every one. It is Democrats who have been the first to introduce the "moon-eyed heathen" into our factories "to crowd out the white laborer." And the *Oregonian*, which is accused of being an "apologist" for these capitalists "in their acts of oppression towards the poor," has, if the charge be true, committed the sin of "apologizing" for as good Democrats as there are in Oregon, and of insisting that they have a right to manage their own business as they please!

It will be seen, therefore, that even Democrats do not hesitate to employ mongrel labor; that Democrats have no objection to "placing side by side the fair Caucasian and the tawny Celestial" that Democrats even take the lead in this thing and set the example of "discriminating against white labor." How much party capital do the two Democratic organs of this city and the Democratic Sheriff of Clackamas county expect to make out of these facts? They denounce the Republicans for the iniquity of Chinese labor in the Oregon City factory, when they should be believing their shafts at members of their own party who are the authors of the act they so savagely condemn!

It is a fact which is supported and confirmed by the observation of every intelligent person, that Democrats are employers of Chinese labor as much as Republicans. Democrats are just as anxious as Republicans to get their work done at little cost. This is no party question at all, and none but party fools seek to connect it with party politics. The fact that the owners and managers of the Oregon City factory are Democrats is an illustration which shows that this matter has nothing to do with party. Who can cite an instance where a Democrat ever failed to employ a person of "inferior race" when he saved money by employing him? If there ever was such an instance, so rare an exception shows the universal prevalence of the opposite rule. There is not a Democratic paper in this country which would hesitate to employ Chinese labor, if such labor could be had available at a saving of money. The proprietor of the *Herald* would discharge his whole force, editors and all, to make room for Chinese employees, if Wa-Kee could furnish him competent workmen at reduced rates. We would not say that it would not be an improvement for him to try the experiment at once.

In connection with this matter there is much animadversion upon the Chinese Treaty. Now everybody knows that there were Chinese here in large numbers before that treaty was formed. While the Federal and State governments were yet under Democratic control, the Chinese came to our Pacific States by tens of thousands. The General Government made no effort to keep them back. The administrations of Pierce and Buchanan, supported by Congress overwhelmingly Democratic, took no measures to "protect" the whites of America against the "mongrel hordes of Asia." At that time the Chinese were as numerous in California as they are now. From that State they have gradually spread over the whole coast.

If their presence here is a curse, that curse, like the rebellion, was left as a legacy to the country by the Democratic party when it was driven from power.

As Democrats are foremost in employing Chinese labor in Oregon, what remedy would the wise men of the Democratic party propose? Are Republicans to be censured for the propensity to employ cheap labor, which is continually manifested by Democrats among us? Are we to be assailed because we do not provide laws to prevent and punish such action as that taken by the Democrats of the manufacturing company at Oregon City? This would be in keeping with the Democratic habit of condemning the "Radicals" because they do not provide penal enactments to prevent Democrats from marrying "niggers," exactly alike.

In a former article we said: "It is the fashion to regard capital as the enemy of labor. Nothing is more erroneous. Without capital there would be no wages at all." The *Herald* quotes this and sneeringly remarks, "That is good Republican doctrine of to-day." And pray is it not good common sense doctrine of every day? Observe what it is the *Herald* takes issue with. That paper regards capital as the enemy of labor! It holds, then, that every man who has capital is the object of the envy and rapacity of those whom it denominated "the poor." This is, identically the principle of the Jacobins of 1793, which was afterwards put in a convenient formula by Proudhon, when he asserted that property was a crime. The principle advanced by the *Herald* would quickly abolish all property. Every man whose condition in life compels him to labor with his hands is to be held up as an object of pity and taught that the owner of property is his enemy and