

Small Fruits.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

It seems that our whole country is in one of those throes in which every young nation has to pass; a conflict between capital and labor, monopolies and the masses, &c., &c., all brought about in the main by an unbalanced condition between the producers and consumers, or, a want of prudence in going in debt. Those who are not in debt, can laugh at the present decline in money and fluctuation in business. Effects always follow, never precede causes. In political and civil polity, in human affairs, effects, though often flowing from mental causes, are nevertheless strongly united with, if, indeed they are not controlled by physical causes. Demosthenes, Locke, Mill, Cary, Webster, et al., have clearly proven that mind, as a cause, in society, culminates in effects producing all the convulsions we see in Church and State, and in all professions, whether as producers, consumers, moralists, civilians, &c., &c., and while mind does all this, yet, back of mind are those great physical causes which govern all. The present movement is a sound, a philosophical one. I wish it success, but do not think it will do all its friends claim for it. "Vestigia nulla retrorsum."

I will finish "saying may say," at this time, about strawberries. The hills are now in "blooming beauty" with strawberry blossoms and other "wild flowers." The improved or cultivated strawberries are also in blooming beauty.

My little patch, with fifteen kinds, looks clean and neat. To me, there is no sight like a richly laden strawberry plat. See the rows in regular order, the rich foliage, the scented bed. O, how beautiful! The horticulturist has his toils, and his rewards, his failures, his successes.

Charles Downing is a much better fruit and healthier growing vine than previous to experience I had supposed. It is worthy, truly worthy.

Reed's Late Pine is another very good late berry. I do not recommend it for general culture; but for family use I do. A small bed is sufficient.

Hovey. I have long since discarded the Hovey. It is a pistillate. It was a great deal of trouble to plant a staminate, or perfect, kind among the Hovey to fertilize it. And, besides it is affected, good or bad, by the roots used to fertilize it. With one kind it is quite productive, with another almost barren. The Fillmore, Russell's Prolific, and many other large growing kinds (pistillates) when in large beds of perfect flourishing roots, do well; but when in isolated beds, or far from perfect flowering plants, are almost barren. Hence I have discarded all pistillate varieties, and will never grow another.

There are over 600 varieties of strawberries. There are about 75 good kinds; the others are worthless. In fact, 25 will cover all the really valuable sorts for home use, and market. It is necessary however, to have a large number of varieties to select from, so as to suit all soils, climates, and localities. No one, two, or three, or even a dozen kinds, will suit the whole country, in every respect. Hence the use of so many varieties.

In order to show the variability of strawberries, I will adduce some experiments.

The Peabody was warmly recommended, but, with me, is a complete failure; and yet, in some sections does finely. Needs calcareous soil. The Durand is another failure. The berries are variable in form, and size; and with me, so insipid, and often with hard, imperfect spots on them. I discarded it, nevertheless it does very finely, and is of good quality in other portions of the country. Mine is basaltic, or red hill soil.

The Green Prolific, with me, is too soft, sour, and almost tasteless. A poor thing. I have dug it up; yet, in the East, it has a great name.—Seth Boyden originated it.

McAvoy's Superior is another insipid, worthless fruit. It is a pistil-

late; and I discarded it with the Fillmore, Russell, and Hovey.

The Victoria is, where it will grow, a large, fine berry; but with me is so variable and unproductive that I dug it up.

I might go on, but enough has been said to convince any one of the uncertainty in growing fine strawberries from every variety he sees highly recommended in the papers, or advertised by interested parties. Experience is our best guide.

I love strawberries, and hence failures are only spurs "To try, try again." LA FRAZIER.

Early Days of Oregon.

At the suggestion of the President, there had been incorporated in the organic act an item placing \$10,000 at the disposal of that officer, part of which was to be used to defray the expenses of messengers from Oregon. He had given Judge Thornton to understand, that out of this fund his wants should be supplied, and his services well paid. In conversation, he had also assured him, that having made his acquaintance, it would be a pleasure to him, in making judicial appointments for Oregon, to name him to a "judgeship." Of course, these assurances kept hope alive, and were, as well, flattering to the recipient.

There came a cloud over this promising horizon—a cloud that rose at Hudson's Bay, and overshadowed him at Washington; and the incident forms one of the most important features of his eventful trip. Some weeks before the session closed, Thornton received a call, at his lodgings, from the private secretary of the President (Knox Walker), who introduced a friend (George N. Sanders), and, excusing himself, left his friend to disclose some private business. The visitor conversed about the relations of the Hudson's Bay Company to the people of Oregon; of the probable conflict of interests, and possible result of war between the two nations from the holding of such possessions on our soil by an English company; and he argued the special advantage to Oregon, should the Government buy out this company. The listener gave an occasional dissent to the propositions advanced; but the speaker reiterated them. He announced, at length, that Sir George Simpson, President of the Hudson's Bay Company, had placed at his disposal \$75,000, to be used as, in his judgment might facilitate the sale of all the property of the company in Oregon to our Government, for the sum of \$3,000,000. The announcement was followed by a comfortable pause, and the glittering bait—\$75,000—was allowed to dwell upon the imagination of the simple-minded Oregonian for awhile, until the idea should take root that part of this munificent sum was to be had for the taking. But the Oregonian had not learned Washington habits, and gave no sign. He knew it was a swindle, and he never intended to return to Oregon with the discredit of having indorsed it.

The denouement came in a direct proposal, that when Thornton should write a letter to two members of the cabinet, named, indorsing briefly the positions taken by the emissary, and urging the purchase, and certifying to the reasonableness of the terms, he should receive a check on the bank of Corcoran & Riggs for \$25,000. He responded, that the conversation was disagreeable, and he desired it to stop there. In fact, he had several times led the conversation to other topics, and endeavored to change the subject; but his visitor hastened to resume it, and would take no hint. He was asked, politely, to leave the room; which he refused to do, until he received a satisfactory answer.—He only did leave when the indignant Oregonian opened the door, and threatened to kick him down stairs.—Oceana Monthly for May.

MATTER AND SPACE.—However vast space may be, matter must be circumscribed within it, like water within a lake. Hence matter is limited, while space is illimitable. Outside of matter is a limitless void—absolute space—nothing. Space is absolutely an illimitable wild, within which suns, and planets, and moons push and pull, and rush and roll around each other, for the accomplishment of the wonderful ends for which they were created.

AN ENGLISHWOMAN'S EXPERIENCE IN AN AMERICAN SLEEPING-CAR.

Journeying to Boston from Washington, the authoress had her berth made into a bed and, divesting herself of her outer garments, retired behind the curtain, and slept until daybreak.

"I knew," she proceeds, "that at each end of the sleeping-car there was a toilet room, with marble basin and washing paraphernalia. I put my head out between the opening of the curtain to see if the place was unoccupied, when, to my amazement, what should meet my eye, all the way up and down the narrow corridor, but stockings—no, I mean socks—feet struggling into boots of the most decidedly masculine persuasion." As I was contemplating the possibility of threading my way through this novel, living hedge, I came to the knowledge that I was the only lady in the car, and that, unknown and unprotected, I had been passing the night in the most ignorant and reckless security with about twenty men!

In any other country this discovery would have been terrifying in itself, and extremely disagreeable in its results; but, short as my experience of American chivalry had been, it was absolutely nothing to feel uncomfortable about.

Most of the gentlemen did me the honor to ignore my presence completely, thereby making me feel very much assured; those that did not, neither stared nor spoke; but, as the train slackened at the Jersey City station, two of them helped me down the steps of the platform, and one taking my shawls and the other my handbag, said:

"Allow me, madam, to see you to the ferry," whither they accompanied me, and bowed themselves off.

OCHOCO VALLEY.—A gentleman at Prineville, Ochoco valley, writes as follows: War and rumors of war is the order of the day, and through the columns of your paper I wish to show the powers that be our defenseless situation. We are one hundred and thirty miles from the Dalles, one hundred and eighty miles from Camp Harney, and one hundred and fifty miles from the Willamette valley, over an impassable range of mountains. That is our protection. Harney has scarcely soldiers enough to guard the red devils immediately about the fort. Winnemucca, with a force of about seventy-five warriors, is stationed at Stein Mountain, bidding defiance to Uncle Sam. Camp Warner and Yainax Indians, with the Modocs at their head, may at one fell swoop kill the defenseless settlers and lay waste our beautiful valley. To-day (April 25th) the settlers are coming in for mutual protection. All we ask is arms, and we can protect ourselves.—Oceania.

As a matter of course, when clergymen exchange they preach old sermons. That they may do so is one of the reasons for exchanging. It does not follow, however, that they should not look over the MS. to see if the local points need alteration. We read of a Somerville (Mass.) preacher who went over lately to Andover to preach. In his discourse was allusion to the Insane Asylum at Somerville. And forgetting that he was in Andover, he said, "Sooner than a child of mine should be subjected to such influences I would be willing to have him confined in yonder institution." And the good man pointed directly at the Andover Theological Seminary.

YAMHILL COUNTY.—The case of State of Oregon vs. W. P. Bruce, indicted at this term for attempt at poisoning, came up, for the second time, in the Circuit Court last Friday. The whole day was occupied in selecting a jury. In the evening a number of witnesses were examined for the prosecution and the Court then adjourned till Saturday, when the witnesses for the defense were examined and the case went to the jury about 1 p. m. They remained out about three hours when they returned with a verdict of "guilty, as charged in the indictment." He was sentenced, Saturday evening, to 10 years in the Penitentiary.—Courier.

From the Plaintiff: "Governor Grover has authorized Gen. Ross to raise a company of one hundred men to proceed to the Lake country to protect the settlers. As a sufficient number could not be procured in Jackson county at this season of the year, John Fullerton has been authorized to recruit fifty men in this county. Up to last night his roll numbered thirty-six, twenty-six of whom enlisted at Roseburg, and ten at Canyonville and Myrtle Creek. Mr. Fullerton is at present in Oakland, and there is no doubt that the roll will be complete by to-morrow night. The men enlisted here cannot be surpassed. They are mostly active young men and crack shots, who will undoubtedly make their mark if furnished a good opportunity."

Table of AGENTS with names and locations such as Roseburg, Douglas county, Prineville, etc.

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DR. E. V. CHASE, BREVET Lt. Col., late Surgeon U. S. Volunteers. Office, Burton's block, up stairs. Residence, Commercial street, Salem, Oregon. July.

J. QUINN THORNTON, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW - Office, in Patton's Block, State street, Salem. Jan 17-ly.