

# WILLAMETTE FARMER.

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## NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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### Survey of the Cascade Mountain Road.

It is worth while to sum up in brief shape the history of the enterprise which has resulted in the discovery of a new pass, on the waters of the north Santiam river, through the Cascade Range.

Last fall word was brought in by Mr. Henry States, that he and others had, in prospecting through the mountains, discovered what promised to be a practicable route to the Deschutes valley, more practicable, in fact, than any of the roads now in use over the mountains. Mr. John Minto was deeply interested in the matter and wrote concerning it for publication in the FARMER. Late in the fall, in company with Henry States and Frank Cooper, a small appropriation having been made by the County Court to defray expenses, Mr. Minto undertook to continue the exploration, and they returned with the report that they travelled to the summit of the Cascades, close to the foot of Mount Jefferson on the south, and finding no serious impediment to a good wagon road all the way, and stating that they found a natural passage for such a road up the waters of the North Santiam, which had created a valley that penetrated the range for over fifty miles, with no serious obstructions until near the Summit, and that facilities for making an easy ascent there. They claimed to have looked over into the promised land of the Deschutes valley; to have recognized the Black Butte, which rises at the foot of the mountains on the Lebanon road, and to have recognized the bunch grass pastures in the near distance.

With his characteristic energy and enthusiasm, Mr. Minto became interested in making a certainty of his labors, and the County Court made limited provision for the thorough survey and viewing out of the route proposed. A company of fourteen persons (to whom we propose sometime to individually do the justice they deserve,) with T. W. Davenport as surveyor, have spent the last five weeks in exploring the route thoroughly and their labors fully verify the statements heretofore made by Messrs. Minto, States and Cooper.

They made their way to the Summit without difficulty, locating the route for a county road which can built for a moderate outlay. Reaching the Summit some of the party went down the eastern slope of the Cascades to the Black Butte, only nine miles distant from the foot of Mount Jefferson. They came upon the Lebanon road there and found settlers who told them they called it 105 miles to Albany, while our explorers made out the distance to be not more than 93 miles from Salem by the route they had traveled. They made the circuit of the Black Butte and returned to their camp at the foot of Mount Jefferson.

Having discovered a far better route than any other known or traveled, these indomitable explorers deserve the thanks of the people of Marion county and of the whole State, and they also deserve some more substantial reward than they can expect, unless an effort is made by public spirited citizens to give them a testimonial of their appreciation. It remains to be seen if the people of Marion county, will make a proper effort to improve this discovery which promises so much to their advantage.

The "wonder of the world" is said to be the Climax Steam Washer, sold by Eli Hazel, who is now in this city giving practical proof to housekeepers that his machine will do good work, and who is receiving scores of orders for them already. In the first place the climax only costs from \$5 to \$8, according to size of the stove; in the next place, its work is done well, and saves almost all the labor of wash day. Mr. Hazel asks no one to buy without a trial and almost all who try it do buy. It is the simplest thing in the world to manage it.

Cunningham & Co. sold, on Monday, six thousand dollars worth of agricultural machinery and hardware. Their sales for the day footed up that much, which may be called a good business for one firm. Farmers should look at their advertisements and then call on them before purchasing, as they have every facility for doing business to best advantage.

The entire distance from the Court House to the Summit gone over by the surveying party is 84 miles and 24 links.

If your brain is on fire, blow it out.

## WITCHES.

[Synopsis of Rev. P. S. Knight's Sunday evening Lecture.]  
Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.—Leviticus, 18:22.

Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards: to be defiled by them.—Lev., 19:31.

There shall not be found among you any that use divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.—Deut., 18:10.

When they say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep and mutter: should not a people seek unto their God?—Isa., 8:19.

Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God.—1st John, 4:1.

And be the juggling fiends no more believed, that palter with us in a double sense; That keep the word of promise to our ear, And break it to our hope.—Macbeth.

There are more things in heaven and earth, Than are dreamt of in your philosophy.—Hamlet.

Witchcraft is one of the superstitions for which Oriental nations are not accountable. It was derived from the wild and gloomy mythology of the Northmen. There is no authority for translating any word in the Hebrew Bible "witch." Among northern nations a witch was a woman who, for some consideration, sold herself to the devil. She was supposed to torment people in various ways; to cause the death of cattle; to be able to glide through a key-hole, or ride through the air on a broom-stick. So general was the belief in witches at the time the Bible was translated, that one of the many Hebrew words used to describe the various forms of superstition and deception, practiced in the ages of Moses and Isaiah, was thus translated. And perhaps the translation is well enough if we understand the word in a modified and not the original sense. If any form of deception that leads the mind away from truth is called witchcraft, and any juggler or necromancer who does the work of the devil is recognized as the witch, I shall not object to the translation. In fact, I should not object to a still broader understanding of the passages of Scripture quoted. The simple and only design of religion is to bring men to the truth, to restore them to the Divine favor and ensure their present and eternal happiness. Any system that tends directly or indirectly to prevent this, we may regard as witchcraft. When the Galatians forgot the simplicity and liberty of the Gospel and gave attention to "times and seasons" and the works of the law, Paul exclaimed: "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you?"

Though the mythical witches that rode on broom-sticks and assumed various forms to deceive and torment men, may have vanished with the dreams of the past, the real witches still exist and follow their fiendish work. Look, for a moment, at the work of the money witch, for instance. What a life she leads men. How she jingles her silver and displays the glory of her gold and shuffles her coveted greenbacks, till eyes, ears, senses, body, mind and heart are all engaged. See the man running along on the cliffs of danger, over the hills of difficulty, down into the valleys of sorrow, over the bogs of despair. If he catches the witch, he finds her only a hag for the pleasure of whose company he may be compelled to yield honor, virtue, peace, generosity, and the love of his fellows. If he fails, she may leave him fallen and mangled at the foot of the cliff, mired and helpless in the bog of despair, or chained and disgraced in a criminal's cell, while she retires with a mocking laugh to seek other victims.

And the witch of fashion, what a heartless tormentor. What a rustle of silks and laces; what a changing of costumes; what a turning and overturning of hats and bonnets, whenever she passes along. She shuts people up at home and destroys all their happiness by making them believe they have "nothing to wear," with twenty dresses in the wardrobe. She robs people's tables, by making them believe their backs are more deserving. She robs them of books and brains by making them believe that flery and languishing airs are the great essentials. She drives people away from church by making them believe that a coat of a certain color or a dress of a certain fashion is essential to the place. There is no end to the foolish and hurtful things this witch does; and I had rather be tied to the tail of Tam O'Shanter's mare, or compelled to ride through the air on a broom-handle behind a witch of the old sort, than be a slave to fashion.

The witch of pleasure-seeking or amusement must not be overlooked. Here is a merry race of laughter and music and dancing; but the end thereof, if she be followed

to the end, is bitterness and loathing. True pleasure is found in true life, but true life never in pleasure, when pleasure is made a business. Salt is good and spice is good, but they must be mixed with substantials.

Of the witch of intemperance it is almost superfluous to speak. She assumes many forms and leads only to ruin. She steals the glory of the dew-drop and sparkles in the tempting bowl. When a man is lonely, she comes to him in the guise of friendship, offering social cheer. When the weather is cold, she warms him. When it is sultry, she cools him. When he is sad, she cheers him. When he is joyful, she is merry with him. When he is well, she seasons his food for him. When he is sick, she fills the place of nurse and physician. She helps all the other witches, and all help her in return. The money witch, the fashion witch, and the pleasure witch all join in her revels. She hires music and poetry and painting to work for her. Gilders and glaziers run to do her bidding. She is clothed with more than the glory of Solomon. The Queens of the East and West pay court to her. More are her workmen and more cunning than those of the wise King. Without the sound of hammers her temple rises day by day, a prison for the souls of men, full of demons and darkness. Her influence is a real bewitchment, rendering her victim more and more helpless at every step, till fortune, health, manhood, all are gone.

As to the other class of witches, referred to in the Scriptural quotations, little need be said. They are wholesale and retail dealers in bad "spirits," but of a different kind from those used by the witch last mentioned. But these "mediums" and "trance" lecturers" are such pure, virtuous and charitable people that no one should question them. They always speak so reverently of God so truthfully of the churches, and so kindly of Christian ministers, that it would ill become me to harrow up their tender feelings by an unkind remark. The people of our benighted community are much indebted to one of the travelling agents of the virtuous Mrs. Woodhull for the important and evidently truthful information that the Christian ministers of Chicago are liberal supporters of the brothels of that wicked city. And when we consider the valuable contributions these people make to science, and the benefits they confer on society by preventing divorces and encouraging purity of life, we will see how wicked it would be to class them with pretenders. As to the passages quoted from Moses, Isaiah, John and the poet Shakspeare, they must stand against their authors as sad evidences of the ignorance and bigotry that ruled them.

## Modoc War Claims.

SALEM, July 11, 1874.

Holders of State certificates of indebtedness on account of expenses of Modoc War are requested to notify the undersigned in writing, care War Department, Washington, D. C., or else in person or in writing as they may find it convenient at the following places—Oakland and Roseburg, from July 22d, to July 26th,—and Jacksonville, July 28th, to Aug. 3d. Where the certificates of indebtedness are in the hands of original holders, or where original parties rendering service or furnishing supplies are accessible, the notification of ownership of certificates above called for should be accompanied by affidavit setting forth the facts of rendition of service or furnishing supplies, and the reasonableness of the charges. The undersigned will call for such special testimony as circumstances may render necessary when cases come up.

JAS. A. HARDIE,  
Inspector General.

NAMES FOR FUTURE GEOGRAPHERS.—Among the discoveries made by the road surveying party were several lakes, etc., to which names were given, which will probably be recognized by future geography makers. A beautiful little lake not far from the Summit, about one and a quarter miles in length by one in width, was called in honor of our county, "Marion" lake. A smaller one about a mile distant from Marion was given the name of "Orley," for Miss Orley Davenport, daughter of Hon. T. W. Davenport, the surveyor. Two beautiful small lakes containing each about 400 acres, lying nestled in the mountains near each other, a short distance beyond the Summit, were named "Twin" lakes. The North Fork of the North Fork of the Santiam descends in a short distance 500 feet, and the falls were named "Davenport Falls," for Hon. T. W. Davenport, of the party.

The thermometer at Weatherford & Co.'s stood July 14th, at 7 A. M., 70°; 12 M., 70°; 5 P. M., 70°.

## The New Road Survey.

MR. ERROR: In order to answer the numerous inquiries made of me regarding the late surveyed and located road, across the Cascade Mountains, permit me the use of your columns.

1st.—The character of the country: From Salem 23 miles south of east, over the present county road, there is no necessity for description. This distance brings us to Smith's ferry, on the road from Salem to Quartzville. From here the road lay along the north bank of the river nearly one mile, and crosses the little North Fork about half a mile from its junction with the main stream; from thence it passes over a partially timbered and ferny district, which contains many patches of excellent soil, much of the ground being nearly level, but some of the very small boulder rocks showing near the surface. In the first six miles we cross over and along the foot of a low ridge, that lies between the little and main North Fork of the river. Fifteen miles brings us to the termination of the present surveys and outside of railroad land claims, and with a few exceptions past all the lands along the roads on this side of the mountains. But I was informed by hunters that there was more land between the river and the steep hills, fit for settlement, than could be seen from the road. The mountains, from this point eastward, begin to show themselves in the shape of rocky points, that occupy the location of the road near to the river bank in order to pass them.

Advancing a few miles further east, the valley assumes the form of a narrow defile, the mountain sides coming sheer down to the river, steep and rocky in some places and allowing barely sufficient room to grade a road with the timber and broken rock. This kind of ground extends for about three and a half miles, and is the worst section of the whole route to convert into a road bed, but the viewers agreed that it could be done with little or no blasting. Here, also, the trail is the worst on the whole route, and should not be taken either here or at many other points as an index to the character of the road surveyed. The fact is, the viewers very soon discerned that, with the working force at their command, they had to be satisfied with a trail upon which they could barely pass their pack animals out at this point, the old trail used formerly by gold hunters was adopted and cleared of logs that had fallen. From about the 20th mile post above Smith's ferry, we begin to enter States' valley, in which we find considerable bottom land, about the junction of second North or Brightenbush's Fork of the river. It is not easy to tell the character of the soil on these bottoms, but from the hurried observation I could make in passing, I think in many cases the round rock is not far under the soil. In other cases, there is a good depth of soil for cultivation; but in all places, along here, there is timber growth to remove.

Passing along to about the thirty-sixth mile, the bottom lands become more narrow as we advance up stream, and between that and the forty-fourth mile there is perhaps one and a half miles of side-hill grading to be done in order to make a good road. We now begin to find the valley widening again; the bottom lands being low, generally, and but little above the high water mark of the river. Proceeding eastward, the bottoms raise higher from the river, and we find the valley widening out again, until, as we get about opposite Mt. Jefferson, the mountains being here east of north, there is perhaps a mile width of bottom, counting that on each side of the river. Here the two main branches of the river join the largest and longest branch, coming from a direction south of west; and the other (which I call the Lake Branch), coming from the south-east. There is much of the country around here on which the timber is all killed, and some from which it has been mostly removed by successive fires. Grass and other forage plants have got a good hold here, growing green and inviting amongst the chapparral growth of manzanita and myrtle. We found strawberries ripe and abundant, in patches, in this valley on the 4th of July. Whortleberries also began to show themselves amongst the undergrowth, and increase as we advance towards the Summit, where the timber is not too dense. Eight miles from the Summit the bed of the stream commences to rise more rapidly, and continues an even up-hill grade, except in the pass over the level of Marion lake, a distance of one and a half miles; and for a distance of one-fourth of a mile at the Summit, the water seemed undecided which way to flow. From the Summit ridge to Black Butte, at its south-west base, Mr. Udell, Mr. H. States and myself passed, and found the distance of broken country, in passing

over spurs of the ridge, about six miles, and nearly or quite five miles of level, open pine forest, with little grass or undergrowth. Before reaching the Lebanon road, much of the broken land we had passed was covered with a thick growth of chapparral, half dead from a previous fire. We did not attempt to push our way through much of it. On our return we passed by Mr. Alexander Parrish's ranch, east of the Butte; and, under his instructions, gained the Summit in about nine miles of distance from the Lebanon road, and much less chapparral to contend with. We went to "blaze" the line through to a connection with Black Butte, but concluded the blaze of a match by some hand friendly to the opening of the road, would be best for the chapparral. JOHN MINTO.

## THE COGGIA COMET.

Henry M. Parkhurst contributes some startling news about the comet to the New York Tribune. He pronounces it the most wonderful and instructive comet in the history of the world, and predicts that it will excel Donati's comet in splendor. But the prospect that its tail will envelop the earth has a great interest for the scientific world, as many problems in the constitution of comets will thereby be settled.

On the 13th of July the head of the comet will have reached the horizon in the north-west at the end of twilight, so that it will not be easily visible after that date; but the tail will extend nearly to the pole-star.

On July 16th, the tail extends far beyond the pole and develops a new characteristic, tapering off rapidly toward the end. Within three or four days after the 16th, the tail will have become so expanded in the neighborhood of the pole as to fill a large part of the northern heavens. Yet it will not be a conspicuous object, because it will be so faint as to look rather like an immense cloud or a new milky-way than what it really is. By this time we shall have solved the question whether the tail is hollow or has a radiated structure, or what is its constitution.

Of the way in which this will end, it is not safe yet to speak with definiteness; for although, if the tail were straight, we should be almost certainly near the middle of it on July 26th, yet its curvature will probably delay it two or three days, and even until the earth has passed beyond its path. Taking the best value I can from the records of previous comets, I should expect the earth, on July 22d, to be wholly within the eastern edge of the comet's tail; and I will assume this to be the case. The comet will then disappear to us; but then the inhabitants of the southern hemisphere, who may be ignorant of the cause of the transparency of the evening sky, will see it gradually rise and pass over their heads, and be amazed by the sudden apparition of a comet of extraordinary size and unusual brilliancy which will burst upon their vision as unforeseen as the great comet of 1861. The gradual diminution and final disappearance of the comet will be so nearly the converse of what we shall have witnessed here that it needs no description.

What will be the effect upon the earth? I dare not predict the effect upon the minds of men, especially of the ignorant; but I do not anticipate any appreciable physical effect further than possibly electrical phenomena like the aurora. It will, of course, leave us some of its atmosphere when it departs, but probably not enough to affect the barometer, or to come within the cognizance even of scientists. But there may be, by possibility, one permanent effect of scientific interest and curiosity. If the earth should not entirely escape, the moon will also probably be involved, and it will also retain a portion of the cometary substance. As the amount of the atmosphere upon the moon's surface is now so small, if indeed there is any at all, that it is unrecognizable by the nicest astronomical scrutiny, perhaps after the passage of the comet we shall find that henceforth the moon will have an atmosphere, of greater or less density, which will materially modify the phenomena of occultations and solar eclipses. I will add that Venus is safely out of the way, so that the transit expedition will not be interfered with by the great comet of 1874.

Such are the views of our distinguished philosopher, but there are others less sanguine than he, who predict that the earth's atmosphere will be poisoned by contact with the gasses of the heavenly or the infernal visitor, as the case may be, and that only those who possess gutta serena lungs and have their lives well insured can hope to survive more than half a century. At midnight—last midnight we mean—we sat watching the tail of the monster through a glass—a window glass of medium quality. The nucleus had dipped below the horizon. The flaming tail blazed about the northern sky like a sword of wrath, or more like a broom lifted with evil intent. We called to mind all the evil that had been predicted, but the head of the animal was out of sight and we weren't afraid of that; the tail loomed up considerably and was evidently following the body as fast as it could, so we went back to peaceful slumbers and concluded to neither fear it or interfere with it. Whose feared?

TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT.—R. M. Baker has opened next door to Durbin's stable. He makes, mends, or cleans gentlemen's clothes and the ladies will be intrusted in his offer to clean the most delicate fabrics, or sell them a wondrous Japanese solution that they can use for that purpose. See his ad.

Advertisements in the WILLAMETTE FARMER.