

WILLAMETTE FARMER.

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WAY-SIDE MEMORANDA.

ENROUTE, August 20, 1874.
 Mr. Editor: Leaving Eugene City the road enters a broken, hilly country, and passing around a mountain spur follows up the valley of the Coast Fork of the Willamette river. This valley is narrow but contains quite a large quantity of fine agricultural land, mostly under cultivation. Valleys in by mountains and traversed by the railroad, it is a very pleasant valley. Cottage Grove is 22 miles up the Coast Fork from Eugene. It is in a pretty good place, and will make quite a burg if the citizens manage it right. This place contains about fifteen families, a postoffice, store or two, flouring mill, etc. The Coast Fork valleys are sparsely settled however, and residents tell me that there is enterable land to be found here that is desirable. The road is very good all the way up this stream, except in a few places. There is splendid timber in large quantity, and unlimited water power to saw it. Six or eight miles above Cottage Grove, Mr. C. Johnson has found on his place a vein of coal, a sample of which I send, but has not prospected it sufficiently to ascertain its quantity. Indications of coal are said, by the settlers, to be frequent on this stream. I saw some of them, and am of the opinion that there is coal there in plenty.

A COAST FORKER WHO BEARS THE "FARMER."
 Stopping at the house of a well-to-do farmer for dinner, I thought to do a little stroke of business, and so, after dinner was eaten, and we were enjoying a quiet little chat, I brought up the subject of the paper.
 "Wall," said the farmer, "I like the paper. One of my nabers takes it—have seed it often."
 "Would he subscribe? price only \$3 per year."
 "Wal, no; guess not. Money is mighty scarce, and my naber takes it and I can get to read his'n, and it does me all the same."
 Ah!
 And so this little financial operation came to grief.

Over the mountain—two miles of climbing and a corresponding down-grade, and you are in the Umpqua country. It is not a valley, but a succession of little valleys and big hills. The hills generally having the best of it. Some of the hills are bare of timber and covered with what they call grass. The rest are timbered with fir and scrubby oaks, of the Black Jack persuasion, which do not appear to be worth much except for fuel.

There is much good grain land; and I saw, in the pleasant Yoncalla valley—the home of the celebrated Applegate family—as fine wheat as I ever saw in my life. The land suitable for the plough is very clean; nothing on it except the grass before-mentioned, which is eight inches to a foot high, white, dry, and to all appearance dead.

From Yoncalla valley it is ten miles over a big, long hill to Old Oakland. It is in its decadence; contains, perhaps, one hundred people, a mill, and a store or two. It is situated on a hill-side, in a Black Jack grove, and is not particularly attractive.

New Oakland—the off-spring of old Oakland and the railroad town—is a mile further on. It is in a low, but dry and open place; has a business aspect, and perhaps one hundred and fifty people. Its youthfulness is very apparent. Most of the houses have a new look, are gullible of weather-boarding, and no smell of new paint pervades the atmosphere.

Ten miles further on is Wilber—an educational town of half a dozen houses and an Academy run by the M. E. Church. An additional building is being erected for their use, and the facilities of the school is being greatly increased. Dr. Wm. Grubb is located here, has quite a nice store, and is preparing to buy and ship grain.

Across the North Umpqua river and the "Big Stickey" to Roseburg, it is eight miles. The famous "stickey" land of this region is a peculiar black soil, found both in the low land and on the hill-sides. It is dry now, but in winter would appear capable of miring down a duck. I went through Roseburg at a two-forty gait, but looked back at the town from the top of the hill on the other side, and was favorably impressed with its appearance. It contains probably 500 inhabitants. Beyond, through more black, sticky land, for four miles or so, the road is graded around the mountain side, on the east bank of the South Umpqua. It is nicely graded and a first-rate road. In one place the road runs around a mountain spur and literally overhangs the river.

From Roseburg to Canyonville is 27 miles, over a good road and through a fine portion of country. All the freighting through to Jacksonville goes this way.

Coming to the bridge over the South Umpqua river, 50 cents was demanded as toll. The bridge is an old slender, rickety affair, and is covered very poorly with this, shabby

plank, and if not positively unsafe, is a disgraceful affair; and if the proprietor is allowed to charge double toll, ought at least to keep the bridge in a condition that a stranger might feel safe to venture upon it. I was told by people in the vicinity of this bridge, that the keeper was in the habit of charging one price to people living in the neighborhood, and another to strangers passing through the country. It would be to the credit of Douglas county to take steps to remedy this condition of affairs on the most public road in the county. It is the greatest eye sore that I saw on my way through.

Canyonville is an old mining town of perhaps 100 people. Some mining is being done yet in the vicinity, mostly by Chinamen. I was shown some black gold-bearing quartz, found in Little Cow Creek valley, by J. R. Jennings, which is said to be rich and to be had in large quantity.

SUPREME COURT.

James R. Bailey vs. Wm. Clark and James Chamberlains. Cause remanded for a new trial. Opinion by Judge L. L. McArthur.

J. R. Nell, District Attorney of First Judicial District vs. Giles Wells Jr., Wm. F. Singer and Giles Wells, Sr., John W. Wells. Judgment in the Court below affirmed. Opinion by Judge B. F. Bonham.

S. A. Abrahams and H. Abraham, plaintiffs vs. A. R. Flint and E. S. Morgan, defendants. Judgment set aside and cause remanded for a new trial. Opinion by Chief Justice W. W. Upton.

On a motion of E. C. Brunsgh Esq., Joseph E. Atwater was admitted to practice as an attorney.

Mitias Hagley et al. respondents vs. Titus Smith. Decree in the Court below affirmed.

Ben Holladay vs. J. W. D. Henderson, Ben Holladay vs. A. W. Paterson and O. and J. R. R. vs. J. J. Comstock. Judgment below affirmed. Opinions by Barnett, McArthur and Prim. And by Upton and Bonham dissenting.

Loyd Brooks vs. Charles Warren. Judgment below affirmed with 10 per cent damages.

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1874.

Court met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Hon. B. F. Bonham, Chief Justice. P. P. Prim, L. L. McArthur and John Burnett, Associate Justices.

Estate of Oregon respondent vs. Thomas Gerard appellant. Argued by John M. Gearin for the appellant and Boise and Whitney for the State. Case submitted.

SEPTEMBER 23d, '74.

Court met pursuant to adjournment. Present:—Hons. B. F. Bonham Chief Justice, P. P. Prim, L. L. McArthur, John Burnett and E. D. Shattuck, Associate Justices.

Motion filed by R. Williams, Esq., for a rehearing in the case of Hagley et al. vs. Titus Smith.

Motion filed by Mallory, Shaw and P. C. Sullivan for a rule to amend the statement filed in the case of Eveline Smith vs. D. H. Smith by stipulation in the particulars stated and set forth in the affidavit filed.

Eveline Smith vs. David H. Smith; cause pending on adjournment.

FROM ILLINOIS.

HEMLOCK, Knox Co., Ill., August 15, 1874.

MR. EDITOR: You will find enclosed one dollar and a half, for which send me the WILLAMETTE FARMER for six months.

The wheat crop in this vicinity is poor and will not average more than seven bushels to the acre. Oats from twenty-five to thirty bushels. The hay crop is short. Potatoes are poor and very small. Apples are poor and full of worms. Grasshoppers are very numerous and are destroying corn and vegetables at a horrid rate. Taking all together I'm getting sick of this sort of farming and Oregon seems to me, to be the farmers' Eldorado. Yours, DAVID RUSSEL.

From MISSISSIPPI.— Judge J. F. Simmons of Mississippi, who has been in Oregon several weeks leaves to-morrow, to connect with the John L. Stevens, en route to his home in the valley of the Mississippi. The Judge has been so well pleased with our young State that he announces his intention to close up his business in Mississippi and return here next spring with his family. He proposes to take up his residence either in Albany, Corvallis or Portland, and enter into the practice of his profession. He has formed a co-partnership with a prominent member of the bar in this State, to take effect upon his return. A pleasant trip and safe return is the wish of all who have made his agreeable acquaintance during his short sojourn in our midst.

MOLINE WAGONS.—The receipts of Moline wagons by A. J. Dufur, agent State Grange, continue, and the wagons are being rapidly distributed as ordered.

FROM GRANT COUNTY.

A Destructive and Unprecedented Hail Storm—A Sudden and Overwhelming Rush of Waters—Gardens and Crops Destroyed—The Storm Confined to a Small Space—Eastern Oregon Stock Men Getting Ready for the State Fair—Blue Mountain Boy—Julia—Etc.

CANYON CITY, Grant Co., Oreg., August 18th, 1874.

MR. EDITOR: It is not often that we have occasion to report climatic extremes; yet, on the 9th inst., this valley was visited with the most destructive hail storm known since its first settlement. A dark cloud appeared in the southwest about 2 o'clock p. m., while simultaneous with this a heavy storm seemed approaching from the northeast, accompanied with lightning and thunder. Carried by two opposite currents of air, they came together immediately over a certain portion of the settlements; and, for a moment, the storm seemed to abate, only, however, to break forth in greater violence. Hail fell as shot from a tower, vertically, and in such profusion that in less than half an hour the ground was covered to the depth of five or six inches. The storm had passed, the earth was covered with a heavy carpet of snowy white, and all nature as quiet as midnight, when, as the farmer walked forth to view the destruction of his wheat-field, he heard unusual thundering sounds issuing from the canyons and gulches; and, upon looking around, beheld a rush of waters, hail, rock, drift-wood, etc., coming down like some foaming cataract, clearing everything in its course. Upon reaching the alluvial bottoms, where a half hour before flourished the vegetable garden, these waters leaped their banks and buried, with earth and gravel, the already demolished plants. Grain, which was ripe and ready for the sickle, was washed as completely by the hail storm as though it had passed through a thresher. William Luce, three miles below Canyon City, is the heaviest loser, having lost the greater portion of his grain and vegetable crop, which would have amounted in the aggregate, when sold, to several thousand dollars. Other parties have lost heavily, yet, as the hail storm was confined to only a small area of farming land—three or four farms—the damage is not so great as it might have been. Had the storm been general throughout the valley, not enough grain would have been left for bread and seed. A great amount of hay on the meadows was materially injured, yet not a total loss.

FARMERS.

Are now engaged in reaping their crops, which, by the way, may be pronounced good. Grain, however, rates low, as buyers are only offering one cent per pound for barley, and one and a quarter cents for oats, no price as yet established for wheat.

Some of our stock men propose being at our next State Fair, with some of their fine stock (horses) and compete for premiums and purses offered by the Society, among others, is a young stallion 6 years old, named Blue Mountain Boy, and owned by Fisk & Rhinehart. This horse is a beautiful dark bay, about 16 hands high, was formerly known as "Gen. Grant," and trotted, with little training, in a race, beat two in three, on the Canyon City race course two years ago, time, about 3 minutes. If properly trained and driven at the State Fair will doubtless give a warm contest with the best that will be there.

Another trotting animal named Julia, and owned by Jas. Clark, of this county, will also be at the Fair. This mare was a contestant against Blue Mountain Boy two years ago and won the race under strong protest. Both of these horses will no doubt do credit to themselves and the Fair. D. B. H.

AGUST 21st, '74.

P. S.—Another heavy hail storm visited the upper end of this valley on the 26th inst., swept across six or seven farms, and destroyed a great amount of grain—hail as large as pigeon eggs.

SALEM MILLS.—The company running these mills is at present the heaviest wheat buyers in our State, as it has chartered the Alumina 1,000 tons burden, and have the loading secured to dispatch the vessel for the United Kingdom next week. They have also a warehouse nearly full of wheat, at the mills, taken in mostly on storage, with the option of price during the season. The warehouse holds 60,000 bushels, and will be full in a day or so. The company sent down an immense train of forty loaded cars, containing 400 tons of 2,000 lbs. each. The mill has still a scant supply of water and only two runs of burrs are at work.

STATE NEWS.

The latest of the season—a picnic by the Band of Hope at Jacksonville.

The Jacksonville Literary Society has been reconstituted. It again moves.

Mrs. J. C. Tolman has been suffering from a very severe attack of fever at Ashland.

William Kentnor, of Ashland, has in course of construction a very neat dwelling, which will, when finished, be quite an ornament to the town.

Mr. B. F. Myer, of Ashland while passing from one room of his house to another, a few days since, became deathly sick, and fell, striking his face upon the floor with such force as to sustain some very severe bruises about the face.

The Jacksonville *Scout* takes it upon itself to say: A noticeable feature in the Granger meeting is the untold number of handsome young ladies that attend. We doubt whether there is another organization in the State of the size of this Grange that can produce so many pretty ladies.

A correspondent of the Jacksonville *Scout*, writing from Ashland under date of August 29th, says: Uncle Sam Colver came in from Luckville yesterday evening and reported a man lost in the mountains. A young man by the name of Herli, from Benton county; one of James Miller's employes, having the fear of Indians at his heart while encamped at Cold Springs, was frightened into the belief that they were attacked by Indians, and, to play a joke on the timid young man, they rushed out into the woods, but soon returned to camp, all except Herli, though search was made during the night and next day, no tidings have yet reached us of the lost man.

Three distinguished gentlemen were guests at the Ashland House one night last week. Gen. Vandever, Inspector of Indian Agencies, on his way, we understand to Fort Klamath, on a tour of inspection; Gen. Wheaton and family, on their way to Walla Walla, and Bishop Merrill, who had been attending Conference in Portland.

B. F. Dowell, writing from Washington City under date of August 7th, says: "The Oregon war debts are in very bad repute. The Treasury has paid in 1854 claims \$98,305 73. About \$20,000 of this is fictitious, and was manufactured since the passage of the act. Nothing will be paid on the 1855-6 war claims until the next deficiency bill passes Congress next winter."

THE TERRITORIES.

Olympia girls go gipsying in male attire.

Madame Phelps and troupe will play in Olympia on the 18th inst.

An old-fashioned clam bake will be indulged in by Olympians next Wednesday.

The machinery of the Renton Coal Company arrived at Seattle on the Harvest Home.

An important law suit is in progress at Steilacoom affecting the land titles of half the county.

Some of the maple trees in Olympia have grown in eighteen years, to five feet in circumference.

The trial of young Seybert, at Seattle, for the murder of his father, was postponed until next term of Court.

The Republican Territorial Committee is to meet in Olympia on the 24th of September. Its movements are considered as likely to be of more than ordinary interest to the Territory.

The City Council of Steilacoom have instructed their Health, Fire and Street Committees to take a cruise about the city report every house having defective flues or stove pipes, unclean back yards or streets, those who obstruct streets and sidewalks, etc.

The Salt Lake *Tribune* says the Scandinavian element of the Mormon Church embracing about one-fourth of the membership is fostering a rebellion against Brigham Young.

The *Bismark Tribune* runs its politics on the European plan. People who use its columns for their benefit are expected to pay for what they get, at regular advertising rates.

A ranchman in the Prickly Pear has come to the conclusion that grasshoppers cannot be killed. He caught one the other day and held it under the water seven hours, but it was frisky as ever when it came out.

Bismark looks forward to a \$25,000 hotel, a National bank, heavy investments in town property, substantial improvements by the railroad company, and 10,000 population in five years. But now the town site difficulty dampens their ardor.

Work on the dwelling for the keeper of the Tascosh light, for which, among other improvements, an appropriation was made at the last session of Congress, is about to commence. The schooner Lotta will enter upon the business of transporting the material forthwith.

HEALTH IN SALEM.—The health of Salem has never to our knowledge been better in the summer season, than during the one just closed. There has been such a remarkable exemption from everything in the shape of epidemic disease, that physicians in general good practice could leave their business and enjoy themselves, by a week or two of needed quiet recreation, without seriously inconveniencing their patients.

A Word to the Grangers.

PORTLAND, Sept., 2, '74.

ED. FARMER:
 The ball fairly opened in Portland by the arrival last night of 40 car loads of wheat and the stevedores are jubilant thereat. But this is by a private and well known enterprising firm, and all are persuaded that they are beginning this season with every prospect of loss at the start and the grand question, which everyone is asking is, what will the Grangers do now; as on their action, evidently depends the market value of wheat, this season, in the valley? Will they stand still, and see men adventure at second hand, into an arena for which they are so much better prepared, inasmuch as they are the producers and first holders. Will they willingly fritter away their opportunity, and see day after day, one and another, reduced by prospects of immediate return into giving adversaries little by little, the sinews of wealth, the bountiful crops which their labor has secured. Let them turn to their brethren in California and see how they accept the situation, we quote from the *Pacific Rural Press*.

The Star of Hope, 2,000 tons, loaded by Dixon Grange; Seaton, 1,500 tons, loaded by Stockton Grange; W. K. Grace, 1,300 tons, loaded by several different Granges; The El Dorado, completing cargo made up at Antioch; City of Berlin, completing cargo from Medford Grange; Carria Head, at Vallejo, loaded by Woodland and Bayville Granges; Imperial, to be loaded by Solana Grange and Yale Grange; Triumphant, loading at Oakland; by Livermore Grange; Parnab, loading at Stockton by Grange Co. of San Joaquin.

These are stirring facts, especially taken in connection with news by private advices that outsidships are lying idle on demurrage and doleful accounts that the markets are paralyzed, and no one can see the end, etc., etc. The enemy feel your power, they shrink back aghast at the serried ranks, that are closing in upon them from all sides, of the sturdy yeomanry, the hard-handed producers of the world, pressing forward for a share of their own earnings.

The leading Grangers of the State are in possession of the above mentioned facts; as also of the terms and business relations under which they are being pushed forward by the Granger firm of E. E. Morgan's Sons, in San Francisco. Does it not behoove farmers then, here in Oregon, to act at once in this matter? Every delay in the matter of personal shipments is taken as an evidence of hesitancy and distrust of themselves. Already the Granger element is openly pooled, and its downfall predicted in six months, and on every side offers are confidentially made by outsiders that they will supply wheat to bidders by the 1000 tons. It is to be hoped that the intelligent farmers of the Order will look at these facts in all their bearings, not only upon the present situation, but upon the stability of the Order; and so act as shall convince their detractors that they are willing as well as able to help themselves when opportunity is so liberally offered them so to do.

Yours truly,
 "COMMUNICATED."

P. S.—Wheat offering here in small lots for millers at 84c per bushell.

Gen. Jeff C. Davis and Mrs. Davis, will come up to Salem, Saturday evening, on their way overland to California, and continue their journey the next day. They will meet friends at this place, for here as elsewhere they have very warm friends who regret their departure from this Department. The General informs us that there is a probability that he will be stationed at Omaha, where the headquarters of Gen. Ord are located.

WOOD PUMPS.—Mr. Prescott, a very reliable man and good workman, has bought out the pump factory at the Capital Lumbering Mills works, and will prepare for market a large number of best quality wood pumps. His advertisement is in our paper and prices are named. It is well proved that no pump is as cheap or more useful than those of wood.

ASTORIA FARMERS' WAREHOUSE.—Farmers will take interest in the advertisement of the Astoria Farmers' Warehouse. We have said much in favor of the mouth of the river as the true shipping point of Oregon, and the construction of this warehouse adds to the facilities of business at that point.

ACCIDENT.—Mr. L. C. Pooler, living in the Waido Hills, fell from a plum tree in Mr. King L. Hubbard's dooryard yesterday and broke his right leg just above the knee. The broken bone was skillfully replaced by Mr. Tim W. Davenport, who was fortunately near by.