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[For the Willamette Farmer.]

## LIFE A WARFARE.—(No. 1.)

"Eat and be Eaten."

### Parasites and Insects.

Of the animal kingdom, as a whole, more than half the species are parasites. "The number of these parasites," says Prof. Owen, "may be conceived when it is stated that almost every known animal has its peculiar species, and generally more than one, sometimes as many as, or even more kinds than, infest the human body."

Take the case of man. The *Bothriocephalus latus* and the *Taenia solium* are two kinds of tape-worm, which flourish in the human intestines; producing great constitutional disturbance, sometimes ending in insanity; and, from the germs of the *taenia*, when carried into other parts of the body, arise certain partially-developed forms, known as *Cysticerci*, *Echinococci*, and *Ctenuri*, which cause disorganization more or less extensive in the brain, the lungs, the liver, the heart, the eye, and often the generative organs. Hence headache and insanity, consumption, liver complaint, palpitation of the heart, sore eyes, and abnormal disturbance of the procreative parts. These parasites cause great suffering, often of long continuance, and frequently ending in death. Five other parasites, belonging to a different class, are found in the viscera of man—the *Tricocephalus*, the *Oxyuris*, the *Strongylus* (two species), the *Ancylostomum*, and the *Ascaris*; which, beyond that of defective nutrition, necessarily causes great irritation, and, as a consequence, prostration of the system. Physicians are now turning their attention to these intolerable pests, finding that, without removing them, success, in many cases, is impossible. Of another class of *entozoa*, belonging to the subdivision *Trematoda*, there are five kinds found in different organs of the human body—the liver and gall ducts, the portal vein, the intestine, the bladder, the eye. And, still more, the *Trichina spiralis*, which passes through one phase of its existence embedded in the muscles, and through another phase in the intestines; and which, by the induced disease *Trichiniasis*, has lately caused such ravages in Germany as to produce a panic. Then there is the Guinea-worm, which, in some parts of Africa and India, makes men miserable by burrowing into their legs, causing intolerable suffering.

Now, from the entozoa, let us notice the *epizoa*. There are two kinds of *acari*, one of them inhabiting the follicles of the skin, and the other producing the itch, that "royal disease" which makes it so glorious to scratch and keep scratching! And there are others which bury themselves beneath the skin, laying their eggs there. And, alas! there are three species of—what shall I call 'em?—*lice*—yes, oh! The lice on man himself, on all animals, and on plants, too.

Man has the itch, sheep the scab, hogs trichina, &c., &c., but animals are not alone in having parasites, for many, nay, most vegetables have them. Nothing seems to be exempt from them. Life eats life; animal, animal; vegetable, vegetable; and to eat and be eaten seems the law throughout. Life is a warfare, and a hard struggle for existence.

Let us see some of the vegetable parasites. These prey on man like animal parasites, both internal and external. The *Sarcina ventriculi* inhabits the stomach, inducing derangement, indigestion, dyspepsia, &c. The *Leptothrix buccalis* pervades the mouth and injures the gums, teeth, &c. There are microscopic fungi producing ringworm, porrigo, thrash, &c. To go through all of them would be a herculean task. Why it is so, "to kill, and be killed," "to eat, and be eaten," is beyond man's ken; we know, however, that it is so; and, knowing this, we must fight it out as best we may while life lasts.

I intended to say something of insects that inhabit plants, especially the grape-vine, but must defer it for another article. The *Phylloxera*, or grape-vine root-

louse, is now destroying thousands of vineyards both in Europe and America, and is demanding the attention of able men to check its destructive career. It has destroyed nearly all the Catawba vineyards east of the Mountains; in France, and even in Germany, its ravages are seen in the blasted and ruined vineyards far and wide. In California, too, the phylloxera is at work in its deadly march; and even in Oregon it is at work.

In a future article, I will say something on this deeply-interesting insect question.

A. F. DAVIDSON.

### A Model Law Suit.

J. I. Thompson, of Independence, is responsible for the following story of a law suit just held before a new Justice of the Peace over in Polk county. Two citizens claimed the same property, and one put a padlock on the gate to exclude his opponent, who tore the lock off and threw it away, on which the first had the last arrested for petit larceny. The trial took place in a dimly lighted school house; a jury was expanelled, and P. C. Sullivan appeared for the defence, the prosecution being conducted by two young lawyers of that county. After the evidence was all in, Mr. Sullivan addressed the court to show that the case was "too thin," and moved to have it dismissed for want of ground for the action, which motion the court granted in a low tone of voice, and the defendant was discharged and went off about his business. Mr. Sullivan started for Salem, and the Court went home to bed. It seems that all this was done in so unobtrusive a manner that the jury, which was dimly seated in the back shadows of the school house, did not catch the idea, and, unhappily for the young attorneys, of the prosecution, they were trying to decipher the mysterious characters on the label of a Hostetter's Bitters bottle, outside the school-house, by the dim light of a clouded November moon, while P. C. Sullivan was making his effective speech for the discharge of the prisoner. Returning to the court room, and seeing the jury in position, and their researches by moonlight having inclined them to be argumentative, they took turns in presenting the case to the waiting six, much to the delight of the spectators, who understood the joke. There is no telling what the verdict of the jury would have been if the absence of the court and the prisoner had not fortunately been discovered, about the time all their eloquence was exhausted. The report that the jury brought in a verdict of guilty about 4 o'clock in the morning, which first reached us, therefore seems to have been unfounded, much to the regret of the fun-loving citizens of that vicinity.

### From Hood River.

W. P. Watson writes from Hood River, Wasco county, under date of Oct. 26th, as follows: "The rain-fall during the past seven days has been unprecedented in the memory of the oldest inhabitant in these parts, coming straight down without wind until today, which is decidedly windy. The weather is still warm; no frost as yet, notwithstanding heavy rain and high wind and water admonish us that it would be well to fortify against an approaching hard winter.—Yet, judging from the past, we expect from four to six weeks pleasant weather before winter begins, which usually lasts from three to eight weeks, when the snow disappears, and grass is abundant, remaining green and even growing under the snow—and, what is even more remarkable, the dry grass, in the fall, turns green as soon as the rain begins, which is now abundant, and stock unusually fat for the season."

DEATH OF L. C. BURKHART.—The death of this gentleman took place on Wednesday, Nov. 3d, at his home one mile north of Albany. He had been in failing health for some months previous. We met him, not long ago, at Astoria, where he was remaining a few weeks for the benefit of sea air, and then it seemed to us that his days were numbered. We have known Mr. Burkhardt for many years past, and recognize that death has removed from us an honorable and upright man, one whose friendship we had enjoyed, and whose enterprise and energy were successful both to his own advantage and the benefit of our State.

Completed.—The bridge across the Santiam at Lebanon is completed, and train cars are now safely crossing upon it.

## Do We Need a New Breed of Sheep?

(PAPER No. 4.)

EDITOR WILLAMETTE FARMER:

Hoping the interested reader has been able to follow the intent of the preceding papers, notwithstanding some errors which have passed because the writer was not on hand to "correct copy," I proceed to reiterate that the want of the wool grower is a sheep of moderate size which will produce a heavy fleece, finer in staple than any of the English long-wooled breeds, yet of sufficient length for combing purposes, say from three to six inches long at least, but the longer the better if combined with fineness and strength. I assume that the sheep must be of moderate size, because I believe it is impossible to keep a sheep of large size upon the ordinary pasturage of this country in that condition of even thrift that insures the continuous growth which seems an absolute necessity to the production of combing wool. Experience furnishes the proof that under common treatment on this entire coast large sized sheep constantly tend toward deterioration after the first year. The first fleece is the best one, both as to weight and quality. After that, the tendency is toward dryness and harshness as well as lightness of fleece until the sheep attains full growth, when, if a ewe, she will begin to lose the wool from the belly and sides, often before shearing time. At the same time this change is taking place in the fleece, the sheep themselves are become conspicuous, if they be in a flock with smaller sheep, for their restless disposition, giving the shepherd a great deal of trouble to keep them in control, if herded, and very often learning to jump, and loading the smaller sheep into mischief, if kept in fields. Of course, this is not the characteristic of larger breeds of sheep when kept up to the requirements of their nature. The very contrary is true. Among British breeds, for instance, the largest-sized sheep are most docile and indolent in their habit when fed in the manner best calculated to develop to the utmost their good qualities. That this can be done in portions of this country, and is done by a few enthusiastic admirers of the large breeds, is not questioned, but where there is one flockmaster who will ascertain and provide the necessary conditions for keeping up a flock of large-sized sheep, there are hundreds who use their flocks to gather what nature provides, only feeding when they must, to save the lives of the sheep through seasons of inclement weather.

There is another obstacle in the way of securing a long fine fleece of wool from a large-sized sheep, and that is the tendency of such animals to produce coarse wool. To illustrate again by the British breeds of which we know most. The largest breeds produce the coarsest wool, and the effect of a reduction in size by judicious breeding is given in the case of Bakewell's modification of Leicester. The large coarse-boned old Leicester, yielding a fleece of eight to twelve pounds of coarse wool, was, by breeding for a smaller-boned, symmetrical sheep, brought down to a fleece of seven pounds of comparatively fine worsted wool. The French Merino seems to be an exception to the rule that a large-boned sheep will produce a coarse wool, yet, as a Merino, it establishes the fact here claimed, as fully as the illustration I have given, the French Merino being altogether the coarsest woolled family of the Merino race. The rapid decline in the estimation of Merino-breeders being the tendency to comparative coarseness of the fleeces, as well as the ungainly, hard keeping carcass, so that, look in whichever direction we may for the benefits of experience in the history of breeding, or the lessons taught by races of sheep that, so far as we know, are the natural growth of time and circumstances, are admonished to avoid attempting to stock dry pastures with large sized sheep, and the experience of Oregon farmers proves that pastures which are dry at least six months of each year are not suited to yield that constant supply of green food, that is believed an absolute necessity to the continuous growth of wool on a sheep of large size.

JOHN MINTO.

\*A friend and neighbor who visited Eastern Oregon a few months ago informs me that of all the flocks of sheep he saw there, he saw but one flock that appeared to him as doing remarkably well, and that was the flock of Mr. J. Lucky, on the Crooked River branch of the DesChutes. This flock is managed differently from any other he saw, on what the manager called the open system of herding, that is, the sheep are allowed to spread out over a large extent of surface during feeding hours, and at night secured in the nearest of many holding yards that are prepared at different points over a large ex-

tent of country. The flock was composed largely of Cotswold blood. I give this case in justice to Mr. Lucky, at the same time it must be observed that the management is exceptionally good, though it cannot, in the nature of things be permanent.

ANGORAS.—The Santa Rosa Democrat, in speaking of a flock of Angora goats, says that in the band were five hundred thorough-bred Angoras that will clip five pounds each, on an average, in February, and the proprietors, Messrs. J. W. & E. L. Reed, informed us that they had the spring clip sold in New York for \$1.30 per pound. Messrs. Reed purchased the band from E. B. Marsh of San Francisco, and paid \$22,000. Mr. Marsh paid \$27,400 for the same band. There are five thorough-bred Asiatic bucks in the band, two of which were presented to a Mr. Cheney of this State by the sultan of Turkey. There are also eight thorough-bred Cashmere and thirteen Angoras, from the celebrated Alexander Blue Grass Farm, in Kentucky; also sixty-four full-blooded nannies, from the same place—making the most celebrated collection of this kind on the coast, or in the United States, quality and quantity considered. The band comes from Santa Clara county, three miles from San Jose.

A statement showing the estimated annual production of gold and silver in the United States during the 25 years from 1849 to 1873 has been prepared by the bureau of statistics. The annual average production of gold, according to this statement, has been \$50,800,000, and that of silver, for the 15 years from 1859 to 1873, \$13,300,000. The production of gold has, with the exception of one year, been annually decreasing since 1856, and the production of silver has with the exception of one year, been increasing since 1859.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.—Mr. J. H. Settlemier, of the Woodburn Nursery, says this is the time to prepare for setting out fruit and ornamental trees, and he says he has as fine a lot of trees as can be found in the State. His advertisement will show how to send orders to him.

The full official vote of California for Gov. error gave Irwin 61,509, Phelps, 31,322, Bidwell 29,753 and Wm. E. Lovett, temperance candidate, 355 votes. The total vote for Phelps, Bidwell and Lovett added together make 62,430, leaving Irwin a majority of 79 votes.

"GRACE GREENWOOD," peeping at the Prime Minister of England, from the Speaker's gallery, says of Disraeli: "He is sadly changed—looks careless and melancholy, jaded and Judaical. His curls have lost their hyacinthian character, have straightened with the weight of years. There is no trace left of 'Vivian Gray,' and little of 'Lothair.'"

### MARRIED:

In Portland, Nov. 4, by Rev. D. J. Pierce, Mr. Geo. T. Murray and Miss Mary A. Carpenter.  
Nov. 4, by Rev. William Roberts, at the residence of J. H. Lambert, Milwaukee, Mr. B. F. Stone, of Walla Walla, and Miss Henrietta Miller, daughter of Henry Miller, Esq. of this city.  
In Sehome, Oct. 31, L. L. Andrews, of LaConner, and Miss Sarah Allen.  
In Eugene, Nov. 4, Ignace Peters and Miss Dora Henderson.  
In Albany, Nov. 4, Wm. Allphin and Miss Sarah J. Barbanks.  
In Lake county, N. W., D. C. Underwood and Mrs. Sarah M. Smith.  
In Seio, Oct. 31, Geo. W. Morrow and Miss Nancy C. Blyeu.  
In this city, at the house of Mr. John A. Sedlack, Nov. 7, by Rev. John Rosenber, Mr. Joseph Borovec and Miss Josephine Pattek.  
In Lion county, Oct. 28, Wm. F. Single and Miss Melissa Baltz.  
At Jacksonville, Oct. 12, A. M. Spickelmeier and Miss Parthena J. Rowland.  
At Port Orford, Oct. 28, Wm. H. Carleton, and Mrs. Mary Talbot.  
In Douglas county, Oct. 31, J. J. Strait and Miss Margaret F. Cox.

### DIED:

In Junction City, Nov. 2, Nancy D. wife of Riley Gilbert, aged 27 years.  
Near Astoria, Linu county, Oct. 28, Winifred, daughter of L. N. and Josephine S. Smith, aged 1 year, 7 months and 28 days.  
In Conneville, W. T., Oct. 15, Maria Jane Coupe, aged 31 years.  
In Seattle, Oct. 27, James Brown, aged 45 years.  
In Utsalady, Oct. 23, C. H. Puggard, aged 26 years.  
In Seattle, Oct. 27, Jas. McCann, aged 45 years.  
Near East Portland, Nov. 4, Luella, adopted daughter of H. W. and R. D. Prastyman, aged 3 months and 6 days.  
In Tacoma, Nov. 2, Frelida H. Wilcox, son of Mrs. Kate Hannah, aged 8 years, 11 mos., 19 days.  
In Jackson county, Nov. 3, Samuel Hall, aged 49 years.

## STATE NEWS.

A correspondent of the Astorian, writing from Columbia City, says: "As pleasant homes for hundreds, the Nehalem valley, 12 miles west of here, is a beautiful and healthy location. Many settlers of thrift and enterprise are located there. A beautiful prairie, five miles long by a half to three quarters of a mile wide, is still unoccupied, with good agricultural lands extending from here to the prairie. Another fact of importance is that the State has located, as school lands, thousands of acres of the very best agricultural lands, lying east and west of this place, which can now be had for \$1.70 per acre."

The Jacksonville Times says: "The late rains raised the various streams so as to render it for a time almost impossible to cross them. Slate creek, in Josephine county, was so high on Saturday that the stage was delayed nearly twenty-four hours in making the trip to this place. The stages from the north and south are behindhand, owing to the bad roads and high waters."

In Yamhill county, since 1835, there has been a gain in population of 1,420, and in the number of acres of land in cultivation of 37,800 acres.

Articles of incorporation were filed on the 3d, in the office of the Secretary of State, by the Dallas and Deschutes Road and Bridge Company. Incorporators, C. S. Miller, J. B. Gordon, and G. W. Corum. Capital stock, \$1,000.

Long Tom and its tributaries were up to the winter flood stage of water on the last day of October, for the first time in October within the memory of man, and 17 days earlier than in 1861, which preceded the worst winter in the history of the Willamette valley.

The Springfield mills have again changed hands, H. F. Stratton retiring and B. J. Pen-gra taking full charge.

A large number of fine hogs have been raised in Jackson county the present year, which are now fattening for the market. As a hog-raising section, Jackson county is unexcelled.

A child of Wiley Parker, living a few miles from Jacksonville, was severely burned by his clothes catching fire from a fire burning near the house. Its recovery is thought to be doubtful.

A man named Connor, working in the woolen mills at Oregon City, was caught in the machinery in some way, last Friday, and had his leg broken.

The Emeline Quicksilver Company, of Beaver creek, Southern Oregon, last week sent out its supply of provisions for the winter campaign.

The late Jackson County Fair was not extensive, nor a financial success. The receipts were \$303 04, and the expenditures \$269 36.

Asland has two schools in successful operation. The academy has an attendance of about 100, which is daily increasing, while the same may be said of the district school.

A correspondent of Prineville, Wasco county, under date of Nov. 1st, informs us that J. H. Snoderly was driving cattle at that place at the full speed of his horse, which fell down, and Mr. Snoderly's leg and ankle were badly broken.

On the Umatilla reservation there is an Indian by the name of Le Louekin, and he is very wealthy, owning horses and cattle valued at about \$15,000, besides other personal property. About four weeks ago he went into the mountains on a hunt, leaving in his log cabin \$900 in \$20 pieces, \$20 in small gold and ten blankets valued at \$80, besides other Indian fixings. On his return everything was gone. No trace of the robbers has been found, but three men who were living near him, and who suddenly decamped, were suspected of having stolen the property.

### LOST.

On Thursday, last week, a valuable mink fur cape, between the hills bridge to the other side of Aech. Waller's on the road leading to the Penitentiary, and the M. E. Church. The finder will confer a favor by leaving the same at Mrs. John Holman's, or the Farmer Office.

HOP ROOTS.—Special attention is called to the advertisements of G. A. Wells & Co., in another column, who have a large number of hop roots for sale on very reasonable terms. Persons desirous to purchase can depend on getting good plants, as the advertisers understand their business.

INCORPORATION.—Daniel Clark, H. N. Hill, Robert Clow, and S. W. Brown, on Thursday of last week filed articles of incorporation for the Oregon State Grange, in the office of the Secretary of State. The capital stock is \$70, in shares of \$1 each. The principal office of the Grange is to be located in Portland.

GRANGE ORGANS.—Hon. M. E. Hudson, master of the Kansas State Grange, has the following remarks to make on the publication of a state grange organ in Kansas: "While I have no disposition to find fault, or even complain of the action of the executive committee, for I believe they acted from the purest motives and did what they thought was for the best good of the order, yet I am inclined to the opinion that strict justice and right would dictate to us that we should aid and assist, by our patronage, those already established, that have been laboring with untiring energy to build up our order, rather than in setting up in opposition to them."