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PLUM AND PRUNE CULTURE.

OLYMPIA, W. T., Jan. 21, 1876.
EDITOR WILLAMETTE FARMER: Dear Sir: Several months since you requested me to contribute an article on Prunes. I am now prepared to more than comply with your request. An article from my own pen would have been simply the result of study and observation of what others have done, and consequently not of that value which years of actual experience alone can give.

E. L. SMITH, Esq., Dear Sir: By your request I send you my experience in Prune culture:
Soil—The Plum and Prune do best on clay loam. Hudson and Green counties, near Albany, N. Y. raise nearly all of the plums for the New York market for that kind of soil.

Prune d'Agen, or Burgandy Prune, has fine flesh, is juicy and sugary and very pleasant flavor, adheres slightly to the stone but is best dried with the pit in. It will dry away about one half with the pit in, in the sun; with the pit out it dries in 4 days in the sun.

Prune d'Agen must be picked by hand, as it don't fall off. All the plums the same, but don't allow them to get too ripe. The Fellenburg and Petite d'Agen should be shaken off by putting a canvas under the trees, with a slit in it to take in three. A slight shake will get off all that are ripe, then go to the next. Prunes should never be dried until perfectly ripe. Lying in the sun 2 or 3 days before going to the dry house would make a better article.

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Letter from a Farmer's Daughter.
COUNTRY HOME, LANE CO., OR.,
Jan. 21, 1876.
EDITOR FARMER: In pursuing the FARMER of Jan 14th, I saw a piece written by "Happy Hal," entitled "Farm Echoes or Prosa of Farm Life," and I do not altogether agree with him, especially when he remarks about the "musical jangling and jangling of the bells as the cows come slowly home" and milking just after daylight on a cold wet morning, standing shoe month deep in water and slush in a muddy yard.

Letter from Coos County.
COQUILLE, OR., JAN. 10th, 1876.
EDITOR FARMER: We have had, and continue to have a very rainy and blowy winter down here so far. The river has been very high, and many trees have been blown down. Two lives have been lost by falling trees, in this county, and several houses have been crushed, or more or less injured.

Death of a Student.
In this city, on Sunday afternoon, the 23d inst., of typhoid fever, Robert U. Byles, aged about nineteen years. His parents live in Washington Territory, and knew nothing of his sickness.
Mr. Byles was a student at the Willamette University, and also a member of the Alka society. He was highly esteemed by his teachers as a good boy and scholar.

OFF THE BAR—The Captain of the Daverby reports that he was several days off the Columbia river bar, before he could come in, on account of the negligent conduct of the pilots. On Wednesday morning a pilot spoke him, but he did not get a pilot till the following Monday. Several other vessels were kept waiting outside the Bar, and many complaints are heard against the management of the pilotage at the mouth of the Columbia River.—Evening Journal.

A joint stock company has been organized at Eikon, with a capital of \$5,000, for the purpose of erecting a steam grain and sawmill at or near the mouth of Elk Creek. The stock is nearly all taken.

Covers for the Protection of Sheep.
Mr. T. W. Davenport writes: "I had thought about making covers of ducking, but it occurred to me that cloth heavy enough to turn rain would keep the sweat and steam of natural evaporation next the skin and make the sheep miser and delicate of constitution. Will you give your views of this point through the FARMER?"

Remedies for Fits.
A Lady sends us the following:
EAST PORTLAND, Jan. 20th, 1876.
ED. WILLAMETTE FARMER: Will you allow space in your paper for a few recipes for the prevention and cure of fits and if I ask nothing for the same you cannot complain of the price.

The enormous crop of mangel produced by aid of irrigation on Lord Warwick's farm in England was referred to last year, but this season has produced even more surprising figures; at the cattle show recently held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, Messrs. Carter & Co., of H. Devon, exhibited roots from a crop weighing thirty seven tons per acre. This is said to be the heaviest root crop ever reported.

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