

OREGON'S PRODUCTIONS.

Sugar Beets, etc.

The cultivation of sugar beets has never been carried on in the State to any great extent. So far as we can learn, Mr. R. R. Thompson and Col. Cornelius are the only parties that have devoted any attention to it, and that has been of a limited character, but sufficient to show that they can be successfully grown and the yield large. The amount of saccharine matter in the beets grown we are unable to learn owing to no analysis being returned by parties to whom samples were sent to experiment with. The return said: "Of most excellent quality for manufacturing sugar." The climate in the western division of Oregon is similar to the climate of the older settled countries of Europe, where the most successful cultivation of sugar beet is had. The yield to the acre in this State varies; all depending upon the soil. Some grown on the beaver land returned at the rate of from twenty to forty tons to the acre, while on the average good land, the yield is about fifteen tons to the acre. Messrs. Dekum & Bickel, of Portland, are in receipt of a small box of sugar beet seeds, which they propose distributing among farmers to experiment with so as to learn definitely about the adaptability of the different soils to its cultivation. It is claimed by many that the eastern division of the State is admirably fitted to the cultivation of sugar beet; and this we are not in a position to know; and, as for that, we are inclined to think no one else is, for no experiments, so far as we can learn, have been made in its cultivation in the eastern division. It is said the alkaline soil of the eastern division is the kind of soil peculiarly fitted to the most thorough propagation of the root. Aside from this, it is also asserted that the sugar beet will absorb the alkaline properties of the soil. If this be so, then as an auxiliary in reclaiming vast areas of land now lying in waste they will prove invaluable. The future cultivation of the sugar beet in this State for manufacturing into sugar will depend very much upon the fate of the Hawaiian treaty now under consideration at Washington.

Since writing the above, in conversation with Mr. R. R. Thompson, we learn that Mr. Wait, of Waitsburg, east of the Cascades, put in a small plot of land with sugar beet seed, and that the yield was astonishingly large, and the quality is thought to be most excellent for the manufacture of sugar. In that section they grow sugar beet for feeding stock, for which it is superior. Our experience has shown us that horses, cattle, hogs, etc., will leave all other kinds of feed for sugar beet, and they thrive upon it too. There is one thing it is as well to touch upon in this article, viz: sugar beets of not over one pound in weight produce the most saccharine matter, and are also better for feeding stock; and to procure this size they must be planted closer together in rich soil. If planted from eighteen to twenty-five inches apart they will obtain too large a growth. Of other roots, beets, turnips, carrots, parsnips, etc., the beaver land is most admirably fitted to their cultivation. We have seen beets all of a foot in diameter and from two to three feet in length grown in the beaverland. We have seen white carrots (they are not considered as good as the yellow) several inches in diameter and from twenty to forty inches in length. Turnips and other roots do equally as well in beaverland. In what is known as "swale land" we have seen very large root crops. But to insure uniformity of crops, manuring is resorted to. This in beaverland is unnecessary, for all that is required in this kind of land is deeper plowing to insure thrifty growth.

Vegetables of all descriptions are cultivated; but at times the heavy winter frosts kill them out during the winter months. During these months California supplies us with vegetables. The vegetables cultivated in this State cannot be excelled by those grown in any State in the Union. High cultivation is essential to insure a large crop and excellent quality.

In parts of the Eastern Division of the State (Eastern Washington Territory is of the same character), sorghum grows to great luxuriance. In Walla Walla county, Washington Territory, it has been cultivated to much advantage for some years past. Besides giving a good quality of molasses or sirup, it is most excellent feed for stock. Never having seen sorghum under cultivation, we cannot speak from personal knowledge. It is claimed that in Rogue River and Umpqua Valleys the soil and climate are as well fitted for its cultivation as parts of Eastern Oregon and Washington Territory. We see no reason why in time, with increased transportation facilities, sorghum should not become extensively cultivated in this State.—Com. Reporter.

Our happiness is not dependent on circumstances, but on hearts. There is many a rich grumbler, sour and full of wretchedness, and many a poor saint whose every breath is an exhilaration. If the heart is kept right there need no fear that life will be aught else than joyful.

Skagit valley, W. T., is already up and at the matter of sowing grain and laying the foundation for a rich harvest this year.

CRESSWELL, March 17, 1876. ED. FARMER: I hereby give a solution of the tobacco question, but in a different shape, as the cattle would become too numerous for one man to attend to, and all tobacco chewers means and capacity to take care of. I will put \$20.00 at interest at ten per cent. per annum, and add \$20.00 and compound the interest each year for thirty years. This leaves two per cent. to pay taxes each year, and as money can be readily loaned at twelve per cent., at the end of thirty years, we have the sum of \$3,279.14 besides perhaps, saving more than this in suffering and great inconvenience caused by the use of the filthy weed, and the annoyance to the fair sex in seeing their best rooms and furniture besmeared with amber, and the gentleman's shirt bosom unfit to go into decent company, if we can call one a gentleman that is so filthy. And now, Mr. Editor, if any of your numerous readers wish to try the experiment of quitting the noxious practice, and have not the moral courage, I will give a recipe to assist them. Go to the drug store and get one or two bit's worth of gentian root, and take a little in your mouth when you crave tobacco, and chew, and swallow the juice, it is not particular as to amount—about a teaspoonful at a time—and be sure and not use tobacco for three weeks, and you will find that the tobacco will make you as sick as when you first began to use it. From an ex-tobacco chewer. J. F. WALKER.

GRANT COUNTY.—We have received the Grant County Express, a small weekly just issued at Canyon City. It is well printed, and full of local items. We clip the following from its columns: The new school-house building at Canyon City is under way, and the carpenters are at work. It is to be a one-story building, 32 by 50 feet, and 18 feet high. The farmers in John Day valley are busy plowing and sowing. The indications are that they will have splendid crops. Near Prairie City is a copper and cobalt mine. It has been fully and satisfactorily tested, and all that is now necessary is capital to work it. Not long since, Captain Lewis, who resides on the Middle Fork, had the misfortune to lose his house by fire. The Capt. had just commenced the improvement of a new place. Dr. F. C. Horsley & Co., owners of the cinnabar mine, thirteen miles below town, intend soon to put a force of men to work in the mine. This is a rich deposit of cinnabar, and has been thoroughly prospected, and worked on a limited scale. Abundance of rich ore is there, but it takes an outlay of quite a sum of money to successfully work a cinnabar mine.

GOOSE LAKE COUNTY.—The Jacksonville Sentinel has the following information from the Goose Lake region: The winter has been very cold. Snow from ten to twelve inches deep, on an average, and badly drifted. The shallow places enable the stock to get some grass, but many are getting very poor. Capt. Barnes has lost 40 head out of 700 or 750 head. Mr. Stone has lost 75 head out of 800 or 900 head, and Dowell one cow and three calves out of 25 head, and many others in the same proportion.—This winter has been much worse on stock than last year. The stock-rangers will soon have to fence their hay land, or move their stock to where the winter range is better and the settlements are not so thick.

YACUINA BAY.—The Benton Democrat of March 24th says: Through the exertions of Capt. Wynant the Onesata mills have at last got a vessel to run their lumber. The Caroline Medan, which arrived at the Bay on the 17th, will return for the second load. She will carry about 100,000 feet. Work will be commenced on the Lizzie in a few days, and pushed to the utmost, until she is again afloat. D. M. Titus, the former builder of the vessel, has the contract to move and repair her. As soon as she can be got ready for sea, Capt. Wynant will again try to take a load of oysters to San Francisco. Quite a serious accident occurred near La Grande, Union county, week before last. As a young man by the name of Miller was driving a span of horses attached to a wagon up a hill, the day being cold, he got out to walk, and wishing the horses to go a little faster, he struck them with the whip, when one of them kicked him in the lower jaw, fracturing it very badly, knocking out several of his teeth in the upper jaw, precipitating him down the hill, severely injuring his shoulder and bruising him up generally. Dr. Biggers dressed his wounds, and the patient is doing as well as could be expected.

Rev. Dong Gong, principal of the Chinese mission in Portland, was attacked by one of his countrymen last week at the court-house entrance, and had it not been for the timely assistance of some bystanders, might have been killed. His course in the recent suppression of the Chinese houses of prostitution has brought on him the enmity of all "Chinatowns," and it is said that at a meeting of these capitalists a reward was offered to the Mongolian who would assassinate him.—Standard.

EFFECTS OF FROST ON WATER SUPPLY.—The effects of the denudation of forests on the water supply of a country was thus stated by George West, at the late yearly meeting of the Geographical Society at Vienna, in a paper on the diminution of the water volume in rivers and springs. From the data adduced by Herr West, there was shown a fall in the level, since 50 years, of 17 inches in the Elbe, 24 inches in the Rhine, 17 inches in the Oder, 21 inches in the Vistula, and in the Danube, at Orsova, as much as 50 inches. Accompanying this fall in the level, which corresponds with the decrease in the volume of these rivers, there has been a constantly increasing diminution of the discharge from springs.

How TO PHYSIC A PIG.—At a recent lecture before the Kingscote Farmers' Club, Prof. McBride is stated to have given the following method of dosing a pig: To dose a pig, which you are sure to choke if you attempt to administer a drink to him while quailing, hold him as you would for execution, and tie the rope-end to a stake. He will, as we all know well, pull back until the cable is tightly strained. When he has ceased his uproar and begins to reflect, approach, and between the back part of his jaws insert an old shoe from which you have cut the toe leather. This he will at once begin, from whatever cause, to suck and chew. Through it you pour your medicine, and he will swallow any quantity you please.

J. M. Bacon, Esq., post master at Oregon City, having enjoyed a quarter of a century of matrimonial life, was called on by a large number of his friends on the evening of March 16th, and he and his wife were presented with a fine lot of silverware.

Mr. S. A. Sawyer, an old resident of Portland, died last week in San Francisco, where he had gone for medical aid. Mr. Sawyer came to Portland as an early day, and was a prominent business man of that city. He leaves a family and many friends to mourn his loss.

The value of Cuba, even when torn by factions and debilitating civil war, may be computed from these facts. The annual importations of sugar into the United States are about 1,501,303,354 pounds, of which we get from Cuba 1,223,002,321 pounds, besides molasses and melado. From these three we collected in 1874 a revenue of \$27,923,630. We also collected from tobacco and cigars imported from Cuba \$8,999,458. Besides these, are fruits and some lesser items; and these products paid into the U. S. Treasury during 1874, import duty amounting to over \$4,000,000. This was nearly one-fourth of the entire customs revenue. Reflecting on these statistics, one can but realize the immense importance of that rich and distracted island. If her products were added to those of our States, our national budget might have a different aspect, and so might the assessors' books. And then house-keepers could get their "sweetening," and the clubs their cigars, minus the duty-increase on their real value.

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Farm for Sale. I WILL SELL MY FARM OF 320 ACRES, 1270 of which are good prairie, under good cultivation with good fences, principally cedar rails, two grain barns, one large horse barn and wagon house, a good dwelling house, which cost \$4,500, a good orchard, and all the necessary improvements for a good home, and in as healthy a locality as there is on the coast. My market is only one and a half miles, school house one third of a mile, two stores and post office three and a half miles, from my house; church, two and a half miles. The farm could be divided to advantage, and make two good farms. The farm is situated near the center of WHIDBY ISLAND, Island county, Washington Territory. The island is forty miles long and five or six miles wide. J. C. KELLOGG, 1625 1/2 P. O. address, Conoverville, Island Co. W. T.

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