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CENTENNIAL MATTERS.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION. BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE. PHILADELPHIA, 28th March, 1876.

EDITOR WILLAMETTE FARMER: The Centennial Commission are erecting a special annex for the exhibition of fruits; the dimensions of structure, situated on the east of the Agricultural Building, and connected with it by a covered way, area one hundred and eighty by two hundred feet, affording room for the display of eight thousand dishes of fruit at periods of special display.

The periods decided upon for these special displays are as follows, though any of the fruits enumerated will be received for exhibition either preceding or subsequent to these dates:

- Pomological products..... May 16 to 24 Strawberries..... June 7 to 15 Raspberries and Blackberries..... July 3 to 8 Southern Pomol. products..... July 18 to 22 Melons..... Aug. 22 to 26 Peaches..... Sept. 4 to 10 Northern Pomol. products..... Sept. 11 to 16 Nuts..... Oct. 23 to Nov. 1

The Pomological annex will also be used for the exhibition of vegetables, continuous and so the stated date of June 20 to 24 for early summer vegetables, Sept. 19 to 23 for a late summer vegetables, and Oct. 2 to 7 for potatoes and feeding roots.

Tables and dishes for both fruits and vegetables will be furnished by the Commission free of charge, producers being simply requested to pay the charges for transportation.

You are respectfully requested to advance the display of fruits and vegetables as much as possible both at terms of stated displays and at all intermediate dates.

Yours respectfully, BURNET LANDRETH, Chief of Bureau of Agriculture.

ABOUT BLOODED STOCK.

A Trip to Reedville, by Thomas Cross.

Shorthorns—Berkshires—Cotswold and Leicester Sheep—Horses of fine blood and Merit.

EDITOR WILLAMETTE FARMER: Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon Mr. S. G. Reed, for the introduction of fine stock into Oregon. The benefit to be derived from a proper utilization of his herd, to the State at large, is far beyond my calculation. Probably no one upon this coast has studied the subject more than myself, for fifty years, and my opportunities have been very extensive, as I was born and raised adjoining one of the finest shorthorn herds in England, and that herd created in my nature such delight that I have made them a constant study and have been more and more impressed with their worth, though I am satisfied I have never been able to realize it fully.

When, on a late journey to Washington county, I arrived at Mr. Reed's farm, I felt regret that it was my first visit, for the surroundings were much beyond my expectation, and I cannot describe my feelings, which were a mixture of pleasure, regret, even mortification, and I ask you and your numerous readers to be patient and hear me through. It was a great pleasure to find all the stock in such grand condition and the improvements not costly but good, not only good at stock but good farming, as showed in the gausses and the condition of the fields. The barns &c. are within the means of almost any farmer in Oregon. I will pay well for those who can do so to visit Reedville and carefully observe, and go home and do likewise. A farmer in Polk county lately told me that he once paid Mr. Reed one hundred dollars for two small pigs, and it was the best spent of any money he ever expended in his life.

Four years ago I visited a number of the best herds in Illinois, Wisconsin, and in Europe, and it is with pleasure, Sir, I can say I saw none excelling this herd here in Oregon. One herd in Wisconsin, that of Mr. John Murray, was purchased regardless of expense, and a number of his cows cost \$3,000 each, and his lowest price for calves was from \$1,000, up to \$5,000, yet I consider his herd to be superior to that of Mr. Reed. I was surprised to learn that he was finding no sale for his young animals, and more surprised still at that fact when his courteous superintendent named the low prices at which they were offered for sale, at certainly not more than one fourth their true value, as I think I can establish.

It occurs to me just here, to say that I write this communication without any understanding between myself and Mr. Reed, as I have not spoken to him at all upon the subject and indeed have not seen him for some time, so your readers will not accuse me of writing up the subject for any personal motive.

I write this because I feel assured that I can give some useful suggestions to cattle men, especially those who own large bands east of the mountains, and some of them may see the matter as I do, and have for the last ten years. I simply feel anxious lest those really interested shall miss the present opportunity and let Mr. Reed become discouraged, as has been the case with all stock importers before him. For instance such men as R. C. Geer, Sol King, Moses Wright and myself, who in our lives have sold as much as a herd of 100 stall fed steers, among which were some of his full blood steers, not such animals as he would recommend for stock-getters, so they were fattened for beef. Said he: "I will weigh a two year old Durham steer, and you shall select the best four-year old from among the rest, and we will get their weights." He selected a small red steer that pulled down 1950 lbs. and the largest four year old, common stock, weighed a few pounds under that. Said he: "They have run in the same pasture, fed in the yard, both have eaten alike, and the Durham makes no more, or more, beef, in half the

time, and in New York he brings me 3 cents per lb. more on account of quality, and he brings it in Chicago, and any of the Eastern markets, and amounts to \$38.50, besides a saving of two years fed, trouble and care upon the farm, and interest on the money, and as the two years keep cannot be less than one dollar a month, that is \$24, which added makes \$82.50. Now how many calves will a bull get? Say 33, and multiply \$82.50 by that number, and you have \$2,423 for one year, though I will admit the rule will not work up to that value here.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CANYONVILLE, April 27, 1876.

ED FARMER: Yesterday evening (after the last shower) in company with Dr. S. Whitmore, deputy of the lodge here, and formerly of Salem, I strolled out of this lovely mountain abode, down to Uncle Jimmy Clark's residence, near by, to have a short visit with the good old folks, the only ones at home. While there, the old lady said she wanted to show me the "Fool's puzzle," and imagine my wonderment when she spread out before me a quilt which she has just completed in this her seventy-first year, composed of ninety-six blocks or squares, forty-eight of which are plain white, while the remaining forty-eight are made from small pieces of which there are 114 in each block, making the enormous number of 5,472 pieces in one half of the blocks. "Aunt Rachel," as she is familiarly called, says that she will sell this quilt at the rate of twenty cents per hundred pieces, the large white squares thrown in; at which rate she would receive \$10.84 only for this intricate work. The puzzle consists in the observer's guessing the number of pieces in the quilt. The Dr. and I managed it widely in our guess. The old lady has another one of the same number of pieces set together, and she is also engaged in piecing others.

The inhabitants here are very much astonished this morning to see the sun out, and no indication of rain in the heavens. The large sheep raisers here are waiting for a few days of sunshine before commencing shearing. The wool crop in this valley, it is thought, will be larger this year than ever before. W. R. DENBAR.

Letter from Minnesota.

ED FARMER: An old lady moved from Vermont, where six shillings were counted a dollar, over to New York State, where it took eight, and was much bothered at the change. Being asked what her shawl cost, replied, "a dollar and a half, Vermont money." But she did not know how much it was in New York State. I am about as unable to figure up how long my currency and post office order remittance pay for the WILLAMETTE FARMER in your "coin" country. I do not know as I owe you anything at present, but since I received your model due, I feel like sending you a remittance for fear such might be the case, if not now, at some future time. I do not know, if you are obliged to publish many such appeals to your subscribers, but that it may be discouraging to outsiders; for one, I should not like to live in a country where farmers could not pay for such a paper as the WILLAMETTE FARMER. On the other hand, what for neighbors would men be likely to make that could pay and would not, after such invitations?

Your types make me give Minnesota the credit of being a fair fruit State. I said a very poor fruit State. I would be glad if the facts would warrant the mistake, but they do not. I have never seen a pear, tame plum, or cherry, and but very few standard apples, that were grown in this State. Some few farmers have just got a start of the different varieties of crabs, and are having some of that kind of fruit. Nothing growing yet—some wheat sown last week. The bulk of the crop will be put in the ground the present week on the prairies. In the timber the ground is much too wet yet.

C. D. McEWEN. Hutchinson, Minn., April 17, 1876.

Testimonial.

CORVALLIS, Feb. 18, 1876.

MRS. E. ROHRER—Madam: Having a child that has been sick a great deal, and being advised by Mrs. Cook, your agent, to try a bottle of your New Remedy for the Lungs. We got a bottle and before it was half taken, the child was almost well. And now I think it is perfectly cured, and I must give your medicine the credit for it all. I would certainly advise those having diseases of the throat or lungs, to try a bottle and I feel confident they will never regret it.

R. T. RAY.

Beautify Home.

How many people think of beautifying home? How many think of "Home, sweet home"?

How many think of making home sweet? Alas! we think there are too few who do. Are you sick? there is no place like home. When the head aches, and the eyes are dull and long for sleep, there is no place like home. When friends leave us, when poverty overtakes us, when sorrow fills the heart, when the loved ones take that journey we all must go, when the eye loses its fire and the beaming countenance grows wan, when weary, weak, and worn, there is no place like home. Ah! there is nothing like

"Home, wife, children, and friends."

Home with all its associations! With father, mother, brothers, sisters, all! What more? There is Pa, with his specs on, reading about the "sins of men, and a lost and ruined world;" There is Ma, pale, placid, mending Jane's little dress, and thinking of the days when she was a girl; and there's "big Sis," she is making a bouquet, and she's thinking, too, for that "nice young fellow" may come soon; there's little Jimmy playing with the kitten; and little May, she's talking with her doll; and pussy is purring on little Pink-eye's dress, and Pink's asleep on the floor; there's old Pomp lying on the step, with his head between his paws; and there's the big looking-glass, and Ma's bed with the curtains all faded; there's the old rocking chair, the cradle we all were rocked in, the mantel, the fire place and the bright fire; the papered walls, and the drapery all round; there's the little library; there's Ma's candle stand, with the late paper on it, and Emily reading the new novel; there's ten thousand things wrapped up in a mantle around the recollections of home. And 'twould tire to tell 'em all.

Who that has been away a long time from the home of his youth, when nearing the loved place—

"'Tis sweet to hear the watch-dog's honest bark Bay deep-mouthed welcome as we draw near home, 'Tis sweet to know there is an eye will mark Our coming, and look brighter when we come, 'Tis sweet to be awakened by the lark, Or hild'd by falling waters; sweet the hum Of bees, the voice of girls, the song of birds, The lisp of children, and their earliest words."

If, then, there is enshrined so much of good in home, how hard should we strive to embellish home, clothe it with fruits and flowers, build arbors for the vine, make home what it should be, the nearest, and dearest spot on earth.

The influence of home is most potent. In the field, at the bar, in the pulpit, on the deep sea, in strange lands, in the silent hours of the night, by the bed of the sick, the forlorn and the lost, wherever men and women are, there, in all its freshness, in all its beauty, in its full fruition, does it throw its mellowing influence on their hearts, calling up memories of childhood, when we were pure, and when we were formed to habits of virtue and truth.

ALPHA.

Draining Low Lands.

ED FARMER: There are some farms in this vicinity that cannot be plowed until it has quit raining three days. As it don't stop raining that long at once this season those farms have not been plowed yet. For the benefit of those farms and a good many others in the same fix, I would like to ask the readers of the WILLAMETTE FARMER who have had experience in draining land, if those farms were properly under drained, if they could not be plowed much sooner, and if they would not produce much better and pay big interest on the cost of draining?

I would like to ask the cost of draining by the different method. T. K. WILLIAMS, Powell's Valley, Multnomah Co.

From above Walla Walla.

Mr. Geo. Hunter, of Dayton, W. T., Deputy for Columbia county, W. T., of the P. of H., and agent at the Grange Warehouse on Snake river, at the mouth of the Takannon river, writes us as follows concerning that region of country:

"Columbia county, W. T., has six subordinate Granges, with a membership of about one hundred and fifty. Three thousand dollars has been raised to build a warehouse at the mouth of the Takannon, on Snake river, eighteen miles from Dayton. One house has been completed, 20x40 feet, and the main building, which is to be 40x80 feet, is well under way. We are receiving freight at this time.

Wheat prospects in our county are good, and there is any amount of good wheat land in Columbia county, all the way from six to thirty miles from navigation. All that is wanted is a few hundred grangers to exercise their muscle on said land and build up our new county.

Any information desired in regard to Columbia county, Washington Territory, will be promptly given to the best of my ability."

That is certainly a very productive region and a delightful climate, and sooner or later must be fully appreciated and thickly populated. In many respects that particular section of the upper country cannot be surpassed for agricultural resources.

MINING MATTERS.—S. W. Forbes, manager and superintendent of the Oregon Quartz Mill and Mining Company, writing from Kerbyville, under date of April 27th, says: "I send you some of the news at the mines. The O. Q. M. & M. Co., after laying up all winter, have once more started their works, and are opening up their quartz ledges with vigor. I am happy to say that this company means business. They are now running two tunnels on a fine looking vein of gold-bearing quartz, nearly four feet in width, and showing splendid walls and clay casings. This lode is situated in the hill above their mill, and has large amount of territory. Gold was taken out just below their location in the good old times. They may hope and enjoy a golden time when they get this lode properly open.—Oregonian.

DEFORMED LAMBS.—Mr. G. W. Gibson, of Lane county, inquires if any sheep breeder can give a true reason for deformity of lambs when the bucks are changed regularly every two years, not breeding in and in at all. The trouble is deformity of hinds and mouth. He has lost 25 out of 75 from this plague this spring, and at same time the ewes were in excellent condition and wintered fat.

ATTENTION, PATRONS!

A special meeting of the Order of P. of H. is called to meet at the Grange Hall in the city of Salem on Saturday, the 13th day of May, 1876, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m., for the purpose of transacting important business connected with the sale of wool and grain the ensuing year. All members in good standing from the adjoining counties are invited to participate in the meeting.

W. J. HERREN, County Agent. Salem, April 27, 1876.

A GOOD OREGON BRED HORSE.—In another column will be found the advertisement of G. G. Glenn's thoroughbred stallion "Capt. Jack," whose pedigree is given, and combines the best running and trotting stock in America. The horse stood two years ago, when four years old, and is now in splendid condition. He shows very excellent qualities one year old, and all must realize from the prices named, that Mr. Glenn makes it an object, by charging very low rates, for horse-breeders to try a thoroughbred cross. Those wishing to raise roadsters, and horses for general purpose, will do well to bear this in mind.

Republican State Convention.

The Republican State Convention met at Portland May 3d, and made the following nominations:

- For Congress—Richard Williams. For Presidential Electors—J. W. Watts, W. H. Odell, John C. Cartwright. For Judge, 3d district—R. P. Boise. For Prosecuting Attorney, 3d district—G. O. Burnett.

ED FARMER: In your paper I see articles on the tobacco question. I answer one question by asking another. I have been using tobacco about twelve years, and all the time had the best of health. Three years ago I quit chewing tobacco; I thought it a filthy practice; but as soon as the effect of the tobacco had left my system, I had to commence buying medicine, consequently I commenced using tobacco again. I found I was getting better. It cost me ten times as much for medicine as it did for tobacco. Now, Mr. Tobacco-hater, I have been all over this coast, and I've seen men in every stage of life using tobacco. Mr. Tobacco-hater says it is poison. The oldest men and women in Oregon are using tobacco; you ask them why they use it, and they will tell you it does them good. Mr. Tobacco-hater says if we would put our tobacco money out at interest, in ten or twenty years we would all be rich. If that be the case, now is it, then, that almost all the richest men in the Union use tobacco? Mr. Tobacco-hater calls it a poor, decrepit, or sickly class of people, and the most envious set of persons there is. It is perfect misery to them to see a man, after he has done a hard day's work, come and take his pipe and have a quiet smoke and enjoy himself; it is like pulling teeth out. I would like some tobacco-hater to reply to this question: Why do the very best men and women use tobacco?

H. C. HUNT, Near Newburg, Yamhill county.