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SALEM, FRIDAY, NOV. 9, 1877.

### ALFALFA.

ED. FARMER: In your last issue I notice a request of "Farmer," for information about alfalfa culture in Oregon. My anxiety to promote the advancement of agriculture caused me to notice the culture of this valuable grass in California, and perhaps my observations may be of some use. The English name of this grass is Lucerne, and its fattening qualities are highly commended by some of the old veterinary (English) writers. The marked feature of this grass in California is its rapid vigorous growth through the long dry seasons; but it requires land where the soil and subsoil are sufficiently porous to allow the long slender tap root to go down to living water. They have been traced on bottom land, in digging wells, to a depth of 20 or 30 test, with no apparent dinsinution in bickness. I noticed one field of alfalfa, on upland, in the north part of Colusa county: was very hard. The permanent water was twelve feet below the surface. The grass bealthy and produced a large amount of feed, yet less thrifty than on alluvial bottom land, where the roots can easily penetrate to living water. On the latter soil, in hot weather, it can be moved for hay every 60 three tons per sere, to each cutting. Its growth in rainy weather is much slower. Stock thrive well on the hay or pasture, yet the hay is not good for driving horses. The seed should be sown in the Spring, on thoroughly priverized soil, after all danger of frost is passed, as the young plant is killed by a light frost, yet the old plants stand the winters of England and Switzerland-its native home. It will require eight to twelve quarts of seed per sere to make a thick growth. I have seen but one patch of this grass in Oregon-in Mr. Kinney's front yard on our Salem gravel. It is rather thin, and hardly a fair test for better soils. I trust "Farmer" will make a trial and report the result, for the benefit of those who wish green pastures in July and August.

They have killed nearly all the wild oats in California by close pasturing, or by cutting for hay before the seed is ripe enough to shell. Sow early barley and cut it early for hay, and in a few years wild outs will disappear. It would hurry matters to cultivate and harrow the stubble as soon as the hay is cut, to sprout the oats in the ground, and then pasture close to keep them from seed ing in the fall. S. PELTON.

## Graded vs. Thoroughbred Hogs.

BRAVER GLEN, Marion Co., Oct. 26, 1877.

I was much surprised at the position taken by friend Cross in relation to graded hogs I tried, in a former article, to give some of my experience in fattening hogs for market, thanks to Messrs. Hopf and Clements, of and if I have erred I am sorry for it. When Goshen, Lane county, for the same. They I came home from the Fair and went to look have been manufacturing cream and Limup my stock, I found my thoroughbreds, both Berkshire and Poland Chine, squealing years, and are doing quite a business in that around the barn lot for feed, but my graded line. hogs, or pigs, as Mr. Cross has it, were three quarters of a mile from home, doing well on the stubble field. And here lies the gist of the matter for the paying part of the business. As for my fattening everything, even to the late Spring pigs, I plead guilty, and Mr. Cross strongly advised me to this course as he well knows, and my pige were so nice that he rode all the way from Salem to buy them, as he said, for breakfast becon. And the next year he tried to buy my pigs again, but I was offered more by other parties, and Mr. Cross was so cross he would hardly apeak, at least thought so. Now, here is the paying par .: Fatten everything that will weigh fifty pounds. Wintering hogs gets away with the profit, and my experience is this: A graded hog picks up the waste of the farm better than a full blood does. Now for a little experience: A friend of mine bought a fine sow and pigs, fed liberally, charged for all the feed, failed to sell any pigs at foucy prices, and finally killed for pork and found the feed account the largest. Now, as to my experience in fattoning pigs, my neighbors, some of them at least, give me eredit for making some money, or rather saving some in the hog business. Can Mr. Oross say he makes money from his thoroughbred s, other than by selling his pigs at fancy prices? No person is a firmer believer in good blood than myself. Cross and I only differ as to how to use it. Mr. Cross has good hogs, but a friend tooking at his graded hogs at the State Fair, said to me: "those graded pigs are the worst witnesses Mr. C. could have brought to the Fair to prove his particular breed of hogs a good one to cross with." Now, it is quite common for farmers to buy fancy stock without the knowledge necessary for the business, and come out at the livie end of the horn. So far as my knowledge gies, very few men have made money, in the West, breeding thorough bred stock, yet I believe the ordinary farmer is too shy of buying full hise males to improve his stock with, but when a farmer ands himself in possession of good native stock, it would be well for him to pause before selling his present stock and pushing into the fine stock business. It will do very

Cross, especially when he has the talent to make as much in one year, dealing in the Eastern pork, as a common farmer makes in two or three years' hard work. All credit to such men as Cross, Reed, Wilkins, Stewart, and others, but all men are not capable of making fine stock a specialty, or making it pay either; but Mr. Cross has good Berkbires, and no person would like to see them fully appreciated more than myself, but ro feet is more fully established than thus the first cross is best for the practical farmer .-An old friend of mine with much experience told me that for stall feeding he prefered the graded steer, but I am only anxious to learn and if wrong I would lide to get right.

G. W. HUNT.

#### Seasickness.

ED. FARMER: How strange it is that perons going on the son never have a word to say about that dreadful illness, seasickness. On the 9th of September last, we went on board the steamer Ajax, bound for San Francisco. How well we felt as we floated down the Columbia. Supper was ready at six, and all crowded to be at the table first. At daybreak we reached Astoria, and there ate another hearty meal. I will leave my subject one moment, and "do "Astoria. I was surprised to see so large a city, imagining it to be about as large as Turner and Marion united, but our fair city of Salem does not rival Astoria much in size and grandeur. It has a fice post office, and several other nice public buildings. I am told that if the railroad ever comes to Astoria, it will rival The soil was a heavy loam, and, when dry, Portland. The steamer lay at Astoria until two o'clock. Another hearty meal at dinner, and then we were ready for enything. One young lady, in particular, said she was not going to be sick, she felt too well. She sang beautifully, and it pained me to think she would have to change her tune so soon. We started over the bar, but it was too rough to 65 days, yielding from two and a half to and we turned around and came back to Astoria. Next day we tried it again, and went over, but we had a fearful time. The same day, at suppor, this young lady felt all right, but just as she was finishing her meal, some how or other the good things turned against her, and she started for her stateroom. Her strength, which had never before failed her, gave away, and the floor caught her. I was the first one to her, for you see my "time" had not yet arrived. Poor thing! She look eq up in my face as if to say," Put me in my little bed." and we did. A seasick person has no ambition whatever. One woman prayed to die. You have no fear of going down after the first day. The only fear is that you won't. Arrived at San Francisco, we visited all the places of amusement, bad a nice time, and arrived at home all safe and D. M. MORRIS.

> GOSSAMER LADIES RUBBER COATS .- If you go into Breyman's stere, Salem, you will see something new in the way of a waterproof over garment for ladies mean. They have with their usual enterprise, brought on the latest style, a silk and rubber waterproof coat that will make the wearer invulnerable to Oregon winter weather. The beauty of them is that they are gossamer in texture and can be carried in a small satchel. Country ladles who wish to attend the Grange in wet weather should call and see them.

CERAM CHERSE.-We have received some of the premium cream cheese exhibited at the late State Fair, and must present our burger chasses at Goshen for two or three

## For Three Years.

Charles Starr well known in this city, where he has relatives who are respected in this community, was sentenced yesterday, to three years in the Penitentiary, from the Multnomah Circuit Court. He will be brought up to-night or to-morrow.

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sumed their natural action and feeling. Mrs. Adkins, who has been offlicted with catarrh in the head, has been entirely cured by a few days of the Doctor's treat-

He has testimonials from a number of persons well known in Portland.

DR. MATHIEU has permanently located at the corner of Third and Morrison well for uch public spirited men as Mr. streeets, Portland, Oregon.

Prof. Tierney has just returned to Portland from a visit to the Lucky Queen mine in Southern Oregon and is at present making a detailed report of its present condition and future prospects to present to the Directors.

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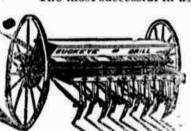


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