



ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY, BY CLARKE & CRAIG, PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS. S. A. CLARKE. D. W. CRAIG.

Terms of Subscription. One copy, one year (12 numbers) \$2.50 One copy, six months (6 numbers) 1.25 One copy, three months (3 numbers) .75

SALEM, FRIDAY, FEB. 8, 1878.

COMMERCE AND POPULATION OF OREGON.

The Commercial Reporter, of January 25, was a double number, giving a full and complete summary of the business of Portland and the commerce of Oregon, and reflecting much credit upon the editor and publisher, whose labors in that connection will only be appreciated by statisticians and newspaper men.

That paper places the present population of Oregon at 140,000, which we think is correct, believing that the State has gained at least thirty-five thousand since the State census was taken in 1875, though we do not believe the gain from immigration was 20,000 in 1877. There was probably 15,000 gain from that source in 1877, and 10,000 in 1876, and the natural increase from preponderance of births over deaths, would give us 140,000 people now, even though a portion of this immigration went to people the lands of Washington Territory. The era of progress on the northwest coast has just commenced and ten years to come will show development that will astonish the most sanguine.

The Reporter summarizes the business of 1876, and 1877, as follows:

The value of all exports from the Columbia river for the past year compared with 1876 is as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Product, 1876, 1877. Rows include Wheat, Flour, Salmon, Meats, Wool, Lumber, Gold and silver, Other products, and Total.

Which shows that the wheat surplus of 1877 was worth to us over \$8,000,000 against less than \$5,000,000, given as the value of the wheat exports of 1876. A glance at the tables shows that during 1877, wheat commanded a higher price and freights were lower than during any year in our history, besides which we had a much greater surplus than ever before, so that 1877 must be considered a most fortunate year for Oregon products. We must not forget that considerable of the surplus exports of the Columbia river came from the newly opened wheat districts east of the Cascades.

According to the above table, our wool produced more than double for 1877 what it sold for in 1875. Here again we were fortunate, as prices were good and freights low, and the natural increase of sheep greatly increased the wool clip. A gain of seventy per cent. in exports of agricultural products, in one year, looks very well, and even if the figures are an over estimate, it cannot be disputed or doubted that the commerce of the Columbia river is fast assuming proportions and magnitude that must work to our advantage and give us greatly increased importance in financial and commercial circles.

It is remarkable that with such a wonderful progress and gain, which cannot be denied, for correct figures would lie, there is still so much money scarcity in the pockets of producers. We confess that it surprises us to know that a thousand of the subscribers of the WILLAMETTE FARMER are in arrears—and some of them a good deal so. What is the matter?

PROSPECT FOR WOOL.

The New York Economist reviews the wool markets in a full statement of the yield for past year, the amount imported, and the total consumed in manufactures, and gives a statement of stocks on hand in the chief wool markets of the United States, showing that the present stocks are small, at all these points, and that the home manufacture increases fully in proportion to home production.

The imports since and including 1870 yearly, from all foreign ports into New York and Boston have been: 1870, 28,181,437 lbs.; 1871, 77,505,039 lbs.; 1872, 97,354,081 lbs.; 1873, 51,638,885 lbs.; 1874, 35,149,066 lbs.; 1875, 45,236,058 lbs.; 1876, 35,029,638 lbs.; 1877, 46,962,985 lbs.

The domestic clip of all sorts from 1872 to 1877 as estimated is as follows in pounds: 1872, 169 millions; 1873, 174 millions; 1874, 178 millions; 1875, 193 millions; 1876, 198 millions; 1877, 208 millions. This is all produced in the United States and Territories. We can thus see that although for some years there has been a steady increase in the amount of wool clipped in this country. Yet there has been an even greater in-

crease in the amount manufactured here. So we have had to import largely each year to keep our machinery supplied with raw material; during the past year we imported 46,962,985 lbs. of all grades, while we grew 208 million pounds.

The stock of domestic wool on hand, in New York, January 1, 1878, was 6,060,000 lbs.; in Philadelphia, 5,117,000; in Boston, 12,876,000; total in the three markets, 23,953,000 lbs.

Out of this total of stock in 1878 there are but 8,418,000 lbs. of fleece wool, as against 8,505,000 lbs. of fleece wool in 1877.

It seems too, that the present stock includes very little clothing wool, being mostly the coarsest grades. Our California exchanges say the stocks there, January 1, 1878, were 6,000,000 lbs., lighter than on January 1, 1877.

All these facts indicate that our wool growers may look for at least fair prices this spring, and the growth of the wool interest in this section, makes it a matter of some importance that there should be a good demand, and that prices shall rule in our favor.

VALUE OF MESQUITE GRASS.

Editor Willamette Farmer: As there appears to be a diversity of opinion concerning the true name and location of the grass known as Mesquite grass, in Oregon, at this time, I will give what information I am in possession of.

In the year 1872, I had sent me from San Antonio, Texas, by mail, three lbs. of the seed of the native grass known there as Mesquite, and so labeled to me from a seed-store in San Antonio. I have had this grass growing on my farm for the last five years, and am well convinced that it is the only grass that will keep green the year round in this country. I consider it very valuable for sheep pasture, as it is green when all other grasses that we are in possession of are dry. As a hay grass, it is similar to the red-top grass—when cured, very light. I do not think it worth anything for hay.

In the year 1875 I sent S. G. Reed, of Portland, some seed of the mesquite grass; in return, he sent me some velvet grass seed, so called, such as grows in Clatsop county; but dry weather killed it all before I could distinguish any difference between it and the mesquite. Probably Mr. Reed could give some light on this subject.

In an article that Bro. John Minto wrote, in the WILLAMETTE FARMER of Jan. 25th, concerning the mesquite grass, he says: "Now, as it can do no good to the pastoral interest to continue to spread a mistake of this kind, if it be a mistake, and I know it is in some cases, the sooner we have a clear understanding of the identity and the qualities of mesquite grass, the better." Now, Mr. Editor, I do not think it very essential to the farmer or herdsman of the Willamette valley to know the identity and qualities of the mesquite grass, as it gives us a green pasture the year round, and by so doing is of great value to the sheep interest of the State. Knowing the identity of this grass would not make it any better or worth any more than it is, consequently we have got just what we have long looked for—a grass that keeps green the year round. Therefore, to know the identity of this grass would not better our condition in the least. As for the qualities of this mesquite grass, I suppose almost every reader of the WILLAMETTE FARMER is aware that Texas, as a State, is regarded as the banner State for grazing purposes, and the mesquite grass is the prevailing or native grass of that State, which their flocks subsist upon the year round, and the stock-raiser of that State is enabled to turn off annually large quantities of cattle and sheep with less expense to him than in any other State in the Union. Therefore, the qualities of the mesquite grass are certainly good beyond a doubt. C. P. BURKHART. Albany, Jan. 30, 1878.

UMATILLA WOOL GROWERS.

On Jan. 26 the Wool Growers' Association of Umatilla county held a meeting at Pendleton, at which the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the prevalence and alarming increase of the disease known as the scab among sheep, calls for united action among shepherds for its eradication and the protection of our bands from its spread.

Resolved, That this organization take immediate active measures to disseminate the existing law and its penalties, and the decisions of the courts, in case of its being spread by careless herding and otherwise, by causing said law, penalties and decisions to be published in local papers for public benefit.

Resolved, That a committee of five of this organization be appointed to take this important matter into consideration, and report at a future meeting some definite plan for decided action in cases of careless exposure; that the organization may be prepared to recommend such changes or additions to present laws as shall effectually protect our sheep bands.

Charles Jewell, Henry Rowman, R. Thompson, E. Welch and Jacob Frazier were appointed on the above committee.

The secretary was instructed to open, by letters of greeting, communications with the kindred associations in St. Louis, Chicago, New England, California and such other localities as may be desirable, as well as with the wool manufacturing associations of New England and of Philadelphia, soliciting a reciprocal interchange of matters of common interest, and the reports of their several societies.

A plan is being drawn up for a bridge across the South Umpqua at Roseburg.

Marion County Pomona Grange Will meet on the first Friday in March 1878, at 10 o'clock a. m., with Chehul-pum Grange, Jefferson. We expect a good time, and hope all members who conveniently can will attend. DANIEL CLARK, Master.

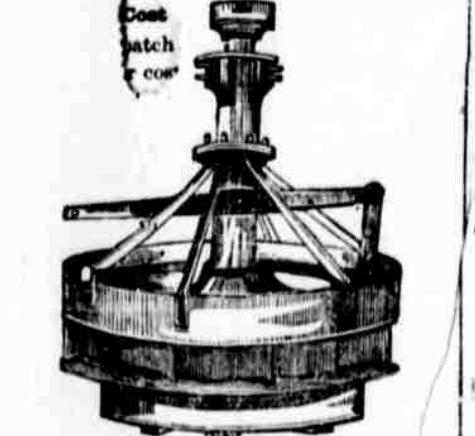
TURBINE WATER WHEEL.—The last State Fair awarded a gold medal to Moore and Parker, water wheel, which has proved to possess uncommon merit. All persons interested in water powers can obtain descriptive circulars and prospect by addressing Messrs. Moore & Parker, Portland. See advertisement elsewhere.

J. H. SETTLEMIER of Woodburn Nursery, has plenty of Fruit, Shade and Nut trees on reasonable terms. Send orders to him. He will fill your bills with the same care as if you were there. Catalogue sent on application.

To Poultry Fanciers.

I am now breeding DARK BRAHMAS, Mansfield Strain. Now setting BLACK HAMBURG, IMPORTED, and BROWN LEGHORNS. Black Hamburgs being the BEST LAYERS, as well as the MOST BEAUTIFUL of any variety. I make a specialty of Eggs hatched and shipped on receipt of price, \$4.50 per do. Eggs fresh, and satisfaction guaranteed. Correspondence solicited. J. H. THOMPSON, Woodburn, Oregon.

Gold Medal



AWARDED THE CELEBRATED MOORE & PARKER Turbine Water Wheel. At the Oregon State Fair, 1877.

ANY ONE WISHING TO PURCHASE WHEELS will do well to write for descriptive circular and price list, to MOORE & PARKER, Portland, OR.

J. B. PILKINGTON, M. D., Late Professor of Diseases of the Eye and Ear in the Salem (Oregon) Medical College. Office, Dekam's Block, Portland, or. All Surgical Operations for Diseases of the

Eye, Ear, NOSE, AND THROAT

SKILFULLY PERFORMED. CATARACT extracted, and GLAUCOMA straightened. Artificial Eyes a large assortment of the best French manufacture, on hand. Deafness, and all discharges from the Ear, and Nasal Catarrh, particularly treated. DR. W. S. CHASE, BREVET U. S. COL., late Surgeon U. S. Volunteers. Office, Horton's block, 110 stairs. 1878

ONLY \$6.50!!

I can sell you A No. 1 Hand-made FARMER'S KIP BOOTS

FOR Six Dollars and a half! A PAIR. Manufactured out of the BEST QUALITY OF OAK-TANNED LEATHER. JOHN W. GILBERT. Salem, Dec. 21.

To Sheep-Shearers and Wool-Growers.

This cut represents an improvement on Sheep-Shears, patented by J. L. SMITH, of Tuscola, Illinois, and consists of a dot on the point of the lower blade made fast by solder. This guard prevents the shears cutting or scurfing the skin of the sheep, and shears' line and smooth, without double cutting the fleece, which cannot be avoided without the use of this guard. The supporters, as seen in the cut, on the handle, ease the hand while shearing. The Agent for these shears used a pair of them the past season with entire satisfaction, and FOR NEW BEGINNERS THEY ARE Unequaled.

I will be prepared to furnish the two leading brands of shears, with the improvements attached, at the following prices: Kangaroo, \$2 75 Wilkinson, 2 50 For fine and medium-wooled Sheep, I recommend the WILKINSON.

Write plainly your name and address, which kind of shear wanted, and what length of blade. Money sent, to reach us safely, must be forwarded by P. O. Order or by Express. The shears will be sent by mail, or by Express C. O. D. Send in your orders IMMEDIATELY. None will be received later than the first of March, as they are filed for me at Tuscola, Ill. GEORGE D. GOODRICK, Agent. SALEM, OREGON. Orders can be left at the FARMER Office. feb

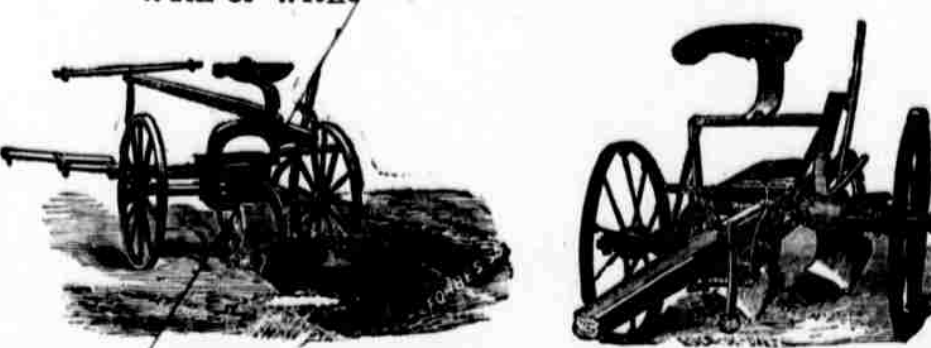


HAWLEY, DODD & CO., Portland, Ore. Offer for Sale, at the Lowest Possible Prices, a Full Line of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS. WE ARE SOLE AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED

Plows OF JOHN DEERE Moline, Ill.

Which combine the greatest strength, extreme lightness, and durability.—DEERE is the sole Patentee of the Wrought Block and Welded Frog, and their Plow is the only Plow so made. The Plow's mouldboard and share are hardened by a Patented Process. SUPERIOR TO THE DEERE PLOW.

THE DEERE SUKY AND GANG PLOWS, With or without Breaking-Plow Attachment.



The greatest Labor-Saving Implements yet Invented. Vastly Improved for Fall of 1877. 500 Sold in Oregon in One Year. Every Farmer interested. The Deere Sulky is the only Single-Lever Plow made. EASILY OPERATED. So constructed that by a slight motion of the Lever the Plow is run out of the ground and raised clear, by horse-power, instead of man-power. It is stronger and less complicated than any other. Sole Agents for the well-known

SOUTH BEND CHILLED-IRON PLOWS. BUCKEYE DRILLS and BROADCAST SEEDERS



The most successful in use. Too well known to need comment. Schuttler Farm, Freight and Spring Wagons. FARM GRIST MILLS, all styles and prices. FAN MILLS. Send for Special Circulars.

LUTHER MYERS, BREEDER OF HIGH-CLASS POULTRY, Salem, Oregon.

His stock comprises the following favorite varieties: Plymouth Rocks, Buff Cochins, Light Brahmas, DARK BRAHMAS, Black-breasted RED GAMES, American Dominiques, Aylesbury Ducks, BRONZE TURKEYS, Weight, 40 lbs. The following named varieties are also: Non-Sitters, Polish Silver-spangled and Golden-spangled, Hamburg Silver-spangled and Golden-spangled, White Leghorns, Brown Leghorns, WHITE-FACE BLACK SPANISH, Single, Pairs, and Trios for Sale. Also, a fine collection of Singing Birds, & Shepherd, Bird, and Terrier Dogs.

All of my Poultry are of the BEST STRAINS ever shipped to Oregon, and bred in separate yards. Eggs carefully packed and sent according to directions on receipt of price. Superior Egg Food always on hand. Agent for The Poultry World. Send three-cent stamp for circular and price list. Postal cards will not answer. Write your name plainly. Any one wishing to establish a Poultry and Pet-Stock Association will please send his name to me for the same, and oblige. LUTHER MYERS. SALEM, Jan. 25, 1878.

WOODBURN NURSERY

KEEPS A Full Stock OF FRUIT, SHADE, ORNAMENTAL, NUT TREES, Vines and Strawberry. Send for Price List and Catalogue. Address J. H. SETTLEMIER, Woodburn, Or. JOHN GRAY, Formerly in Durbin's Block, has just opened a Large and complete Stock of FURNITURE Carpets, Oilcloths, Matting, AND House-Furnishing Goods. Next to Dalrymple & Brown, STARKEY'S BLOCK, - - SALEM, OR. WHICH WILL BE SOLD AT Lowest Cash Rates!



ATTENTION SHEEP GROWERS!! CARBOLIC SHEEP DIP. A SURE DEATH TO Scab, Screw Worm, AND ALL Parasites that infest Sheep. IT IS SAFER, BETTER and VASTLY CHEAPER THAN ANY OTHER PREPARATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SHEEP. IT Improves the Health OF THE ANIMAL, AND THE QUALITY OF THE WOOL. One gallon is enough for one hundred to two hundred Sheep, according to their age, strength, and condition. It is put up in FIVE-GALLON CANS and in BARRELS. Send for circular, to HOBGE DAVIS & Co., PORTLAND, OREGON. Wholesale Agents for the State. Or to your nearest Retail Druggist or Dealer. EDWIN ALDEN'S ADVERTISING AGENCY, 174 ELM STREET, CINCINNATI, OHIO. Advertisements inserted in any paper. Before advertising send for my catalogue.