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Willamette Farmer.

\$2.50 Per Annum.

With the added expense of an enlarged issue we cannot afford the paper without pre-payment at less than \$3.00.

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NO. 13.

Wheat Talk.

A California Exchange discourses about rust in wheat, and concludes that it accompanies a heavy growth on moist rich land, where rain is followed by warm sunshine.

Some will be amused at the idea of a remedy for rust, and it does look absurd to talk of remedying what is occasioned by the season, but it may not be beyond the reach of human wisdom and energy to prevent what it cannot cure.

Mr. Mathiot writes us from French Prairie, Woodburn, that farmers about there are much discouraged, have very little grain sown, and are prevented by the weather from putting in their spring crops.

If the land is rich and fertile, its fertility can be increased by thorough drainage. If land is drained well it can be sown in May or June, wheat grown on it will be less liable to rust or mildew.

At the present time there is no certainty of profit in cultivating low wet lands in wheat, in this valley, and the experience of thorough farming, all over the world, shows that thorough drainage helps every possible variety of land.

We firmly believe that if every farmer on low prairie would sell half his land and use the proceeds to advantage, the remaining half would be worth more money and yield a surer and heavier profit.

Crop Prospects.

April was a cool month, with enough rain to satisfy all needs, and May has proved even more rainy and cold. Crops need sunshine for awhile, and some lowlands yet wait for a good time to plow.

DAVIDSON BROS. are the cheapest photographers in Portland. Their work speaks for itself. Call and see samples.

The Willamette Farmer.

While the greater portion of our columns is devoted to agricultural and miscellaneous reading and discussion of important matters and public affairs, intended to answer to best advantage the purposes of farmers and their families who are our readers and patrons.

We invite correspondence from all sections of Oregon and Washington, giving us facts and experience, or the views of writers on matters of interest. We propose to discuss everything the people are interested in, freely and fairly.

Members of the Grange are aware that we like to hear from them on all matters of interest, and we are desirous to advance the good of their order and add to its usefulness by all means in our power.

We renew the offer we have made for years past, to send the FARMER FREE, as a premium, for one year, to any subscriber, or any other person, who will procure us three new subscribers and remit \$7.50 to pay for their subscriptions.

Veterinary.

We have assurance from Mr. Withycombe, Veterinary Surgeon, that he will answer, to the best of his ability, any questions that may be propounded through the FARMER.

Too Wet.

May has disappointed the hopes of many in being too wet to permit plowing and sowing on low lands, and there is a great deal of oats and some wheat to be sown yet.

Bridge Wanted.

The Statesman says: The people of Mehama are beginning to move in the matter of building a bridge across the North Santiam at that place.

P. SELLING is deserving a good trade, because anything you get there is a good article and the price is not high.

Fruit Growing.

The time has fully come when the fruit growers of Oregon should organize a society for the purpose of protecting and advancing their own interests. This has been attempted before, but has not succeeded for obvious reasons.

We may look forward to the time when the growth of cities will create a good demand for small fruits. The present interest centers in orchards, and the orchardist is studying the question with a view to establishing the qualities and value of different varieties.

Besides the sale of green fruits, we have an immense business in prospect to raise and cure dried fruits for shipment. To-day there is abundant evidence to support the position we have always taken, that the cultivation of plums and prunes offer the most satisfactory rewards.

A Fruit Growers' Association will have a delightful field for observation and labor to test all the fruits and varieties in such a manner as to decide their adaptability to our soil and climate, and to establish the points where they thrive best here.

We need to know what nurserymen are not obliged to tell, the character of all fruits, and whether they are worth raising here.

Many have wasted time, money, land and labor in cultivation of unsuitable varieties of fruit. Already we have insects and diseases of trees to contend against, and all these evils will increase, and should be combated by organized and intelligent observation and effort.

Lane Co. Pomona Grange.

The Lane County Pomona Grange will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, May 20. A full attendance is desired, as important business will be transacted.

Mr. Vanderbilt's Noted Team to Trot Against Time for \$5,000.

For some time past there has been a great rivalry among the owners of double trotting teams, and about all the fast trotters for sale in the country have been purchased by William H. Vanderbilt and Mr. Robert Bonner. Who owns the fastest double trotting team is an open question.

Letter from Woodburn.

Yes, it rains, and has been raining for some time. Our farmers are gloomy because they are compelled to be idle where they should be busy in their fields stirring up mother earth for the drop to come.

We think premature the reports that come from all sides of such a bright outlook for the coming crop, at least so far as the same applies to the lowlands of this valley.

Taking a general survey of the situation, we think the spring crop in this county will be rather short, and the crop below an average.

It must be remembered that Woodburn represents the flat lands of Marion County, where fall wheat suffers from the cold, protracted wet weather, and spring plowing and sowing has been retarded by the same.

Berkshire Pigs.

Mr. John W. Gilbert is receiving numerous orders for Berkshire pigs from experienced stockmen and farmers. It must be remembered that his stock is the best he could procure at the East.

Dr. KECK makes marvelous cures in catarrh.

Sharp Criticism.

HARRISBURG, Or., May 7, 1879. Editor Willamette Farmer: I wish to call your attention to an editorial in the Harrisburg Nucleus of May 3d, entitled "One Cause of Crime."

We publish the above as it seems to be written in good faith and contains more or less truths. No doubt there are some who come to Oregon under misapprehension, having heard only the most favorable accounts, but when the writer charges all the newspapers with criminal misrepresentation, we must object, as the FARMER has never said a word to induce families to come here without means.

Romantic Wedding.

Mr. J. Stephen writes from Pleasant Home, Oregon, as follows: I clipped the following notice from the Urbana, Ohio, Citizen and Gazette, and as Mr. Clegget is well known here, and a former patron of your paper, you will please give it a place in your columns.

A rather romantic wedding took place a few miles west of here not many days ago. The parties were Mr. Charles Clegget, of Portland, Oregon, and Miss Phoebe Stevens, a much respected lady and until within the last year and a half was a resident of this vicinity.

The Best Harvest Machines.

I would like to say a few words through the FARMER in regard to the best and cheapest way of saving the coming crop, as there has never been so fine a prospect for a heavy crop per acre, and with the large increase of land now sown in wheat, I think we can safely look for an increase of near, or quite, one-half more grain than any former season.

Some time ago I wrote an article in answer to objections to the use of wire binders, and Mr. Hibbard answered me with some objections to the self-binders. I now say to my friend Hibbard, as he requested me to put on my specs to look for wire, that he will need none to see the difference in favor of the binders over the old headers, unless he is like the boy that carried the stone in one end of the bag to balance the corn in the other end—the same stone his grandfather used.

Scottish Farmers.

In all the papers at present a great deal is being published about the British farmer paying high rents, and the land proprietors having to take less rent, etc. To make an illustration of it, let me tell you of a farm I was raised on (Tourich, in Kintire, Scotland). My fathers have been born and have died there for several generations, and during all that time have paid rent to the Argyle family (Duke of Argyle). The farm of Tourich contains some 240 acres, and was first rented to my forefathers for some £100, or \$500 a year.

This is a sample of all Scotch farms. You ask, how do they pay that rent? Well, in the first place they have to pay from one to three years' rent in advance; you have to have so much stock on your farm, and you can't sell them in a bunch or lot unless you have a tenant who suits the "laird" or landlord, or his agents. In that part of Scotland half of the farm is in pasture, at a time the other half is in grain and roots, turnips, etc.

We are decidedly of the opinion that brood mares should have plenty of exercise, and nothing is better than moderate work. Neither should they be permitted to become fat, for the dangers of parturition are immensely augmented in such cases, as in thin beasts, if healthy and in "good heart," rarely experience any difficulty in foaling, and there is but little danger of "milk fever" after the foal is dropped. (National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.)