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**OUR FOURTEENTH VOLUME**

The WILLAMETTE FARMER has now been going abroad to visit the homes of its friends for thirteen years, and commences the fourteenth year with the early weeks of 1882. As the world goes, a dozen or so years are not much, measured by the great record of time, but considered in the light of local events our existence covers a period during which the population of the Columbia region has trebled, and from a comparatively non-exporting country we have passed on to become exporters of twenty millions of dollars worth annually. When the FARMER was started we had no railroads, except the portages around the Cascades and Dalles of the Columbia; the Willamette river, as well as the Columbia, was owned by companies who monopolized the portages; we exported no flour or wheat to foreign countries; sold only a small quantity of wool that went to California, and such a thing as selling a million or two dollars worth annually of cattle, horses and sheep, to be driven East, was not even dreamed of.

Times have changed since the WILLAMETTE FARMER was a small sheet and started in for a precarious existence; for now the whole Pacific Northwest teems with enterprise, and the newspaper goes to hundreds of places that then had not even a name. The expansion of our columns has kept pace with the growth and development of the region we are proud to represent, and we feel justifiable satisfaction when we recognize that this paper will compare favorably with similar journals published in older settled countries.

Whatever the FARMER has been in the past, we desire to make it in every respect more useful and more valuable in the future. There is a limit to human enterprise, however, and in our case that limit is financial ability. We stand ready to devote every dollar of income to improving the character of the paper and in adding to its practical value, and as it is impossible to canvass the whole country, we depend on the kindness of our friends to take some pains to show the paper to others, and so increase its circulation. One brain can do but so much, and to employ other brains requires money. Give us the means, and we can fully supply the want of a first-class newspaper. If a lifetime of education and experience are of any value, it is at your service if you will furnish means. This region now has a population of one hundred and fifty thousand farmers, and ought to be abundantly able to support a journal that will cover the whole field of independent thought, improved agriculture, scientific progress and general news of the world.

The age, standing and influence of this journal are a guarantee that it will not go backward or stand still. To go forward we must have support to justify it, and if every subscriber will take interest in procuring more subscribers, it will soon increase our circulation, which will also increase our advertising patronage, and we shall make the FARMER correspond with its support.

One gratifying fact that we note is that the majority of those who take the paper remain its firm supporters. We feel grateful for every kind word and act, and receive many encouraging expressions that give us courage to do.

Please remember that we offer a good commission on all new subscribers sent us, and do not expect service without remuneration; but all the same we feel obliged to those who accept our terms and add new names to our list.

**BEAUTIFUL WINTER WEATHER.**

If we have any severe winter weather, it invariably comes punctually with Christmas. It is frequently the case that holiday week is quite sharply cold, but the present season we were struck with a moderately cold wave in November, though it would have been considered mild for that month in the same latitude east of the Rocky mountains, and since then, we have neither had cold or rain in great degree, but though occasionally foggy and rather raw, our December was unusually pleasant to bear that name. The new year commenced with a Spring temperature. If it continues we shall have premature bloom on peach trees, if not other fruit. We remember to have seen peach trees in bloom in Portland gardens at a very early day, in the month of February, and indications favor a similar occurrence the present year.

If this weather continues our farmers will immediately begin their Spring plowing, and an unusual acreage of Spring grain will be put in. While we expect to have mild Winters in Western Oregon, this season, so far, has had few predecessors of equally moderate temperature. It will sound strange to persons in the same latitude elsewhere to read of flowers in bloom in our gardens at Christmas, but such is the fact. The lawns and door yards of Portland are green and beautiful as if it was May. Pastures are all better than usual, and stock generally doing well. Fall sown grain has made good growth and promises to winter much better than last year. Give us good prices another year, and this whole Northwest country will be on the top wave of prosperity.

There are said to be more pure Races (Short-horn) females in the vicinity of Mt. Sterling, Ky., than there are in England and the rest of America combined.

**THE NEW YEAR.**

The advent of another year is a fit time to consider many things; to glean experience from the past, and make resolves for the future. Our readers are found far and near among farmers, and this season is usually the time when the farmer has less pressure of work and less demands upon his attention than any other. The work of the past year is fully completed. Whatever the harvest has been, it is all gathered, and as a general fact our people of both Oregon and Washington have been blessed with fair returns from the soil. The Fall work is done, and you now wait for the "turn of the year" and the "breaking of Winter" to commence plowing and seeding for Spring grain. If we have any advice to give, or suggestion to make, based on personal experience, general knowledge of farming matters and many years devoted to conducting this journal, it is to hope that our farmers will appreciate the value to themselves individually and to the State at large of more careful husbandry and more determination to vary the class of products. The time has come when careless farming and propagation of wild oats and weeds tell heavily on soils that are not impoverished, but waste their fertility in producing such pests, and as a result disappoint the hard-working farmer who hopes for a good yield.

We look upon it that in the coming years the world will see greater competition in the line of broadstuffs, wool and meat than has ever been known. Vast districts of North America, that possess uncounted possibilities, besides those opening up on this Northwest Coast, are being made available by railroads, and besides this, other portions of the world are increasing production and also increasing areas for cultivation. Russia is putting millions of acres into wheat that never have been cropped, and the construction of railroads will make the Russian Empire greatly increasing producer of grain for a century to come. Not only so, but India and parts of Asia that have done little in that way, but are in or near the mountains, having secured transportation by railroad building, are now beginning to push their grain into the markets of Europe. We read quite lately that the coast of Africa, bordering the Mediterranean, is to become wheat producing, and we see no reason why development shall not make South America, before many years, a competitor in this branch of agriculture, and in every other.

During the two past years our farmers have had to pay heavy toll to ocean transportation, but it is only natural to believe that this fault will be remedied, simply for the reason that abundant capital is satisfied with moderate dividends, and our commercial wants need only to be known to be amply supplied—in time.

When commencing a new year we ought to look all probabilities fairly in the face and prepare to meet them successfully. The farmer needs an active brain, perhaps not as constantly, but as certainly as the merchant. The coming years will see a great struggle on the part of producers to hold their own, and economical management, and that sort of cultivation that will bring sure returns will eventually win. The man who puts all his land to wheat takes great chances, while the man who has a good orchard and garden; good meadows and pastures; who keeps stock with good judgment—especially sheep; whose management makes him in as great measure as possible self-sustaining, and with something at all seasons to sell, has the safest, surest and far the pleasantest lot in life. The possession of such varied interests not only gives pleasant variety of occupation, but stimulates energies and ideas into constant and healthy exercise.

The great change that has come upon this region within three years past is simply wonderful. It looks as if we should soon have little left to desire in the way of internal improvements, and a great area of country will be made available for settlement and cultivation. The Pacific Northwest has qualities that will be rapidly developed, and will yield enormous products to supply the wants of the world. There is no reason why our farmers should not be prosperous and happy, but we insist upon it that they need to study economic methods. Economy does not simply mean parsimony, either, but the word signifies what is best. Political economy takes in all that pertains to the prosperity of a nation, and farm economy means methods that will pay best in the long run; not a penurious, hand-to-mouth way of living that looks only to the wants of the present. The farmer should plan his work for years ahead, and farm to preserve his family as well as his land in first-rate condition.

It may not seem very lively to commence the New Year with a sermon, but there is no better time for one than now. Yet it is pleasant to reach out a hand and grasp that of every reader, and, with hearty good will, wish you all a "Happy New Year," and imagine a full and hearty response. May the year be fruitful with blessings, and may it bring not merely health and happiness in an ordinary acceptance, but may it bring reliable prosperity to us all, and the possession of the best privileges to every home. As far as the WILLAMETTE FARMER goes, we will try to bring you cause for Welcome every week, and endeavor more and more, as we have experience to qualify it, to contribute to your actual prosperity and increase your intellectual resources.

**Attorneys for the N. P. R. R.**

The firm of McNaught, Ferry, McNaught, of this city, have been employed as attorneys for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, on a salary, and now have full charge of all that Company's legal business in Washington Territory, both East and West of the mountains. In the letter of George Gray, general counsel of the Company, making the appointment, the question of compensation, whether fee or salary, was left to the firm, and they chose the latter. James McNaught will go East of the mountains early in January on the Company's business, to be gone a couple of weeks.—Seattle Intelligencer.

**REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1881.**

Standing on the threshold of the New Year, still in the shadow of the old, we can look back with satisfaction on the advance the Columbian year has made in 1881. The previous year was remarkable for the short crops that followed an uncommonly dry season East of the mountains, which worked a decided hardship on the farmers there who made wheat raising a specialty. They claim, in the Umatilla, Walla Walla and Palouse regions, that, owing to the very great production from their soil, where wheat fairly put in averages thirty bushels to the acre, they can do well when their wheat brings 50 cents a bushel at the nearest station. Owing to various causes, during the year following the harvest of 1880, wheat did not command more than 35 to 40 cents a bushel, and times were hard with farmers. Also, along the Columbia and to the North of it, there was a very severe Winter one year ago, and a great deal of stock died from cold and starvation. The unusually dry Summer had left the pastures bare, and stock entered the Winter poor, hence the loss in that section; but those who have read our articles on stock in Wasco county, will see that in all Middle and Southern Oregon the Winter was mild, the pastures good, and that scarce any stock was lost. So through the greater portion of Eastern Oregon stock Wintered well on the native ranges, even in that unusually inclement season.

In Western Oregon the harvest of 1880 was magnificent. Suddenly there was a scarcity of tonnage to satisfy the demands of California and the Columbia river trade, for the two States had a surplus of over 50,000,000 bushels of wheat to export, and all the tonnage available could not transport two-thirds of that quantity, so that the two States carried over a surplus of twenty millions of bushels, or more, to the present harvest year. Of course, with such a lack of tonnage, the ship owners had it all their own way, and freights were simply enormous, much to the disgust of our honest and hard worked producers, who sold a magnificent crop of wheat at an average of about sixty cents a bushel, when they had hoped to get a dollar; and if freights had remained at a reasonable figure they would have received 85 cents to 90 cents per bushel. High freights cost our Northern Pacific farmers not far from \$3,000,000 that year. The Winter season of 1880 and 1881 was not so severe in Western Oregon as in Eastern Oregon; with us stock did well, but stock here can always be housed and fed in inclement weather, as stock raising is not carried on as it is East of the mountains.

An abundant yield of cereals in that section has made 1881 a prosperous year for Eastern Oregon and Washington. Fortunately, they had in their favor improved transportation facilities, a reduction in freight charges and partial failure of production over much of the world, gave wheat a price that netted the farmer everywhere in all this region a much better price than in 1880. The heavy yield was marketable at 75 to 85 cents in this valley during the early Fall months, and at 55 to 60 cents East of the Cascades. Despite freights of extortionate charges, wheat this year was made to aid the producer, and was encouragement for further labor. Still, the overcharge on freights, above a good paying rate, dipped into producers' pockets to the tune of about two millions of dollars, even though not so heavy as in 1880.

California in 1881 failed to produce even an average fair crop, and did not have a total of one half as much as in 1881. Only for the immense quantity held over from 1880, freights would be abundant and cheap, but while we exported from the coast less than a million tons of grain in 1880, we commenced with at least fifteen hundred thousand tons of wheat on hand, after the recent harvest. The latest reports of tonnage goes to show that nearly enough vessels are on the way here to take away all this immense surplus, but still the tonnage question rules the day, because there is not known yet to be a full supply of ships to answer our needs. Our exports include lumber, timber, canned and salted salmon and many other products, so that our growing commerce seems to be a tax on producers, as it creates a demand for ships. Take wheat production in 1881 and it may be considered a fair business, though not a remunerative one, but the world needs our wheat, and pays a premium for it on account of its extra quality. Soon, this transportation problem will be solved, and with the Southern Pacific road to take away part of the California surplus and ship it to Europe via the Gulf of Mexico, and with the prospect of a ship canal, or ship railroad, across the Isthmus of Darien as soon as human energy can accomplish them, we may consider that before many years pass we shall have cheaper transportation for our grain, and also a more certain market for it.

Wool has been a great and increasing staple with us, and our wool is favorably known in the markets of the world. We have for years been breeding up in Merino, until we have in many instances the best quality of clothing wool for sale. Last year we had probably 8,000,000 pounds of wool worth \$2,000,000, which added to the sum of money netted by the farmer for his wheat, made a total of ten millions of dollars that went to producers of these two staples alone. While wool growing is carried on extensively East of the mountains, as a specialty, here, in Western Oregon, and in all farming districts, farmers generally find it profitable to combine sheep with their operations, as scavengers and gleaners, to clear their Summer-fallow of weeds, so to insure good crops and to sustain the fertility of the soil by the returns that sheep always give to it.

As years pass our agriculture is becoming more diversified. We grow more grass and clover; more good pasture and good meadow; more well cultivated gardens and well assorted orchards. Gardening near large cities has become a profession; so has the cultivation of small fruits. We find good hop yards turning off immense yields and paying some years a heavy profit. Last year was fortune in every

respect for hop growers. This industry has become a permanent thing, and many men give careful study to it, and produce and prepare their hops in the very best manner. The hop crop of the Sound and this valley was worth hundreds of thousands of dollars the past year.

The price of stock cattle has advanced from \$10 a head to about \$15, and we have active demand for all we can afford to sell. The same is true of horses and sheep, and it is not too much to claim that the stock sales of the Columbia and Willamette regions have aggregated two millions of dollars in 1881 for that year's transactions. It is not an overestimate to suppose that the products of agriculture, sold for foreign markets, including shipments to California and Eastern trade, foot up \$15,000,000 the past year.

During the year passed by, our country has been on a top wave of progress and development. Railroads have been extended, and the system undertaken insures for this region speedy connection with the world in all directions. It looks as if we should soon have nothing left to wish for. Money comes here by millions to be invested in all safe ways; to encourage industry in every form; to build railroads; to start commercial banks; to make great improvements everywhere; to develop coal fields, build saw and grist mills, buy homes and improve them, and as fast as railroads offer opportunity, settlement progresses and agriculture is maintained.

It is not possible in a single article proportioned to a newspaper's means, to do justice to this wide region we denominate the Pacific Northwest. Early in the Spring we shall see the railroad a through line from Portland to Walla Walla, and to Northern Montana. By Fall the gap will be closed between Portland and Kalama, giving through connection to Puget Sound; also, by Fall the Northern Pacific will be completed to beyond Missoula, in Montana; the Blue Mountain branch of the O. R. & N. Co.'s roads will be built from the Columbia river to Baker City, giving connection with the Oregon branch of the Union Pacific and a through route to Chicago and New York. The work of 1882 will finish the system by which the O. R. & N. Co. will develop the Palouse and Walla Walla valleys. January, 1883, will see less than 300 miles of gap remaining unfinished in the great Northern Pacific route, and the Summer of 1883 will doubtless see that road completed and in full operation. Also, 1883 will see the union of the Oregon and California road and the Oregon branch of the Central Pacific at the State line, and speedy connection between Portland and San Francisco.

We have briefly recapitulated the facts of our production and development, and shown what advantages projected transportation enterprises offer us. We are rapidly growing in population, and shall soon possess facilities for transportation in every direction. The great Columbian valley will no longer be an unknown land, but will be thoroughly prospected and rapidly developed. A great deal of our progress has been accomplished by the energy and ambition of a single man who had the genius to grasp the subject comprehensively, and recognizing the capacities of this great region has had the courage and ability to undertake its development. Mr. Villard has certainly accomplished much, and this region has benefited by his ambition and enterprise. If he keeps his promises with us, we shall benefit still more. Let us hope that our future progress will be identified with his continued success, and that the farmers of Oregon and Washington will also find success crown their efforts.

**INSANE ASYLUM BUILDING.**

The people were determined to have a State Institution erected, and in consequence of that determination the last Legislature passed a Building Act appropriating one hundred thousand dollars in money, and the use of convict labor so far as it could be employed, and with this scant appropriation the work was commenced. We say "scant," because we have so often heard told that the usual expenditure was \$1,000 for each patient, and when our State Board undertook to put up an asylum that would accommodate four hundred patients with that sum of money at command, it really did appear that it was a "scant" appropriation for so important a purpose.

The State Board, consisting of Governor Thayer, Secretary Earhart and Treasurer Hirsch, went to work determined to see what economy and prudence could do in the way of building such an asylum. They selected W. F. Boothby, of Salem, an experienced builder and accomplished architect, to plan and supervise the construction, and, so far, results achieved fully endorse this as a most judicious selection. They also appointed Dr. H. Carpenter, late of Salem and now of Portland, as Medical Superintendent to advise as to the best mode of construction for sanitary purposes, a Board of Consulting Physicians having met and decided on a general plan at the outset. With this organization the building of the Asylum has progressed through the year 1881, and is now enclosed, roofed and the windows partly in. Partitions are being put up, and very soon the heating apparatus, consisting of hot air furnaces, pipes, etc., will be put in place and ready for operation. It will thus be apparent that work has progressed already so rapidly that there will be no difficulty in finishing the construction next Summer, so that the Legislature can provide in September for fitting and furnishing it for occupation as an Asylum when the Hawthorne contract shall expire in December.

To satisfy themselves as to the value of their plans, Dr. Carpenter and architect Boothby lately made an official journey to California and visited both the asylums of that State, at Stockton and Napa, and we learn that in each instance the officers in charge of these asylums pronounce the plan of the Salem Asylum quite superior to their own, and in fact combining more perfect and convenient arrangements than any known institution of the kind. We are prepared to believe this, because we have known that Mr. Boothby and Dr. Carpenter have ob-

tained plans and specifications of the best institutions of the kind in the world, and have devoted a great deal of study to combining in their plan the best features and most approved modern ideas known in the building art and in medical science. Dr. Carpenter has had wide experience as well as professional learning, and has entered into this matter with great earnestness; the result will be seen in a perfect asylum for those unfortunate that come upon the State.

Experts everywhere pronounce this a model plan; the building will be better lighted and arranged than most asylums; there is more space allotted each patient than in California asylums. Besides, it is the best building ever erected, in Europe or America, for this amount of money; there has been no chance for jobbery or speculation, and the State Board, that has inspected and passed on all items of expense, is entitled to great credit for the faithful and economical manner in which the work has been done.

Of the total \$100,000 appropriated \$62,000 has been expended, leaving \$38,000 to be used, with nearly all the expensive material bought and paid for. When the building shall be finished and furnished, the total cost, including a fair valuation of convict labor, will be about \$100,000; of this \$100,000 will be the cash cost of the building; \$25,000 will be the estimated value of convict labor, and \$25,000 will be required to furnish it. The asylum is calculated for 406 patients, and dividing this amount by that number, gives \$400, or less, as the cost for each patient, and, deducting convict labor, not much more than \$300 for each patient. The cost of the Napa institution was \$2,000 each patient, there being a great deal of ornamentation about the edifice; the average cost in most countries is placed at \$1,000, but our asylum costs less than half the usual outlay, while it still, though a plain edifice, possesses great architectural beauty, and its adaptability to the use intended is equal to any known asylum, and far superior to most.

It will be a great credit to our State, as well as to the officer superintending the work, that we can put up so thoroughly competent a building so cheaply and still possess so much excellence, and we venture to believe that when built and in operation, our asylum can be conducted efficiently and humanely and with the same economy that has characterized its construction.

**THE GUILTEAU TRIAL.**

This miserable performance drags on and costs the country an immense sum, much more than Guiteau's life is worth, but this nation is vindicating its claim to be of a high order of civilization and possessed of the magnanimity that becomes a great people. The assassin is protected as carefully by the law as if he were entitled to the best acts of our people, and all the while he is looked upon with loathing and execrated as a depraved villain that has no right to live.

But while we are vindicating our honor by granting this human fiend an impartial trial, at an immense expense, there is no reason why, week after week, and day by day, he should be allowed to blaspheme by claiming inspiration for his act, and asserting his alliance with God; nor should he be allowed to use scurrilous language by insulting witnesses and counsel, as he constantly does. Judge Cox may be honest and impartial, but he lacks judgment and forgets what is due to the Court, what is due to the people, and what is so evidently due to the cowardly assassin who stands so infamously condemned by the world. Something is also due to the murdered President, who stood so high in the esteem of all good citizens, and whose fate has been so sorrowfully mourned. This pitiful wretch, that would not have the courage to attack any enemy openly, seems to have reached the very height of his earthly ambition when able to insult the memory of the dead and outrage the feelings of the living. It is the day he has lived for, planned for, and standing in the prisoner's dock loading the air with foul-mouthed profanity, his vanity is intensely satisfied because his low-flung and ribald utterances are telegraphed all over the continent and the world.

Take up an Eastern journal two weeks old and compare it with the dispatches of to-day, and they read almost alike. The constant interruption, unchecked insults and degraded utterances seem stereotyped; and we wonder how long human patience can endure.

Before the days of mourning have gone by in Washington, this human vampire is heard in open court, and allowed unhindered to gloat over the assassination. It is an insult to justice and civilization; to the nation and to the martyred dead, that such a course is pursued. The ribaldry that he affects as insanity is assumed with too much skill. The popular verdict has long been rendered that he never was insane, but that depravity has run unchecked until murder was his outcome. We shall all be glad when this despicable farce shall be ended, and the spirit of Garfield be allowed to rest in peace.

**Louiness.**

The cheapest and one of the best means of ridding stock of lice, consists in the free application of ordinary wood ashes, frequent brushing, removal of old or dirty bedding, occasional application of boiling hot water to the wood-work of stalls, sheds and sties, or lime-washing of the same. All loose hairs and dirt removed from the bodies of animals by brushing, as well as old bedding, should be collected in a heap and burned. The presence of vermin or live stock can never be successfully combated by simply applying a certain remedy to the body of the animals, and not at the same time attending to the general cleanliness of these, as well as of their surroundings.—Livestock Journal.

Cabbage is the best and cheapest green food which can be fed to poultry in Winter. It is not necessary to feed the best heads, but the loose, soft specimens that are not exactly marketable.

**RAILROAD MATTERS.**

We hear considerable speculation concerning the intentions of railroad managers, that may not be worth noting, but as the public likes to be informed of all such current gossip we will sum up the floating talk for what it is worth.

Hon. A. L. Williams, of Kansas, attorney for the Union Pacific and Oregon Short Line railroads, has been in this city attending to the incorporation of an Oregon Company, so that they can build railroads in this State. The local board are D. P. Thompson, M. S. Burrell, Ellis G. Hughes and B. J. Pengra, who are organized merely to comply with the laws of our State. Mr. Williams was interviewed and announced that his company intend not only to meet the O. R. & N. Co. at Baker City, as agreed between the companies, but also to put a road through either to the Columbia and down that river to Portland, or else push west from Boise City; cross the Blue mountains, and enter this valley by the Santiam pass of the Cascades. He plainly says that such work is conditioned on whether Villard pushes his road east through Idaho and Wyoming from Baker City; in which case the Short Line must return the compliment by coming to Portland. It is pretty safe to conclude that the respective managers will come to a mutual understanding not to interfere with each other's plans, and that the Union Pacific Short Line will end at Baker City.

There is also a rumor that the Central Pacific magnates, in pursuance of their scheme to transfer Oregon wheat, via the Southern Pacific road to the Gulf of Mexico, and thence to Europe, are negotiating for the purchase of the Oregon and California road and control of all the lines in the Willamette valley. It is apparently to the interest of our producers that one company should own the route from here to the Gulf of Mexico, if it is possible to carry our wheat by that route. Without knowing anything authoritative, we should say that the scheme is reasonable on the face of it, but will hardly be carried out except as a compromise between the Villard combination and the Central Pacific men, to prevent the latter building independent roads into Oregon and take away both the wheat of this valley and the surplus of Eastern Washington and Oregon. Four great corporations are interested in the trade of this Northwest region: the Northern Pacific, O. R. & N. Co., Union Pacific and Central Pacific, and who ever expects they will be apt to antagonize each other may as well abandon that idea, for it is only good business sense for them to compromise matters, so that each will have distinct interests that the others will not encroach upon, and as all seem to have abundant means at command it is not safe for one to neglect the claims of another.

What the Oregon Pacific will amount to remain to be seen. If it really comes into the field with immense capital at command, and determined to claim a share of this trade, we shall look for some compromise rather than that the producing class will have the benefit of competition and low freights. Men who swing tens of millions of capital are not apt to throw it away in fighting other capital. The usual way with railroads is to harmonize their interests in some way or other, and as that is only common sense, in a business point of view, we cannot blame railroad men and need not foster any sanguine hopes of good to result to the producer from competition.

We make these suggestions as to railroad policy with perfect confidence that the future will bear them out, and what we have dashed up has only been the railroad gossip of the hour.

**D. LATHROP & CO.**

This celebrated Boston house has lately put us under obligation for favors. They issue the *Wide Awake* illustrated magazine, *Babyland* and several other periodicals for children and youth that are fully equal to anything of the kind we have ever seen.

Their illustrated calendar, *Day After Day*, for 1882, is a convenient thing to hang up in every home, and every day carries a lesson with it, as "golden texts" are printed on each leaf, and there is a leaf for every day in the year.

"How we went Birds'-Nesting" is the title of one of the most charmingly written and most beautifully illustrated works we have ever met. It is written by Amanda B. Harris, and the illustrations are by G. F. Barnes. These pictures of birds of various kinds show them in all situations and different seasons, with their nests, and are of a charming style of etching that exhibit natural features with great beauty. We should class these illustrations as very happy efforts, displaying great artistic skill, and the book, as a whole, though inexpensive, is a beautiful and tasteful gift. The cover is a gem of itself.

D. Lathrop & Co. are also publishing a series of illustrated works, in which the history of different countries is given in a plain and pleasant manner, with numerous illustrations. They send us a sample of this "Library of Entertaining History," which is devoted to Switzerland, a land we all like to read about. The book is a handsome size, nearly six hundred pages, and contains one hundred engravings of places in that country. The history is written in easy and familiar style, and made attractive for young people. A library of such books would not only be an ornament to the household, but would entice the young people into an understanding of matters of great importance that are often neglected, much to the loss of the future man or woman.

**REDUCED SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.**

Our charge for subscription at home is invariably \$2.50 a year, but as we wish to encourage Eastern people to read about this region we offer to send to subscribers from other States for two dollars a year, or one dollar for six months.

A wealthy company of Belgian capitalists is about organizing a new concern for the manufacture of beet-root sugar in the Province of Quebec.