

(Continued from Second page.) WESTERN WASHINGTON.

Western Washington Territory had little or no open country, but with few exceptions was a forest region. Along the river bottoms are thickets of vine maple, ash, alder and willow; on the uplands oak sometimes grows, but usually fir, spruce and cedar. Along the Columbia are some rich bottoms. The Cowitz has an extensive valley. All the region from the Cascade Mountains to the sea and northward from the Columbia to Puget Sound possesses much the same character. The uplands are fir forests and the bottoms tangled thickets. When cleared they make the richest meadows and grain fields. The greater portion of this region of a hundred miles square is vacant. The Pacific Division of the Northern Pacific Railroad passes through it, from Kalama, on the Columbia, forty miles below Portland, to Tacoma on Puget Sound, 105 miles, and is dotted with villages. The country presents a rugged appearance, but has good soil. In a few years, when immigration shall have filled up the open wheat land East of the Mountains, this timbered region will be appreciated. It can be cleared as the forests of the New England and Middle States have been cleared. When cleared these lands will have special value from nearness to market and mild climate. In time these western regions of the North Pacific will be the most valuable of these accounts; meantime, they are partially neglected. They attract continual immigration and witness constant improvement, but the great rush of new comers is towards the open country that waits only for the plow to stir the soil to produce prodigious crops of wheat.

To give some idea of Western Washington we call attention to the Chehalis Valley, that lies between the N. P. R. R. and Gray's Harbor. It was once—so say geologists—a sound covered by the ocean. Evidence exists that the whole coast has risen from the sea. The Chehalis bottom has 60 or 70 townships—1,500,000 acres of richest soil, covered with vine maple thickets and heavy forests, but of inexhaustible fertility when cleared. That is but one section of many. There are settlements all through that region, but not one man lives where there should be ten.

PUGET SOUND COUNTRY.

Puget Sound is the most remarkable water in the world. It is surrounded by continuous forests that reach back to the summits of the Cascade and Olympic ranges. The streams that come down from the mountains on every side have fertile valleys. Some of them are already occupied and well cultivated. Puyallup and White river and their affluents are well settled, but there is abundant room for settlers on the Squalicum, Snohomish, Squak, Skagit and Nooksack, as well as on a valley in Whatcom county where Fraser's river once flowed. Take the Sound margin, towards the Cascades, and thousands can find homes on rich valley land.

It was once believed the land around the Sound was worthless, that its forests stood on rock without soil, but time has demonstrated this as only true of a small extent of country near the Sound, and that all the upland between the streams and extending to the mountains is rich, deep soil that will produce anything that can grow in that climate. Such is the Sound country in brief; covered with forests that the world needs and will soon furnish a market for, and possessing, deep down, exhaustible supplies of coal the world also needs. Besides these it has lime and iron ore, and so possesses in boundless supply elements of wealth such as established the greatness and supremacy of Great Britain, and have made New York and Pennsylvania what they are. There is every evidence that petroleum will soon be found in paying quantities.

In addition to all this, the ocean and Sound waters teem with valuable fish. Take all the resources of the Sound country, and the manufacturing interests that are already developing, and it is evident they require and can support heavy agricultural production. This it can have, for its soil can supply it. The resources of that section are not surpassed by any country, and exceed those of any other portion of the Pacific States. It is impossible to do more than briefly to allude to them. The great saw mills and the thousands of men working to supply them with logs and to run the mills, make a commerce of their own; the coal mines tributary to Seattle can load a thousand ton ship every day.

Seattle is a growing and enterprising city of 5,000 inhabitants; Tacoma, the present railroad terminus, has 3,000, and is making great progress; Olympia is the State capital, a beautiful place with several thousand people. Port Townsend, near the ocean, is an important point. The immigrant on towards the Sound country sets in the direction of Whatcom county, near the British line, a section that possesses unrivaled agricultural advantages and is rapidly developing them.

Puyallup Valley, east of Tacoma, is famous for its hop yards. The year 1882 saw half a million dollars go into that little settlement as payment for the products of a few hundred acres. The soil of the Sound country is well adapted to this branch of production and yields large returns.

PRODUCTS.

All of Western Oregon and Washington has similarity of climate and products. Wheat is the staple of agriculture in the western valleys of Oregon, and oats and hay and potatoes are the chief products of the Sound country. They are also the chief resource of farmers along the Columbia and the Cowitz. Wheat does better on drier soil, away from salt water. The farmer of the Willamette grows wheat for his chief income; has a flock of sheep to glean his stubble and clean his summer-fallow; has some cows and probably some horses; keeps a few hogs to fatten, and makes garden to answer home demand. He sows oats for his own use and has his meadow and clover field for hay, and perhaps has some to sell. His garden may yield a surplus, and so may his orchard. Sometimes he has a few acres in hops. Take all things together, and with 320 acres he may, with good cultivation, have 2,000 to 2,500 bushels of wheat on 80 acres of summer-fallow; his wool, 1,000 pounds, will bring him \$250; the increase of his stock counts for something. He makes one turn and another, supplies his wants chiefly from the farm, and sells from \$1,500 to \$3,000 worth of his land, according to his success and management. That is what any man can do who buys a farm in good order and farms it well. The well established fact seems to be that the farmer who makes grass play an important

part in his husbandry, succeeds best. Hop growing is now an established industry in parts of the Willamette Valley. They are also grown extensively in Yakima county, Washington Territory, and succeed well in every locality where they have been planted. Corn can be grown anywhere. It was long considered doubtful, but of late, with the best variety and proper care, it is possible to make a fair crop. Apples do well all through the regions west of the Cascades; so do pears. This region is particularly favorable for growth and perfection in pears; cherries do remarkably well here, and cannot be excelled in any country. Plums and prunes succeed in the best manner. There is no reason why the fruits of this region should not go to the markets of the civilized world. All small fruits do as well as possible. Grapes are grown, but they ripen late, and some varieties occasionally do not ripen at all; some varieties mold; peaches are poor in fattening qualities. Cooked, they become digestible, the starch in them being put into an assimilable form. Uncooked or raw, it is otherwise, and they are among the poorest kinds of food for fattening purposes. Cooking them pays, especially when mixed with ground and cooked grain. The nutritive value of grain is very greatly increased by cooking. When fed raw and dry, a considerable portion passes through the stomach without the least chemical change, and quite a percentage is lost by not being digested. So also if meal is fed uncooked and dry, or merely wet with water.

HEALTH.

All the region West of the Cascades is healthy and gives no occasion for specific diseases. Of course, it has the sea air to contend with, and its habitual moisture may not suit all systems. It is not free from disease, but free from the tendency to encourage disease some countries possess. The climate is so mild that occasional winters experience no hard frosts. The rains come in October, and are sometimes oppressive for a few days at a time. Frequently the winters are delightful, the rains being easy and not stormy, and not lasting continuously. The summers are apt to be dry for three or four months, but are not oppressively hot, the nights are cool and pleasant all through the summer. The general health of this portion of the country is certainly good.

The fall of 1882 has been a fair example of the season. Rain came in October to give the farmer chance to sow his summer-fallow. They also revived the pastures, so that stock all over the Pacific Northwest actually fattened through the fall months. Occasional rains through November, without frosts, kept all nature green, and brought on the fall snow early. December was very rainy and even stormy, but there were no frosts in Western Oregon. East of the mountains the weather was favorable, and farmers ran their plows all the month. Christmas day was like April, and we ate dinner with doors open. On the approach of New Year's, we had a few frosty days, when the mercury stood at, early morning, 24 degrees below zero, followed by a few inches of snow that went off the next day before south winds and a warm rain. That was our touch of winter. We may expect considerable rain and some light frosts until April, but may enjoy excellent weather much of the time. The probability is, that farmers can prosecute outdoor work most of the time from January on until spring, without loss of time. It is a well favored fact that our healthiest season is during the rains of winter.

The middle of January finds our Northern Pacific region prosperous to the extreme. The winter is most favorable for stock men and farmers alike. Prospects for the coming year do not seem to be more favorable. Through all this Northwest country every man who has labored, has reason to expect in the coming season the highest reward for that labor.

Remainder of Public Lands.

Gen. F. A. Walker, of the Census Bureau, who is pretty well informed on statistical matters, concludes from the data before him, that the remaining area of public lands available for ordinary agriculture is not large, and that most of it will be taken up before the end of another year. It is true, indeed, that a large part of the remaining area is of less value than the best land, and much of it is quite worthless. This side of the Mississippi 1,200,000 square miles are not settled by white men, and of this area 240,000 square miles, embracing much of the best land, are included within Indian reservations, while much of the remainder consists of mountainous tracts, lands inaccessible or sterile, and arid regions which cannot be irrigated. Still after all these lands are deducted, there remain vast tracts which will serve for agricultural purposes, in which are millions of acres of as good lands as can be found on the continent. But undoubtedly the choice locations will soon be getting scarce. We shall, however, have on this coast lands enough to accommodate all who may come for twenty years or more. It is singular to observe that each succeeding year we are finding excellent farms in places which had always hitherto been regarded as worthless for agriculture. No small of the vast expanse known as the "great parent American desert" has thus been settled already, and every year witnesses new and extensive encroachments upon it. In the light of experience it is now hard to say what is desert land and what is not. We get our best crops now from lands which ten years ago no one supposed there would ever be an attempt to cultivate.

The Wasco Vigilantes.

The Dalles Times-Mountaineer has the following concerning the lynching at Prineville, furnished by a correspondent at the latter city: For several years the stock raisers of that section and of Beaver creek have complained bitterly of the frequent raids of horse thieves. During the last two years it has been estimated that nearly 500 head of horses have been stolen. About two weeks ago a drove of about thirty head was taken from Prineville past Mitchell and turned over to accomplices in the John Day country. This stealing has been done by organized bands of thieves whose members are scattered throughout Eastern Oregon. Their mode of operations is for the resident thieves to gather up a band of horses, drive them thirty or forty miles and turn them over to confederates, who in their turn would drive them to the next station, and so on, while the first would return home and be able to show that they had never left the neighborhood. As they are so well organized and so perfectly acquainted with the country, captures and convictions have been almost an utter impossibility. But the stock men, it seems, have organized a little by little, and now have picked up evidence showing who the thieves were. At last a capture of some of the weakest of the band a judicious use of the rope has brought out a full confession as to who the members are.

A starch that will make linen look as good as new, is made of one quart of well boiled corn starch, three ounces of gum arabic, and two ounces of loaf sugar.

To clean oleath, wash with warm milk. Once in six months scour with hot soap; dry thoroughly and apply a coat of varnish. They will last as long again.

Stock.

Economy in Feeding Pigs.

Economy in feeding, as well as all else, is necessary if we would realize the greatest profit in making pork. More flesh and fat can be extracted from food when put into its most digestible form, by cooking, than when fed raw; the assimilation is easy and more perfect and there is very much less waste. Some kinds of food are comparatively valueless when fed raw, but when cooked become excellent and decidedly fattening. Raw potatoes may be very good as a regulator, but as a food are poor in fattening qualities. Cooked, they become digestible, the starch in them being put into an assimilable form. Uncooked or raw, it is otherwise, and they are among the poorest kinds of food for fattening purposes. Cooking them pays, especially when mixed with ground and cooked grain. The nutritive value of grain is very greatly increased by cooking. When fed raw and dry, a considerable portion passes through the stomach without the least chemical change, and quite a percentage is lost by not being digested. So also if meal is fed uncooked and dry, or merely wet with water.

Where grain is cheaper than labor and fuel, it may pay best not to cook the grain. Whether, therefore, corn should be cooked or fed raw, depends on circumstances rather than upon any arbitrary rules. The nearer to an assimilable form any kind of grain is put for feeding purposes, the more economically it is fed, so far as grain, flesh and fat are concerned. For this reason, grinding and feeding the meal is better than feeding whole or unground. Pigs and other animals are apt to feed greedily and not properly masticate grain, and of course it is not all digested. Hunger may be appeased, but fat is not gained. A less quantity put into a condition to be fully digested, would add more to the gain of the animal. As farmers usually feed pigs, it may be set down as an assumed fact that there is a loss of from one-third to one-half of the food, unless a reason be shown to the contrary of the manner, which is an expensive way of adding value to it.

In feeding meal, the miller's toll must be taken into account; also the expense of taking to and from the mill, so that the value of the food is relative, and must be determined by circumstances. As a substitute, under adverse circumstances, soaking the grain in hot water to a condition of softness will save the miller's toll, and make it profitable. But in soaking this reference should be had to weather, cold and clear weather allowing of the longest soaking; hot and bad weather favors early fermentation. In the first degree of fermentation an acid is formed which is most palatable and healthful for the pigs. Beyond this fermentation it is not healthful, and when the vinous condition is reached it is unfit for feeding. W. H. White, in Country Gentleman.

Jersey Cattle.

Jerseys have a weak point in their small development of bone and muscle. The limited area of the Channel Islands is too heavily stocked to admit of allowing them to roam over the fields for grazing. They were tethered out, and prohibited, by such confinement, from the exercise necessary to develop large, bony frames and heavy muscles. Muscular power is not much called for in such a state of confinement; and Nature, declining to waste energy in producing it, builds up only such structures as are adapted to the situation. Use determines size and power. Hence the diminutive frames and muscles of this variety of cattle. Other conditions being equal, small muscles indicate a small quantity of blood and a feeble constitution, with inability to endure hardships and cold. An inspection of Jersey cows betrays at once to a physiologist, their inferiority in these respects, and their inability to compete in rugged pastures and cold climates with harder stock, which, like the Devons and our common cattle, have, for long periods, been accustomed to run at large and "rough it," under circumstances often very severe. Imported Jerseys and their immediate descendants must be subject to the effects of the habits under which they and their ancestors have been raised. Time will change them. Raised in this country, where they have the freedom of the fields for exercise, they are gradually improving in size, muscular development and hardiness.

Lincoln Sheep.

The Lincoln sheep is comparatively a rare breed in the United States. They are the largest breed known, under exceptional circumstances dressing up to ninety pounds per quarter. At two years old they are recorded to have dressed one hundred and sixty pounds. They require good care and succulent food. They have been introduced in some sections of the West and Canada, and are reported as being well liked, but further time is needed to fully establish their complete adaptability to our Western climate. Other long-wooled sheep, as the Cotswold and the larger of the Downs, are giving good satisfaction, and there seems no good reason why these will not on our flush pastures, with some succulent food in winter, do exceedingly well.

In England fourteen pounds of wool average has been cleared, as a first clip, from a lot of thirty yearling wethers, the same averaging one hundred and forty pounds each, live weight, at fourteen months old. They have been known in the United States since 1835, and their long, lustrous fleeces, measuring nine inches in length, are the perfection of combing wool.

Oats for Figs.

Present indications point to a large crop of oats through the Middle and Western States, while the corn crop is likely to be short in all but Nebraska and Kansas, and as a result oats are likely to bring 125 cents per bushel, while corn will probably stand at fifty cents per bushel, in which case oats are much the cheaper feed. This is the reasoning of a paper called Farm and Workshop. When oats are worth twenty-five cents and corn fifty cents, one is as cheap as the other to feed—two bushels of oats being considered equal to one of corn; so with prospective difference in prices for the season, oats will be the cheaper feed. The best way to secure the most profitable results from oats for hogs is to grind and allow them to remain twelve hours in the

stlop from the house, water or skim milk—of course the milk is preferable. A good plan is to add a small amount of cake, and, where vegetables can be had, they may also be used to advantage, and all the better if boiled. The paper above alluded to has known young pigs to be raised in this way that were very fine. It should certainly be the object of every feeder to study economy in feeding; when one kind of grain is high and another low, to substitute the cheaper kind as far as possible. Rural New Yorker.

Distribution of Wool.

About twenty-five per cent. of the entire production of domestic wool during the census year 1880, came from two States, Ohio and California, the former with 25,000,000 pounds, and the latter with 17,000,000 pounds; in 1870 the product of the former was 20,000,000, and of the latter 11,000,000 pounds. The next States in the order of importance as wool growers in 1880 were Michigan, with 12,000,000; New York with 9,000,000; Pennsylvania with 8,000,000; Missouri with 7,000,000, and Wisconsin with 7,000,000. Tex produces nearly as much as the latter State; in 1870 it produced only 1,250,000 pounds. The total product of the Union in 1880 was 155,000,000 pounds, clipped from 35,000,000 sheep.

Miscellaneous.

Straw Lumber.

There can be no question that straw lumber is admirably adapted to many kinds of finish work, barrels, table and counter tops, fine doors and ornamental work; and we are assured that it can be produced and sold in competition with wide walnut at about one-half the price of the latter. The standard manufacture is in widths of thirty-two inches, a length of twelve feet, and a thickness corresponding to that of surfaced boards. These dimensions may be varied to suit such orders as may be given, and embrace any width, length or thickness. Unlike lumber, however, narrower widths are the most costly. The straw lumber may be ripped with the hand saw or the buzz saw; may be run through the sticker for the manufacture of mouldings, and takes a nail or screw about the same as oak. It may be finished with varnish or with paint, and is susceptible of a high polish. It is practically water and fire proof, being manufactured under 500 degrees of heat, and we are assured has been boiled for some hours without any apparent change of structure. Its tensile strength is greater than that of walnut or oak, and its weight about one-fifth greater than the former when dry. It is made from any kind of straw, including hemp and flax fiber—in fact, from any material that will make pulp—and a ton of straw will produce 1,000 feet of boards. The pulp is rolled into thin sheets, a number of which, corresponding with the thickness of the lumber desired, are placed together with a peculiar cement, which is claimed to be water proof, and are then rolled under a pressure sufficient to amalgamate them into a solid mass, which may be worked with a plane if desired.

When it is remembered that it takes 100 years to grow a tree to maturity, suiting it to commercial purposes—and a tree producing 32-inch lumber will require fully twice that time—while 20,000 feet per acre is a large yield under the most favorable circumstances, it will at once be realized that where 3,000 feet can be taken from an acre of ground for an indefinite number of years, the process which enables such a result to be accomplished, and which will yield really valuable lumber, is one of vast importance. We look for valuable results in the future in the manufacture of lumber from what is practically a waste material, but which will be produced in endless quantities so long as the United States maintains its character as a grain-producing country.

Conquering a Mule.

"Ben Appleby, of St. Louis, had a mule," said the stableman, "which was one of the knowingest cases you ever saw. I dunno where Ben found him, but one day he came drivin' home with this mule hitched to the tail end of his wagon. He was an innocent lookin' animal, plump an' fat, and looked as if he was goin' to be good for aughtin'. Well, the next day after Ben got 'im home he tried ter hitch 'em up, but he wouldn't be hitched. He jest everlastingly kicked the wagon inter splinters. He kicked one end outer their stable and kicked their stall down, and kicked everything in sight. Ben took 'im out in the corn-field one day and pitched 'im to a plow, but he up and kicked that plow over inter their next lot. He was all right under saddle, but the mink Ben tried ter hitch 'im ter anything he jest kicked it outer sight. No matter where he was, if things didn't suit 'im, he jest let himself out an' kicked. Nobody but Ben daas get near 'im. Well, he finally disklivered that everybody was scared of 'em, an' he got the idee that he was the greatest mule in that section of the country. He had a way of cockin' one ear forward and the other backward, an' winkin one eye when any one came near 'im, as much as to say: 'Git on to me: I'm Ben Appleby's kickin' mule, and don't yer forget it.' When Ben would be ridin' 'im long ther road an' they'd pass another mule, he'd jest git his ears in position an' wink an' grin as much as ter say: 'I'm the only mule in this country. I'm a kiker, I am.' He seemed to understand that he had the dead word on Ben, an' that nobody could hitch 'im to no sort o' vehicle. He got chuck, ram, jam full of conceit, and use ter parade aroun' the baryard like he owned the place. Ben made up his mind as how the mule wouldn't never be no 'count till he was broke to drive in harness. He tried all sorta o' ways. He hitched 'im to a mowin' machine, and the result was he had ter git a new machine. He broke up everything that Ben tried ter hitch 'im to. Bimeby Ben got mad. He swore he'd take the conceit out of that animal if it took his whole farm. Then he began to study up the case, till one day a man came along with one o' them farm engines what they run thrashin' mersehes with. Ben says to ther man, 'I'll give yer five dollars if you'll let me hitch my mule ter ther mersehe.' 'Git out yer mule,' sez ther man, an' Ben led 'im outer the stable. 'He can't pull it,' sez ther man. 'Never mine,' sez Ben, 'he kin try it.' So he led the mule out in the road, an' the mule he knowed in a minit what was goin' on. He cocked his ears backward and forward, and broke up everything that Ben tried ter hitch 'im to. He kicked 'im to a mowin' machine, and the result was he had ter git a new machine. He broke up everything that Ben tried ter hitch 'im to. Bimeby Ben got mad. He swore he'd take the conceit out of that animal if it took his whole farm. 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