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Notice to Subscribers.

TO OUR READERS: We publish only a sufficient number of the FARMER to supply actual prepaid subscribers and we cannot supply back numbers.

THE Willamette University has their announcement in this week's issue. The success of this old and popular institution of learning has not decreased any in the past years.

IT seems to us that the State official should offer a larger reward for those escaped convicts. The farmers of Oregon do not relish the idea of their being at large and would prefer to see these thieves and murderers safely housed than at large causing anxiety and fear so the housewife.

DURING the past week crop reports are improved. A friend from Marion county said to us that the outlook was improved and that the cause was heavy dews which prevailed during the night time.

DURING the past week the writer of this was in the southern part of Marion county. Our observation of the growing grain was complete, and in every instance the grain was looking exceedingly well.

By means of the drainage of land the various chemical actions which take place through the action of the atmosphere on the surface soil are carried down to a greater or less extent into the subsoil.

THE number of patriotic papers issued for the Fourth of July was numerous and on the whole unique. The East Oregonian, of Pendleton, came to hand with a full fledged flag imprinted on its entire breadth.

Down to 1859, Mr. Mulhall says the United States used at intervals to import wheat from Europe, whereas it produces at present one-fourth of the world's crop.

A FEW weeks ago we expressed an opinion of the jury system, not expecting that so soon the lesson of jury incompetency or dishonesty would be repeated in glaring form.

There is more loss in storing potatoes than in storing any other crop. Barring all wastes from rot, there is a heavy shrinkage both in quantity and weight.

To a careful observer it is clear that horses are no a getting to be more fully classified than formerly. Thus the horse that is best adapted to road purposes is placed at

such work, and the horse that is suited best to the plow and heavy hauling has his own proper work assigned. Hence the advantage of breeding for a purpose.

RAILROAD COMMISSIONS.

Railroad Commissions appointed by the several States seem to settle the differences between corporations and the people and remedy abuses, in a very satisfactory manner. In this Massachusetts took the lead, and it worked so well that New York last year tried the experiment.

Editorial Correspondence. EASTERN UMATILLA COUNTY.

WALLA WALLA, July 1, 1883. As I was desirous of seeing the wheat fields of this region when they were maturing, I reached this place a few days ago and have passed over that portion of the wheat belt that lies along the base of the Blue Mountains, in Walla Walla county, W. T., and Umatilla county, Oregon.

From Walla Walla to Pendleton is a drive of 42 miles. The Blue Mountains have a course from southwest to northeast. Our course was almost due south, 12 miles, to Milton.

It is almost impossible to learn anything in particular concerning any country when traveling through it by public conveyance. I was fortunate in securing a seat in the buggy of Mr. W. J. Dyer, of Walla Walla, so that we could follow whatever route we preferred and stop to make notes by the way whenever it was desirable to make specific inquiries.

I will reserve any particulars concerning Walla Walla county for a future letter. Enough to say that all through the Walla Walla valley crops are forward and early sown fall grain is rapidly growing ready for the sickle.

streams, come in and join the Walla Walla, towards the Columbia, and half a score of living streams and springs come together to make the Walla Walla itself. The net work of waters that exists here is very necessary to the beauty and fertility of the region and enable every farmer to irrigate wherever he finds it necessary.

I came up the Columbia with a feeling of despondency as to the fate of the crops. I knew that it had not rained for six weeks and that the soil must be parched beyond any former experience. It seemed beyond the reach of faith to hope for good crops. The first impression I received was of wonder at seeing nature so green and luxuriant in orchards and gardens and the ripening grain fields so promising.

Eastern Umatilla county is as beautiful a region as can be conceived of, with the exception that it lacks the beauty of living groves and living springs and streams. If it had the purling brooks and belting woods of the Willamette country it would be paradise. Such as it is it spreads out broadly from the crest of the mountains to the banks of the great Columbia and from the Umatilla to the Walla Walla, an area forty miles square, the greater part of which is the most fertile soil, unbroken by canyons or upheavals, pure soil, spread out in most attractive shape, inviting man to plow and sow and reap without fear that harvests will not follow.

As to the condition of the crops, on this route from Walla Walla to Pendleton, I sum the matter up as follows: Near Walla Walla fall wheat is rapidly maturing and cannot be injured by any extreme of weather. Farmers say they will have an average yield. The universal expression among those I met is that the yield is satisfactory.

It was an excessively hot day (the 29th) when we drove to Pendleton. We nooned at Weston, remained there until evening, then drove to Pendleton at night, making twelve miles of the journey on the north side of Wild Horse creek, through farm lands. South of Wild Horse the Umatilla Indians possess, and the country looks as it did thirty years ago, save that the grass is eaten out.

themselves satisfied with crop prospects. Mr. Steen estimated the yield of wheat for that locality at twenty-five bushels to the acre. He is well informed, and the general estimate coincides with him. Some think spring wheat will go fifteen to twenty bushels, and others think it will prove a failure.

Thirteen miles from Pendleton I met with Mr. L. M. Watrus, a farmer who has lived there five years and has experience to govern his opinion. He agreed with farmers at Weston that fall wheat is all right—as good a crop as ever has been harvested in Umatilla. He did not dread any failure in spring wheat because he said "this is not a spring wheat country, and it was time every body found it out and farmed accordingly."

We met at Pendleton a gentleman who is surveying through the country and so has familiarity with all sections of it. In answer to my inquiries he said the good, arable area of Eastern Umatilla could be placed at thirty by thirty-five miles in extent; of this three-fourths is in cultivation, three-fourths that would average twenty-five bushels to the acre.

Stopping over night at Pendleton we had good opportunity the next morning to see farmers from the country around there and gather items of interest. Among others we met Mr. T. Beale, formerly of Linn and Lane counties, now settled near Pendleton. Mr. Beale had brought in samples to show that wheat had been badly burned the two previous days (the 28th and 29th). He was apprehensive that the hot sun and wind of those two days had caused very serious injury to wheat generally.

The Prospect Farm, of 5,000 acres, lies only twelve miles from Umatilla station and thirty from Pendleton, is a "sand and sage" region whose qualities are being tested. Mr. Lee Morehouse, its superintendent, was in Pendleton last Friday and reported to Mr. Haily, of the East Oregonian, that they had in 3,000 acres that he expected would yield an average of thirty bushels, and 500 acres of volunteer wheat that ought to go twenty-five bushels, making 100,000 bushels from one farm alone.

Being desirous of seeing as much of Eastern Umatilla county as possible, we undertook to find our way across the head of the canyons that put down to the Columbia, and so learn something of the so-called "Cold Spring Country." This we did, passing through the new village of Helex, staying all night with Mr. I. B. Whitman, who, half a dozen years ago, lived near Sublimity in the Waldo Hills.

of forty miles from the mountains to the river, and as much length. The total of this makes Eastern Umatilla the greatest grain field in Oregon, with capacity for raising more grain than the same area can produce anywhere else.

As to the safety of the wheat crop, I have serious apprehensions that the continuance of such fervent heat as we encountered Saturday may cause wide spread damage to grain in this section that has begun to turn yellow but has not reached the stiff dough stage. It may be true that this effect has been produced only on exposed localities, facing south, where the hard pan is too near the surface.

Mr. Beale, of Pendleton told me that he had a large field of excellent wheat near town that would turn off nearly four tons to the acre and sold it for \$8 a ton in the field. I saw thousands of acres that need to be cut for hay that I have spoken of as badly burned by the wind and sun of the 29th. Tame grasses have not been made sure of for meadows and the experimenting with alfalfa I have spoken of is with hope that it will turn off a good crop of hay the last of June and afford good pasturage all the rest of the season until winter.

This morning we left Gerking Flat, six miles from Centerville, and drove to this place, twenty miles, part of the way over the uplands of Umatilla, that must be a thousand feet above the Walla Walla level. We left fall wheat that was headed out with a tinge of bronze, now and then, and came down into the Walla Walla valley to find wheat waiting for the reaper. There is a difference, in this two or three miles of longitude, of two or three weeks in the season. As you come up from Walla you observe a stern ridge that rises like a wall all along the west side of Walla Walla river, for thirty or forty miles. It has a forbidding aspect and you deem it the barrier of an inhospitable region, but once surmount that rigged barrier and you find elysian fields spread broadly out. Rolling uplands stretch away west and south, that are rapidly becoming occupied as homesteads. Soon it will be peopled all the way from the Blue Mountains to the Columbia river. That is the region I have described as the route we returned by.

As a conclusion then, we must recognize that all this region waits for the harvest, not without apprehension, but with fair confidence. It is impossible to say what the average is or what will be the yield, but this much we can believe, that unless some untoward event comes to change appearances this Eastern Country will yield nearly as much grain for export as has been predicted.

he thinks will yield 30 bushels to the acre without rain. That locality is 2,500 feet above sea level and fall sown wheat is only just in bloom; spring sown is just heading out. Refreshing and cooling rains would do much good. That region is later than this, nearly a month. The nights are cooler and there is less danger of hot winds and sun. The unfortunate fact is that rather more than half the wheat of Columbia and Garfield counties is spring sown. They were afraid the wind would blow away the snow and allow the wheat to winter kill, so many sowed in the spring, with unfortunate results.

The Folly of Follies. Many persons are accustomed to disregard all slight symptoms of disease, saying, "Let it go as it came." But when one feels the symptoms of Kidney Disease—such as pain in the back and loins, palpitation, urinary derangements, etc.—to neglect them is the folly of follies.

In digging potatoes, known to be pure seed and of the same variety, frequent variations may often be noticed. Some of these are due only to differences of soil; but others are true sports and will reproduce their kind if planted another year. If these sports are unusually productive and valuable they should be carefully saved for planting.

PROSPECTUS.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLACING THE WILLAMETTE FARMER Within the reach of every farmer in the Pacific Northwest, we shall after this date reduce the price as follows: One Year, in Advance, \$2.00.

This new schedule of prices is meant to accommodate all classes and leave no room for complaint or dissatisfaction. At the price named above this paper is the cheapest on the Pacific Coast.

We intend to make a farmer's paper that every farmer in the land will need and will not willingly do without.

We shall keep pace with production in every department, and report, through correspondents and from personal observation, all important facts concerning farming in all its branches, including production of grain, grasses, fruits and vegetables; concerning stock raising, the value of cattle for meat and for dairying; of horses for all purposes; of sheep for wool and mutton, or both; of swine and poultry. Also, as to bees and honey.

We shall continue to study the markets and inform our patrons on all points, so that they will be able to judge the situation for themselves. Our old patrons will bear witness we have worked faithfully, in this connection, in the past. We shall do so in the future. No daily newspaper in Portland has ever given the producers of the country such clear views of the world's crops and markets as the FARMER often does. Our market reports have been worth hundreds of thousands to the producers of this region.

Our editorials will freely and independently discuss every question that interests the people from the standpoint of right. So far as we have influence, it shall be exerted in favor of good principles, good government, true religion, temperance and for education of the masses of the Generals, and State Governments.

This is the farmer's own organ, open for all to relate experience, seek information, and state any grievance they may have to complain of against whoever and whatever seeks to oppress or deceive them. Our columns belong to the people, and the value of the FARMER chiefly depends on such popular utterances. The Editor brings to your assistance the experience of 33 years spent in this region; intimate knowledge of the country; many years connection with agriculture and twelve years' acquaintance with many of you in the columns of the FARMER.