Corregyondence.

[Editorial Correspondence.] CLACKAMAS, MARION AND LINN. Western Oregon Sketches

Having traveled east of the Cascades and returned with improved opinion of that region and of its capabilities for agriculture, I now turn to Western Oregon and shall make summer excursions for a week or so to ascertain the prospect of farm matters in that, the old settled portion of Oregon. Here the first emigrants made homes. Before that the employes of the Hudson Bay Company located in some parts of Clackamas, Marion and Yamhill.

In the spring of 1851, almost a third of a century ago, I outfitted at Portland and took an ox team through to California. So I compare the conditions of today with early times with interest. There was then little farming done. The prairies were settled, or at least choice locations were all taken, but little land was enclosed. Cattle ranged the counin mining operations. Things were lying lottery were unknown and untaken. Comparing the small prairies of Clackamas county, the Waldo hills and Howell prairie of Marion and the broad plains of Linn, as we see them to-day, with what they were in that early day, we find scarce a trace of the long ago. The grey haired veteran greets you now where the stalwart worker did then; or oftener the name is borne by the youngster who was then idly watching as our wagon drove by. The open country has disappeared and in place of waving wild grass we see waving grain. Orchards, meadows and homes vary the landscape and the ferson. Through the hills crops are thin, whole aspect tells of an old settled community where thrift long ago earned honest independence. This is very different tiful stretch of country and usually turns from Eastern Oregon and Washington, off good crops. They seldom sow spring where much is new, or at least recent, wheat, and we all know that fall wheat where much is new, or at least recent, and the old settled country is limited. But that too will take more finished shape March. Strange to say, the grain put in But that too will take more finished shape as the years go by and the stalwart of today becomes the yeteran and grey beard day becomes the yeteran and grey beard corn of grain of any bind it is all courses. If the stalk of today we will be stalked to the red hills south of Salem make half a cut for hay in the counties I have visusy becomes the veteran and grey beard of to-morrow. There already can be found, around Walla Walla for instance of the word o and towards Dayton, farms that were settled upon ten to fifteen years ago that show the benefits of cultivation. The journey by the upper road from Walla Walla to Waitsburg for twenty miles is past beautiful farms and charming homes. Farm houses and barns, orchards, meadows and gardens all unite to say that man has made the wilderness bloom and bear fruit. This shows what all the up per country can and will become ere this

The Willamette valley has passed through one phase of existence and is entering upon another. It has outlived the primary period and bidden adieu to the spontaniety that attends the earliest days and first efforts at farming. Elysian Fields the immigrant found waiting for his occupancy forty years ago, no longer exist. The first blush and ro-mance that is the charm of frontier life, gives place to more connected and consistent effort and better organization to accomplish results. The Willamette region is now an old country, but the flavor of newness still attaches. The imstance of the valley lands south and east and west. Down below us steamboats navigate the river. Aimost migrant who comes to possess inviting acres in new locations east of the Cascades, often stops to look at the old homes in Western Oregon. We see them but they pass on, except occasionally that one and another who come with abundant means conclude to buy homes and region lies between their sheltering crests stay with us. Sometimes the old resident of the Willamette, who has heard so much of the new regions to the east-ward, concludes to go and see for himself. He locates there, and often the flavor of excitement and newness suits him far below; rapidly ripening and lacking and he remains and prospers. But nothing in the way of excellence. Whatnot always: very often the once resident of Western Oregon, having profited by the Santiam lacks nothing. The oats his labors elsewhere, realizes what he can and wheat growing all along for ten miles from them and returns to make his per- from the Willamette to Jefferson are manent home in "Webfoot." Whatever time may do for that remarkable country east of the Cascades it cannot make it of equal in many respects to Western Ore-

generation's work is done.

of the mountain ranges that encircle every one of its main valleys. There are bench lands, foot hills and charming vales locked in among the ranges, where new comers locate and commence to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, clearing off the undergrowth and forests that occupied until they came.

Clackamas county, though near to market and favorably situated in many respects, contains a great proportion of such wild land as we have just described and so has resisted cultivation. Of late this county has attracted settlement. The value of this forest land has appreciated because its vicinity to market gives it value enough to pay for clearing. Some time, within the present century, Clackamas will become famous for its products. It will be converted into pasture land, wheat land, meadows and especially into orchards, for it has every advantage needed for producing fruit. prairies along its southern border will this year turn off fair crops. Wheat growmuch to grain growing as the counties south of it.

Marion and Linn stand foremost as residence was in great part away engaged of Linn and Marion combined. French Prairie, as we said last week, promises in mining operations. Things were lying a fair yield. That wide prairie has some about loose and the chief prizes in the splendid land along the Willamette river. and in fact has excellent land for twenty miles every way, but much of its surface lies so low that it is unsafe for winter wheat and often cannot be sown early in the spring. When sown late in the spring and followed by dry weather in June, as is the case this year, crops are not heavy. With all these disadvantages, French Prairie crops promise well in good localities and will turn off a two-thirds crop in the worst localities. Along the railroad one sees the poorest wheat in that district. Towards the river it was put in earlier and promises better.

Taking a team at Salem I lately went south, through the red hills, to the Santiam bottoms and up that stream to Jef-It is entirely within bounds to say that they never have had such poor crops since the hills were farmed. It is a beauare good, but that is a locality where crops can hardly fail if half way put in. A drive of ten miles brought us to the hill top that overlooks the Santiam and Williamette rivers. Close to our right, reaching well down into the valley, is the farm of Mr. G. G. Glenn. Beyond, and to the left, is the 5,000 acres constituting the great Ankeny farm. The Willamette winds, a broad wave, through rich bottoms and the Santiam comes down from the east. It is a high hill and the landscape that spreads below and beyond is a thing of beauty that would be to any artist a joy forever. Buena Vista is off to Jordan valley is as beautiful and as fer-the west. In the bottom land, the rich tile a stretch of country as Oregon Santiam and Willamette delta, are the affords. Buena Vista. Across the Santiam, in tary to Scio and it is not easily surpassed terested.

within sight, east and west, are railroads, either side of the river; within sight, east The wealth of the Willamette cradled among outlying ranges. ranges. and consists of a succession of gentle hills and fertile plains as is not often found on the surface of earth.

ever the hills may lack the rich valley of yielding a full average and will not disappoint their owners. I went into some of these fields and while on low land heads do not fill out perfectly in case of

a border of wild lands along the foot hills take. The growth of wild oats is often so settled at an early day and contain many great that many fields are already cut for hay. While meadows are not up to average always, there will be a great deal of hay cut from these grain fields and the prospect now is that hay will not bear a

high price. I saw very little fruit taken as a whole. out a few orchards bear tolerably well. There will be little fruit for drying or canning, though enough to use in a green

Corn does well this year where I have noticed it. The dry warm weather is favorable to it. Hops are making abundant growth and will bear heavily, unless there is some mischance. The new yards planted out seem to come on fairly. have heard or read that while hop yards look well and bear heavily there is a possibilty that, owing to the continued dry weather, the fruit will not be first class, but I hear no complaint from hop grow The ers in this vicinity.

Crossing the Santiam by a ferry at Jefferson, we leave Marion county and ening is not extensively practiced in this ter Linn. We soon pass out of the river county. It is especially adapted to mixed bottoms and go eastward through a pleasfarming and will never be devoted as ant hill region, charmingly dotted with farm houses and homes. Rills meander through the intervals, with fringes of verdure, and the hills are oak crowned. much of it has been continuously farmed Belting forests of dark fir frame in the since 1850. The prairie was settled by wheat producers, though we venture to Belting forests of dark fir frame in the was enclosed. Cattle ranged the country and the scattered population claiming surplus of Umatilla county will equal that tiful hills upon the broad prairies. We are not going through the heart of Linn county, but across its northern portion. Our road is towards Lebanon.

The wheat growers of Linn county oc casionally suffer from drouth or excessive rain. The level prairie cannot always be farmed early in the spring. Sometimes they sow late and dry weather comes early, and they suffer from both rain and This is one of the less fortunate years. The fall sowing through the whole of Western Oregon presented all the romise that seemed possible, and its loss by winter killing is a loss of millions of dollars to the Willamette farmers. But this country has undoubted capabilities, and spring wheat is doing well-consider-It is strange to see wheat heading out so low as it does now. It was believed two or three weeks ago that many fields would prove a failure that are since making great improvement. The straw is short, but heads are good size and filling It is generally asserted that the well. cauntry promises better now than it did early in July. There is a large acreage and there will be a large export surplus Many fields that were troubled with wild oats have been cut for hay. The hay crop

edge of Albany prairie; passing by section Knox's butte and the fine farming country around it, we cross the South Santiam and go through "The Forks" towards Scio. Along the Santiam are fine bottoms where crops are always excellent. We found a found a fair show for crops found a found a fair show for crops and in Western parts of Polk and Yam-through the open prairies, but the land hill counties. Millers very quietly buy over in the forks of the Santiam is not surpassed in Western Oregon. There is quite an extent of country between the North and South Santiam, and in such years as the present it comes out strongly. The FARMER has many friends hop yards of Wm. Wells. G. A. Wells, through there, and it is matter of regret Davidsons and others grow hops in with me that I cannot find time to spend other favorable locations not far from among them. Take the country tribu-Linn county, is the new and extensive The mountains are close by and small hop yard in which Mr. Robert Bell is in- valleys reach among the spurs that point westward. Beautiful streams are con-From that hill-top we took a long look stantly met with and abundant forests at the wide spread of the valley lands belt the landscape. Everywhere the farm south and east and west. Down below houses show thrift and prove that their us steamboats navigate the river. Almost owners came there to stay. Passing along the main roads, through the great valley, one knows little of what the country af-

Scio is the emporium of the Santiam country and should thrive with its support. Lebanon takes trade from the upper Santiam country and from the Descending the hill we found wheat broad prairies west of it. Leaving the fields clustering at its base and spreading South Fork we pass over a range of hills, northward, and come down into the valnothing in the way of excellence. What- ley of the North Fork at Stayton. Crops are not so good in the hills as in the valthat killed out they were in a bad fix, beon. It is commonly the case that the Chili club wheat, little club and Califor- farms scattered, then, by gentle grades, our into the country is expected. It is gon. It is commonly the case that the child the case that the case that

beautiful homes. The names of the Downings, Hunt Gears, Cranston, Hibbard, Brooks, Glovers and many others are become identified with local history. During a third of a century they have had prosperity, unfailing crops and great harvests have blessed them and will bless them again. There are many good grain fields, but northern and eastern hills sides show the best grain this year. This hill country is well calculated for mixed farming. The time has come when farmers should "not carry all their eggs in one basket," but vary production so as to have income from many sources. This is what they are doing. Wheat raising is not the only dependence, and the consequence is that most of them feel less inury from the deficiency of grain yield than they would some years ago when wheat was the almost sole reliance.

From the Waldo Hills we come into Howell Prairie, one of the most beautiful spots in the Willamette valley, which is equal to saying one of the finest in existence. This beautiful prairie lies along the base of the hills for nearly ten miles. cut off from Salem Prairie by a broad belt of fir forest. The soil is especially rich wonderfully productive, though earnest citizens whose names are and always will be linked to the soil. Land here is worth as much as anywhere in Oregon. The narrow gauge passes close around it, and the broad gauge is only a lew miles distant. Salem is close by and affords a good market. Crops on the prairie look well even with spring instead of fall seeding. If all the country could turn off as good crops as are seen on the Santiam bottoms and Howell Prairie, also a good part of Salem Prairie, Jordan val ey and the Santiam Forks country gen-

erally, Western Oregon would have complaint to make of its wheat crop. On the Santiam I gathered a bunch of heads of winter wheat that survived the winter frosts. It was sown too late to come up and grow sufficiently to be killed. Wheat that had just sprouted went through all right. This field was in that condition. When the spring came its seed came up and lately stood waiting for the reaper, with magnificent heads and promise of a heavy yield. Had fall sown wheat survived the winter the crop would have been greater than any ever 'varvested in the Willamette. As it is, Western Oregon illustrates in 1883 that under many disadvantages it can sustain arvested in the Willamette. itself and yield millions of tons of wheat for export.

Leaving Howell Prairie we passed Waldo Hills and Howell Prairie and Salem Prairie produce wheat of superior quality. The same fact is true of the country in the Santiam Forks and along the Cascade mountains in Linn county the wheat from these districts, paving a trifle extra to get it, if necessary. It makes a very white and delicate flour and commands premium in foreign markets on that account. All the valley flour has this quality, but some section of the val ey praduce very superior grain.

Some farmers in the district described have commenced to establish herds of cattle or have other good stock. the right thing for this valley. The present inclination is towards dairy stock. Jerseys and Holsteins are the favorites, and both of these families of dairy cattle are well worth attention. Sometime we hope to work up stock interests more at tentively than we have been able heretofore. This valley has commenced to be the nursery for stock feeding interests through the entire Pacific Northwest. S. A. CLARKE.

The Weiser Country.

From Mr. Billy Walters, who has just learned that that section is settling up Recently he sheared the flock. Of those fast, and a new town will undoubtedly be started two and a half miles from Weiser City. It will be a railroad town and laid out by the railroad company in opposition to Weiser City. The citizens were requested to donate 160 acres of leys south of them. This season is harder land adjoining Weiser's town site, which on hill farms than on the plains. Hill they refused to do, and the company got farmers always sow fall wheat. When on their ear, so to speak, and started a on their ear, so to speak, and started a town near Weiser City, as before stated cause they cannot depend on success with The entire valley is fast settling up, and spring wheat. For several miles, through when the railroad reaches that section the valley of the North Santiam, we find some time this year, a great immigration The old hives swarm and the young brood alight over yonder and make that wonderful region rich with their stores of honey. Then again, Western Oregon has

Little Ailene Bernice,

Daughter of Henry and Henrietta Downing, died at her home in the Waldo Hills, at 2:40 p. m. on Sunday, July 8, 1883, aged 1 year, 8 months and 12 days. ook her to dwell with him.

Sweet are the words: "Dear Mother: gloom.

those little feet that walk the golden street

can never go astray.

The funeral took place in the Baptist church at Turner, July 9th. The services were pleasingly conducted by Dr. Row-land of Salem. The remains were deposited in Twin Oak Cemetery, near Tur-

Ailene Bernice, can it be that the eyes beaming with love, the lips expressing sweetest tones, the voice so tender and laugh so cheering, all are bound by the ties of death! Sorrow and grief are thrown over young and oid. Death is with us, but not with Ailene.

Her soul only had birth
And budded on earth
To blosom in heaven
With the Son that was given.
A. E.

The Crop Outlook The Walla Walla Union says: During Fuesday we interviewed a good many farmers, millers and grain dealers, genlemen of intelligence and observation from various parts of Walla Walla, Umatilla, Columbia and Garfield counties, grain required rain, but most of them were of the opinion that rain now, fol-lowed by hot weather, would do more as filling finely, with enough sap in the ie would not take for his growing crop 45 bushels per acre. Some of these gentle-men interviewed by us thought that a great portion of the spring wheat, which by the way is but a small portion of the whole, would give fair yield without rain; not save the late sowing, which is a yet smaller portion of the total. Making an are satisfied too from the reports of the that the yield on the Pacific Coast will be small this year, thus insuring a good prophet and present indications belie price for our wheat.

Sheep Raising.

The Kittitas Standard says: There are great portions of our county the land of which is quite unfit for any other purout from the main cascade range to the Columbia. Of course between these spurs or ranges lie the valleys which make up the great agricultural portion of our agricultural county. These hill lands are found to be valuable for the purpose of sheep raising. They are mostly covered with a dense growth of bunch grass and afford an almost inexhaustible grazing pasture to thousands of stock. Among those who have entered the business of sheep raising is Mr. C. C. Coleman, whose ranch is situated about seven miles northeast of town. This gentleman has a flock of about 1,900, lambs included. They are from graded stock, descendants of an importation from the Blaka flock, of Alameda county, California, which are returned from the Weiser country, it is mainly Cotswolds and French Merinos. sheared none went lower than ten pounds. For the whole flock, including lambs, the clip averaged five pounds. This we consider a very fair average. Mr. Coleman brought us in a few specimens of his cl p. Mostly it is free from burs and dirt, and of even texture. Better samples we have never seen anywhere, and it shows what our climate, with good management, is capable of producing in this important industry. These samples are now in our office for the inspection of those interested in this industry.

A friend to the rich and poor. A medicine that strengthens and heals, is Brown's Iron

wa. For one dime get a package of Diamond Dyes at the druggist's. They color anything the simplist and most desirable colors.

Pine Wheat

Hon. W. T. Newby is a lover of fine regetables, fruits, cereals, etc., and we believe comes as near keeping pace with the times in this direction as any man God thought her too pure for earth and in the country. The latest addition he has made is in the shape of a package of four pounds of wheat called the "New Don't think of me as in the tomb for I shall not see the dark shadows and the Patent Office last fall, and he sowed loom."

Dear parents: What a consolation on a piece of ground occupying fourteen rods. The ground upon which this grain was sowed lies near his residence, a portion of it having been overflowed by the freshet just before the freeze last winter, yet, notwithstanding this, it came out all right, and now presents a better stand than most wheat presents. There are from five to twenty stocks to each stool, and the head on each stock measures from six to nine inches in length and contains from eighty to a hundred ker-nels of large plump wheat. In Pennsyl-vania and New York this wheat is prized for all the superior qualities that are possessed by wheat, mainly on account of its hardiness, stiffness of straw, great yielding qualities and superior for flour. From the four pounds sowed by Mr. Newby he thinks that from eight to ten bushels will be got out. This is certainly the finest variety of wheat we ever saw, and our farmers should not fail to see it, as of course their aim is to plant hat which gives them the best returns. A somple of this grain an be seen at this office.—Yambill Reporter.

The Prineville News says that few towns in the State are better situated for manufacturing than Prineville. Built and we are pleased to state that they all in the midst of a great wool growing disagree in pronouncing the fall wheat trict, and on the banks of a stream that everywhere as good as can be wished. flows an abundance of pure, sweet water, weither of them thought that the fall it certainly offers to the capitalist who will build a mill for the manufacture of cloths every inducement necessary to stimulate him to action. The wool hannarm than good. The heads are reported as filling finely, with enough sap in the six weeks, and which was shorn from stalks and moisture in the ground to flocks in this immediate vicinity, is of a make the berry plump and full. One quality that has no superior, and in farmer with 440 acres of fall wheat said quantity sufficient to supply a large quantity sufficient to supply a large woolen factory twelve months. But the merchants have not handled the whole of the wool grown in the vicinity of Prine-Thousands of pounds have been shipped from the shearing grounds direct to market. When we consider the imothers were of opinion that rain would mensity of the wool crop of Eastern Oregon, knowing too that the growth of sheep has only just begun-that there is average of the reports we obtained from room for thousands more-we wonder of Alborn to lower or northern season. Millers at Salem assert that the of country embraced in the greater than in any previous year and tory. That this will be done, and that equal in quality to any former crop. We too in a short time we have not a doubt. To the instructed eye a survey of the sitcrops in the Willamette and California uation is sufficient, and this will be made before many months, or we are no themselves.

Railroad News

Chief Engineer Charles A. F. Morris of the Oregon and California Railroad informs us that railroad work is progresspose than that of grazing. These lands ing satisfactorily now along the line of consist of the numerous spurs running extension, and good progress is being made, says the Ashland Tidings. The Grave creek tunnel is completed and the long tunnel at Cow creek will be finished, it is believed, by the 20th of August. The grading between these two points will be completed before that time, and the roadbed will be all ready for the laying of the track. In fact, the graders will be able to keep the tracklayers steadily at work from that time until the heavy cutting in the Siskiyou division is encountered, The company have on hand all the iron required, and Mr. Morris thinks the track will reach Ashland some time in December. A thousand men are already at work this side the Grave creek tunnel, and the other graders will be moved southward as soon as their work between the long tunnels is ended. The crossing at Rogue river will be an expensive piece of work, and will require a large amount of timber. Mr. Morris says the company have not yet determined whether they will have any of the smaller tunnels in the Siskiyous excavated by contract or will do the work themselves

> Mr. C. A. Sweet, living about 212 miles north of this place, brings us a sample of timothy that grew on his farm. It meas ures six foot one inch in height and the stool contains nine healthy looking spears. He has about two acres of this timothy and wants to know if any one can beat it.—Yambill Reporter.

The bet preparation of iron a doctor can prescribe is Brown's Iron Bitters, because it does not injure the teeth as other iron medi-