



Correspondence.

Some Experience on the Grass Question, CRESSWELL, Or., Jan. 30, 1884. Editor Willamette Farmer: As grass is of the most importance to us in the way of farming, we read with interest anything upon the subject.

Some tell us that Bermuda grass is sure to grow and cannot be killed. Well, we would like to find a good stock of grass that would stand by us. We received a small package of Bermuda grass roots from Texas and set them out; it turned green, but after a few frosts it seemed to be dead.

These conventions, two of which have been held in New York, and one in Chicago, have become national in their attendance and influence, and features of American agriculture.

Weather Report for January, 1884. Editor Willamette Farmer: During January, 1884, there were 10 days during which rain fell, and an aggregate of 3.45 inches of water; there were 11 clear, 5 fair and 15 cloudy days, other than those on which rain fell.

As will be seen elsewhere, Messrs. Brown, Fullerton & Co., is the name of a new firm. They will deal exclusively in agricultural machinery and shelf hardware. James Brown, as well as Lucien B. Fullerton, are both old residents of this city, and our readers can rest assured that they will be able to get what they want and be assured of fair treatment by this firm.

The wind on Wednesday was chilling. It kept up all day and until Thursday morning. The thermometer marked 20 deg. below freezing on Wednesday and it has hardly reached zero yet, this season.

It is estimated that one dollar per acre with such pulverizers as the Roller, Plankdrag and common Harrow, will add five to ten bushels per acre to the wheat crop, and to other crops in the same proportion. This same work may be performed more cheaply and easily by using the "ACME" Pulverizing Harrow, Clod Crusher & Leveler.

they will head in December and through the winter, and keep very nicely standing in the field without bursting or injury. The only difficulty I know of is there is such a demand for corn at this time of the year one is inclined to gather and sell them, and not let them stand through.

National Agricultural Convention, NEW YORK, Jan. 9, 1884. Editor Willamette Farmer: The fourth National Convention, under the auspices of the American Agricultural Association, will be held at the Grand Central Hotel, New York City, Wednesday and Thursday, February 6 and 7, 1884.

By order of the President. JOS. H. REALL, 32 Park Row, Sec'y.

Hereford Cattle Wanted. WILLIAMS, Or., Jan. 26, 1884. Editor Willamette Farmer: Will you be so kind as to tell me whether there is anyone in Oregon that breeds or has for sale Hereford cattle.

Mr. Hutsonpiller, of Linn county, had some fine Jerseys that were advertised in the FARMER. His first were good stock from the well-known herd of W. C. Myer, of Ashland, Jackson county.

By reading Eastern stock reports in agricultural papers and stock journals, we see that the average sales of cattle from Western herds average a great deal more than our Oregon breeders realize.

There are probably others in the business this side of the mountains but we are not posted further. If the cattle men were enterprising enough to advertise we should know them better. The FARMER has for years been doing all that was possible to advance their interests as it has constantly set forth the importance of raising stock instead of growing wheat.

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CATTLE IN WESTERN OREGON.

There are a number of breeders of Short horns in Western Oregon. Ladd & Reed have their herd on Bachelor's Island, on the Columbia, below the Willamette. They have eighty head in all, about forty full blood and as many grades, nearly all are cows and heifers, only two young bulls for sale.

M. Fisk has brought down his head of thirty cows and heifers from the Walla Walla region and has also a number of grades on the Scappoon Bay, but has no stock for sale that we know of.

Tongue, of Washington county, has the Ayrshire cattle that B. E. Stewart & Sons originally brought to this country, and has been breeding them several years.

McEdowney, also of Washington county, has some of the Stewart importation of Short horns.

In Clackamas, at Canby, Judge A. E. Wait is breeding a few Shorthorns, also of the Stewart stock, and C. T. Howard, of Molino, had about eighteen head of Shorthorns last year. He talks of going East and bringing on a carload of good stock, Shorthorn cattle.

T. J. Apperson, of Oregon City, president of the State Agricultural society, is breeding Jerseys and probably has as good a herd as there is in the State.

G. W. Dimick, of Hubbard, Marion county, has twenty head of Shorthorns, mostly cows and heifers; only two young bulls for sale. He has also ten head of Jerseys mostly cows and heifers.

The Geer's, of the Waldo Hills, are breeding grade Holsteins, an informant thinks they have no full blood females. R. W. Cary, of Waldo Hills, has a few fine black Polled Angus and some choice Jerseys, the start for a good herd of really good cattle.

T. L. Davidson, of Salem, has two Jersey cows, and Gov. Moody, also of Salem, has as good a herd as there is in Oregon, even if they didn't take the State Fair premiums.

D. H. Looney, of Jefferson, has seven head of Jerseys, chiefly cows and heifers, chosen with great care from the best herds in California.

D. C. Stewart, of Forest Grove, formerly of Yamhill, has the best lot of Holsteins in Oregon. He exhibited eight head of choice stock at the last State Fair.

Mr. Hutsonpiller, of Linn county, had some fine Jerseys that were advertised in the FARMER. His first were good stock from the well-known herd of W. C. Myer, of Ashland, Jackson county.

Henry Myer and his son-in-law, I. H. Hastings, of Polk county, have quite a number of Shorthorns and grades, and deserve credit for their success as breeders, which is attested by the premiums won at every State Fair.

W. C. Myer, of Jackson county, was one of the first breeders of pure Jerseys in our State and is still paying attention to dairy stock.

There are probably others in the business this side of the mountains but we are not posted further. If the cattle men were enterprising enough to advertise we should know them better. The FARMER has for years been doing all that was possible to advance their interests as it has constantly set forth the importance of raising stock instead of growing wheat.

By reading Eastern stock reports in agricultural papers and stock journals, we see that the average sales of cattle from Western herds average a great deal more than our Oregon breeders realize. It is about \$100 here to \$200 there and our breeders are well bred. Such good work have we done for these stock men that they have last year and this year found generally free sales of their stock and we only hear of occasionally one of them that have males for sale. The stock interest looks up in this State

since the advance in price of beef and mutton makes stock raising more profitable. As good stock pays the best we see an increased demand for good cattle to breed from.

More attention is now paid to dairy stock. The Shorthorn is preferred for beef and the Jersey for butter, but there are some who take the Holstein as fully as good for the dairy because of its excellence as a cheese maker. The milk of the Holstein does remarkably well for butter-making and particularly excels in turning out the best quality of cheese. Dairy sites are being looked up and appropriated for uses everywhere.

SHEEP AND WOOL.

From all that we can gather concerning the wool market the prospect does not favor the producer. That is to say: Overproduction of woolen goods has gone on and stocks are large through the American market. Owing to a heavy duty on wool and woolsens the United States is very little influenced by the world's general supply and the foreign markets. This country produces nearly its full supply and goes abroad only to find the coarser and finer grades that we do not produce. Our wool growers compete in a measure against each other and so do our manufacturers. No doubt however the reduction of duty had some effect to put down last years prices. The winter has been unusually mild all through this country and less woolen goods than usual have been required for the general trade of the country. Of course this will cause a lessened demand for wool for the year to come at lesser price. Early in this month the great London auctions will be held to sell the different classes of wools furnished by the British colonies. This sale will be an indication of the world's markets. The condition of our own local markets can be inferred from a report we heard this week in Portland, that came from very reliable authority, that 1,200 bags of Eastern Oregon wool were stored on commission for which no higher price than 15c a pound could be got, so it remained unsold. Of course we cannot predict what may happen, but it looks as if the wool grower could not expect any such price soon again as he has been receiving previous to 1883.

In connection with wool growing it is well enough to consider the facts in regard to that industry in our own State. Eastern Oregon and Washington wool-growers have carefully bred up their flocks until they have attained a decided character that secures for their wool the highest price obtainable. They are well bred up in Merino blood while the farmers of the Willamette have been very negligent with their flocks. They grow wheat and keep a few sheep each to act as scavengers and clean their ground of weeds. Many of them have bred from Cotswolds and have a very coarse and uneven fleece, that has neither weight nor quality. Every farmer can keep a fair band of sheep and will find profit in it if he takes care to keep up fresh blood of the right kind. Cotswolds are hardly as good as some other of the long wools or mutton sheep. The New Oxfordshire, Shropshire or Southdown will cross well with Merino and make a fair mutton sheep and equally fair fleece. Such sheep will be profitable near the markets of our towns. There will be an increasing demand for good mutton and such breeds as will supply that demand will well repay care and reasonable outlay. Sheep must have fresh blood often to keep up to the best requirements. While such flocks will pay well within easy reach of the meat demand, flock-owners away from that demand must breed more for paying wool. We discussed this matter the other day with a gentleman who has been a sheep-breeder and is a wool-buyer, one of the best judges. He agrees with us that no sheep owner can afford to neglect his flock. It will be worth \$100 a head to him to select good bucks to use. As it

is, most of the sheep-owners of this valley have neither good wool nor good mutton.

Modoc Warriors.

Travelers over the Vinita branch of the Frisco Railroad will doubtless remember the little village of Seneca, nestled in ugly ravines, about 340 miles southwest of St. Louis, and lying immediately on the line dividing Missouri from the Indian Territory. Within four miles of the depot now reside all that are left of the Modocs. They arrived at Camp Modoc, as their reservation was named, ten years ago, numbering all told 156 souls. For eight years there was a small annual decrease in their numbers until they fell below 100 counting men, women and children. Their present strength is 106.

The reservation consists of 4000 acres, surveyed into forty-acre lots. Taken as a whole it is a fine tract of land, embracing prairie, timber, upland for farming, low valleys for hay and pasturage, with an abundance of living water for stock, good well water wherever wells have been dug, and stone sufficient for the necessities of the tribe. The timber is also heavy enough for sawing and lumbering purposes. Game was formerly plentiful but it is latterly growing scarce and wild. Princess Mary, sister to the notorious Captain Jack, is the only living blood relation he now has among the Modocs. All his children are dead. One of his wives is now here, an old, ill-favored squaw, childless, without relatives of the slightest tribal influence. Scarface Charley is a medium sized man about 50, quick and nervous in manner. He was working at a sawmill, rolling logs to the carriage and springing about as lively as a cricket, talking, grinning and exhibiting a fine flow of animal spirit. He is now the chief of the tribe and not a little proud of his promotion. The office exists mainly in name, however. The young man no longer respect the authority of the chief, and Charley wisely attempts to exercise none. He is scrupulously honest in his dealings with white men, has a fair knowledge of figures and can compute the value of a load of corn or his purchase at a store readily and accurately. Stenbom Frank is perhaps the most notable man among the Modocs. He lives in a good two-roomed frame house toward the north end of the reservation. It is well finished, painted and furnished. Outside on a block stool a clean, bright tin washbasin and a piece of soap. The school has an enrollment of seventeen scholars, these being all the children, of school age in the tribe. Between thirty and forty Modocs have embraced Christianity and are doing as well as white people could in their condition. The experiment of assisting the Modocs has proven one of the most satisfactory in the history of the Indian department.—Globe Democrat.

How to Secure Eggs in Winter.

In treating of the care and feeding of hens during winter in order to secure the most eggs, a correspondent of the Indiana Farmer says:

"My experience is that it is useless to expect hens to lay during winter unless some considerable pains are taken for their comfort. The first thing that is necessary is shelter; this may be provided, and should be constructed so as to afford warmth and yet plenty of ventilation. If it can face the south, so much the better, as it gives the poultry a chance to sun themselves without undue exposure.

They must be watered and fed regularly. Give fresh water twice a day at least, not cold frozen water, but moderately warm, so that they can drink all they need without endangering their health. Then they must be fed regularly. My rule of feeding is to give whole corn just before they go to roost at night. This gives them a full stomach, on gizzard, to supply warmth and something to grind during the night. In the morning either wheat screenings, oats, or sorghum seed. For eggs alone nothing can equal wheat, at least that is my experience. Twice a week I give a handful of sunflower seed as I consider them very healthy food. Then a feed of chopped onions and red pepper, mixed with either corn meal or coarse flour, cooked and fed warm helps the production of eggs. With this treatment and with convenient nests, I find no difficulty in securing a liberal supply of eggs during the winter at a time when they bring the highest price, and therefore find my poultry as profitable as any stock on the farm, in proportion to value and cost of feed."

July Races in Union County.

Mr. L. Romillard, of LaGrande, Union county, Oregon, sends us the following Programme for the July races, to take place at his race track commencing July 2nd, 1884, continuing four days:

FIRST DAY.—Half mile heats, 2 in 3, free for all; purse \$150. First horse, \$125; second \$25. Same Day.—Dash of one mile, free for all horses that have never ran for public money; purse \$60. First horse \$50; second 10. SECOND DAY.—Seven-eighths of a mile, 2 in 3, free for all; purse \$200. First horse \$160; second \$40. Same Day.—Dash of one mile, free for all 3 year olds bred in Oregon, Washington or Idaho Territories; purse \$150. First horse \$120; second \$30. THIRD DAY.—Two-year-old colt stake, 5 eighths of a mile; \$200 added to entrance money, making a stake of \$800. Entries closed January 1, 1884, with the following nominations: 1, Cy. Mulkey, Boise City, enters sored colt by Wildwood; dam Mattie by Norfolk; 2, Bay colt by Wildwood; dam Peggy by Marshal MacMahon; 3, Bay colt by Ballot Box; dam Jenny Riddleman by old Riddleman; 4, Thomas Smith, Idaho City, enters sored colt by Marauder; dam by Dunderum's dam; 5, M. W. Lasley, La Grande, enters chestnut filly Elva R. by Ophir; dam Betsy by Langford; second dam Queen by Ophir; 6, Chestnut Stallion Oro, by Ophir; dam by Langford; second dam Abbey by Norfolk; 7, John Young, Walla Walla, enters Villard by Lou; dam Rosa Mansfield by Rivoli, colt of Estella, by Star David; 8, D. M. Darbin, Fort McDermott, Nevada, enters Minnie C. by Compromise; dam Mollie Stockton by Woodburn; 9, Alex LaBuff, Union, enters bay filly Rosa Lang by Chesapeake, dam Black Queen by Osceola; 10, Jas Gentry, North Powder, sored colt Mosby, by Monie Christo; dam Dasher; 11, Sored filly Timmy A. by Monie Christo; dam Dasher; 12, McKissick, LaGrande, enters sored filly Sted Wheat, by Osceola, dam unknown; 13, J. T. Wisdom, Baker City; enters chestnut colt by Monte Christo; dam Gipsy; 14, J. W. Wisdom enters bay filly by Chesapeake; dam unknown; 15, J. H. Parker enters bay colt Three Socks, by Monte Christo; dam Dasher. The second payment of \$5 on the above nominations will be due March 1, 1884. Same Day.—Trotting race for two year-olds, mile heats, 2 in 3; purse \$125. First horse \$100; second \$25. No colt admitted in this race unless his sire is nominated for the Trotting Sire Stake. FOURTH DAY.—Dash of one mile and a quarter free for all; purse \$200. First horse \$160; second \$40. Same Day Consolation Purse of \$100, dash of one mile; for horses who have not won first money during the meeting.

RACING RULES.—Three to enter, three to start. No make-ups allowed. Two-year olds to carry 90 pounds in their class. All other races to be governed by the Rules of the Idaho Driving Park Association.

TROTTING SIRE STAKES.—Purse to date amounts to \$450.—Nominations for colts to close March 1st. For the Trotting Sire Stake, to be competed in September, the stake to date amounts to \$160; \$200 given by the Association, \$200 by the owners of sires, as published below. Five dollars must accompany nominations; \$5 to be paid May 1st; \$5 July 4th; \$5 September 15th. No colt eligible for the stake unless sired by the following: Dead Shot by Alcide; dam Vindex; \$30. Lenoout by Almont; dam Swagart Lexington; \$30. Anvil by Erickson; dam by Billy Taylor; \$30. Bashaw by Green Bashaw; dam by Green Mountain Boy; \$15. Black Stranger by Weir Knox; dam Reynolds's mare; \$30. Challenger by Almont; dam Bell Norman; \$50. Orange County by Volunteer; dam by Volunteer; \$25. Leader by Robinson; first dam by Heaton; \$10. Alwood by Almont; \$10.

Oregon Against the World.

A visit was made to the residence of A. Tyler, last week, and the writer was shown lettuce, radishes and onions that had come up from seed that had fallen upon the ground last fall. The small onions had a top of some five or six inches, while the lettuce was at least two and a half or three inches out of the ground; the radishes likewise. This, mind you, was on the 17th day of January, 1884. Beat it if you can.—Washington Enterprise.

A competent authority says of the "ACME" Pulverizing Harrow, Clod Crusher & Leveler, "These various qualities fit it for an easy, rapid and efficient preparation of land, and in cheaply making the broad fields of a large farm into as fine a condition as a garden." (Page 8th of this paper.)