

WILLAMETTE FARMER.

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Correspondence.

Our Farewell to Sumner and Puyallup Valley.

SUMNER, W. T., April 15, 1884.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

The last days of September bring the close of the hop picking. The grower experiences a feeling of relief as his work is finished for the year. Especially does he congratulate himself if the hops were fully matured, if no rain has fallen during that time and if they were properly dried; for all this insures him higher prices for his crops. And now he generally avails himself of the opportunity to take a trip east or to San Francisco, combining pleasure with profit; for the more successful growers, as a rule, attend to the sales of the hops themselves.

The Indians usually close their work Saturday, Sunday, a grand gala day with them, is looked forward to as the time when they receive their "potlach" money. Final calls are made among their "tilliums" and horse racing and gambling is a special feature. The highways are thick with dust made by the cayuse ponies. Troops of grotesque figures are passing in every direction. The whole 4000 seem to be on the march. The colors of the rainbow, silk handkerchiefs by the hundreds, and all sorts of gay trinkets bedeck them. If one has never witnessed this panorama it is worth seeing. To-morrow there will not be 500 of them left in the valley.

Evening comes, and the lovely harvest moon pencils the snowy mantle of Mt. Tacoma with silvery light. By its mellow beams are revealed a hundred camp fires, and the soft sea breeze brings to our ears wondrous music. For this is "close tum-tum" night to many of the tribes, and all sorts of queer ceremonies are being performed. Some one hastens to inform us that the Port Reupert Indians are dancing their farewell to the valley. A few minutes more and we are in their presence, but we find them reclining around the council fire. We ask them if they have been dancing. They answer yes, but that the Klickitats had threatened to kill them if they were not quiet. They said they were not afraid, but that they wished to return to their great chief with clean hands.

Many Klickitats were on the ground. Finally some of them drew near and said they had only wanted to make the Prince Reupert Indians sick hearted, and if they were brave they would dance. After a few moments the ceremony was commenced anew. A dozen of men drew near the fire with their long hair bound back with beaded fillets and their faces bedizened with black streak and red paint. A great black streak down the nose and black circles around the eyes, with brow and chin daubed with red being the favorite method. Arms and hands were plentifully adorned. An Indian drum, as large as a barrel head, with bright bits of color was the most important instrument. Others used various kinds of gongs and wind drums. Chief Loolish himself also in regalia dress, with rod of office, cleared a large circle, and then for a few moments silence reigned. At least two hundred Indians were there to witness the farewell ceremonies. The orchestra commenced to boom out a hoarse music that sounded savage and wild to unaccustomed ears. Then there sprang into the midst of the circle an object that chilled our blood. Whether man or beast was hard to tell. Brown feet and limbs partly wrapped in a dark robe lined with crimson. On its corners and in the centre were wrought great yellow suns, scarlet reptiles, idols with gaping mouths and flaming eyes. Above all was a monstrous head covered with shaggy hair, through which towered two great horns. Staring eyes seemed to pierce you through and a mouth filled with great teeth ready to eat you. It

made one realize what little Red Riding Hood must have suffered when she encountered the hungry wolf. When she asked what so huge a mouth was for the wolf made reply: "The better to eat you, my dear." So we felt, when this wild looking object peered into our face and with a hideous grin and outstretched hand pretended to make way with us. Around and around the circle he went keeping time to the wondrous music, now balancing on one foot, then the other, madly throwing his arms in the air, then menacing the spectators with wild gestures. Again he would crawl around the circle on his knees, uttering moans and groans that were simply dreadful, then with a sudden spring he would fall in the centre with a shriek that could not easily be forgotten. Perfectly motionless he would lie until he was conveyed to his tent, where he would remain for a time then return and go through a repetition at each performance, growing more frenzied each time. Often others would enter the charmed circle and dance for a few minutes, most of them being women. The whole scene was thoroughly savage. Finally the Klickitats threatened a fight if the dance was not brought to a close, and the music ceased. The Port Reupert Indians kindly thanked us for taking so much interest in their "tum-tum" dance, and promised to show us a war dance if we visited their country, but we begged to be excused. Sad is the fate of one who falls into the hands of untamed Indians for he may expect neither forbearance or mercy.

The next brought a final to the scenes we had witnessed. In canoes or on horse back the Indians departed, and only an occasional tent pole denoted that there had been such an encampment. So closed the season of last year.

The present outlook indicates a much finer crop, but a reduction in prices. Fifteen cents would probably be the highest paid per pound. This, however, will insure the producer a hundred dollars an acre clear of all expenses, or \$3,000 for 30 acres, the average crop.

Whether this is a legitimate business is a question. We know of worse; we certainly know of better. The majority of the hopgrowers admit this to be true. None of them particularly uphold their calling, but comfort themselves with the idea that, when they have made money enough they will turn their attention to something else. Here, as elsewhere, is verified the fact that wealth does not always bring happiness in its train. Haste to become rich is not always best for one's peace of mind. We have by no means lost our faith in the Oregon farmer, who, with a clear conscience, raises his wheat or prunes his trees.

SAPPHIRE.

Rye Grass.

ST. PAUL, Or., April 17, 1884.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

In your issue of April 4 I see a good item on pastures and grass from Mr. John Luper, of Tangent. He will please give us his methods in sowing the Italian rye grass seed; stating what time he sows it, quantity per acre and as to whether mixed or alone. If mixed, with what kind of grass seed. Please state through your valuable paper for the benefit of all. Farmers, I think, should sow more grass and less wheat, for I think before many years grass and fruit will be king in Oregon.

I am glad to see the Grange taking such a good hold again. I wish Judge Boise would come around this way and organize a Grange at Gervais, Fairfield, or St. Paul. I think there is a good show for success.

G. C. A.

SPRING SEEDING is now over and many farmers will find that they have a few bushels of wheat left. The best use to make of the wheat is to sell it and send us \$3 for a year's subscription, and if you owe us, send it anyhow.

Horticultural.

HORTICULTURE.

The subject of fruit growing is certain to become one of the most important in connection with our agriculture and one that deserves most careful encouragement. Efforts have been made for some years to sustain a State Horticultural Society but it was found difficult to secure attendance, and the number of people largely interested in fruit growing is comparatively small. The subject, however, is one that appeals very strongly to all farmers because all have more or less of fruit. Orcharding is sure to become one of our most important interests and it is fully time a Horticultural Society was organized and well sustained. There is a great deal for such a society to accomplish and its usefulness would be in proportion to the interest taken by members. First: to decide what fruits succeed in different sections of country would be of great use to farmers everywhere. It is true that some fruits succeed in some localities and fail in others. Some are suited to low lands and some to up land. Fruits succeed in the lower part of this valley that do not thrive in the upper part. There is a vast deal to be learned from the experience of fruit growers in the different sections of our country, and some organized effort is needed to call this information out. The man who plants an orchard needs to have correct information to act upon and without it may plant trees that will prove of little value. The mere planting of trees is but the commencement. The fruit-grower will meet with many obstructions and will need information continually and also need to organize for self-protection. Already we have here the codlin moth, which is the most dangerous insect known to apples and pears, and destroys a large proportion of the crop in California. A Horticultural Society could find plenty of business to call its attention, and if it had competent members through the State who would contribute information of all kinds as the years pass, the result would be that much knowledge would be disseminated. It is not easy to formulate any plan of action that could be carried out with success. We only call attention to the matter and urge its importance. Perhaps, when the State Fair meets, some steps can be taken to organize a State Horticultural Society. The trouble is to bring people together from a distance. It may be more feasible to organize county societies and have them work with a State organization. We repeat, that there is great and pressing need of societies through the State to study means to protect the fruit interest and gather information as well from all sections. In California it has been found necessary to legislate for the protection of fruit and we already have the same need here. Unless laws are passed and enforced for that object the fruit grower will be at the mercy of pests that infest neighboring orchards. The object of legislation is to compel those whose trees are infested to follow some sufficient plan to eradicate the evil. This can only be done by means of well organized effort.

Writes for the Willamette Farmer.
STRAWBERRIES.

A few more words on the strawberry before the season advances more. Burpee & Co., of Philadelphia, in their "Farm Manual," give six of the best strawberries, the early, medium and late, as follows: The Duchess and Crescent for early; Manchester and Warren for medium; the Jersey Queen and Sharpless for late. They also give for market and home use the Prince of Berries and Atlantic. Four of these berries I practically know, having them in bearing. The Jersey Queen, Manchester, Sharpless and Warren speak for themselves in

my patch. The Duchess and Crescent I have not. Consequently I practically know but little of them. The Atlantic and Princess of Berries are on trial. They may or may not do well here. Three of these berries are pistillate. As a rule pistillates do poorly in our wet and cool springs, in fact I sometimes think we had better discard all pistillate varieties, and confine ourselves wholly to the perfect or hermaphrodite sorts. The three kinds alluded to as pistillate are the Crescent, the Jersey Queen and Manchester. These, to insure a full crop of berries must be set alternate among the hermaphrodite. Some set them every fifth row, or bed and bed, so called; but in the Willamette valley it is so cool and damp during florescence that impregnation is quite uncertain. Bees and other insects carry on their legs and haustellium, labrum, and labrum the pollen from the stamens to the pistils and thus impregnate them. Bees are therefore very useful among the strawberries.

Among the wild strawberries there are simply the staminate and pistillates, and yet these pistillates bear well because insects fertilize them by conveying to the pollen of the staminate. Most strawberries are hermaphrodite or perfect or have both natures—the staminate and pistillate in one. Hence the hermaphrodite are more certain and therefore more profitable. A pure staminate never bears only abortively so. All through the world not only the faunal, but also the floral kingdom, the principle of reproduction is the same. The positive and negative are simply electric, and the electric is always dual. A positive—the cause—starts up; a negative—the opposite—gives place; the effect follows. Motion and action are effects of energy; energy is dual and therefore electric. All motion, action, flowing from causes partakes nearly of the nature of those causes. The reproductive organs, as means, producing ends, must act dually to accomplish the main end in view—seeds. Seeds are the ultimate ends for which the strawberry labors. The spongioses, roots, stems, crowns, buds, peduncles, petals, pestals and stamens are all means used to form the receptacle or meaty core which sustains the seeds. The meaty core, or berry proper, holds, sustains the seeds. A civilized strawberry is an abnormality; a wild strawberry is a normality. Yet we prefer "big ones" to "little ones." Hence we toil to gain the goal—big, rich, and delicious fruits. More has been done in the last quarter of a century to improve the strawberry than was done thousands of years anterior to our era.

The light is streaming across the mental horizon like sunbeams through a dark and lowering cloud. Horticulture, pomology and agriculture are looming. The effulgent rays of science are painting the clouds of hope with radiant colors transcendently beautiful. The greatest berry man has ever improved is the strawberry.

"Sweet, rich, rare and ripe."
A. F. DAVIDSON.

A Good Carriage Horse.

Under the head of new to-day appears the advertisement of E. W. Rossiter's King Tom. The pedigree of this animal shows his excellent points. He is unequalled as a carriage horse. At the present time the demand all over the United States is for just such a style of horse. The use of carriage horses is to combine both style of carriage, speed and for general and all purposes. We believe Mr. Rossiter has just such an animal. Call and see for yourself.

For \$5 we will send any one the FARMER for one year, also send the paper one year each to two new names.

Oregon's standard remedy for indigestion, dyspepsia and loss of appetite, Dr. Henley's Dandelion Tonic.

The amount of vegetables received from California is decreasing as spring comes on and our market gardens yield.

MATTERS THAT NEED EXPLAINING.

Two years ago the legislature was the scene of a long drawn conflict that finally ended to the satisfaction of the great majority of the people, in the defeat of the aspirations of ex-Senator Mitchell for re-election to the United States Senate. It is no doubt then that Marion county in a general sense is opposed to the election of Mr. Mitchell to the Senate. He is employed in lobbying for the benefit of railroads and that is not an occupation that entitles him to the confidence of the people. He has a right to choose his occupation but he must take the consequences if he loses public favor thereby. Leaving that out of the question Mr. Mitchell is, or has been, a professional politician, and has held his party in this State subject to the partisan organization he has controlled. The prejudice that exists against the ex-Senator is based not alone on his political character, this enforcement of ring rule and of the spoils system in politics, but on personal traits and immorality that are matter of common report and cannot be gainsaid. The grounds for objection are many and cannot be truthfully denied.

Last week the republican convention of Marion county nominated candidates for the legislature and of the six nominees the majority are said to be friendly to Mr. Mitchell politically. Several of these are pronounced, by a gentleman who professes to know from his own sources of information, to be friendly to Mr. Mitchell, and he thought the five were all that way inclined. The question was not agitated in the convention but it is certain to be agitated by the voters of the county and many of them will require good and satisfactory evidence that those gentlemen recognize the wishes of their constituents and will act in accordance with them. We do not denounce those nominees or accuse them of being friends politically of Mr. Mitchell, but we give a report that seems to have some foundation and if true these should be known to the voters of the county. They can and no doubt will, satisfy themselves by publicly questioning these candidates as to their preference in this connection. When they shall be satisfied we have no doubt they will act in accordance with their best judgment.

TIME FOR LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

The wording of the Constitution is so plain that it is hardly possible to create a doubt that the holding of a session in January will be legal. The words of the Constitution are: "The session of the legislative assembly shall be held bi-ennially, at the capital of the State, commencing on the second Monday of September, in the year 1858, and on the same day of every second year thereafter, unless a different day shall have been appointed by law."

The words of the last sentence are so specific in their terms that they seem to cover all that is requisite. A "different day" has been "appointed by law" and the Constitutional qualification is therefore complied with. Since we have taken the words of the Constitution it seems impossible to create a difference that is dangerous. The words are explicit and cover the whole ground. The bi-ennial session was to meet on a particular day so long as no other day was "appointed by law." Now that the law has "appointed" a "different day" the next session will meet on that day, and all succeeding sessions will be held on the same day every two years, or bi-ennially. There does not seem to be room for question or doubt.

TWO NEW subscribers and \$5 will entitle you to a year's subscription to the FARMER.

Brown's Bronchial Troches for Coughs and Colds: "There is nothing to be compared with them."—Rev. O. D. Watkins, Wabash, Indiana.

Spokane Falls has 2,800 population.