

# WILLAMETTE FARMER.

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## Correspondence.

### A Trip to Mount Jefferson.

WHITEAKER, Or., Aug. 29, 1884.  
Editor Willamette Farmer:  
I have just got home from Mount Jefferson; we had a jolly time; we found traces of the Tullbright party some twenty odd years ago and got lost and rambled about for near two months. There are plenty of martins and grizzly bear in Jefferson valley. We left the trail and wandered about Jefferson for some eight or nine days feasting on fish and venison. Smith's lake is the best fishing place I ever saw, for one man can catch faster than another can take them off the hook. Jefferson valley contains some ten fine lakes. We found one lake with perpendicular walls, inside and out—a great natural curiosity.  
G. W. HUNT.

### Weather Report for August, 1884.

EOLA, September 1, 1884.  
Editor Willamette Farmer:  
During Aug., 1884, there were 1 day during which rain fell, and an aggregate of 0.17 inches of water, 20 clear, 5 fair and 5 cloudy days other than those on which rain fell.  
The mean temperature for the month was 67.19 deg.  
Highest daily mean temperature for the month, 80 deg. on the 2d.  
Lowest daily mean temperature for the month, 59 deg. on the 24th.  
Mean temperature for the month at 2 o'clock p. m., 76.81 deg.  
Highest temperature for the month, 92 deg. at 2 p. m. on the 2d.  
Lowest temperature for the month, 56 deg. at 7 a. m. on the 23d.  
The prevailing winds for the month were from the north during 27 days, south 5 days.  
During Aug., 1883, there was no rain, 0 clear, 2 cloudy and 29 smoky days.  
Mean temperature for the month, 63.85 deg.  
Highest daily mean temperature for the month, 69 deg., on the 26th.  
Lowest daily mean temperature for the month, 61 deg. on the 17th.  
T. PEARCE.

### Information Wanted.

GRANT'S PASS, Or., Aug. 27, 1884.  
Editor Willamette Farmer:  
Have you or can you refer me to anything concerning fruit canning. I would like a book or journal treating of the process of canning if possible to get it. An early answer will oblige.  
CHAS. K. CHANSELOE.

REPLY.—All we can say in this matter is that we have communicated with Dr. A. C. Kinney, of Astoria, who is an able writer, and who has much experience in canning on the Columbia river. We will probably have an article from the Doctor soon.—EDITOR.

### Overland to San Francisco in 59 Hours.

On Monday, September 1, the O. & C. stage line, and Central Pacific, reduce the time between Portland and San Francisco to 59 hours. In other words, passengers leaving Portland at 7:30 A. M. reach San Francisco at 6:40 P. M. on the third day. This reduction in time is made possible by the California road opening its extension to Delta on the date mentioned. The stage ride is just twenty-four hours. There will be no change in the O. & C. time card between Portland and Roseburg, but the through train will reach Ashland at 4:35 A. M., an hour earlier than now. An hour will be given for breakfast, the stage starting at 6 o'clock and reaching Delta at 6 the next morning. The train from San Francisco will reach Delta at 8:45 P. M., add the connecting stage will reach Ashland at 8 the next evening, making close connection with the Portland train which will leave at 8:45 P. M. instead of 6:20, as now. The fare between San Francisco and Portland is \$32; to Sacramento \$30.

Three young men from Snohomish recently made the ascent of Rainier and found much hardship and a lead plate with the names of parties who had previously accomplished the ascent.

### AN ADVANTAGE.

One great advantage the Acme drier has, we believe, over all others is, that the fruit is actually evaporated instead of being merely dried. We first had the Plummer, which made good fruit with painstaking, but all driers we have used up to this time have been liable to burn the fruit. There is no drier but will do this without careful watching to guard against too great heat, but the Acme we find easier controlled in that respect, as we will show.

Submit air to contact with a red hot iron surface, or super heat it by direct contact with an iron furnace and it becomes in a manner dead and lifeless. In the Acme this is obviated by bringing the air into the hollow wall that surrounds the furnace. It is there heated somewhat and when introduced to the lower part of the drier comes in contact with the lesser portion of air that comes up through the furnace chamber. Three-fourths of the air comes through the hollow wall. This air mingles with the hot air from the furnace and all becomes equalized. It is fresher and more lively than air from a dead heat and we believe makes a better article of dried fruit with less liability to burn. Last year we had difficulty in drying large fruit whole but this year we succeed in making the largest sized plums and prunes into dried wholes that look like confectionery. The present drier accomplishes in eighteen hours what was done with difficulty in the Plummer drier in sixty hours.

It is more difficult to manufacture plums and prunes than apples, because the apple is sliced thin and quickly evaporates, while the prune is heavy meaty, with a thick skin and dries slowly, though dipping in lye water crackles the skin and makes evaporation easier. We take pains to give all the information possible concerning fruit drying to assist those who are in the business. All driers are alike to us save as they do good work and are valuable to the public. We find the Acme possesses good qualities and state the facts.

### SALE OF OREGON STOCK.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—G. W. Talbot and J. F. Breeding, two stock raisers of Oregon, had seventy-five fine Oregon mares on sale at Redesacker's drovtyard at Baltimore yesterday. Of the seventy-five forty-four were sold, the prices ranging from \$35 to \$82.50. The mares were all young and in excellent condition, unbroken and fiery. There were buyers present from all parts of Maryland. Most of the animals were bought by private parties, the dealers getting but few. The remainder of the seventy-five were taken to Philadelphia last night, where they were sold today, bringing about the same prices, though in a few cases somewhat more. About fifty Texas ponies were sold here last week at about \$84 each on an average.

The foregoing came over the wires last week but we must confess to not finding much to congratulate Oregon horse breeders on if they went all the way to Baltimore with "seventy-five fine Oregon mares" and could only sell forty-four of them for the prices named. It would seem as the price received could not more than have paid the passage of the animals from here to Baltimore, if that much. Good Oregon mares are worth more than these brought on the ranges of Eastern Oregon, if worth keeping for breeding uses. We should like to know the facts concerning this speculation in "fine Oregon mares" for it is not easy to believe that really good stock was taken to Baltimore to be given away. It may be possible that the animals in question were Indian ponies and not genuine, full-blood, American stock.

### Relief for the Starving Piégans.

The following is from the Daily Oregonian of September 2, and is dated from Washington: Indian Commissioner Price has taken measures for the immediate relief of the starving Piégan Indians at Blackfoot agency, in Montana. The

following telegram was sent to Governor Crosby of Montana, to-day:

In answer to your telegram to the secretary I have to inform you that I have ordered additional supplies to Blackfoot agency, and ordered the agent to make them last until March 31st next, by which time I hope congress will have made provisions for additional supplies.  
H. H. PRICE.

To secure money necessary for the purchase of these supplies the commissioner has been forced to have recourse to the provision of the law allowing him to apply to the relief of distressed Indians of one tribe any money that may remain unexpended of one sum appropriated for the maintenance of another tribe. Under this law, however, it was necessary to secure the approval of the president before the money could be so applied, and a letter upon the subject was addressed to President Arthur last week, before the receipt of Governor Crosby's telegram.

### TOO MUCH CHEAP LABOR.

The completion of the Baker City branch of the O. R. & N. Co.'s railroad to meet the Oregon Short Line has thrown out of employment thousands of Chinese workers and a regiment of white workmen, who, the Oregonian thinks, will swell the army of idlers who are infesting Portland in mid-summer, when harvest work is abundant and all able-bodied men should be at work. It is a singular state of things when a thriving city like Portland, instinct with labor, and with improvements and building going on in all directions, should be overrun with idlers and tramps who beg their meals. If this occurs in summer-harvest what may we expect in winter? With discontinuance of railroad work we shall have Chinese labor very abundant at very low prices and white men, in the shape of vagabonds and tramps, will infest the highways and by-ways of both town and country. The next Legislature will have to pass a vagrant act that can be enforced.

### State Fair Restaurant.

We are promised a restaurant at the State Fair grounds this year that will be a credit to the association and just the place for visitors to get a tip-top meal. Mr. Bob Thompson of the Thompson House of this city has rented the large theatre building east of the Pavilion and will fit it up in a style of "oriental magnificence," so to speak, for his patrons. One thing dead sure Mr. Thompson will give those who patronize him plenty to eat and cooked in good home style. Mr. Thompson is making preparations for feeding a multitude and if the weather is good the "multitude" will be on hand.

### An Oregon County Treasurer Absconds.

W. D. Pittenger, well and favorably known in Washington county has defaulted in the sum of \$50,000. An exchange says that he has turned over his store and all his property probably to secure bondsmen. The deficit in the county treasurer's office will amount to \$14,000 due the State on taxes for 1883, and some county funds amounting to some \$8,000. A new treasurer was elected this year. Pittenger was regarded as a bankrupt last fall by business men here, but nothing was dreamed of the treasury deficit. His liabilities are estimated at \$50,000 and his assets unencumbered at \$35,000. All is confusion. A warrant has been issued for Pittenger's arrest, but he is gone.

### Thoroughbred Sheep for Sale.

Elsewhere will be found the announcement of Messrs. Wright & Cross, offering for sale fourteen head of thoroughbred merino sheep. The breeding of these sheep is unquestioned and the reputation of the late Thomas Cross should be sufficient guarantee of their excellence. The sheep will be on exhibition at the State Fair and will be offered for sale on the most favorable terms.

### Lost.

Some six weeks ago, a blue cloth jacket, trimmed with black plush, somewhere between Jefferson and Salem. Anyone finding or knowing of such an article will be suitably rewarded on informing this office.

### A Talk About Flax.

There is no country where flax can be grown so cheaply as in the Western States. The Illinois State Board reports the expense of growing the crop as varying from \$6 to \$13 per acre. This includes the use of the land, cost of ploughing, harrowing, sowing, seeding, cutting, stacking, threshing and marketing. The variation in the estimate is due principally to a difference in the rental of land and in the price of labor.

In 1881 the Department of Agriculture estimated the acreage of flax in nine Western States, beginning with Ohio, at about 1,127,000 acres. We have not at hand the estimated acreage of last year, but presume there is little or no increase, from the fact that farmers in many localities, especially where the remunerative dairy has been introduced, have abandoned the growing of a crop that had come to yield but a few bushels of seed per acre, and whose straw had no market value for fibre or fodder. The causes of non-productiveness are not hidden in the least. The seed had simply "run out," and the crop was not grown in a proper rotation, so that flax fields had been robbed of the food most needed by the plant.

But even had the quantity of seed been double what it came to be in, say, the dairy district tributary to Elgin market, flax for the seed alone could not compete with the dairy, and it would hardly have done so had there been machinery for working up the fibre in every village. Still, where such specialties as dairymen are not introduced, and where farmers can grow flax for the seed and make a fair profit, this crop might be made doubly valuable if the fibre could be utilized. This is the great need of the industry, and the wonder is that capital does not seek this avenue of investment. The demand for articles made from flax fibre is always large. In addition to what we make up into the coarser materials, such as twine, thread, bagging and the like, this country imports linen goods from Europe to the amount of nearly \$25,000,000 per annum. Taking into account the fact that we can grow as good flax as any country in the world, and do it at half the cost that it takes to produce it in the old world, this stands out as one of the most remarkable cases of indifference to money-making on the part of American capitalists of which we have knowledge.

We do not believe that for a series of years farmers can make great money by growing flax for the seed alone. We can hardly be expected to argue that it pays in the long run to grow any crop that exhausts land, and never returns anything to make the loss good. To be remunerative for a series of years the crop of seed should bring a price that will enable the grower to purchase the manure which is needed to keep up the fertility. Judicious rotation would help materially, of course, but the average yield of flaxseed per acre of late years gives little promise of profit unless supplemented by a sale of the fibre.

Flax is easily grown. The main things are to choose ground as free as possible from weeds, to prepare it thoroughly for the seed-bed, and to procure clean, fresh, plump seed. The land must be well drained, and a sandy loam is preferable; a clay subsoil will answer if there is good, dry loam above. Clay soils are too compact. Harrow and roll before sowing so as to have a smooth surface. If for seed alone, three pecks of seed per acre is ample; if for both feed and fibre, a bushel is none too much. The seed should be covered with about an inch of dirt. Sow when the soil is well warmed up and in good condition for working.—*Prairie Farmer.*

### The Grape as a House Vine.

Matthew Crawford, an experienced grape grower of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, gives the following as the result of his ripe experience. Now who will not have grapes?

The grape is one of the grandest vines in the world, the most important of all small fruits. It reaches its greatest perfection in that soil that is shallow, rich, dry and hot. Its roots flourish under a paved walk where all surface water runs off at once; under buildings where no rain falls; or in crevices among rocks where scarcely any soil is found. It may be planted in town lots where there is but little room. Its roots will run around the foundation of buildings, under the

side walk—anywhere; and the vines may be trained to run upon the house. They will help to keep it cool in summer and the fruit will be safe from frost and rot. I am aware that this hardly agrees with most that has been written on the subject, but over twenty-five years' experience and observation have convinced me of its truth. Grapes have rotted badly on the trellis for some years, but we have yet to see the first rotten berry on our house, three sides of which are covered with vines whose roots are under the turf. Grapes nearly always do well in a tree, and really seems to me as if the tendrils must have something to "take hold of." I knew a vine that occupied several trees in a front yard, and never any trimming except what was given with a scythe when it hung in the way. It ripened over forty bushels in one season.

### Honey and Digestion.

"All foods," says an exchange, "if not already soluble (nutrable) in water have to be so altered within us that they become dissolved, and we call this solution, digestion. Starch, for example, which forms five-sixths of our daily bread, is utterly ineffectual to use while it remains as starch, because of its insolubility; but in the act of chewing, the saliva which we add to our bread begins to convert the starch into a sugar (very much like the sugar of honey) and so renders it soluble in order that it may in due course be carried into our blood, and there do the work of giving us power or heat. Cane sugar, in like manner, although soluble, requires alteration, is also brought about by contact with the saliva, and the result is a sugar, as in a previous case, nearly identical, with the sugar of honey. Honey, on the contrary, or the sugar that we will find in grapes, is already in the condition for absorption or assimilation, and really no kind of work has to be performed upon it before it is actually rendering us service as a force or heat producer."

Honey is, therefore, given to mankind in the most agreeable form, both for food and medicine. It produces healthy digestion, and holds defiantly that monster of torture, indigestion, at bay. Pure honey should be used freely in every family. Honey eaten upon wheat bread is very beneficial to health. Children would rather eat bread and honey than bread and butter; one pound of honey will reach as far as two pounds of butter, and has besides, the advantage that it is far more healthy and pleasant to the taste, and always remains good, while butter soon becomes rancid and often produces a cramp in the stomach, eructations, sourness, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Digestion (all-potent in its effects on the mind as well as the body) depends largely on the food. Poor food received into a poor stomach is the cause of many unhappy homes—while good, healthy food, received into a healthy stomach, becomes "an Angel of Peace" to many a household.—*Am. Bee Journal.*

### LEGAL ADVERTISING.

The question was asked us recently: "What do you charge for legal advertisements?" Finding our friend meant business we told him, and he was quite surprised. There seems to be a disposition among people to think that they must insert it in certain papers. That is wrong. Any paper of a general circulation is eligible to publish a legal notice in just so it is printed in the proper county. Again, we find a disposition on the part of many papers to overcharge for advertisements of a legal nature. To be sure they must be treated with more care than ordinary advertising matter. But anyway what is "worth doing at all is worth doing well."

We are prepared to do all such work and will do it at the following prices which have always been our rates: Appointment of administrator, etc., \$3.50. Notice of final settlement, \$3.50; summons in divorce cases, from \$4 to \$5; Summons in other cases, according to length. The same rule applies to sheriff's sales. The rate on such large ads can be estimated at \$2 for each 10 lines. Estrays and taking up of stock, \$3 to \$3.50. It takes eight words to make a line, so any one can estimate about what a notice will make. Other advertisements inserted by contract.

A cripple named McAlpin is charged with stealing a horse in Salem, Friday.