

# WILLAMETTE FARMER.

VOL. XVI.

SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1885.

NO. 47

During these hard times the tendency to trench is very strong and very proper. Let the farmer ask himself, however, if he can afford to dispense with the only journal in the State that belongs to him and represents his interests? Thirteen years ago we purchased the WILLAMETTE FARMER and invested in it all our means and the best years of several lives. Consider, friends, whether it is not more reasonable at this time, (when you know how hard the times must pinch the publisher of your own journal) to go out and collect a small club of new subscribers at the low price offered rather than think of "economizing" by doing without the services of a friend of such long standing.

## Correspondence.

### They Don't Know How.

SALEM, OR., Dec. 26, 1884.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

I receive many letters of inquiry of late in regard to the poultry business, some asking how they must commence to succeed, others if young chickens (fryers) can be raised at a profit, while many are still anxious to know more about the successes of the different poultrymen throughout the State. To answer all separately would be quite a task, so I reply through the FARMER.

The latter inquiry I have already given my own views upon, and they have come from experience, not theory or imagination, as I see one of your correspondents has ventured into. I might just as well say through the columns of the FARMER that turnips were now produced on vines or cabbages were grown in the ground, and mention Mr. Fields as making the attempt but failed; but what if he had, others were making a success out of it. There would be just as much sense in me making this statement as for Mr. Fields to say that "Goodhue had failed in the poultry business, but what if he had, others were making a success out of it." When he does not mention a single instance of success in the Northwest, he certainly ought to know that people who like to read facts, will take his statement with a tolerable degree of allowance.

I correspond with all the leading poultrymen in this State and Washington, and I know whereof I speak when I say none have made anything out of the poultry business, entire, as yet. Those who continue in the business have very cheap lands, scattering the hen houses about and giving each family of fowls a wide range; by so doing they are able to keep them healthy and the fowls pick up a part of their living, and the expense of food is somewhat lessened, but this mode of keeping fowls in such localities is attended with many difficulties. For, to procure cheap lands the foothills next to the mountains must be sought, and the loss by vermin is very heavy, in spite of all precaution, in such localities. The most successful establishment of this kind carried on in this State is situated on such lands as I have mentioned, but is not as yet on a paying basis, although the proprietors are poultrymen. It is carried on as an egg farm, chiefly.

To be sure of success in poultry, keep about twenty-five in one hen house and keep your houses far enough apart to allow each family of fowls a good range. They will then pick up part of their food. Feed them in variety with a little meat or burned bones and keep plenty of gravel where they can get at it. Keep just as many fowls on this plan as you possibly can without seriously interfering with your daily routine of business on the farm, or, in other words, "don't stop the plow to attend to the chickens" and you are bound to succeed.

To raise chickens for market in this country is not profitable, only in a small way. My experience is, to make \$2.50 per day, clear, would require the hatching out and raising of about 5000 chickens at \$5 per dozen, in one year, or about that number. The percentage of loss is too heavy and the market too limited for any person to undertake this business with any degree of success as yet.

Geo. D. GOODRICH.

### Fending Treaties and Cheap Labor.

BUTTEVILLE, Dec. 22, 1884.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

In speaking of the "Chinese in Mexico," you say that "the Chinese are willing to work for less wages than white men ask." Why don't you say cheaper than white men can work and make a living. I think think that the subject of Chinese cheap labor is underestimated. A Chinaman will live in a hut, pay no rent and support no family, and why shouldn't he work cheap? They do not help to support schools nor churches. How different the white man that has a family to support; he must have a comfortable house and it must be furnished to enable him to live comfortably. His wife and children must be clothed with comfort, and ought to have finer clothes for extra wearing. He helps to create a society to support our churches and schools. Contrast this with the Chinaman, and can you expect them to work for China wages? And yet some people will say to the man that has a family to support: "Oh, I can't give such wages! why, I can hire a Chinaman for one-third less than that. Selfish men! that look not beyond the present benefits, that care not for schools or society, far less for the needs and comfort of men who need work for the support of their families. Some time ago, you spoke about Hovenden leasing land to Chinamen for clearing it, and said that Hovenden spoke with sarcasm, saying that white men would not clear land for the use of it. How could a white man live while he is grubbing land? If he borrows money to live on, he might as well—nay, far better—use that money to buy land, and when he got it cleared he would not have to give it up again after a few crops. Again, selfish men, all our treaties that are before the Senate for ratification will bring slave labor or very cheap labor into competition with American free labor.

A great many farmers would like to have sugar and other articles made cheaper by having the duty taken off, but they don't like to see the duty taken off of wool. Oh, no! They don't like to see their own ox gored but enjoy the sight if it happens to be some other fellow's ox. And again, the shortsightedness of man.

JOEL P. GERR.

### Legislative Action Desired.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

I think that the school law that relates to school districts should be repealed by the legislature that will meet soon. We want laws enacted that will not create a division in neighbors where unity is absolutely necessary. That is what the present school law does—adds fuel to the fire in school districts. The State should collect all school taxes and hire and pay off school teachers. I think that the State Board of Education should examine all teachers, send them to the different school districts in the State. Teachers to furnish themselves with board. Could be removed by petition to the Board, and could be retained by petition. So, you see, that when we received a good teacher we would keep him by petition. And when the public money was used up we could hire him at our own expense. Each district would have a normal school.

LORAIN.

### To Destroy Green Lice.

SALEM, OR., Dec. 24, 1884.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

Please give your readers this valuable recipe for killing green lice, which are so detrimental to young apple trees. Take of purest twist plug tobacco, say about two inches square, stew or soak it in about four or five gallons of water. The way to apply it is, take a large pan and put about one gallon of the liquid in it and dip the ends of the limbs or twigs in the liquid so as to thoroughly wet them, and those that cannot be wet by dipping apply the liquid by hand.

One or two thorough applications will cleanse the worst infected trees. Try it, those of you who are troubled with the pest next spring, and you will be richly rewarded for your trouble.

I have a very thrifty growing apple orchard of over two hundred trees, some of which this pest had nearly ruined last spring. But, by being informed by Mr. Leeson, who had experimented with the tobacco liquid, I saved my trees, which made a very fine growth and yielded a fair crop of fruit.

J. B. LEESON.

### Pass Laws to Protect Our Dairies.

PORTLAND, OR., Dec. 26, 1884.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

In the columns of the FARMER I have long been silent; my last change renders me still a slave to business, so I have little leisure for writing. The FARMER reaches me regularly as a clock and I scan its pages watching for the old correspondents and becoming acquainted with the new ones.

With the benefits brought us by the advent of the railroad a "nuisance" came also. Our market is flooded with imitations of butter and cheese and sold as the genuine article. Tallow and the refuse fat of the slaughter houses, manipulated with chemicals and brought out in the most attractive forms, colored and scented with the essence of clover and called butter and sold as such to unsuspecting purchasers. Lard is mixed with skim milk and a substance made to imitate cheese and sold as such.

These disgusting imitations are palmed off on consumers to the detriment of the public health and to the injury of the honest dairymen and farmer. We want a law to prohibit its sale or rather regulate it and bring it under certain restrictions; to compel the manufacturer and vendors, however small, to mark or stamp every package, or roll, and print plainly its true character and sell it under its proper name. A law of this kind interests consumers as well as producers of genuine dairy products. We want such a law passed at the next State Legislature which meets early in January. The session is short and whatever is done should be done promptly. I have waited for months hoping some of the agricultural journals of Oregon would initiate a movement in this important matter; but all seem to have overlooked it. To insure prompt action and favorable consideration of the subject on the part of the Legislature, I will suggest this plan:

In a short editorial you call the attention of all your subscribers to this matter and with this issue send a printed heading for a petition to the legislature for the enactment of such a law, request each subscriber to paste it on a sheet of paper and circulate it and obtain signatures to the petition and when so obtained send it to the representatives of their district requesting them to present such petitions and aid in securing favorable action upon it. Send a copy to every Grange. If this plan is followed petitions will go up from every Grange and election precinct in the State and every member of the Legislature will receive several such petitions requesting his favorable consideration. Such a law directly interests probably nine-tenths of the citizens of the State and there can be no valid objection urged against it, and let us hope the object may be accomplished.

J. B. KNAPP.

We, the undersigned, desire that such laws be passed as will protect our dairy industries from the manufacture and sale of manufactured butter and cheese.

If YOU DON'T want the FARMER for 1885 drop us a postal card and say so. We don't want to lose a single subscriber, but shall not force our paper on anyone.

Don't forget the place—Port & Son, State street—for the most complete drug store in the valley. Their prices are reasonable.

### PLUMS AND PRUNES.

An old friend writes us to know what varieties of plums and prunes to plant for drying. We answered his inquiry by letter but as the matter is of general interest and others may be misled as he was, by sight, we will give the views we wrote him. He has already set out some Bradshaws and Gross Prunes, (or Hungarian, also known as Budd's Seedling or some such name) and thought of setting out several hundreds more. We have 200 Bradshaws and some of the Gross prunes, and found they dried away nothing. They are very large and handsome to look at and size and looks make them sell when ripe but they are worth nothing, actually nothing, to use for drying and there are other varieties much better for canning. We wish to put this as emphatic as possible. People who expect to sell fruit when ripe have an uncertain market because a little ripe fruit will overstock any town or city in Oregon. The only safe way is to dry or can fruit and there are certain varieties excellent for that purpose.

The Peach plum comes usually August 1, and is very excellent for canning, though will require considerable sugar. It makes good dried fruit but not over 10 pounds to the bushel, and perhaps not that. We should put it at 8 pounds when pitted. It will not pay to dry them, that is our experience.

The Peach plum lasts 8 or 10 days only and from August 10 to 20th there is no good market plum. We have a seedling that originated in our own orchard that is large as Coe's Golden Drop and much heavier meat. It is a very excellent plum and Mr. O. Dickinson and others pronounce it a great discovery. This plum is nearly as tart as the Peach, the tree is very hardy and it bears full yearly. We propose to propagate this remarkable fruit as it comes in exactly when there is no good market plum, from August 10 to 20th.

About August 20th to September 1st comes several good plums, including Washington, Yellow Egg, Petite prune d'Agén, Columbia and Blue Damsón.

The Washington dries away too much but is a most excellent plum for canning.

The Yellow Egg dries well as it has a heavy meat.

The Petite prune dries among the very best but is not as choice flavor canned as some others.

The Blue Damsón, genuine, is one of the finest of fruits for canning but the fashion is that white fruits shall be canned. However we have 250 Blue Damsón set out in 1882.

The Columbia is the very best fruit of all, for reasons we cannot stop to give in full. They are large, heavy and dry or can a No. 1. Don't fail to set lots of them.

About September, come the German prune, Prince Englebert, Italian or Fallenberg, also Gross prune and Bradshaw.

The German is usually a good bearer but the fruit is not the best flavor, dries 30 pounds to the 100.

Prince Englebert is as good fruit as can grow, good size, fine flavor, etc., yields 33 pounds to 100.

Italian is the very best, yields 33 to 100, and ranks as the finest prune grown.

These three enumerated are all drying fruit and have reputation the world over, especially the two last.

We have said all that is necessary about the Gross or Hungarian and the Bradshaw. They are not as good as others at canning and are not worth the trouble of drying.

Along the 10th to the 20th of September and lasting through to October, come two excellent varieties.

The Raine Claude de Bayay plum is one of the finest fruits for either canning or drying.

The Coe's Golden Drop come latest and are excellent for any use. Our experience is that the Golden Drop dries

away too much and should be canned. While in its prime and full size this is the best plum grown.

A person who wishes to plant plums and prunes can read the foregoing and learn all we can tell about the best varieties of plums and prunes, and the best use to put them to.

### MORMONISM.

The Oregonian believes Mermonism will spread and grow until it will rise against the government and only a civil war can suppress it. There is nothing unreasonable in this belief. Our government tampers with this enormity and political parties actually pander to it and study how they can best use it for their own purposes. Legislation is evaded and defied and the strictest laws Congress can be got to pass amount to little when they have to be enforced in Utah. There are certain evils that no law can rectify and extermination must be the cure. How to exterminate Mermonism is the most difficult problem of our day. It is certain to be an evil, even if transplanted to some other portion of North America. If it could be transplanted to an island of the ocean and kept there, it might in time rectify itself, work itself clear and pure as some liquids do, but so long as they can aggress against our laws and our Nation Mermons will increase and thrive. If we had a despotic government, even then we could not put down Mermons, for they thrive on persecution. They forever quote that "the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." They are so infamous that any act of government would be justified. Ignorant and degraded as they are, they are stronger for their numbers than any other body of people on the earth because they are so united. If opposition or rebellion crops out among them, as it continually does, the rebel suddenly dies. Murder and outrage cement them into unity. The tales of horror concerning acts perpetrated on Gentiles pale into insignificance compared to the damnable villainy exercised within the gates. To doubt, or oppose, in any way the hierarchy of the church, is to court sudden death and often the most horrid torture, and this people whose leaders are hell-hounds, flaunt their devilishness in the face of the government. The few who have strong wills control the tens-of-thousands of the ignorant and debased and can lead them to slaughter as El Mahdi does the Arabs of the desert with the cry of Islam. Mermonism has its parallel in the Latter Day Saints of Utah Territory.

### Nut Growing.

As a rule, all sorts of seeds should be planted as soon as they are ripe. Nature plants the seeds when they fall. There is more certainty in planting the seeds of nut-bearing trees than in purchasing the young trees from a nurseryman, and it is also cheaper. Get the nuts fresh from the trees, and if you have no time to plant them now they may be kept moist in sand or sawdust until they are planted. Every farmer could make the foundation of a good nursery in a day, which in not many years hence might bring more profit than all the rest of his farm. Nuts may be planted either in the spot in which they are intended to grow into large trees, or in garden or nursery, and the saplings afterward transplanted, care being taken to keep the land clean while they are young. Two years after planting is the best time for transplanting, or the young trees may be left in the ground the third winter and transplanted in the spring.

The best way to rid a horse's ears of warts is to rub them well with a coarse cloth and then touch them well with a little nitric acid every alternate day until you have administered three applications. A single drop of the acid will be sufficient for the smaller ones.

CAN YOU do without the FARMER for 1885? We hardly think so.

Pure drugs at Port & Son's.