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OREGON PIONEER HISTORY.

SKETCHES OF EARLY DAYS.--MEN AND TIMES IN THE FORTIES.

BY S. A. CLARKE.

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Immigration of 1842.

To return to our story: H. Burns was appointed blacksmith, John Hoffstruder wagonmaker, and other positions were provided for. Captain Sublette, the old trader and trapper and prince of mountaineers, was fearful about taking so large a company of men, women and children through such country, so an organization was effected and rules adopted for his satisfaction, as he doubted being able to preserve order and maintain discipline. The company had something like forty families, and was a valuable addition to the American colony in Oregon. There were eighteen wagons, with snowy covers, and a long train of horses, mules and cattle. A report that owing to scarcity of water supply dogs were liable to go mad on the plains, caused them to kill all canines. While Lovejoy and Hastings were carving their names on Independence rock they were captured by a large party of Sioux, and were probably held for ransom, but they were recovered badly frightened without being muled in very heavy damages.

The immigration of 1842 probably owed much of its strength to Dr. White's efforts to recruit its force, and he deserves credit for it. They made the journey without much trouble or danger and with few mishaps, and arrived in good season. Dr. White struck out for the Columbia in advance, and reached Western Oregon before the bulk of the company arrived. He came back with the first government commission ever issued for Oregon, and perhaps made a little more of an Indian sub-agency than was proper or necessary. There is no reason to doubt that he "magnified his office" considerably, for it was only an inferior and subordinate position. The settlers of Oregon were delighted to see any action by the government recognizing Oregon, and received it as a precursor of better things. They knew White, for he made himself known, and not always to everybody's satisfaction. That he should come back on a pitiful uncertainty, which insured only \$750 per annum, was strange enough. He made the most of it, however, and was active and certainly useful in many respects. As soon as newness wore off the jealous-minded commenced to criticize his doings and denounce him personally.

Dr. White's Official Career.

Dr. White was evidently a man of sanguine temperament and inconsiderate in many respects. He may have assumed too much, but he had to assume considerable more than would pertain to the office where there were higher authorities within reach to consult and appeal to. As he was the only representative of the national government he had to presume a good deal on general principles. Had he waited to refer matters to Washington, the mass of age would have covered them, if they ever came back with government rulings. To accomplish any good it was necessary to act in accordance. White was too mercurial to succeed without some mistakes. I come to the subject as unprejudiced as possible to be, and I sincerely believe that his failings leaned in the right direction. He accomplished much good as Indian agent, and that I will proceed to explain in due time. On his way down the Columbia he called at Dr. Whitman's station and was surprised to find him surrounded with comforts and conveniences; house and furniture there reminded him of comfortable homes back in the States. He spent two days there very pleasantly.

Provisional Government Started.

During his absence from Oregon a village had sprung up at Willamette falls called Oregon City. A meeting of citizens was convened at Champoeg to receive his intelligence, where Dr. J. L. Babcock presided and W. G. Le Breton was secretary. T. J. Hubbard, Le Breton, R. Shorters, James O'Neill, G. Abernethy and J. L. Parrish were committee to draft resolutions that stated with what satisfaction the people viewed the extension of government jurisdiction over Oregon, and they also said: "We highly approve of the appointment of Dr. E. White," as well as they approved of the appointment of an agent to regulate and guard the interests of the Indians. The last resolution favored being brought soon "under the jurisdiction of our mother country." The immigration on the way was received kindly and was hospitably entertained on arrival, for it was the first arrival in force, consisting largely of mechanics, who were much needed for building up the country and making homes. It is stated that meeting after meeting was held, looking to some form of self government, but so many were aspirants for high positions that they came to naught. In June, 1843, a committee made up of Robert Moore, Robert Newell, and Robert Shortess, drafted a code for a convention of citizens to amend, to reject or adopt.

Up-country Indians become Insolent.

Dr. White is accused of pliability and subservency toward the Hudson Bay company and Dr. McLaughlin. It is true that he felt very kindly toward Dr. McLaughlin and his company, and he had abundant reason for such feeling. He received many kindnesses and great favors at the hands of the chief factor and many other of its officers, and could hardly have succeeded as he did in his work if he did not have their assistance. As the same kind of treatment was extended to new comers, and old residents, to the poor as well as the influential and well to do, the accusation that Dr. White was a sycophant is not to follow. He experienced great kindness and reciprocated it, do doubt. If he erred in doing so it is nothing strange in an impulsive man. With his temperament he could not fail to make enemies as well as friends. His arrival, commissioned to act as Indian agent, was fortunate for all. The Indians of the upper country were becoming very restless, and had done many improper acts. Before Dr. Whitman had left for the states on that winter journey so much talked of, he had been treated rudely, and it was very probable that his life was only saved by the timely arrival of a party of whites as the savages were about to murder him. Close around his mission were 3000 Walla Wallas, further east were as many Nez Perces, and to the west, were almost as many Cayuses. These people had become used to making unreasonable demands, enforced by threats, and the more they got the more they demanded, until it became a question if the mission should be abandoned. A party had treated Whitman, who was alone, except his sick wife, with great personal indignity, and soon after the chiefs broke into his house and attacked him with war clubs, broke the door to the private room with an axe, and he was saved by the opportune arrival of a party of whites. He was afterward murdered by the same people. He had built for the Indians a house near by, exactly like his own, and only one room in his own house was not open to them. Because his bedroom was closed they acted as above. He left for the East in October, '42, after the arrival of Dr. White, and soon after that one of the chiefs broke into Mrs. Whitman's room, and she was only saved from outrage by the waking of a white man who slept in the house. About the same time Mrs. Spaulding was grossly insulted in her husband's absence. An In-

dian stole Mr. Spaulding's horse, and when followed, put his loaded gun at Spaulding's breast and abused him with impunity.

Expedition to Nez Perces and Cayuses.

Outrages and robberies were frequent and the position of the missions was unsafe. Mrs. Whitman removed to The Dalles for safety, and the flour mill at Waiilatpu was burned by some Indian miscreant. Here was a call for the Indian agent. Dr. White secured the valuable services of Tom McKay (father of Dr. McKay), who was experienced, capable and fearless, who knew all the country, the tribes and their languages; and taking six men, wandered into the upper country, hundreds of miles away. They found Mr. McKinley in charge at Walla Walla and he went with them. At Vancouver everything was done by Dr. McLaughlin to assist their journey. Waiilatpu was but thirty miles beyond Fort Walla Walla, and there they saw savage destruction where there had been beautiful surroundings. They went on to Lapwai, 150 miles further, and reached there December 3, where the missionaries were joyful at their coming. Nothing was done for two days but secure a good understanding. The third day twenty-two chiefs were gathered, and many others. Dr. White showed that his duty was to protect them from being wronged, as well as to see that they acted kindly and honestly to the whites. He made polite remarks as to their progress and rights, and was succeeded by McKinley, who disabused them of the idea that any difference existed in the rights of whites of various nationalities. McKay spoke much to the point and with more effect, because he was himself partly of Indian blood. Five Crows, a noted chief, spoke first and with good effect: then an old war chief 90 years old made a pathetic speech and was followed by others. It all resulted in the adoption of a brief code of laws and the election of a head chief over all. The man elected was Ellis, who had been educated at Red river and was a fair English scholar. The election of a chief was celebrated by a feast. The same chief, Five Crows, was prominent afterwards in the Whitman massacre and was a leader in the Cayuse war. It seemed as if these men had two natures, and one was savage and diabolical, though their calm judgment was good, when they allowed it to rule them.

The Cayuses had committed worse acts by far than the Nez Perces and they dreaded the meeting that was to be held at Waiilatpu, Whitman's station. What the Nez Perces had done in accepting laws and electing a chief made a great impression on the other tribes; the Cayuse chiefs were uneasy, so Dr. White remained silent and let Roger and McKay talk to them. Before long Indian stoicism gave way, several of the chiefs broke out weeping. There was too much to be explained and they saw no way to make explanation of the burning of the mill and the attempted outrage by a Cayuse chief on Mrs. Whitman and insults to the doctor. The final arrangement with the Cayuses was postponed until spring as many other chiefs were not then present and no permanent arrangement could be arrived at.

Registered Berkshire Hog for Sale.

We have for sale a Berkshire boar. He is by Registered stock, and a choice animal. Will sell for cash or approved security. Address at once:

W. J. CLARKE,
Salem, Or.

On our fifth page this week will be found a striking and instructive illustration of the comparative worth of the various kinds of baking powders now in the market.

Big lot five and ten cent cakes Colgate's fine toilet soaps at Port's.

Correspondence.

Remarks About Strawberries.

CROSTON, Or., July 6, 1886.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

I propose, now that strawberries are over for this season, to make a few remarks useful to those who may be interested. They are now all gone save the Jucunda Manchester, Golden defiance, Jersey queen and occasionally a Sharpless. The Big Bob also has many good berries on them yet. This strawberry this season has done admirably; and has been a surprise to me. It seems to require a rich soil, high culture, and a dry season, on at least dry land. It differs from the Bidwell; which seems to do better of a wet season; and it is, indeed, a most splendid wet weather for its stalks run up among the foliage of the plant thus screening the berries from both the hot sun and the wet ground. The Big Bob lies—the stalks of fruit—too much on the ground. So liable to be dabbled up in rainy weather. They are both fine growing plants, large berries and of good quality, with a strong tendency to overbear.

The Jucunda, though an old berry, is still among the best and latest. The Sharpless, all things considered, is a No. 1. It is early, medium and approaching late, and certainly the largest of all berries I have ever grown. The only serious objection against the Sharpless is that of a wet season the fruit is sprawling over the ground, and the rain dabbles and softens them up. This season it has proved the best on my place out of 30 varieties. It is most worthy. The golden defiance is all we can ask of any strawberry, except it bears so enormously that many of the berries are too little; so much so as to make it tedious to pick them, as well as renders them unreliable. Hence I do not recommend it only as a late home berry.

The Monarch has done splendidly this dry year. Is a large plant and berry; is an "awful bearer" of delicious fruit. It will not grow at all on hard clay land, and must, to do it best, be reset every two years; is short lived. And pistillate—female—must be set among hemiphroditic—perfect—or they will be non-productive.

The Jersey Queen this year has been one of my best late strawberries. To do its best, however, it requires rich land, thorough cultivation and all runners kept off, otherwise the plant is feeble. For this reason and its being a pistillate I do not recommend it for careless people. But as a rich, delicious and productive late berry it is among the very best, when all the conditions are just right.

The Wilson, as it always does, did well this season and for canning and being firm it is our best market berry. Still it has—unless on very rich land and under high culture, with all runners cut—entirely too many little ones for profit. It takes just as long to pick a little berry as a big one, and time is money. I can pick two or three times as many quarts of Sharpless in one hour as I can of Wilsons. Why? Because the one is very large and the other small. Hence I do not and cannot afford to cultivate it except on a small scale, and that for its magnificent taste and canning qualities. No berry I have ever run has such a sweet taste as a ripe Wilson. Mr. Wilson deserves a monument erected to his memory for originating and bringing forward at that time when strawberry culture was at a low ebb, this the usher-in of a new era in fragaria culture. On that monument should be painted, in full fruit, under glass well sealed, a Wilson plant with this inscription: "Reared in honor of Mr. Wilson, originator of the Wilson strawberry." There are several strawberries now

ahead of the Wilson; foremost among these are the Sharpless, the Parry, the Jewell and two or three others, the names of which I will not give till further experiments with them.

We live in a splendid age; an age full of invention, improvement and progress; full of all that's splendid in art, in science, in literature, in pomology and in horticulture. An age full of gifted men and gifted women. An age splendid in its aims; splendid in its accomplishments; splendid in its promotion of the good and will be splendid in its prohibition of the bad. We indeed live in a splendid age.

Where was pomology fifty years ago? Where was horticulture fifty years ago? Where was floriculture fifty years ago? Downing set pomology in sunshine. Henderson set horticulture in sunshine. Vick set floriculture in sunshine.

Fruit growers are looming up in our country. The strawberry, the first of fruits, is commanding the attention of men of rare intellect and energy. From Knox, the strawberry king, down to Durand our march has been onward and upward. From Knox's No. 700 down to the Prince of Berries; from the Wilson down to the Jewell, the Dewey and Ontario—and still the march is onward.

When the fields are sweet with clover,
And the woods are glad with song,
When the brooks are running over,
And the days are bright and long,
Then from every nook and bower,
Peeps the dainty strawberry flower.
When the dear enchanting summer
Tosses beauty at our feet,
She delights each weary comer
With her berries fresh and sweet,
Spring-tides blossoms stored away,
Ripen for us all the day.

A. F. DAVIDSON.

The Hop Markets Abroad.

English mail dates of June 21st contain the following:

The London market may best be described as in a state of suspense, awaiting the progress of the growing plant. In the absence of speculation, the position is perfectly healthy, but there is still a large supply of hops in the borough, and holders are eagerly watching for the slightest pretext upon which they may base an advance in price. So far, however, all promises well, and although the raw, blustering weather of the past fortnight has given rise to some anxiety on the part of growers, the plant is generally so sturdy and vigorous that there is no real cause for alarm. The fact that the growth of the vine has been comparatively unchecked by the cold winds and frosty nights, which have recently prevailed all over England, is proof indeed of its excellent condition. There are, of course, rumors of fly going about, but we believe the cases are quite isolated.

Throughout Germany, Belgium and Alsace-Lorraine the crop is in good condition and making fair progress, but the stormy and boisterous weather of the past week has given it a slight setback. A few days of bright June weather would soon bring the plant forward again, however.

From present indications the acreage to hops on the continent and in England will prove to be about the same as last year, and unless the plant takes a very decided turn for the worse it is doubted whether values will rule much higher during the coming season. There is still such a large surplus stock of old American and other hops on hand that only the failure of a considerable portion of the 1886 crop would warrant a material rise in price.

PORTLAND, Or., July 6, 1886.

Messrs. Thompson & Riggen, agent for Burnette Paint Co.'s Impervious Lime Paint, No. 40 First St., Portland.

DEAR SIR: We are glad to inform you that the Impervious Lime Paint (of which you are the owners) put on the roof of this warehouse by you effectually closes all leaks, and as we have spent considerable money, soldering and repairing same, the Impervious Lime Paint is the long felt want we have been looking for. Yours truly,

AMERICAN EXCHANGE WHARF,
Charles Chalmers, agent.

Trespass Notices.

Now that the game law is out it stands all farmers in hand to have "trespass notices" printed. We will print fifteen trespass notices, on cloth, with name of owner of land, for \$1.25. Send in orders at once.

W. J. CLARKE,
Willamette Farmer Office.