

THE WEST

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

FLORENCE, LAKE COUNTY, OREGON

W. H. WEATHERSON
Editor and Proprietor.

Florence, Ore., Mar. 10, 1899.

THE SIUSLAW VALLEY

Its Resources, Advantages and Prospects.

Chances for Investment

Homes for the Emigrant. A Healthful Climate. Lumber, Stockraising, Fruitgrowing and Fishing Industries.

To the man who possesses some means and desires to purchase a home in a mild and healthful climate, where he can enjoy life and make a living easily; to the poor man who is willing to work and who wishes to take up a homestead, with a view to making a comfortable home for himself and family; to the man with money to invest in developing new enterprises or in carrying out those already begun, the Siuslaw valley offers many opportunities for profitable returns such as are found in but few places in the country.

With its pure air and fresh ocean breeze, free from the extremes of heat and cold and not subject to sudden changes of temperature, it has one of the most healthful climates in the world. Its rich soil of which, as yet, but a small part has been cultivated yields rich returns to the husbandman for his labor. Its numerous mountain springs afford an abundance of pure water at all seasons of the year.

As a place to spend a summer vacation, it presents opportunities for enjoyment rarely equaled. The vicinity of Heeta light house is one of the finest camping grounds on the coast. With its beautiful scenery, fine fishing and hunting grounds near by, the pleasure of surf bathing, watching the seals and sea-lions sporting in the ocean, with occasionally a whale in the distance, it presents attractions for the weary business man or the tired mother who needs a breath of the pure ocean air that are found in but few places in the country.

Several towns have been laid out at different places on tide-water. Florence, the largest, contains besides the dwelling-houses, a school house, a church, three hotels, four general merchandise stores, one millinery store, one drug store, a saw-mill, cannery, blacksmith shop, shoemaker's shop, lawyer's office and a printing office where his newspaper *The West* is published.

The other towns are Glenada, Acme, Mapleton and Septon, each of which has its hotel and store and with the exception of Septon, a school house and post office. Acme also contains a saw-mill, and it is probable another will be erected there the coming summer in the place of the one that was recently burned at that place. A post office has also been established at Point Terrace and there is a school house a short distance above and a saw mill on the river about a mile below Point Terrace.

The bottom lands along the river and its tributaries are covered with a thick growth of fir, spruce, cedar, hemlock, vine-maple, crab apple, alder, chittum, cherry and other woods and when cleared the land yields large crops of vegetables and grass.

Stock of all kinds thrive well, cattle requiring but little or no feeding during the winter. Almost every rancher keeps more or less cattle, some keep a band of sheep, and within the past few years quite a number have invested in goats and find them very profitable.

Dairying has been carried on here more or less, from the time the country was first settled but owing to the limited home demand and the difficulty of shipping the product away to market, the settlers did not engage in it to any great extent. During the past two summers a creamery has been in operation affording the farmers a chance to dispose of their milk. We hope this will soon become an important industry.

Fruitgrowing seems destined to become an important occupation in this

part of Oregon. Apples, prunes, plums, pears and all kinds of small fruits yield abundant crops of the finest quality of fruit. Peaches grow well in some places on the upper river but on tide-water they are not a sure crop.

The various pests which do so much damage to the apple crop in many places are unknown here, and it is thought that on account of its proximity to the ocean the climate is unfavorable to them and that the fruit crop near the coast will never suffer from their attacks. Nearly every farmer has an orchard set out and many of them cover several acres, though for the most part the trees are comparatively young. The first fruit from this river sent away to market was shipped in 1897 and so well did it sell in San Francisco, that last year the same parties bought and shipped all they could get outside of what was needed for home consumption.

Fishing has been one of the most important industries from the time the country was first settled, many of the men depending on what they earned in fishing season to buy clothing and provisions for their families through the winter. There are two canneries on the river—one at Florence and the other a short distance above at Rose Hill. The Florence cannery is the only one that has been operated for several years.

About six years ago, a salmon hatchery was built at Mapleton, the state legislature appropriating money for that purpose. No funds being provided to operate it, the hatchery remained idle for several years but in 1896 a small sum was granted to be used there, and more the next year. This winter over 2,000,000 young fish were hatched there and many of them have already been liberated. The state legislature has appropriated money for operating the hatcheries for the next two years and if the work is kept up, it must result in stocking up the river with a large run of fish, and be a great and lasting benefit to the canners and fishermen, and indirectly to every resident of the Siuslaw valley.

The principal kinds of timber are fir, spruce, cedar and hemlock, of which fir is the most abundant, and grows to a size that would make an eastern man open his eyes with astonishment. Many of the trees are seven or eight feet in diameter three feet above the ground, and occasionally one is found that is ten feet in diameter, and many of them are three hundred feet in height. The numerous streams furnish an easy and inexpensive means of transporting the logs to the lower river where they can be cut into lumber.

At present there are three small saw-mills on tide-water but they have not been operated much of the time for several years past. Another mill, the one from which was shipped most of the lumber that has been sent away to market, was destroyed by fire last January. Steps are now being taken to rebuild the mill and it is probable that it will be erected the coming summer.

Two booms have been constructed on the river, one near Point Terrace and the other at Acme where logs can be caught and held in safety till they are wanted at the mills.

Shipbuilding has been carried on here more or less of the time for about twelve years, and five deep sea vessels besides a number of other crafts have been sent out to compete for their share in the carrying trade of the world. The last of these vessels, the Luella, which was launched here in November, was fitted out as a steamer in San Francisco and made her trial trip last month. The beauty of the model, the quality of material used and the skill displayed in her construction called forth words of no stinted praise from the San Francisco papers. There is a large amount of the best quality of timber for shipbuilding purposes, on the river, and it is hoped the work will be continued and extensive shipyards built up here.

At present one of the great needs of the river is a large saw-mill backed by sufficient capital to enable it run steadily and take advantage of the markets in disposing of the lumber. For an enterprising man or company with capital, wishing to engage in the lumber trade, the Siuslaw probably affords as fine a field for profitable investment as can be found on the Pacific coast.

Shipping facilities are furnished by the Steamer Hobart which makes frequent trips from Florence to Yaquina and Coos bay and by lumber schooners between Florence and San Francisco.

A jetty was commenced near the mouth of the river by the general government some seven years ago and about \$111,000 have already been expended in its construction. The 55th congress just before its adjournment appropriated \$20,000 more for continuing the work. When the jetty is completed the Siuslaw will have a good harbor and a sufficient depth of water to permit its safe entry at any time.

A railroad from Eugene to Florence was surveyed in 1891 but owing to the depression in business throughout the country the company was unable to raise the money to build the road. At the last session of the legislature the time allowed the company for building the road under their franchise was extended for ten years. An electric line from the lower Siuslaw to Eugene has been talked of lately by certain parties but as yet there has been no survey made for that line.

Prices for land on the river vary with the location, kind of land, and value of improvements. There are some good ranches adjoining tide-water in the main river as well as some on the North Fork, which, for one reason or another the owners desire to dispose of, and which can be purchased on reasonable terms. Further back on some of the tributaries of the Siuslaw, such as Indian creek, Lake creek, Deadwood, Nelson, Sweet, Hadsall, Knowles, and Wild Cat creeks, or the upper North Fork are large tracts of bottom land which can be purchased for a lower price than on the main river. Quite a number of good homesteads can yet be found on some of these streams having enough bottom land on which to make a living. On Maple creek, Fiddle creek and upper Smith river there is also room for a number of settlers to obtain good ranches yet.

Taking all things into consideration we believe that this valley is entering on a period of greater prosperity than it has heretofore enjoyed and that the present is an opportune time for the homesteader, the emigrant or the business man to visit the Siuslaw and invest in property here.

ATRIPTO THE BAR.

Last Sunday learning that the Roberts was going down to examine the bar to ascertain whether the channel had changed during the late storm, Ye Scribe determined to take advantage of the opportunity and make a trip to the mouth of the river.

About 4 o'clock p.m. Mate Karnowsky announced that everything was ready and we stepped on board, Landlord Butterfield and ourselves being the only passengers.

The day being warm and bright it was a pleasant trip. Some distance below Barrett's landing we noticed a young couple seated on a log on the river bank, enjoying the sunshine and each other's society. A number of people took advantage of the fine day to visit the government works.

Opposite the government building Captain Smith of the Bella came on board from his vessel. Soon afterward the mate climbed up aloft for a view of the breakers on the beach.

Through the accommodation of Capt. Johnson we had a comfortable place in the pilot house where we had a fine view of the surroundings.

On arriving near the mouth of the river the mate took his place on deck and commenced leaving the lead calling out the depth of water at each cast.

Having ascertained about the condition of the bar Capt. Johnson shifted the helm and we were soon on the way back to Florence.

Stopping at the government works to take on Mr. Kyle, his son and Joe Fellman who had been out for a walk, and set Capt. Smith on board his own vessel, the Roberts was soon back to the wharf, the passengers having enjoyed the trip very much.

COUNCIL MEETING.

A regular meeting of the city council was held in the Odd Fellows' hall Monday evening. Present Councilmen Hurd, Kyle, Morris and the president, Absent Councilman Christensen.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The street committee reported they had made a contract with John Yates to build a six foot walk from O. W. Hurd's corner to the Presbyterian church for 22 1/2 cents per lineal foot. Also that C. Bray who was the lowest bidder for building cross-walks on Main street declined to make a contract for building the same.

On motion it was voted to accept the bid of John Yates for building the cross-walks and the street committee was instructed to make a contract with him for building the same.

In the matter of grading Front, Lincoln and Main streets in Morse's addition it was voted to reject all bids.

Bill of the West for \$2 for printing warrants for collection of assessments was allowed.

John Yates, John Powell and Alfred Funke were appointed judges and Andrew Brand and E. A. Evans clerks of city election.

In the matter of delinquent assessments the recorder was instructed to examine the assessment rolls and proceed to collect all assessments remaining delinquent.

The recorder was directed to publish notice calling the annual city election, to be held the first Tuesday in April.

The council then adjourned.

ACTIVE SOLICITORS WANTED EVERYWHERE for "The Story of the Philippines" by Mark Husted, commissioned by the Government as Official Historian to the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Moritt, in the hospitals at Honolulu, in Hong Kong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the four-camp camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the rear of the battle at the fall of Manila. Bound in leather. Original photographs taken by government photographer on the spot. Large book. Low price. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unqualified war books. Write to: Address, F. T. Barber, Sec'y, Star Block, 1111 Broadway, Chicago.

ALPHA CLIPPINGS

By Even Change.

Alpha, Ore., March 6, 1899.

Mr. G. Lundy will go to Colorado as soon as he can make arrangements to get away.

The new saw-mill will soon be ready for business and will saw out a barn 40 x 90 for C. A. Potter.

Mr. S. S. Miller of Chickahominy moved Mr. Pardee over and took out a load of goods for Mr. H. J. Labor.

Mrs. H. J. Labor and daughters Clara and Mildred, started today for their future home at Waitsburg, Wash. Mr. Labor will leave in a few weeks.

School meeting will be held at our school house this afternoon. Some are in favor of dividing the district while others wish to build a new house a little further down.

Mr. Pardee his wife and four children of Evans, Colorado, have moved on to their new farm. He reports Colorado a little cool as it was 52 degrees below zero a short time before he left.

The fruit seems to be frozen all over the U. S. except the Siuslaw and tributaries. Fruit on Deadwood after an examination has been found to be only slightly injured, except cherries.

THE BARK was loosened on a large number of trees in the Willamette valley by the February freeze. In some cases the bark is entirely loose, which will kill the trees. There are a great number of trees on which the bark was only partially loosened. With these trees it is essential that they have the most favorable circumstances possible during the coming season. If the fruit buds have been killed on such trees, it is just as well. In any case a tree which has been seriously injured should not be allowed to develop a crop of fruit this year.—Oregon Agriculturist.

How To Find Out.

Fill a bottle or common glass with your water and let it stand twenty-four hours: a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys; if it stains your linen it is evidence of kidney trouble; too frequent desire to pass it or pain in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in curing rheumatism, pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passage. It corrects inability to hold water and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to go often during the day, and to get up many times during the night. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists in fifty cent and one dollar sizes.

You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful discovery and a book that tells more about it, both sent absolutely free by mail, address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. When writing mention that you read this generous offer in THE WEST.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASH., D. C., Feb. 27, 1899.

An immediate extra session of the next congress was avoided when an agreement was reached on the army bill, but there are indications that cause many to think an extra session probable in the near future. Things are in a more critical condition in the Philippines than is indicated by anything given out officially. Dewey's cable to hurry the battleship Oregon, was given out inadvertently at the navy department, and the officials have since been trying to make the public believe that it has no significance. They are fooling nobody. Dewey's record isn't that of a man who does things without cause. He thought he needed the Oregon or he would not have sent the message, and it is well-known that he doesn't need the battleship to fight the Filipinos. It has been feared in Washington ever since the Filipino attempt to burn Manila, several days ago was known, that the destruction of property might be made an excuse for meddling by Germany or other foreign powers or a combination of powers. Long-headed men believe that there is greater danger of a war with Germany now, than there was at any time while the war with Spain was going on, and should their fears be realized, congress would at once have to be called in extra session.

The minority senators claim that they won a great victory in the new army bill, but the more the next bill is examined, the less substantial that claim appears. It looks more like a bounce than a victory. The administration senators have secured from the minority would have given them and have escaped an extra session of congress, which everybody knows the administration dreaded. True the new army bill only provides for the increase of men for two years from next July, but that amounts to nothing when it is remembered that a majority of both houses of the next congress will give the administration any additional army legislation it may ask for.

A speech made by Senator Sewell, who is always an administration man when it comes to voting, has attracted considerable attention. He expressed regret that Dewey should have remained at Manila after his great victory, and that we should have undertaken to control the Philippines, which he said, contained a population of ten million persons who are almost uncontrollable. He said that we must now make the best of the situation, and if he was president he would send enough troops to make short work of the Filipinos, even to the extent of wiping them out entirely, if they could be pacified in no other way. He predicted that this government would find it impossible to satisfy the Cubans, and that it was only a question of time when we would have war with them. And he intimated that the Cuban Junta was as likely to have been responsible for the blowing up of the Maine as Spain was. The speech would have caused a sensation uttered by any senator, but the effect was lightened by Senator Sewell's close relation with the administration.

The senate passed the river and harbor bill, with the Nicaragua canal amendment, with only three dissenting votes—Pettigrew, Rawlins and Teller, and friend of the canal in the house say they have strength enough to prevent the amendment being voted out of the bill, and parliamentary skill enough to prevent its being juggled out.

Representative Johnson of Ind., made another highly sensational speech, attacking not only the policy of the president, but his personal integrity, but it did not receive as much attention as the first speech he made along similar lines, the general impression being that Mr. Johnson is trying to get even with the president he helped elect, for some real or fancied personal grievance.

Secretary Alger's position is anything but a pleasant one at this time. It is well-known that some of the president's friends wish to get Alger out of the cabinet, and that having failed up to this time to get the president to ask for his resignation, they have tried to bring about his resignation by other methods, one of which is believed to be responsible for the constantly repeated stories that the resignation was about to be forthcoming. Secretary Alger has served notice upon these men, and incidentally upon the president, that he will not willingly resign, by stating that so far as his own will is concerned, he intends remaining in the cabinet until the end of the administration.

The failure of Chairman Boutelle of the house naval committee, to satisfactorily explain why the bill reported, appropriating \$545 a ton to pay for Krupp armor for the battleships Maine, Missouri and Ohio, and tell what foreign governments were paying for the same armor, resulted in the house reducing the amount to \$115 a ton. In order to get the amount restored, the navy department has placed the information before the senate that might have prevented the reduction being made by the house. Russia is paying \$75 a ton for Krupp armor that is being used on the two warships the Cramps are building, and Great Britain is paying \$68 a ton for the same armor. The two American companies which make armor offered to furnish the Krupp armor for the four battleships for \$54 a ton; hence the placing of that amount in the bill.

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SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS

★ IN ★
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