THE INDEPENDENT.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2d, 1882.

THE UMPQUA VALLEY—DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Since many inquiries are addressed to us from various portions of the Atlantic States, soliciting information as to the Umpqua valley and Douglas county generally, as to its area, population, arable lands, amount and kinds of timber, minerals, lime or sandstone rock, general surface, prices of improved and unimproved lands, rainfall in inches, mean temperature in summer and in winter, and of many other details, we deem it of general interest that we should answer these inquiries with all possible brevity, yet accurately and without bias.

Douglas county proper embraces an area of 4,950 square miles. It extends from the Calapooia mountains, on the north, to the Cow creek hills, on the south—about 100 miles—and from the Pacific ocean and the Coast range mountains, on the west, to the Cascade range on the east and south, varying from 72 to 108 miles. It is divided from the Willamette valley by a range of hills, or spurs of the Cascade and Coast range mountains, which are known as the Calapoias. It embraces all the country drained by the Umpqua river; and hence Douglas county and the Umpqua valley are known as the same. The Cow creek hills on the south—spurs of the Cascade and Coast range—the southern boundary, is also a divide between the waters of the Umpqua and the Rogue river. In area it constitutes an empire within itself. It is larger than Connecticut and twice the size of Delaware and Rhode Island. It has 20 miles of coast line. Its seaport town is Gardiner, 12 miles from the Pacific ocean, and on the Umpqua river, which is navigable for 25 miles, to Scottsburg.

THE VALLEY

is a disappointment to the newcomer, expecting to behold a wide expanse of level land. From the foothills of the mountain ranges, it is a collection of innumerable small valleys, divided by rolling hills and ridges, covered mainly by scattering oak and fir timber. From Scottsburg to the ocean the valley ceases, the river rolling seaward, through, in many places, a perpendicular pass in the mountain or coast range.

HEALTHFUL CLIMATE.

Its warmer and more southern latitude is tempered by the fresh sea breezes, and this with the rapidly flowing streams into the main Umpqua and the absence of low, marshy, miasmatic valleys, entitles the Umpqua valley to rank as among the most healthful portions of the globe. Viewing the last statistics within our reach, we find that while the percentage of mortality was: Minnesota, .80; Kansas, 1.25; Nebraska, .81; California, 1.61; Illinois, 1.33; Nevada, 1.45; Oregon was only .69. While there was a proportion of one death in 283 in New England States, in Oregon there was only one death in 527. Taking the locality of the Umpqua as an instance, the proportion will compare still more favorably. The

POPULATION,

two years since, was 9,560, while in 1870, ten years previous, it was 6,060, while now, since the recent impetus to immigration by railway extension, it is safe to estimate our present population at 12,000. The total vote of Douglas county at the last June election, was 2,648.

GRASS, ETC.

Every part of the county is adapted to grass. Even the highest hills are arable and will in time be utilized by the plow and reaper. Except the perpendicular cliffs occasionally abutting on the river, and an occasional but short and steep ravine or canyon, the land is tillable, every where, on removal in some places, of timber and growing brush.

THE TIMBER

is found in abundance and assortment. Through the valley, or rather valleys and intervening hills and ridges, scattering oak and fir abound, with hazel mainly, and numerous other kinds of bushes, while on the mountain sides or spurs of the Coast and Cascade range, the finest of commercial timber is found. The Port Orford cedar, white and red, and sugar pine and fir, predominate. This timber, reaching from one boundary to the other of the county, along the mountain ranges and often in the valleys and ravines, it would be a difficult task to estimate, even roughly, the quantity. There is no farm but what is in reach and has access to this timber for farm improvements, while the various mills nearer the mountains, manufacture lumber of the finest grain and finish. As to

MINERALS,

Douglas county abounds. For many years gold has been successfully mined. Placer mining in the southern part of the county was originally the chief employment of the early settlers. Of recent years much attention has been devoted to the development of Quartz Gold, but owing to the limited means employed, the mountains refuse to yield to view the main vein or lode. Nickel mines rich and apparently inexhaustable, are now being actively developed. Chrome ore is also found and "prospects" of rich deposits of Silver and Copper are frequently found but as yet not mined. The Coal of this valley, will however, prove a more lasting and valuable industry than all others. The coal so far mined on this western coast has been confined near the coast and convenient to shipping and from its quality has occasioned a very prevalent opinion that none of our coals date back to the carboniferous age. It is there mostly a non-caking, bituminous coal, being classed as "lignite;" and no workable anthracite coal has so far been discovered, except as recent explorations prove, in Douglas county, and thence cropping at frequent intervals along the interior of Coos and Curry counties. Here a valuable coal has been discovered, mainly found on the western tributaries of the Umpqua, the headwaters of the Coquille river in Coos county and of Sixes river in Curry county. This coal is found suitable for steam, coke and gas. It has been subjected to practical uses as well as scientific tests. It works satisfactorily in the forge and foundry. With the railway extension south, and a road to the coast, this must prove of great value to the State.

Lime of superior quality is found in abundance near Roseburg and has been shipped abroad, much being used in the construction of the State University at Eugene City. Owing to cheap competition and importation from California of the famous Santa Cruz and San Juan lime our own kilns have not been worked during recent years.

SANDSTONE AND BUILDING ROCK IS

confined to a few localities. That in Coles Valley and near Oakland on the line of railroad has been much used. Much of that fine, blue rock near Oakland was used by the government in the Custom House at Portland. Inferior grades are found in many places, and used for chimney building.

THE TOTAL TAXABLE PROPERTY OF DOUGLAS COUNTY

as assessed the present year amounts to $2.349.210; valuation of lands, $1.597.300. There are 112.222 sheep, 4,532 horses and mules, 10,323 swine, and 7,664 cattle. The wheat produce in 1880 was 441,383 bushels, as against 104,246 bushels in 1870. Of oats there was 347,132 bushels in 1880, and 188,761 in 1870. The apple produce in 1880 amounted to 257,476 bushels. Of fruit, apples, plumbs and pears, are most productive, and never failing, and are subject to none of the diseases and blights so common to the fruits of the Atlantic States, and many of the more western. Of no crops—either cereals or esculents—can it be said that there has ever been a failure. Crops are planted from fall to spring, there being no snow and ice to interfere in the winter months as in the East. Wool growing is a leading industry. Umpqua wool is classed to itself. Merino and cotswold are preferred, and much money expended in importation of fine breeds from Vermont and Kentucky. Unimproved lands range in price from $2.50 to $5 per acre, and improved lands from $5 to $40 per acre according to quality, and value of improvements, the more usual price per acre being $10 for farm lands well fenced and with comfortable dwellings, small orchards, etc.

THE RAINFALL

as taken from the daily observations of the U. S. Signal Office in this city is 39.27 inches annually as observed for four years last past. The mean temperature in June, July and August is 63.6 degs. and in December, January and February 42.3 degs.

THE O. AND C. R. R. IS COMPLETED

in this county over a distance of about 85 miles, and within 15 months hence, it is predicted we shall be in railway communication with San Francisco. To the local interests of the Umpqua valley, perhaps no undertaking will confer so many advantages as the enterprise now so energetically labored for, as the railway from this city to deep water navigation in Coos Bay, and thence transportation by ocean shipping to all parts, and is zealously fostered by capitalists and public-spirited citizens of San Francisco and Oregon. The disance to Coos Bay is about 90 miles. When these outlets to the markets of the world shall be completed we can then exclaim: "Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden, shall be thine inheritance and thy children's forever.

HON. JAS. H. SLATER left home for the east on the 20th of November. The illness of a brother in Taylorsville, Illinois, caused tho early departure of the Senator.

Subscribe for the INDEPENEEENT.

JUDGE DEADY, in the United States Circuit court has granted a perpetual injunction, restraining George C. Sears sheriff of Multnomah county, and Nelson F. Ross, supervisor of road district No. 8, from collecting road tax from 1449 Chinese who were at work in Rooster Rock precinct on the O. R. & N. Co.'s line, last April. The court held that the Chinese were not "residents" within the meaning of the statute which relates to the assessment and collection of road tax. Of course it would be impertinent to dispute the decision of so eminent a jurist as Judge Deady. An examination of the statutes of Oregon, however, would lead the ordinary citizen to a different conclusion. After providing the manner of assessing the road tax upon residents, the statute (sec. 22, p. 727 Deady & Lane's code) provides that the road supervisor "shall assess two days' work to be performed by every male between twenty and fifty years of age, except persons who are a public charge or too infirm to perform labor." If the Chinese working on the railroads are not males they are excused, but it is difficult to see where the question of residence comes in.

THE Republican press continue to insist that the late cyclone was not a defeat of their party; it was only a rebuke to the "bosses." To avoid discussion we admit this, but we venture to enquire if the bosses of the half-breeds are likely to be any more popular with the people than those of the stalwarts.

THE members of the forty-eighth Congress are undoubtedly under many obligations to the Republican press for its advice as to the proper course to pursue to retain the present Democratic ascendancy. If the Republicans had taken the advice now so freely given, the "grand old party" might have still retained its power.

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NOTICE.

ANNUAL MEETING!

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BONANZA Gold and Quicksilver Mining Company, for the purpose of electing a Board of Trustees to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at Brown's Hall, Oakland, Douglas county, Oregon, on Saturday, the 25th day of November, 1882, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Office of Bonanza Gold and Quicksilver Mining Company, Oakland, Oregon, November 4, 1882.

J. J. NAPIER Secretary.

A Small Farm for Sale.

Having become tired of batching, I offer my place for sale, with or without household and kitchen furniture, on reasonable terms. It contains 72 acres, more or less, 11 of which are under cultivation, a nice young orchard, a good sized barn and box house, with four rooms; also, the outdoor improvements. It is situated in a good neighborhood, within a half mile of a large school house, seven and one-half miles west of Roseburg, in what is called the French Settlement, in Douglas county Oregon. Inquire of me on my farm.

T. S. O'BRIEN.

S. K. RAYMOND,

SURGEON DENTIST

Oposite Marks & Co, Store.

Offers his professional services to the people of Douglas county, with whom he has been acquainted several years. All work warranted first-class, and terms as moderate as any other in the profession.

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HENRY GATERMAN AND LOUIS BELFILS have obtained the right for Douglas county for laying

Continuous Concrete Pipe,

for conveying water, and Louis Belfils and George Protsman have obtained the right for Josephine and Curry counties, and will sell farm or individual rights and lay pipe at the cheapest figures. Any size from 1½ to 22 inches furnished. This pipe is much

Cheaper than Wood, Iron or Lead!

It is also well suited for Irrigation or Mining purpose and can be laid any distance without joints.

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OPPOSITE THE METROPOLITAN HOTEL, ROSEBURG.

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Fancy French Flowers

—AT PRICES—

CHEAPER THAN PAID ABROAD

—:o:—

M. JOSEPHSON,

—:o:—

Would announce that he has been consigned an extra fine stock of

FRENCH ARTIFICIAL FLOWEBS

Which must be sold at an early date, and that he would advise milliners and ladies in general to call upon him before sending their orders abroad, as he is fully satisfied he can offer them bargains which they could not obtain in San Francisco by sending there. The flowers are in every way fine and fancy; in fact, a better stock was never brought to Roseburg and offered at such low prices.

M. JOSEPHSON,

ROSEBURG, - - OREGON.

JAMES DEARLING,

Blacksmith

Farrier,

Oakland,

And well-known to the people of Douglas county, would respectfully announce that he is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line, and guarantees satisfaction.

HORSE-SHOEING A SPECIALTY.

Any farmer having a plow to sharpen or machinery to repair will do well to give me a call at my old stand.

I have a full stock of iron and steel, and having purchased the same at a low price, can do work, so far as prices are concerned, cheaper than any who will attempt competition, JAS. DEARLING.

feb17 1m Oakland, Oregon.

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CLARKE & BAKER,

Proprietors.

Having purchased the above named mills of E. Stephens & Co., we are now prepared to furnish any amount of the

BEST QUALITY OF LUMBER

Ever offered to the public in Douglas county.

We have just purchased one of the Weatherly, Rugg & Richardson No. 1 Planess and mathers and are prepared to do better work than other mills in the county.

We will furnish at the mill No 1 lumber at the following prices:

Dressed rustic..... .... $16 per M
Flooring (dressed & matched $15 per M
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Lumber dressed on two sides $16 per M
Rough lumber.....$8 to $10 per M

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They would announce that they have just received and now have on hand one of the

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Ever brought to Douglas, and when added to their STOVES OF ALL PATTERNS and READY MADE TINWARE, they are prepared to declare they have the best supply in their line of any house in Southern Oregon, which they propose

SELLING CHEAPER THAN ANY ONE

can purchase elsewhere.

In the shape of building materials — in the way of locks, butts, etc, we can offer superior inducements to purchasers. Try us.

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The best of workmen are constantly employed in the manufacture of tinware and buyers should learn our prices.

We have also taragins to offer in guns, such as Winchester, Sharp and other rifles, as well as in Shot-guns and Pistols.

We are also Agents for the White Peerles and New Home Sewing Machines which we sell at lowest rates and warrant as comple te in every respect,

We can also supply—

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The best in the market, at the lowest rates.

Give us a call, inspect our stock, inquire as to our prices, and we promise to suit all any one can.

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Jackson Street, Roseburg.

The propretor of this well known and popular resort would thank his friends for their liberal patronage in the past and would ask for a continuance of the same in the future. The public is informed that I keep none but the best brands of wines, liquors and cigars and that I sell over the bar the celebrated Jesse Moore & Co.'s Kentucky Whiskies

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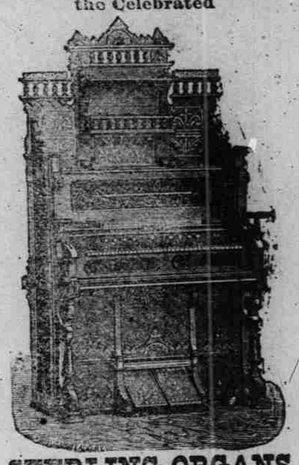

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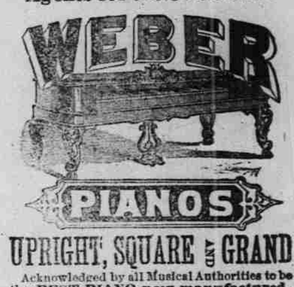

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All I ask is a fair trial, and that shall prove my work as a barber. I am willing to be put to the test.

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