

GRANDE RONDE.

An Easy Road to Success Pointed Out.

THE INFLUENCE OF A GOOD HOME

Some Reminiscences—A Tribute to Grande Ronde Valley.

EDITOR ORISON SCOTT:—

After an absence of about five years in Montana I returned home recently, and the thing that impressed itself most forcibly on my mind was that the majority of the young men of my acquaintance are still without homes of their own. It is hard to induce the average American youth, who has grown up on the Pacific coast, to settle down on land. He is too restless and in years that have gone land has been so plenty out here that he has failed to estimate it at its true value. Emigrants, from the old countries and the thickly settled East, however, realize the true value of a home, and in the last few years have settled on and made charming homes of land that some of Union and Baker counties' young men have rode over since their childhood and would not have.

I remember well one day, years ago, in Jeff Webb's barber shop, in Union, the Hutchinson brothers—Jim and Bill—were pulling through town with their wagons and outfit, moving up to some land they had taken up on North Powder. Three or four men in the shop thought they were crazy to take up land in that frosty country, but they have made a competency by settling on North Powder, and the men that sneered at them on that day have not taken and improved any land yet, and never will. They are afraid to venture. All men who are worth calling men like to wrestle with difficulties. If it does not lie in their way they go out of their way to find it. There is no excitement in ease and safety, and without excitement of some kind we should all rust, body and soul.

At the head of East Eagle there is several sections of as fine timber as you will find anywhere. It is magnificent. The trees are from fifty to seventy feet without a limb. If you have the money you can buy it under the stone and timber act, if not, settle down on it and hold it until the railroad goes through, and in a year or two you will have a fine stake. There will be saw mills running there before twelve months are gone by, or as soon as the railroad that is building through Union taps it. In a few years more free land will be a thing of the past in Union and Baker counties, and then some of the boys will mourn over their lost opportunities. Have a home of your own somewhere. Buy a piece of land, and own it. Buy it with the determination to keep it as long as you live, and to leave it to your heirs. If you have no money except what you can earn yourself, then save and lay aside a part of your income, until you have enough to pay for a piece of land. To be the owner of a homestead will have a beneficial effect on your character. It will increase your self respect—your confidence in yourself. You will feel that you have a substantial position, and something at stake in the community. The habit of saving which you will have formed in saving money to purchase a piece of land, will in itself, be valuable to you. It will aid you greatly in acquiring other property and becoming independent. The tendency of this is to make you more self-reliant, more ambitious, more industrious, more careful, and a better citizen. The ownership of a home will add greatly to your happiness. The feeling which it engenders is a source of constant satisfaction. There is one spot of earth which you feel a particular interest in to improve and beautify. With that spot your thoughts and affections become identified. You learn to love it. It is like a never-changing friend. It becomes an unfailing source of enjoyment. Have a home. There is no place like home.

The bunchgrass hill lands are fast becoming valuable, in fact fenced pasture lands in the hills around Union is worth \$10 an acre now and none for sale at that price. The bunchgrass lands only want fencing to wave as of yore. All old settlers can remember how it waved in its glory on all the hills of Antelope, Clover and Wolf creek in early days, before the hills were overstocked. Union will be a large manufacturing town some day. It is only a question of time when eastern or foreign manufacturers with capital will locate at Union. The future of Grande Ronde and Powder River valleys are very

bright. There are thousands of acres of fine sagebrush land in Powder River valley that only needs irrigation to be productive. Look at Boise valley—all sagebrush lands—and see what irrigation has accomplished there. Mr. Cutting Clark, of Boise City (my father's partner in early days) and party came through Boise valley in the spring of '61 and thought it was a great sagebrush desert. The Snake Indians were swarming like bees in the Burnt river country, but they managed to arrive in Grande Ronde valley safely, on their way to Florence, Idaho, by way of Wallowa valley and Lewiston. Grande Ronde valley was not inhabited at that time. No sign of houses or people. The grass grew so high all over the valley that if their horses strayed away any distance from camp they could not find them in it. They managed somehow to make their way safely through the Nez Perce Indians of the Wallowa country, and on through to Florence. The following summer, '62, they left Florence and came back and settled on the banks of Catherine creek in Union county, Oregon, thinking that all the country south of Catherine creek for several hundred miles was not worth taking. Mr. Jenkins, who keeps the Eight-mile house on the old overland road to Baker City, informed me a few years ago, that he had lived there fifteen years and had just found out that the sagebrush land back of his house was suitable for grain.

Those old pioneers. How they hug themselves in glee—if they have no wife to hug—when they think of the days Lang Syne, when they rode through the great valley of the Boise and on down through to Oregon, hunting for land that would raise hay and grain?

Beautiful Grande Ronde! In all my travels I have never found your equal in beauty, with one exception. American valley, Plumas county, California, is your image in miniature. It is only half your size. You out rival all others in magnificence. You beautiful blue—Grande Ronde.

Know ye the land where the apple and peach tree bestudding the landscape with leaves of dark green, and the valley that oft served the Indians, for hunting? Where now dwells the christian, the brave and the free? Know ye this land? 'tis Grande Ronde so bright, With the all warming sunbeams that nature bestows, Where the sweet velvet peach is beheld with delight, And the still sweeter maiden adorning the rose. With the clear fine air of our September days, fairly vibrating with the humming and buzzing of innumerable thrashing machines, it seems to me as though the managers of the Farmers' Institute chose a strange time for their meeting at Union. Many farmers would have liked to have attended throughout the exercises, but were unable to do so on account of the harvest, and are complaining about it. C. F. HINCKLEY.

* The valley of the Grande Ronde, from atmospheric causes, and landscape combined, has a very dark blue cast at times, especially along the edge of the mountains from La Grande to Summerville.

Timber Land, Act June 3, 1878.—Notice For Publication.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, LA GRANDE, OREGON, June 30, 1880. Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," George G. Gray, of Cove, county of Union, state of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 251, for the purchase of the $\frac{3}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. No. 1, in T. P. No. 2 S., Range No. 39 E., and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the register and receiver of this office at La Grande, Oregon, on Saturday, the 27th day of Sept., 1880.

He names as witnesses: W. W. Randall, J. G. Smith, Mike Riddle and J. C. Randall, all of Cove, Oregon. Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands, are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 27th day of Sept., 1880. HENRY RINEHART, Register.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL persons concerned, that the undersigned has been regularly appointed administrator of the estate of John O. Lambert deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present the same, duly verified, to the undersigned administrators within six months from the date of this notice, at their home in Indian valley, Union county, Oregon. Dated this 30th day of August, 1880. T. J. CHANDLER, JOEL WEAVER, Administrators.


NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE taxpayers of Union county, Oregon, that the Board of Equalization of Assessments will meet on the 29th day of September, 1880, at the court house in Union, Oregon county, Oregon. All parties feeling themselves aggrieved, will appear before said board with their grievances, otherwise all assessments will be collected for the year 1880. J. D. GILL, Assessor for Union County, Or.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Application for a U. S. Patent, survey No. 9, Lot No. 39, Mineral application No. 47, U. S. LAND OFFICE, LA GRANDE, OREGON, August 28, 1880.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that E. E. Clough and C. H. Duncan, whose postoffice address is Starla, Union county, Oregon, have this day filed their application for a patent for the "Knight" quartz mine, situated in the 4th natural district in Township 7 South, Range No. 39 E., W. M., and described by the official maps and field notes on file in this office as follows, to-wit: Beginning at the NE corner post of the "Golden Eagle" quartz mine, post being marked "Cor. No. 1, K. M. C. S. survey No. 9," on northwest face, from which corner is Sections 2, 3, 10 and 11, Township 7 S., Range 39 E. W. M., bears south 10 degrees 40 minutes W. 223 feet distant; thence S. 82 degrees W. 1500 feet to a post marked "Cor. No. 2, K. M. C. S. No. 9," thence north 8 degrees east 60 feet to a post marked "Cor. No. 3, K. M. C. S. No. 9," thence south 82 degrees east 1500 feet, to the NW corner of the "summit" quartz mine, which corner post is marked "Cor. No. 4, K. M. C. S. survey No. 9," on southwest face of post; thence south 8 degrees west 600 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2005 acres. Location being recorded in Vol. B, page 319, records of quartz locations, Union county, Oregon.

Adjoining claims are the "Golden Eagle" quartz lode on the south and the "summit" quartz lode on the east. Any and all persons claiming adversely any portion of said "Knight" quartz lode above described, are required to file their adverse claims with the register of the U. S. land office at La Grande, Union county, Oregon, during the sixty day period of publication hereof, or they will be barred by virtue of the provisions of the statute.

A. CLEAVER, Register.

It is hereby ordered that the foregoing notice of application for a U. S. patent be published for a period of sixty days (ten consecutive weeks) in The OREGON SCOUT, a weekly newspaper published at Union, Union county, Oregon.

A. CLEAVER, Register.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned administrator and administratrix of the estate of Nathaniel Swiger deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to present them with the proper vouchers, within six months from the date of this notice, to the said administrator at his residence in High valley, or said administratrix at her residence about three miles southeast of Union, or to Shelton & Carroll at their office in Union, all of said places being in Union county, Oregon. Dated at Union this 20th day of June, 1880. ANDREW WILKINSON, Administrator. POLLY SWIGER, Administratrix.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned executor of the estate of W. T. Ficklin deceased, has filed their final account in said estate, in the county court of the state of Oregon, for Union county, and that September 2, 1880, at a regular term of said court, has been set for hearing objections to said final account and for the settlement thereof. All persons interested in said estate, having objections to said final account are hereby notified to appear and file their objections thereto on or before said 2nd day of September, 1880.

N. F. FICKLIN, S. D. FICKLIN, Executors.

\$5.00 REWARD.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen, from H. P. Campbell's stable on Clover creek, August 1st, one very light sorrel horse, about 14 hands high, weight 1200 pounds, three white feet, white strip in face, rounded imitation anchor on left hip, collar bell on right shoulder. The above reward will be paid to any one returning the horse to H. P. Campbell, Clover creek or W. G. Warden, North Powder. 8-14-81.

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