

MORROW COUNTY, ORE.

A Great Stock, Wool and Wheat Country
Where Good Opportunities are Offered
to Settlers Seeking Homes.

LAND VALUES RAPIDLY INCREASING

With the Development of Extensive Coal
Mines, and the Many Natural Resources,
Insures a Bright Future.



The fact that Morrow county with over 1,300,000 acres of land, extending from the Columbia river southward for a distance of 65 miles, with an average width of about 35 miles, and with a population of only from 5000 to 6000 people to the person not acquainted with the actual conditions, it would look like something was wrong. But such is not the case. Like a great territory of the Inland Empire in Northeastern Oregon, or in fact all that portion of Oregon lying East of the Cascade Mountains, we have been passed by by settlers and homeseekers who have gone to other sections that have had the benefit of more systematic and better advertising.

People Well To Do.
To extreme isolation can be attributed the main cause for this. People have failed to come here and investigate and good opportunities have been lying dormant for all these years.

People who did come here have been successful and are very prosperous in all kinds of industry. The people of Morrow county are, generally speaking, well to do.

The fact that the great commercial highway, the O. R. & N. railroad passes through the extreme northern portion of the country going through what is termed the sand country, is in a measure, or it would be better to say in former years, a barrier to immigration and especially trespassers, not from any fault of this splendid railway system which follows the easy grade of the Columbia river, but from the desolate appearance of the country.

The Sand Country.
For the entire width of the county there is a narrow strip of arid land only about eight miles wide on an average, covered with shifting sands from the winds that sweep up and down the great Columbia.

This disintegration caused by the waters of the great river which from the erosion of ages have gradually settled into a permanent bed and left the sands, gives to the stranger as viewed from the river, the appearance of a great desert.

This arid district is deceptive to the eye. Thousands of head of sheep, cattle and horses range in this sand and wax fat upon the luxuriant native grasses that grow in this sand. All that this land needs to become highly productive, is the introduction of water, and the time will come when this country will be irrigated with government aid, the movement for which is just now being started and agitated. With plenty of water this would become one of the greatest fruit districts in the Northwest. The altitude is such, coupled with the proper climate that it makes a very favorable combination of conditions for the growth of fine fruit.

Formerly Vast Range.
Twenty years ago, the territory now included in Morrow county was a vast range and was not considered fit for

anything else. In the early 80's farming was introduced by a few people in the Eight Mile and Black Horse districts. The results were satisfactory and it was demonstrated that the bunch-grass land which was heretofore considered worthless would produce cereals and hay if properly cultivated.

County Named.
Prior to the year 1885, the territory of Morrow county was included in Umatilla, but as the country became settled the inconvenience of such a large county became an important question, and through the efforts of Hon. J. L. Morrow, who was a member of the Oregon Legislature, a division of the county was secured, and by act of the legislature the present boundaries of Morrow county were established. For his untiring work, the county was named after this venerable pioneer.

Stock and Wool Production.
In the matter of stock and wool production Morrow is one of the principal counties of the state. Climatic conditions are most favorable. The natural adaptation to animal husbandry brings to the stockgrower a sure and high per cent of profit which has stimulated the industry until the stock and wool business has attained a high state of per-



fection. This is the home of the celebrated bunch grass, and the wonderful amount of nutriment that it contains has given this native grass a wide reputation.

From careful observation and good authority a conservative estimate places the number of stock in Morrow county as follows:
Sheep, 225,000, valued at \$500,000.
Cattle, 6000, valued at \$150,000.
Horses, about 4000 head of work and range horses worth all the way from \$10 to \$100 per head.
It should be remembered that in giving the amount of stock at this time, the holdings of stockmen are not heavy for stockraisers have reduced their flocks and herds to the minimum in order to cut down as much as possible the cost of winter feeding.

Stock Shipments.
From reliable information the stock shipments for the year are as follows:
Horses, 1600. These horses were mostly animals from the ranges unbroken. Such horses are worth from \$10 to \$25 per head.
Sheep, about 60,000, worth at a conservative estimate \$120,000.

Cattle shipments amount to about 900 head, and at the least calculation were worth \$25 00 per head.

The above shipments do not include several carloads of hogs, as well as the surplus 2-year-old cattle that were driven out for feeders. About 30,000 head of sheep were also driven out.

When it is considered that a good portion of Morrow county is deeded land and under fence, and that for the year 1902, the county produced 1,250,000 bushels of wheat, this seems an enormous output, not only for the size of the territory but for the comparatively few people in the county to handle.

Natural Advantages For Stock.
Such a stock output would not be possible if it were not for the peculiar advantages that the county possesses for the growing of stock.

Such a vast number of hoofs are not and could not be kept entirely within the borders of Morrow the entire year. A long and narrow western spur of the Blue Mountains skirts the extreme southern portion of the county, and to the east spreads out spider like into a great range of mountains whose high peaks and hills pierce the clouds at high altitudes. In this range of mountains covering a great territory, rests the so-

cret of the possibility of Morrow county making such a great showing in the business of stock growing. This vast territory of mountain land is principally owned by the government. The heavy snows of winter and being covered with timber makes a great reservoir that holds moisture all summer. Everywhere when not overstocked, there is an abundance of native grass. In the spring stockmen commence moving their herds to the mountain ranges, where they are kept until late in the fall.

Most of the stockmen own large ranches in the county. While the stock are being ranged in the mountains the grass on the home ranches is allowed to grow during the summer, and when the herds come in in the fall fat and sleek grass on the home ranch is ready for good winter pasture, and after the stockman has turned off his surplus, there is plenty of range for the winter.

Government land is now about all taken in Morrow county, however there are a few claims that are still vacant that are worth taking.

NOBLE &
CAMPBELL
Manufacturers
of
Saddles and
Harness.



Being located in the heart of a great stock country we have an opportunity to study the details of scientific saddle making. Years of experience enable us to make a saddle for ease to both man and horse, that is unexcelled. Our trade extends all over the Northwest. Write for prices and photographs. Heppner, Oregon.

THE BELVEDERE.

The best brands of Wines,
Liquors and Cigars.
The Best Orchestra in the City.

The Belvedere is situated in a new stone building with all the modern fixtures to make it comfortable. Obliging Mixologists on duty day and night.

Main Street, Heppner, Oregon.

J. J. ROBERTS
General Contractor and Builder

Stone fronts built and remodeled;
Cottages put in up-to-date style;
Plans and estimates given on all kinds of work

ON SHORT NOTICE
Also does general repair work and guarantees the best of satisfaction.

OFFICE ON MAIN STREET.
W. P. SCRIVNER
General Blacksmithing and Repairing.

Wood Work and wagon making, and special attention given to Horseshoeing.
First Class Work Guaranteed.

Shop on Main Street, Heppner.

Now is the time to Subscribe