

View of the Country that is asking to become a New County.

During its last session, Congress passed a bill establishing a new land district in Southeastern Oregon, and by designation of the proper authorities the land office has been located in Harney Valley. At the coming meeting of the Oregon Legislature an effort will be made to have the county of Harney created out of the southern portion of Grant county. These facts render Harney Valley an object of special interest to those who are seeking a location in some new portion of the northwest. The valley has a total area of 2,400 square miles, nearly twice the size of Rhode Island, and somewhat larger than Delaware, all enclosed with high spurs of the Blue mountains.

increase in population has been very rapid, and the new comers are of the most desirable class, being farmers with families, men who by energy and good citizenship build up the country and develop its latent powers. They are erecting comfortable houses and barns, chiefly frame structures, and are using rails and wire for fencing. Wells of living water are made in any portion of the valley by digging to a depth of from six to fifteen feet, and the water is excellent for drinking and domestic use. Except along the water courses, which are fringed with a light growth of birch and a dense growth of willows, the valley contains no timber, but the adjacent mountains are covered with a dense growth of pine, fir, juniper, mountain mahogany, etc., and several saw mills there supply the settlers in the valley with lumber at reasonable prices.

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