

AGRICULTURE AND STOCK

[Communicated] Letter No. 12.

In the S. F. Chronicle of Dec. 16, 1886, and Oregonian of Dec. 17, we will find eggs quoted at 35 cts. for Oregon and 31 cts. for S. F. Eggs have been 48 cts. wholesale in Portland, and at the same time here in Grants Pass they were worth what you could get for them; and at times there were none to be had. This in the face of a fact that this county is especially adapted to poultry raising, for if there is one thing which can positively be produced here easily and cheaply, it is chickens and eggs. But some say they won't lay when eggs are dear, and when they are cheap they flood us. So much has been said and published about chickens, that it may be superfluous to add much more; but in a few lines I'll just express an idea. Try and have your hens (none but young ones, of course) moult as early in the Fall as you can, feed after they commence to moult, plenty of soaked wheat, (not corn) plenty of burnt bones and not too many chickens together, my word for it, you will have eggs all Winter. Corn is not good, at least too much, even in Winter, for it fattens rather than produces eggs. If you want to warm them up mix some Cayenne pepper with their feed, as it costs but little when bought by the 5 or 10 lbs. As for breeds, I don't know but the light or dark Brahma crossed with the dark Leghorn, takes my fancy; but after all, it is the feed more than the breed that brings the eggs. Take away our musical friend the Coyote, and many a daddy dollar might the county receive for Bronze Turkeys. The average price in 20 years in Portland for Turkeys has been not less than 17 to 18 cts lb dropped. In S. F. to-day they are quoted at 12c live weight wholesale. But Eastern friends are well satisfied to accept half of the above rates. The ample range, gravel and long, dry weather we have, are favorable for the successful raising of turkeys. We ought to have plenty for our own use, and for export also. It will not be long before rail connection will be made with our sister state. Are we going to allow these things to be brought in here or past our doors to markets which we should supply. If the coyote is the trouble, the best thing to be done is to get rid of them. Douglas county pays \$7 a head bounty, but is a rich county as its progressive ideas have made it. Did you ever hear of the carter that was stalled in a rut? Well, to make it short, he called on Jupiter for help; when he himself put his shoulder to the wheel, he got out. So it is here; how many farmers are stalled in the rut of debt. No use calling on the hard times, you have to put brain work to the rescue. The writer knew an old man in California who made a good living raising turkeys, he having had a flock of about 800. Again, there are ducks and geese. There was a party in California who had a flock of about 1000 ducks on an island in S. F. bay, shipping his eggs to S. F., and making money in the venture. My only excuse, if any is needed for speaking of what was done elsewhere, is to endeavor to show that there are more ways of "raising the wind" than by raising wheat at 60c per bushel. The large Pekin duck is easy to raise, and they lay 100 eggs on an average a season, and such eggs. There is no difficulty in obtaining this strain now, as they are now well scattered through the state. The Rouen is preferred by some, as being more hardy, but they are not so large as the Pekin. As with everything else, it costs no more to raise a good Bronze turkey or Pekin duck, than an inferior sort; and when you want to sell, the difference comes in.

Don't Kick. For the benefit of those out here in the Big Bend, who have taken up all the way from 160 to 480 acres of Uncle Sam's dirt, and yet kick, we publish the following: In Ireland tens of thousands of acres of farming lands rent from \$10 to \$15 per acre. There are more than 16,000 families in Ireland by the last census who are living on farms of not more than one acre, and 58,000 families who live on more than one and less than five acres; 83,000 families, in round numbers, live on rented farms of between five and ten acres, and 69,000 families on holdings of between ten and fifteen acres. This land is no better than the land of the Big Bend. It requires manure and needs the best of cultivation, and the farmer there has to pay his rent whether crops fail or not. Now you Big Benders don't kick any more.—[Davensport (W. T.) Times.]

MARRIED.—On Sunday afternoon last Miss Zetta Sutton, eldest daughter of Mrs. M. J. Sutton, of this place, was joined in marriage to Mr. T. M. Griffiths, of Gold Hill. Mr. Curry of Medford, and a few of the intimate friends of the family were the guests of the bride. The wedding was at the residence of the bride's mother, and was attended by a limited number of guests, including Mr. Miller, of Gold Hill, Mr. Curry of Medford, and a few of the intimate friends of the family here. The late J. M. Sutton, the founder of the Tidings, was the father of the bride, and the congratulations of the Tidings are heartily extended.—[Tidings.]

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