

ing extract copied from a *Report on the Wealth and Resources of Oregon*, and which applies equally well to Washington, only adding to the sections enumerated, the names of other sections north of the Columbia :

"The internal trade of Oregon will always be confined to the trade between the agricultural counties in the Wallamet, Umpqua, and Rogue River valleys, and the mining counties of Eastern Oregon and Idaho Territory, and will consist simply in the transportation of the produce and manufacture of one section to the other, to be exchanged for the bullion or coin of the mines, and will be carried on by means of a railroad to be constructed through the Wallamet valley, terminating at some point on the Columbia, from which river steamers will ply as far up as the centre of Idaho. To satisfy the most incredulous that this trade will be rapidly and greatly enlarged, we have only to look at its present rapid growth, the territory to be accommodated, and its resources.

The extent of country which is tributary to the agricultural resources of Oregon is embraced in all that country from the summit of the Rocky Mountains westward to the Cascade Range, and between the head-waters of the northern and southern branches of the great Columbia, and reaching from the head of the Owyhee on the south, away to the Kootenai River and its lately discovered rich mines on the border of British America, being an extent of country about eight hundred miles wide, and nine hundred miles long, or seven hundred and twenty thousand square miles. This vast, and as yet almost unexplored region, is by no means barren or inhospitable. The Catholic Missionaries have maintained their Missions among the Indians at the farthest point north for many years, raising all the vegetables and grain necessary for their use. Throughout the whole extent there are now mining settlements spreading in every direction. What was two years ago a vast, unbroken wilderness, inhabited only by wild beasts and Indians, now contains not less than thirty thousand American citizens, with cities and towns, saw-mills, quartz mills, flouring mills, with all the busy hum of peaceful industry. And from this great internal, mountain locked basin, is now being shipped down the Columbia one million dollars of gold-dust per month, in exchange for flour, bacon, beans, and merchandise sent up. This handsome yield of gold will, according to the present rate of progress, be increased to two and a half or three millions per month in the course of another year.

Oregon possesses peculiar facilities for the creation and maintenance of a large foreign commerce. She possesses unlimited means for building ships—timber, copper, iron, coal, water-power, agricultural productions, a harbor equal to that of New York, and a maritime situation on the direct line of that immense trade carried on by the nations of the West with the nations of the East. The harbor of the Columbia River looks out upon the ports of Russian America, British Columbia, and Vancouver Island, the west coast of Mexico, Central America, New Granada, Equador, Peru, Chili, and Patagonia on the

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