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An Open Letter.

Something About Medford the Metropolis of Southern Oregon.

H. B. KINGSLEY, &

Your letter mailed sufficient last November, did not reach me until late in December—over-due some three weeks. I have waited until now to make a reply, partly for lack of opportunity, but chiefly because I have not had space in the TRANSCRIPT for the accommodation of the open letter that you requested.

I wrote this whole matter to the Boston Globe, but the editor, in return-

Dotton, Globe, but the callor, in Fetura-ing the MSS says:
"I ought to publish so good a letter, as this, but if I did all the New England pa-pers would have me by the cars because we have no desire to depopulate our state."

Since getting your letter a gentle-man at Adrian, Michigan has written under date of "Blizzard No. 3" to tell us that a dozen of his neighbors all mechanics, well-to-do, and with fam-ilies, desire to make a trial of a new

was, deare to make a trial of a new home in Southern Oregon and says: "What about Medford; we hear some-thing of the place from those who have peaced through, and we had one Taxas-caurs sen; free, but we have read it, and re-read it, singly, double, treble and in bunches of half a dozen until it is just worn. out. Even the advertisements are gone Now tell us all about the place, and send me a package of papers for distribution."

It is my purpose to make this letter a reply to your communication, and to the other inquirer.

MEDFORD

Is the chief city of Southern Oregon. It is the chief commercial city; its commercial supremacy cannot be questioned. It is the central point in the wide-reaching fruit belt of Southern Oregon. Medford city has more exceptionally fine farming country directly tributary to it, and paying to it tribute or toll-in the shape of trade and freight shipments—than any two other towns in Southern Oregon. Available figures—not manipulated prove this.

It is the chief warehouse and stor-age point in Southern Oregon. More grain is now on store and in our ware-houses, in this city, than be found along the line of railway in Southern Oregon; the amount reaching up into the hundreds of tons.

It is the principal market city of Southern Oregon. All the produce grown by the farmers in this valley finds a cash, and a good-priced mar-ket, here in Medford. Wheat—the ket, here in Medford. price of which is controlled by out-side circumstances—may be said to be the only exception to this statement market is growing better each The

Medford is the railway station for vast area of country in Southern Or the depot for supplies, and the point of arrival and departure for two thirds of the population of this distin tive portion of Oregon. It is in the very heart of the choicest and most extensive grain-growing region of Southern Oregon. The choice of the farming lands in this immediate vicinity, is not equalled anywhere, in fertility, atility or strength.

The business houses of Medford are

of the most substantial character, and the merchants carry very heavy stocks of the best class of goods. All the different lines are represented. The merchants are cash buyers, and among them not a failure has occurred-since the city was founded.

Manufacturing has gained a permanent footing and is seen to become an important feature in Medford. Water power-ample and never-failing, is at hand. Wood is convenient, and within three or four miles of the city, as the nearest point, there are coal deposits, known—by examination—to be eters have registered 40, 50, and even extensive. Within the past two 60 degrees below zero, and the winds months plans for the fullest develop bave traveled at the rate of 80 miles

ment of these mines have been adopted by men of means. The Central Pacific railway company are making tests of these coal beds. They will be uncovered in 1888.

To up-build and support here a city of 5000 people, we have: Unequalled Fruit Interest;

Unmatched Grain Farming; Extensive Hay Farming: Splendid Stock Raising Into Manufacturing Interest: Water Power;

Coal Interest; Immense Shipping Busines Warehouse and Storage; A growing Dairy Interest Poultry Feature: Railway Travel; A splendid School Interest.

The city of Medford maintains BO ARD OF TRADE

of seventy members, which includes all the business and professional men. mechanics and farmers in the immediate vicinity. It is the organized effort of the city, and during the past seven months it has accomplished ex ceptionally great results for the city of Medford. Among the business estab-lishments Medford has a banking institution with ample capital, and under careful conservative management. During the month of December the citizens and farmers in the dijacent country, subscribed a cash bonus of \$2000 to induce the erection of a flouring mill of 50 barrel per day ca-

The city has a mayor and cour and under this supervision the city streets have been put into excellent shape; the maitary condition closely looked after; a public square or park located, and various other plans of a dred nature adopted.

The city of Medford is handsomely cated. Nature-as engineer and architect-did a splendid piece of work in laying out the townsite. It is on a streets and keep them in excellent condition during rainy weather. As we have said it is in the midst of a splendid farming region. The farms and orchards come right up to the city lines, hedging it in on all sides, and

they stretch away for miles on every

The track of the

is laid through the western half of the depot building is located a the head of the principal business street. At the opposite end or this street and form ng the east front of the city, runs Bear creek, a splendid stream of water throughout the entire year by melting snows and the springs in the mountain range at the south end of the valley, fifteen miles away.

OUR CLIMATE. Mountain ranges hedge in this mag-

nificent valley; 6 miles away on the west, 19 miles on the south, and 20 to the north and northeast. Within this valley—or basin—the climate is just as near perfect as is possible on this mundane sphere. It has been called the Italy of the Pacific Northwest. Relatively speaking, and with regard to the climate of the common country it is that. It is more than that. The past has been an exceptionally cold winter, yet, not a thermometer in this city registered down to zero. Three above was the coldest. Some snow fell just prior to the cold snap and lay on the ground about one week, but a it was only two or three inches deep it did not interfere with the stock range. Cattle have not suffe the least; our butchers supplied the city market in December and January with beef from the range. When you compare this with the climate of Michigan or that of New Hampshire, Minnesota or Dakota, where the thermom-

an hour, and the whole air was filled with razor cutting icides, our valley is twice an Italy and once a Rio Janeiro.

The valley here is about 1400 feet above sea level, and the air is dry and pure. In both valley and mou nature has provided just the climatic conditions required by the industries of the county, fruit-growing, agricul-ture, mining and stock raising. To the eastern man especially, who di-sires in summer a w-m climate with out the excessive heat of his native state, and in winter a clear, bracing atmosphere unaccompanied by extreme cold, and exemption from tir yous snow and rain, this valley preents attractions peculiarly invi It is beyond question the paradise of Oregon. Storms, tornadoes and cyclones which visit other countries and scatter death and desolution in their track are unknown. Spring and sumer, autumn and winter, seed tim and harvest come and go in regular succession, but the transition from to the other is so gradual that one fails to note the end of one or the beginning of the other.

Good water is one of the things this city and valley can boast of. The water in the wells in this city comes from mountain springs, through gravel un-dersoil. It is cold and pure; wholly free from anything like vegetable maj-

The health of the people all over this valley is something remarkable. There are no diseases that can be said to be prevalent in this valley. The climate is peculiarly beneficial to those who come here suffering with asthma, catarrh and the like.

We have left for the last what it is

desirable to say about the

SOCIAL, SCHOOL AND CHURCH status of this city. It will be admitted

by all that the moral tone of the city of Medford is higher than that of any or alemord is higher than that or any other town of its size in the Pacific Northwest. Indeed it is a model town in this respect. The people are—for the most part—from the older settled portions of the east, American born, and strong and earnest in their love of peace and order.

It is a true, that the population of Medford embraces more people of the higher standard of intelligence, culture and refinement, than any other tern city of its size. To this is due the fact that the school and church interest is a dominant one in Medford Very handsome churches are owned by the Baptists and the Presbyterians, and both the Methodist and Episco and both the architecture.

pal are preparing to erect church edifices here. Mediord sustains a fine ifices here. Medford sustains a fine school, and the people are a unit on the proposition to build here this year e, commodious brick struca ha ture, for the home of a higher educational institution; in this way making this city the school center of Southern

You ask, what are the promises for Medford. If we may measure by the past three years, and more especially by the experiences of the past twe lve months, and by the enterprising and pushing spirit of the citizens, Medford will be a city of from 4000 to 5000 inhabitants in the next two or three years. It has all the elements of a rapid, permanent, wholesome growth. So far as we can see there is nothing to obstruct such a growth, and every thing to foster it.

'Wisdom-wise our property holders have made no effort at a boom. Prices are very little advanced beyond the scale of last year.

We are persuaded that no place on We are persuaded that no place on the Pacific coast can offer better in-ducements to the intending settler. During the fruit season of last year, Mediord snipped nearly 1000 tons of fresh fruit as freight, and about 100 tons as express matter. It is confidently expected that du-ring the coming season of '88, the shipment of fruit will reach 1,200 tons.