

sumed large proportions, is growing rapidly throughout the valley. The favorable climate of this region permits the trees to expend their vitality in developing and maturing their fruit. The soil in all cases has natural drainage, so that trees do not suffer from soggy or baked ground, while its fertility sustains a healthy growth. The freedom from troublesome insects is a boon that eastern fruit raisers would greatly appreciate in their orchards, and the market certainly is encouraging for the most perfect production. The character of the fruit interests of Douglas county is attracting the attention of many outsiders, and steps are being taken to improve on a larger scale the advantages offered for the business. With the rapid advancement being made in all industrial affairs in the county the fruit raising is fully keeping pace and is proving one of the most satisfactory lines of operation.

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#### A SUBURBAN HOME.

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PORTLAND has reached that stage in its growth where the natural desire of thousands to escape the smoke, dust, noise, and unhealthfulness of the city must assert itself. A large proportion of the business and professional men, clerks and mechanics of our American cities reside in quiet, suburban villages, and in these days of rapid, cheap and convenient transportation the proportion of out-of-town residents steadily increases. No city in the union possesses more beautiful locations for suburban homes, not far distant from the metropolis, than Portland. Up and down the Willamette, on either side, stretches a vista of plain, rolling hills and wooded heights, upon which may be built homes for thousands, where pure air and beautiful landscapes combine to make life pleasant and enjoyable. The question of rapid transit is the one of most importance in determining the direction of this nightly hegira from the city will take, and this points unmistakably southward, on the west bank of the river. Two lines of railroad lead in that direction, parallel to each other and less than half a mile apart, thus giving each person the choice of two routes by rail. In addition to this, the river offers another route, and the celebrated macadam, or White House, road a fourth. In no other direction can one go and find such convenient means of passing to and fro at all hours of the day and until late at night. It is, to be sure, fortunate that these conveniences exist, for to the south, also, are the most beautiful and healthful sites for suburban homes to be found near the confines of the city. It was here that the gentlemen composing the River-view Cemetery Association selected the site upon

which that lovely home of the dead was laid out, possessing the most beautiful location of any "silent city" in America. Upon the gently sloping hills lying between the cemetery and the city the Southern Portland Real Estate Company, composed of some of the most prominent business men of the city, has laid out the town of Fulton Park, whose many advantages as a place of residence can not be overestimated. Along one side of the tract passes the Portland & Willamette Valley road, while the west side line of the Southern Pacific runs directly through it. From the depot of either, any portion of the tract can be reached in a few minutes. Winding through the tract, so as to reach every portion of it, the company is constructing a system of grand boulevards, at an expense of \$15,000.00, and the plat is so laid out that a large proportion of the lots face the boulevard, which has a total length of five miles. All the other lots can be reached from the boulevard by cross streets of from one to three blocks in length. The ravines and steep hillsides are not included in the plat, and there is not a lot of the thirteen hundred and ninety-three embraced in the tract which does not afford a fine building site; nor is there one from which can not be obtained a fine view of the city, the river and the entire country to the north and east, the landscape culminating in the Cascade mountains and the great snow peaks, for which the scenery of Portland is famous. The slope of the hills, while sufficiently gentle to render their ascent by foot or carriage easy or convenient, affords splendid natural drainage, insuring freedom from malaria, while pure air and springs of clear mountain water conduce to health and comfort. The chief difficulty in the way of such suburban tracts is the fact that houses are erected and improvements made so slowly that it takes a number of years to render them the convenient and desirable places of residence that they eventually become. In this case, as has already been stated, the means of frequent, cheap and rapid transportation already exist, a convenience for which such tracts are usually compelled to wait several years. Trains on the two roads reach the tract in seven and eight minutes, a shorter time than is required to reach many portions of the city by street cars, and the fare is but five cents, the same as is charged by the latter. To accomplish the other point, that of avoiding the usual delay in building, the company has adopted the plan of erecting one hundred houses at its own expense, which will be given away to purchasers of lots. The company is reimbursed for this outlay by the added value of the tract by reason of the building upon it of one hundred houses, which will be more than the cost of construction. This added value will attach to the lots sold as well as to those still remain-