

Meanders, T. 21 S., R. 12 W.

CHAINS

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The land in this township is mostly mountainous, but about the numerous streams and lakes there are many small bodies of fertile land well suited to the growth of agricultural products. The marshes are all valuable for pasturage and meadows. The mountains are very steep, but not usually more than 3 or 400 feet high. All land not subject to overflow is covered with a dense forest of fir, spruce, hemlock, cedar, alder, maple, pine and other kinds of timber and thickly matted undergrowth consisting of sallalberry, thimbleberry, crabapple, manzanita, vine maple and other bushes without name. As usual, the vicinity of the Sea stimulates vegetation of all kinds to its utmost vigor.

The Umpqua River traversing this township from E. to W. affords a good harbor with a tolerable approach for shipping and is the route of commerce for the interior. Fort Umpqua is probably a permanent military station. There are several donation claims along the river. About seven years since, a colony of several hundred persons landed here in quest of gold mines and other fields of speculation. Gold not appearing, they applied themselves to the inception of cities. But title deeds proving weaker than the prescriptive right of savage nature, depopulation and decay soon left nothing but the names of Gardiner, Umpqua City, Providence and Rosalia, which still embellish the maps.