

THE WEST SHORE.

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SPECIMEN NUMBER.

Any one receiving this copy of THE WEST SHORE will please consider it an invitation to become a regular subscriber.

NOTICE.

In addition to the usual amount of interesting and valuable information about the Pacific Northwest in general, the April number of THE WEST SHORE will contain an article descriptive of Montana and its manifold resources, and of Helena, the capital. There will be a splendid panoramic view of that city and twenty-eight other illustrations of its streets, schools, churches, residences and prominent buildings generally. The value of such a number is inestimable, as by its thorough distribution Montana will be made known to thousands by whom she is now supposed to be but a stock range, and a waste of rocky crags, with here and there a dilapidated mining camp. How utterly absurd such an opinion is, our descriptive article and the faithful reproduction of the streets and buildings of her capital will amply demonstrate. The succeeding number, which will appear early in May, will contain our trip through Wonderland, from Portland to St. Paul. In gathering information and preparing illustrations for this number the publisher has permitted no expense to prevent him from arriving as near to perfection as possible. The engravings embrace everything interesting and picturesque in the scenery along the route in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Dakota and Minnesota, especially the wonderful sights of the National Park of the Yellowstone and of Pyramid Park, or Mauvais Terres. It will be the most complete and extensive presentation of wonderful scenery ever given in a single number of any publication, and its value cannot be overestimated.

THE NEW HOTEL.

Our double-page engraving of the new hotel, now being erected on the Central school block, speaks for itself. Its quaint style of Norman architecture suggests those massive castles around which clings the romance of the middle ages. When completed and furnished it will cost the Northern Pacific Terminal Company nearly half a million dollars.

The New York *Sun* inveighs against the growing evil of opium smoking, small gambling and other vices introduced and fostered in that city by the Chinese. A short flight of memory carries us back to the time when the Eastern press scoffed at our complaints of similar evils, and said that we trumped them up because the Chinese were so n. lastrious as to be crowding out our own lazy selves. We wonder if the same cause is operating in New York, and if the *Sun's* industrial toes have been stepped upon.

There is considerable elbow-room left in this region and immigrants need not fear being unduly crowded. Take a population in Oregon and Washington of 270,000, scattered over 165,000 square miles, and we have a fraction less than two to the mile. At an average of five to a family, we have 54,000 families. If one-half of these own farm lands, it gives five square miles to each family, or 3,200 acres. Come along, you will not be crowded.

The legislature of Nevada has been considering the question of adopting a system of irrigation under control of the State. If undertaken in the proper spirit and placed in the hands of competent and honest men, it will be the salvation of Nevada. We have passed over millions of acres of as fertile soil as one would care to see, which only need the vivifying power of water to turn them from a sage brush waste to fertile farms. Wind mills could do much for Nevada, but a system of canals running from the various great natural reservoirs can do infinitely more. Water is all the State requires to become one of the most prosperous in the Union.

The new rooms of the Portland Merchants' Exchange Association were opened on the tenth of March, and not only present a neat appearance, but are admirably arranged for carrying out the objects of the association. On the walls are large bulletin boards bearing the intelligence desired by the members, constantly revised and reliable. Information is collated and bulletined under the following heads: "Vessels Loading for Columbia River," "Vessels in Port and at Astoria," "Vessels on the Way to Neighboring Ports," "Vessels on the Way to Columbia River," "Vessels at Astoria, Finishing, etc.," "Stock Quotations," "Eastern Markets," "Produce Receipts," "Freights," "Astoria," "Cape Hancock," "Kalama," "Miscellaneous." Files of commercial journals and leading papers are kept, as well as registers of daily shipments and receipts.

Every steamer from San Francisco is now bringing from 300 to 500 passengers, three-fourths of whom are strangers coming to settle or to spy out the land. The same is true of vessels to Puget sound. From all advices we are led to expect twice as heavy an immigration as the great one of last season, and an especially large influx as soon as through rail communication is opened. The soil, climate and resources of this great region are as varied as the rainbow's hues, and the intending emigrant should carefully inform himself before taking a decided step. It were better, where a number are coming, to send one in advance to make a suitable selection for them all, or in other cases, for the head of a family to precede them for the same purpose. Much time and money are frequently squandered by people who emigrate in a hap hazard fashion, and who are constantly going to the wrong place and seem never to be suited. First decide upon what you want to do, or, if a farmer, what character of soil and climate you desire, then inform yourself upon the location that will suit you,

and when once started let no one turn you from the track. Word has been telegraphed over the country by the California Immigration Society that immigrants receive but little attention in this region, and find difficulty in obtaining information, Walla Walla being especially mentioned. The facts are that the immigrant need never wait for clear and reliable information, cheerfully given, if he will apply at proper places. In the immediate vicinity of Walla Walla the lands have all been taken for a number of years, and it is folly for a man to suppose that he can find open land within a stone's throw of a city that has been settled for more than thirty years. In that city, however, there are a board of trade and the U. S. land office, and at either place he will receive sound advice and reliable information. Free hotels for immigrants can hardly be expected in a country where one-half the people have not worn out the boots they brought with them; yet at Spokane Falls such a place is being prepared, and no doubt other cities interested in attracting settlers to their vicinity will do likewise. In California they feel a need of immigration to save the State, and consequently have taken great pains to invite it as well as to seek out locations; it is better, however, to suffer the inconveniences of "rustling" a little for good land in a new country than to settle upon locations so courteously selected, only to find oneself placed upon a desert, requiring five years of starvation and work upon irrigating ditches to make it productive.

Montana papers complain that hunters who have taken large meat contracts have gone into the National Park for the purpose of slaughtering the game that abounds there. This is a shame and should be prevented. Congress should make provisions for a complete and effectual protection of the park from hunters of every kind. We fear, however, that there will be still more cause for complaint in the future. If every tourist turns himself into a game exterminator, it will take put a few years to clear it of all animal life. To be sure there are rules forbidding the killing of game, but rules not enforced by penalties are of little avail. The park can be made a grand preserve where the larger game animals of the Rocky mountains can propagate themselves perpetually, the natural overflow furnishing sufficient sport for the legitimate huntsman beyond the limits of the preserve. Within the park not a gun should be fired or a trap set, and in this way only can a complete extinction of the game animals of America be prevented. The park superintendent has been recently instructed by Secretary Teller to enforce the rules against destroying the following animals and birds: Buffalo, bison, moose, elk, white-tailed or black-tailed deer, mountain sheep, Rocky mountain goat, antelope, beaver, otter, marten, fisher, grouse, prairie chicken, pheasant, wild goose, duck, robin, meadow lark, thrush, gold-finch, flicker or yellow-hammer, blackbird, oriole, jay, snowbird, or any of the small birds commonly known as singing birds. We hope he will be able to do so, but fear he has not been clothed with sufficient power.