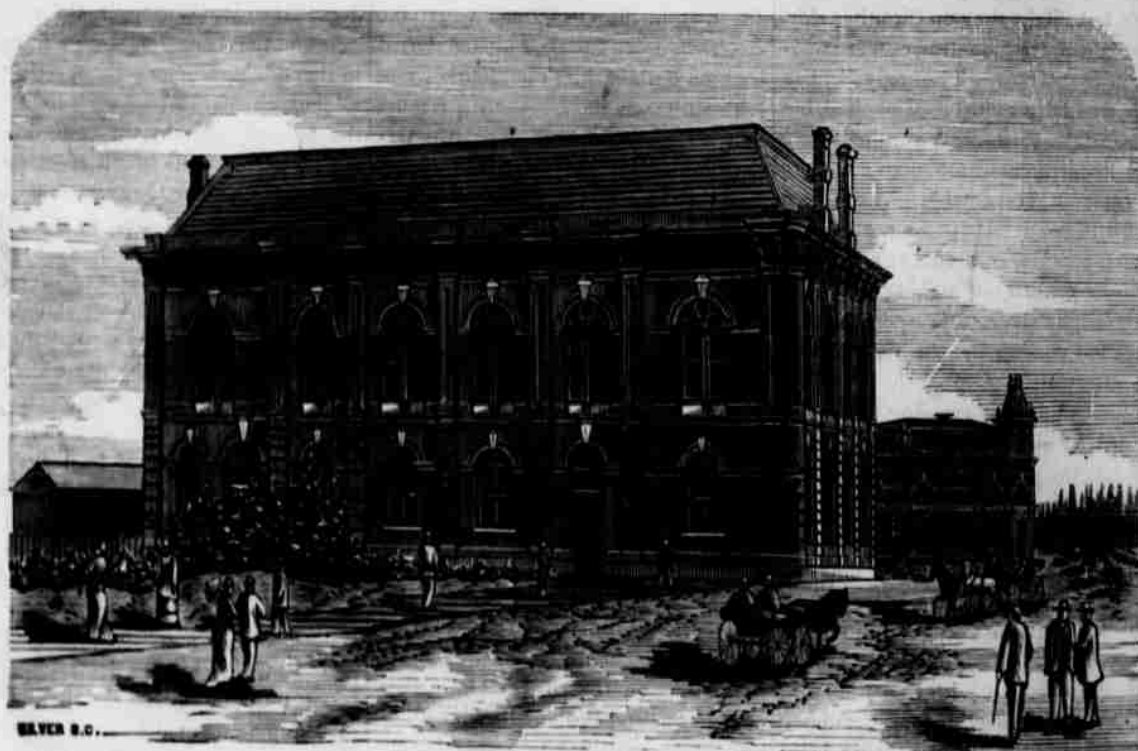


On this page will be found an engraving of the new city hall at Victoria, B. C. It is a substantial structure of stone and brick, in keeping with the balance of the buildings in this beautiful city. It is completed as far as shown, but is really only a wing of what the building will be when entirely finished, a few years hence. The city officers already occupy the commodious offices set aside for them in this wing, and the city council holds its weekly meetings in the large room on the upper floor. To the right of the city hall may be seen the Masonic temple, also an elegant brick structure, just completed by the Masonic fraternity of Victoria.

bushel, and yielded 14 bushels to the acre. This is an average crop. Mr. Bowen adds: "We have but one crop in five which we call good." We regret very much that Mr. B. did not state what their good crops yielded per acre; but if there is any rust-stricken field of any size in the State of Oregon, which yielded less than 14 bushels of merchantable wheat per acre, we should like to hear of it. It must be borne in mind too that Eastern Oregon and the great wheat-producing Walla Walla country have larger crops this year than ever before, and not a particle of rust has appeared in that section. Fall wheat everywhere yields

absorbing subject, crops, came up for discussion, when the gentleman who shared the seat with us, and who had just given us highly seasoned dishes on the early downfall of the country, based on his personal observation, having, as he claimed, traveled extensively and examined the rust carefully, pointed to a field just then seen from the car-window and remarked: "Now, that wheat is hardly worth cutting." "No," said a well known Marion county farmer on the seat behind us, who had up to this time actively opposed our neighbor's gloomy predictions; "as wheat it is not worth cutting, but it is the finest patch of *oats* I have seen this season."



THE CITY HALL AT VICTORIA, B. C.—From a Photo by R. Maynard.

#### THE OUTLOOK.

Notwithstanding the careless and damaging articles published by the Oregon press regarding our crop prospects, we have every reason to hope that the export of wheat from the Pacific Northwest will be far greater than any previous season in the history of the country. The rust—a full description of which will be found on page 246—has done some damage, but by no means as much as some people would have us believe. We have before us a sample of Iowa wheat, kindly sent us by I. W. Bowen, Esq. It is of the "Fife" variety, goes 61 lbs. to the

heavily, and that bugbear—rust—has damaged spring wheat only, and that only on very low ground. The actual "rust sufferers" will be found on low ground in the counties of Linn and Lane, whilst slight damage has been done in Douglas, Benton and Polk, and very little, if any, in Marion county. To show how very little is known of rust, and how easily exaggerated reports of damage come into circulation, we note the following, as one of the hundred instances which have come under our observation within the past three weeks: Whilst on the O. & C. R. R. train a few days ago, the all-

#### CRANE'S CREEK VALLEY, IDAHO.

There is plenty of good farming land on Crane's creek still open for settlement, and there are few places that offer better inducements to settlers. Situated midway between the settlements on the Payette and the Upper Weiser, it would have all the advantages of the extensive stock range in the country between those valleys, besides being nearer market than the Upper Weiser country. The portion of the valley near the base of the mountains is well watered, has a rich, black soil, and is convenient to timber. There is room in this valley for twenty-five or thirty families.

Chance is an unseen cause.