

## PORTLAND, OREGON.

This is the third city in actual and representative wealth in proportion to its population that there is in the world. As startling as this assertion is, nevertheless, it is a fact, and we question if even our best informed citizens are aware that such is the case. Frankfort-on-the-Main in the old world, which contains the mother bank of the Rothschilds, and is otherwise the money center of Europe, and Hartford, Connecticut, the actual center of the great Insurance Companies' wealth of America, are the only two cities that lead the "Little Giant" city of the Occident in "wealth according to population."

One of the most striking features of our city to a visitor from the cities of Buffalo, Albany, Rochester, Elmira, N. Y.; Indianapolis, Indiana; Cleveland, Columbus, O., and other cities of a like grade in the older states, is the extent and compactness of our business thoroughfares and of the structures that line them. These visitors open their eyes in undisguised astonishment when informed that a city with the "business look" of Portland contains scarcely 20,000 people.

The above named cities, with four to six times the population, have no such thoroughfares as Front or First Sts., and many of the commercial cities of the states, with ten times the population of Portland, have less than one quarter of the number of spacious warehouses and but a tith of the wharf facilities.

Portland, to-day, is an anomaly, but one that can be readily accounted for. It has, in short, the "country to back it."

Genial Oregon, with its agricultural wealth scarcely one hundredth part developed, the mountain ranges filled with undeveloped wealth of minerals discovered and to be discovered and worked; the rapidly settling domain of Eastern Oregon, with its vast ranges for stock and rich cereal lands, all help to make

Portland what it is and what it will be before the close of another decade.

When we take all these facts into consideration, together with the proposed system of internal improvements already inaugurated by the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company, Oregon & California Railroad Company, and the Oregonian Railway Company, limited, finished, we may expect in 1890 to see Portland a rival in wealth, enterprise, population, commerce, and manufactures of many of the older cities of the world.

During the past year, 265 buildings have been erected in Portland, many

fine buildings within our state and the adjacent territory of Washington, which shows that if Oregon lacks population, its people have the "grit" to have as good or better public buildings, etc., than some of their older sister states. Among the illustrations may be found the Portland Postoffice, costing \$325,000; Salem Court House, \$100,000; Portland Court House, \$50,000; Albany Court House, \$30,000; The Odd Fellows' and Masonic Temples, \$150,000. Other buildings and illustrations have appeared in previous numbers of THE WEST SHORE, among which may be mentioned the Union Block, costing

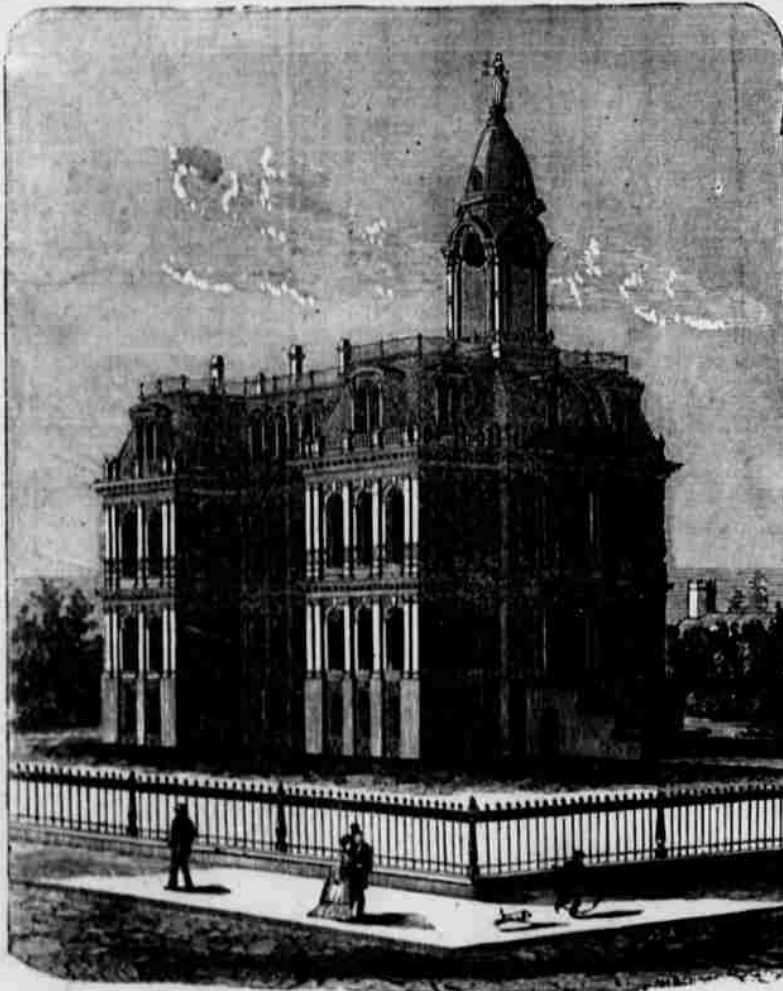
\$160,000, and the fine building occupied by the offices of the O. R. & N. Company, owned by Capt. Geo. J. Ainsworth, built at an expense of \$65,000; also, other buildings ranging in cost from \$10,000 to \$50,000. In fact, THE WEST SHORE files for the past several years indicate the rapid advancement of Oregon and Portland in their material growth and prosperity, and its future numbers will chronicle their continued advancement until Oregon will be one of the brightest stars in the galaxy of states and Portland the "queen city" of the Pacific slope.

Be sure to send 25 cents for our December number, 1880. It contains a vast amount of valuable information about the Pacific Northwest, with rates of fare, modes of

travel, etc.; also a large number of artistically executed engravings of Columbia river's far-famed scenery.

## CUPID'S FREAKS.

The total number of marriage licenses issued in Multnomah county during the year 1880, were 233. The two oldest grooms were 64 and 60 years respectively. The youngest groom 19 years old. Fourteen brides were under 18 years and four of these only 15 years old.



MARION COUNTY COURT HOUSE, SALEM, OREGON.

of them palatial in their structures and adornments. The amount of money expended for their building and the improvement of streets within the city limits during the year 1880, foots up the snug sum of \$1,121,720, exclusive of \$85,000 expended in East Portland. When we take into consideration the population of Oregon, Multnomah Co. and Portland, we can begin to realize the wealth and resources of our young state, when such an amount can be spent by its people in one short year.

In this number of THE WEST SHORE, we give illustrations of a few of the