

## SPOKANE AND THE REST OF THE COUNTRY.

The editor of our excellent cotemporary, the *Spokane Falls Chronicle*, is very anxious to have the good people of Spokane county send an agent to Portland, who will have an office convenient to the steamer dock, where immigrants can at all times of the day, obtain pleasant audience, and full, free and correct information in regard to this (Spokane) country."

In the article setting forth his wants, the editor aforesaid, unintentionally, of course, conveys the impression that there is no one here who gives "full, free and correct information," concerning the fertile and progressive Spokane country. In this, as in some other particulars, he is considerably off.

The Bureau of Immigration, recently organized, representing the land departments of the Northern Pacific R. R. Co., the Oregon and California R. R. Co., the Oregon Railway and Navigation Co., and the Oregon Improvement Co., has adopted and is energetically pushing a most comprehensive plan to the end that every new comer, seeking a home in the great northwest, receives the fullest and most accurate information concerning every part of the country, including the attractive region in which the *Spokane Falls Chronicle* has such a large and deserved circulation.

On the arrival of each steamer at Astoria, an agent, speaking several languages and thoroughly posted in the whole country, interviews the coming settlers, and getting at their wants, gives them information well calculated to give them a fair understanding of the resources and attractions of different portions of the country. He is carefully instructed not to overdraw in any particular; but to give a full and truthful answer to all questions relative to the quality of the lands, their situation with respect to lines of transportation and markets, the average yield, climate, etc. Much of this information the new comers have already obtained from the agent in San Francisco, as well as from pamphlets and descriptive articles sent east. Before reaching the dock at Portland, the immigrants are directed by means of cards placed in their hands, to the Bureau of Immigration, corner of D and Front streets. Here they find "solid facts and actual results." Directly following the arrival of the

steamer, hundreds of immigrants visit the Bureau, where are exhibited to them tastefully arranged samples of wheat, oats, barley, flax, rye, corn, vegetables, fruits and other products of the Spokane, Palouse, Great Bend, Walla Walla, Umatilla, Grand Ronde, Powder River, Yakima, Western Oregon and Sound countries.

The samples are exhibited in sheaf, heads and grain, and present a most beautiful scene. Everything is explained in positive yet modest language. Samples of wheat, etc., are given to immigrants to send back to friends; envelopes being specially provided for that purpose.

The agreeable astonishment shown by immigrants from the East on beholding the exhibition, is very general. Maps and routes are explained, different towns and localities pointed out and rates of fare made known. Every possible question relative to any part of the northwest is fully answered, and the would-be settler is sent on his way feeling that he has had a "pleasant audience," and received "full, free and correct information" in regard to the country including the prolific Spokane.

## NORTHERN PACIFIC STOCKS.

The Philadelphia *New Northwest* says: We violate a rule not to transfer to these columns any commendations of the stocks and securities of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, by any newspaper published for a strictly Stock Exchange clientage. But we will concede to our readers the following, from the *Wall Street Daily News*, of March 9th. It is the utterance of honest faith, based on knowledge:

"We wrote, months ago, and have never ceased since, to caution our readers about investing in the so-called Southwestern securities, and to look, if they wanted to invest at all in new enterprises, to the Northwest, and particularly to the stock of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which, in our opinion, is the safest piece of property listed on the New York Stock Exchange. It is now, and has been earning since the beginning of this fiscal year, over six per cent. upon its preferred stock, and the country through which it is being built is the most magnificent domain in the United States. Its land grant is by far the greatest in the possession of any corporation, and will, within a few years, redeem the preferred stock and pay off the bonded debt, which is the smallest one, in proportion to its mileage, of any railroad in the country. In the present

disturbed condition of speculation, it is hard to advise what to do; but we can didly say, after a thorough investigation that, in our judgment, it offers greater security to the intending investor than almost any security listed at the Exchange, and when the tide of downward speculation is checked, this will be one of the first to recover."

## VALLEYS OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The Columbia valley, from the mouth of the river 260 miles east, forms the southern boundary of the Territory, and the strip of valley land on the northern side varies from one mile to fifteen in width, or an average perhaps of six miles.

The Columbia from that point where it turns north, runs through the Territory three hundred miles, and the basin has an average width of eighty miles.

Walla Walla, 30 miles long and 18 miles wide.

Touchet, 40 miles long and 5 wide.

Tucannon, 20 miles long and 5 wide.

Alpowa, 15 miles long and 3 wide.

Palouse, 100 miles long and 25 wide.

Yakima, 100 miles long and 20 wide.

Spokane, 60 miles long and 10 wide.

Snake, 100 miles long and 10 wide.

Chehalis, 60 miles long and 20 wide.

Cowlitz, 30 miles long and 5 wide.

Nisqually, 15 miles long and 2 wide.

Puyallup, 20 miles long and 3 wide.

Duwamish and White, 40 miles long and 8 wide.

Snohomish and Snoqualmie, 40 miles long and 3 wide.

Stilliguamish, 15 miles long and 3 wide.

Skagit, 60 miles long and 5 wide.

Nootsack, 30 miles long and 3 wide.

In addition to these are many other streams and valleys, as the Okanagan, Klickitat, Lewis, Willopah, Quilleyute, Samish, etc., containing hundreds of thousands of acres of land no less fertile and valuable than in the valleys detailed above.

Between all these valleys the immigrant searching for a farm has a choice unsurpassed in any State or Territory of the Union, covering an expanse of 225 miles north and south by 325 miles east and west. There is soil, scene and climate to suit all. Many steamers ply upon the larger rivers running through these valleys, while railroads have been built to them and through them to the aggregate length of about 500 miles.