

PENDLETON, OREGON.

Our traveling correspondent, writing from Pendleton, says: "This place, the county seat of Umatilla, one of Oregon's largest and best agricultural counties, has made a wonderful growth in the past two years, I find all classes of business in a prosperous condition, notwithstanding the late freshets did considerable damage. With their usual liberality the citizens have contributed \$2,400 for the purpose of building dikes so as to hereafter confine the festive Umatilla river in proper limits. I find the Umatilla reservation composed of as fine land as I have ever seen, and if this was opened for settlement, as it should be, it would afford fine homes for at least one thousand thrifty farmers. The reservation adjoins the city of Pendleton and I do not expect to be the owner of many more gray hairs than I am at present, before this thriving burg will be a city containing from eight to ten thousand inhabitants. The Oregon Railway and Navigation Co., have just finished a fine passenger depot here and their track extends ten miles farther east. There is plenty of government land yet open for settlement which was heretofore considered useless owing to its remoteness from markets, which is now being made valuable by the approach of the railways.

PORTLAND.

Portland, the metropolis of the Pacific Northwest, has a population of 28,000. During 1882 her jobbing houses sold merchandise to the value of..... \$40,000,000
The products of her manufacturing establishments, employing 4,178 hands, are valued at..... 7,734,800
Her exports, including those of the Columbia river, ran up to..... 15,560,932
Real estate changed hands to the value of..... 6,686,731
Six hundred and forty-two buildings were erected in city and suburbs, valued at..... 2,977,600
The prospects for 1883 are that nearly all of the above figures will be doubled.

POMPEY'S PILLAR.

On the south bank of the Yellowstone river, between Miles City and Billings, a short distance from the Northern Pacific railroad track, stands a detached body of yellow sandstone, which rises abruptly on three sides to the height of about four hundred feet. Its base occupies about one acre of ground. The fourth side is irregular and broken, and affords a way by which ascent may be made. The rock is known as Pompey's Pillar, having been so called by the explorer, William Clarke. The most noticeable thing about it is Clarke's name, carved deeply on the face of the rock, about half way up on the north side. At this place, which may be easily reached by clambering up over the heavy blocks of sandstone broken down from the body of the cliff, the face of the rock is protected by some overhanging portions from the sun and storm; and the inscription, "William Clarke, July 25, 1806," is traceable throughout. It is in old-fashioned script, and is undoubtedly genuine. A modern vandal, who evidently had never heard of the

explorer, has registered his own worthless name, in uncouth characters, over a part of the original inscription. But Gen. Anderson, chief engineer of the Northern Pacific railroad, has given orders to have the bumpkin's name removed and a frame covered with glass placed over the name of William Clarke to preserve it. It was on his return from the mouth of the Columbia river that Clarke passed this place. The exploring party had divided a short time before, Clarke having taken this route, while Lewis pursued another. Lewis, upon his return to the east, was made Governor of Louisiana Territory, and died by his own hand near Nashville, in October, 1809. Clarke was made Governor of Missouri Territory, and lived till September, 1838.

RENTON AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.

This pleasant little village is situated on Cedar river, about half a mile from its mouth and three-fourths of a mile from Lake Washington. It lays at the point where the valley of Cedar river opens into the Black river valley, on ground that slopes about ten degrees to the west, which gives it fine drainage. At the back of the village is the Cedar river bluffs, which contain large bodies of coal. Its inhabitants number about three hundred and fifty persons. It has three stores, two saloons, one hotel and a well conducted school, where the average attendance is about sixty-two scholars daily. The village received its name from the coal mines which are located here. They now have a daily output of from one to a hundred and twenty-five tons of coal. This mine was discovered in 1873 by E. M. Smithers, Esq. This gentleman had prospected for coal in this locality for a long time without success; he finally had his prospecting narrowed down so that in all of the surrounding country only one creek, a very small one at that, was left him, whereby his hopes of years might be realized. One very disagreeable day, Mr. Smithers, in company with Mr. Crane, took his gun and started out for a deer. Mr. S.'s mind was not so much on a deer as coal hunting. His steps naturally led to the stream, "or as you might say, to his last chance." They commenced the ascent, and after following the bed of the creek for some distance their hopes were brightened by discovering float coal. This proved that the body of coal was still farther up. Continuing their ascent of the stream and using the pick diligently, Mr. Smithers' hopes of years were realized by the discovery of a fine vein of good workable coal.

W. P. Smith, Esq., who lives on the north bank of Cedar river opposite Renton, has a very handsome pleasure garden, where the people of Seattle go to hold their picnics. The house on the farm is a large and commodious one. This is kept open in summer for those who desire to get away from the city during the heated term, and no one knows better how to look after and supply the wants of his guests than W. P. Smith. The lawn which surrounds his residence occupies his every thought. His great aim is to make it attractive and he has spent years with this in view, and it is certainly the finest in this part of the country. Mr. Smith has a dairy farm, and milks about thirty cows, the milk from these cows is made into butter, for which he always receives the highest prices.

On approaching Renton from Seattle by the Columbia and Puget Sound railroad, when within

three-fourths of a mile of the village you cross Black river, on the west bank of which lays the hay farm of Dr. H. B. Bagley, of Seattle. This farm comprises some three hundred acres, there is no better farm for hay in the Puget sound basin, after crossing to the east bank you are on the farm of E. M. Smithers. Looking from the car window on your left you see his house and barns. These barns are used for sheltering his cows, of which he has about forty, the milk from these cows is shipped by rail to New Castle and Seattle daily. The principal aim is milk, consequently they are fed with mill produce in the greatest abundance, some of this band of cows give as much as four gallons of milk at one time. Mr. Smithers also raises hay, grain and vegetables, for all of which he and the several other farmers in this locality have ready market at the mines. Looking again from the window on the right hand side of the car you see the farm of Col. W. C. Squires, which is also a hay farm; looking still farther to the right you see standing on the hill side the bunkers of the Renton Coal Co. These bunkers when full hold one thousand tons of coal, from them the coal is loaded in cars of ten tons each and hauled over the Columbia and Puget Sound railroad to Seattle. A little to the north and east of these bunkers is the farm of Mr. Walsworth, it is known as the Edmund Carr farm. Here they keep a good band of cows, the milk from them is also shipped to New Castle and Seattle. The Puget sound shore railroad passes to the west of us about two miles. We have the Columbia and Puget Sound railroad passing through our village, it gives us two passenger trains daily, east and west. It will not be long before we have two more railroads centering here, one will be the Seattle, Walla Walla and Baker city road, which will go up the Cedar river valley and tap a fine large body of bituminous coal and iron between Cedar and Green rivers. This road in following up the valley of Cedar river taps also a large body of good farming land, and is on the direct route across the Cascade mountains through the Snoqualmie Park. The other road will probably be built by some foreign corporation into the coal region. R. L. THORN.

YAKIMA COUNTY.

Our sage brush country is filling up rapidly with a good, solid class of people. Two years ago our vote was about five hundred and this election about eight hundred, giving an increase of three votes. And they are now reclaiming the dry sage plains by irrigation, and the sage land, when properly irrigated, is the most productive soil in the country, and we have a large domain of that quality of land yet vacant, inviting settlers to come and establish homes for themselves and families. Besides our sage plains, we have some valley lands yet near the foot hills that are vacant, and a large amount of high bunch grass, or table lands, yet unsettled. Also, the Yakima Indian reservation embraces perhaps the finest valley in Eastern Washington, and our people are now petitioning Congress to open up that large domain for settlement, and give what few Indians there are left on it, the homestead privilege, instead of the reservation. There are but few Indians on the reserve, and they express their willingness to cut loose from their tribal relations, and each one have a piece of land to himself, that he can call his own.—*Albany Democrat.*