

plenty of rain, and Southern Oregon promises a good crop.

✓ Jacksonville merchants are now receiving goods by the Crescent City route, four days from San Francisco.

Times are lively in Coos county this spring in both coal and lumber industries. Three logging roads with steel rails will be constructed this season.

✓ The woolen mills at Ashland are running day and night with thirty hands, and ship large quantities of goods to Portland and San Francisco. The prosperity of Ashland is remarkable for a town shut off from railroad communication, and with the completion of the road now being extended to it a large increase in business and population ought to follow.

## WASHINGTON.

### EASTERN WASHINGTON.

Pomeroy is growing rapidly.

Prescott was laid out on the Touchet but a year ago, and is now building a school house to cost \$3,500.

The crops of Eastern Washington present a magnificent appearance, and nothing but an unforeseen calamity can prevent a splendid harvest and the blessings that follow in its train.

During the month of March 144 pre-emption filings were made at the Colfax land office, covering 23,040 acres; homestead entries, 87; acres, 13,920; timber culture entries, 73; acres, 11,680; cash entries, 3,353 acres; final homestead proof, 2,632 acres; total acres, 54,625.

Hon. Philip Ritz has set out 20,000 maple, walnut, ash, box elder and poplar trees on his place near Ritzville this spring. Trees planted by him last season are in good condition. The land in that vicinity is being rapidly settled upon now, though the general opinion until last fall was that it was of little value for agriculture. Mr. Ritz and a few others have practically demonstrated that the idea was erroneous.

The rush to the Big Bend country continues unabated. The advance agents of a colony of about a hundred Welsh families have recently made selections of land. They are called the Pacific Coast Cambrian Colonization Co., and will lay out a town this summer in township 26, range 31, east of Willamette meridian. The roads leading into the Big Bend region are dotted with emigrant wagons.

The new town in the Colville country has exchanged its name of Belmont for Colville, to make the removal of the county seat easier of accomplishment. Several new buildings have been erected and a number of old ones have been moved over from Fort Colville. The war department will rebuild and garrison the old fort this summer, as it is becoming a point of military importance.

### WESTERN WASHINGTON.

At Port Townsend a fine saw mill is doing a large business. An addition 160x170 feet is being made to the Union wharf, which will make it as large as any on the Sound.

There are about 150 people on Wholochett, or

Cutthroat bay, ten miles west of New Tacoma. They are engaged in logging and general farming, and are introducing hop culture.

Orcas island is the largest in Puget sound, and contains about sixty settlements. About twenty good claims are yet unoccupied, and offer superior inducements to families desiring to make a home.

The rush to Whatcom county still continues. There are now four town sites on Bellingham bay, where is expected at some future time to be located the terminus of a branch line from the Canadian Pacific. The town of Whatcom has now a paper called the *Leader*.

The citizens of Vancouver have undertaken to fit up the old school building as a temporary shelter for immigrant families while they are selecting suitable locations upon which to settle. Such action as this will be of great assistance in drawing people to the fertile acres of Clarke county.

Snohomish county is receiving many settlers this spring. A farming colony of 250 Germans from Colorado has just settled on a selected location near the Snohomish river, and will form the nucleus of a populous community. Snohomish City is a thriving town. A two-story hotel, a warehouse and two residences have just been completed, and a livery stable, several business blocks and a dozen dwelling houses will be erected this season.

Many people are settling along the Chehalis and its tributaries in Chehalis and Mason counties. The soil is on an average five feet deep and is well adapted to the growth of oats, potatoes, hops and fruit. Cattle and sheep thrive on the abundant wild grass. Surveyors are at work north of Hoquiam, and several excellent townships will soon be thrown open. A wharf will soon be built at Montesano, and then the *General Miles* will run to that town. At present it goes no further up the river than Cosmopolis. The timber of that region is unexcelled, and when it has been cleared from the land the settler has left a soil of great richness.

New Tacoma is as energetic as ever. A three-story wooden hotel and a four-story brick one are going up, as well as many business structures and residences. Main street is being thoroughly graveled. The *Ledger* has begun issuing a daily that is full of news, and reflects the prosperity of the city. The rise in real estate values has been wonderful both in city lots and suburban property. Many additions to the town site have been made and much property contiguous to the city has been purchased at high prices with a view of making further additions to accommodate the growth of the city. A school house to cost about \$25,000 will soon be erected, also a substantial Catholic church. The great coal bunkers upon which so much work has been placed, are completed, and the business of shipping coal has become a very extensive one.

Seattle is a busy city. The hotels are unable to accommodate the crowds that land from every steamer. Marked improvement is shown in the number and character of the residences and business buildings in process of erection. Four large saw mills in the city and its suburbs and an extensive wagon and agricultural machine factory are now under way. The real estate market is still active, the sales in March aggregating \$474,748. Many additions to the town site have been

made, and all suburban property is considered valuable. The city has a fine school building, but will erect another this season at an expense of \$30,000, and still another in 1884, when it will have school facilities unexcelled by any city of its size on the coast. Work has begun upon a new system of water works that will supply 500,000 gallons per hour. An immigration and information bureau has been incorporated and is doing good work. The coal shipments in March reached a total of 15,305 tons.

A correspondent of the Port Townsend *Argus* thus speaks of the Quilleute country, on the extreme northwest ocean coast:

"It is estimated that there are 1,000 claims vacant in the Quilleute valley that are good farming lands, besides thousands of acres of the best timber land in Western Washington. The west end of Clallam county is the best part of the country. It has the best agricultural land, and the most of it. Quilleute is bound to be the most populous and wealthy part of the county. The claims that have been taken are most all prairie, black vegetable mold from two to four feet deep, with a yellow clay subsoil. Most of the farming lands has been taken up, but there are four streams which form the Quilleute river, all of which have rich bottom lands, that are as good as any river bottom land in Western Washington. One of the newcomers has a river claim, and will put in ten acres of hops in the spring. Some other parties will engage in the same business. The lumbering interests here will be immense, and the company that gets the first foot hold will get a fortune. The coal fields when open will add wealth to the country already rich in agricultural resources. Our cattle are running in the timber and are doing well."

## IDAHO.

On the plain between Boise and Snake river is a vast area of splendid agricultural land which is favorably situated for irrigation. The Upper Boise River Canal and Land Improvement Co. has commenced the construction of a main canal which, with lateral branches necessary to develop this region, will cost \$750,000. The revolution that a completion of this enterprise will effect will be wonderful.

In January the town of Shoshone, which had existed a number of years under the name of Naples, contained a population of about 200. About the first of March the O. S. L. was completed to that place, it was made a temporary terminus, and the permanent junction of the Wood river branch, and is now a thriving town of some 2,000 people. It is but another example of the rapid rise of railroad towns. A weekly paper, the *Kustler*, has already been established.

The Hailey land district was established by executive order dated January 24, 1883, with the land office at Hailey. The boundaries are as follows: Commencing at a point on the right bank of the Snake river at the intersection of the range line between ranges 9 and 10 east of the Boise meridian; thence north along said range line to the left bank of Salmon river; thence easterly up the left bank of Salmon river to the western boundary of Lemhi county; thence north along the said western boundary of said county to the boundary line between Idaho and Montana; thence southeasterly along said boundary line to the intersection with the range line between ranges 29 and 30 east from Boise meridian; thence south along said range line to the right bank of Snake river; thence westerly, down the right bank