

tween this city and San Francisco. China and the Sandwich Islands contributed to swell the increasing volume of her business. Newspapers were established and brick business houses erected. The great rush to the gold mines of Eastern Oregon and Idaho, in 1861, opened up another field of enterprise. Portland was the gateway to the new El Dorado, and soon absorbed nearly all the trade and commerce of this whole region, which she holds securely in her hands to-day, and which is now increasing at a vastly greater rate than ever before. She is now a city of 30,000 people, possessing several miles of solid business blocks, protected from fire by a large and efficient fire department and supplied with the electric fire alarm, having three street railway companies, whose lines traverse the city in all directions, enjoying the conveniences of the telephone and the advantages of the electric light, and possessing systems of gas and water works. In regard to gas and water, it must be said that the companies controlling these necessities are the only ones whose enterprise has failed to keep pace with the advancement of the city. There is a splendid opening here for the investment of capital in supplying Portland with adequate gas facilities at reasonable rates, and giving us a sufficient quantity of good water at prices people can afford to pay. In this respect only do we fall short of the luxuries and advantages possessed by the older cities of the east.

As regards the number and character of her newspapers, Portland will compare favorably with any city of her size in the world. The *Oregonian* has been published for more than thirty years, and has long been recognized as the leading republican journal of the northwest. The daily and weekly *Standard*, the recognized exponent of democracy, is a long established journal. The daily and weekly *Northwest News* is an enterprising republican paper, recently founded. The *Evening Telegram*, an associate of the *Oregonian*, occupies a position of favor in the city. Besides these daily papers, there are a number issued weekly and monthly—the *New Northwest*, *Sunday Welcome*, *Sunday Mercury*, *Hesperian*, *Willamette Farmer*, *Farmer and Dairyman*, *Rural Spirit*, *Commercial Reporter*, *Commercial Record*, *Catholic Sentinel*, *Christian Advocate*, *Columbia Churchman*, *Deutsche Zeitung*, *Staats Zeitung*, *THE WEST SHORE*, and a number of publications devoted to trades, secret societies, and special objects.

EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL.

Those of our friends who have been accustomed to look upon Oregon as a frontier, backwoods country, and Portland as a settlement where possibly the hair was cut a little shorter and the fringe omitted from the buck-skin pants, may have already seen fit to change their opinion; if not, they certainly will when they consider our educational advantages and the liberal support given the common schools. The city is divided into school districts, and six large edifices, built after the most approved plans for health, convenience and discipline, furnished with all the modern conveniences and appliances for comfort and effective work, and surrounded by commodious play grounds, have been erected for the accommodation of the 3,500 children of both the rich and the poor who attend them. The expense of maintaining these institutions aggregates nearly

\$100,000 annually, and is cheerfully borne by the tax-payers of the city. A large and well appointed high school is also maintained, where the youth of the city receive a finish to the education given them in the grammar schools, fitting them for the active duties of life, or preparing them for the higher educational walks of the university and college. In addition to the public schools, there are also a number of private institutions of high merit. The Catholic denomination has St. Michael's College and St. Mary's Academy, and the Episcopalians possess the Bishop Scott Grammar School for boys, and St. Helen's Hall for young ladies. A German-American school has many pupils, and there are two excellent business colleges that are well attended by many young men and ladies of the city and state, who are fitting themselves for an active business life. There are a number of higher institutions of learning in the northwest, though, as is generally the case in the east, they are located at other points than the metropolis.

Nearly all the religious denominations are represented here, having comfortable and some of them quite commodious edifices, though none of them have as yet erected the elaborate and ornamental structures seen in older cities. In that respect the people of Portland are quite conservative, believing that more good is accomplished by liberal contributions to worthy objects than in creating large church debts for the erection of ornamental edifices. The ability displayed in the pulpits of the city is of a high order, and in every way the churches receive liberal support. The Christian Chinese have a small chapel, and their heathen countrymen have a josh-house, where sit enthroned the multitudinous gods of Asia. The Young Men's Christian Association is an organization whose influence for good is strongly felt in the city.

In the way of intellectual amusements are a commodious theater, where the principal attractions that visit the coast appear. The completion of the all-rail route to San Francisco will place Portland on the grand circuit that will be followed by theatrical combinations, passing over the Northern Pacific and Oregon & California one way, and returning by the Central and Union. San Francisco will then have no advantage over this city in the quality or number of attractions. There is a spacious pavilion, where every year the mechanical, agricultural and artistic products of the state are exhibited, and which is thronged with visitors from the whole northwest. The Apollo Club and Orchestral Union are two excellent musical organizations that cater to the refined musical taste of a very large class of citizens. Even the Chinese have their houses of amusement, and nightly the bang of cymbals, rattle and thump of the kettle-drum, and despairing wail of the one-string fiddle, delight the heathen ear long after "midnight's holy hour" has passed.

As regards education, morality, refinement and social etiquette, Portland is the equal of any city of the east. She is not, and never has been, at all like the typical western city of the popular idea—an idea emanating chiefly from the brains of certain authors and quasi poets, who have been liberally rewarded by the reading public for creating it. There are no more revolvers and bowie knives in proportion to the population, in Portland, than in the city of Buffalo, while the num-

ber who attend church and can read and write the English language correctly, is fully as great. As regards good order, temperance and exemption from crime, Portland will compare favorably with any city in the Union.

BUILDINGS.

The business blocks, semi-public buildings, and many of the private residences are of a very superior order. A glance at our numerous street views will give a better idea than any mere description, of the substantial character of the great majority of our business houses. Block after block of two, three and four story brick buildings line First and Front streets, occupied by substantial business firms, and crowded with immense wholesale and retail stocks of goods, while the whole water front is covered with immense docks and warehouses. We give separate illustrations of two of the finest business buildings, the Union Block, occupied by large retail stores and offices, and Starr Block, the headquarters of four of the largest jobbing houses of the city. The postoffice and custom house, and "The Portland," the mammoth hotel now being erected by the Northern Pacific Terminal Company, appear on our title page, and speak for themselves. The Odd Fellows' Temple, and Masonic Temple, are both elegant and costly ornaments to the city, and the building of the First National Bank, and the Reid Block, are fine and substantial structures. Many extremely elegant and costly private residences, surrounded by beautifully ornamented grounds, adorn the city, and speak volumes for the liberality and refined taste of our wealthier citizens. The laboring classes do not live in crowded tenement houses, but occupy neat and tasteful cottages, adorned with clinging vines and beautified with flower plots. The evidences of thrift, comfort and contentment are observable on every hand. The streets of the residence portion of the city are lined with maple, locust, elm, butternut and other shade trees, while ornamental trees and shrubs of many varieties abound in the yards and grounds surrounding the more pretentious residences. From a distance the city seems buried in a forest, so dense is its umbrageous covering.

The growth of Portland is indicated better by the record of her building operations than in any other way. There were expended in 1882, \$2,974,600 in building improvements, two-thirds of which were for the enlargement of our facilities for transacting the enormously increasing trade and commerce of the city. More than \$1,000,000 were expended for the construction of business houses and blocks alone, while a similar amount was spent in the erection of hotels, docks, warehouses, factories, etc. During the present year there has been no cessation in building operations, on the contrary they have been more extensive. It is safe to estimate that more than \$4,000,000 have been expended for improvements in and about Portland since the first of last January. The new buildings indicate broadly the portions of the city to be devoted hereafter to special branches of trade. Front street is being built up solidly with extensive wholesale houses, and the massive structures now being erected or recently finished are to be devoted to that line of trade exclusively. The tendency of the retail trade is to move west and south, and that of the warehouses, shipping merchants and heavy dealers to move in the direction of the new depot. All the