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OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The grand scenery throughout the Great West is an exhaustless theme for the artist's pencil, and to find it he is not compelled to plunge into the wilderness nor to forsake the comforts of civilized life. Our cities and towns are built in the very midst of scenery as beautiful and inspiring as the world affords, and the traveler on the railroads and steamers sees it spread out on either hand like a panorama. THE WEST SHORE presents this month engravings of a few landscapes and objects of interest along our principal routes which have become familiar landmarks to the traveler.

The great trestle bridge spanning Marent's Gulch, ten miles from Missoula, Montana, is one of the most prominent features of the Northern Pacific Railroad. It is the highest trestle in the world, having an altitude in the center of 226 feet. It is 868 feet long, rests upon eight piers, and is constructed of timber cut from the huge trees that grow in that vicinity. The trestle was designed by the same engineer who planned the great cantilever bridge at Niagara, and is so constructed that it can be replaced by an iron structure without interruption of traffic.

Our engraving of Gibraltar Rock conveys a far better idea of those towering cliffs of rock along the Columbia than can be given in mere words. For several miles the O. R. & N. Co.'s track winds along their base between them and the river. On one hand rises the wall of rock;

on the other flows the deep water. The track was constructed along these frowning cliffs of rock by blasting out a narrow road bed, piercing jutting crags with short tunnels, and often building out over the water upon trestle work for long distances. There is one peculiarity of Gibraltar Rock which will in future be noted as its distinguishing feature, and that is the contour of its top, which presents the profile of a woman's head, complete even to the eye-lashes. By turning the engraving side-wise, so that the top will be at the right, the outline will catch the eye at a glance. This immense head, carved in stone by the hand of Nature, is the largest natural profile yet discovered, and the name "Gibraltar," appropriate as it is in other respects, should be changed to "The Sphinx of the Columbia."

Pilot Peak is a tall spire of rock on Siskiyou Mountain, standing almost on the boundary line between Oregon and California, and but a short distance from the tunnel of the Oregon & California Railroad, now being constructed. It has served as a guide and landmark to travelers ever since the first party of Hudson's Bay Company trappers crossed the mountain into California in 1828. Schonchin Rock, its associate, stands like a sentinel on the very edge of the celebrated Lava Beds, where Captain Jack and his little band of Modocs so long defied the power of the Government. During that memorable contest it was often used as a signal station. Back of it may be seen the Lava Beds stretching for ten miles, and though seemingly a level plain, in reality seamed and creviced with chasms and caves, and rendered almost impassable by jumbled masses of lava rock. To one not acquainted with the trails and passages it is an almost impenetrable labyrinth, and it was solely to their ability to remain concealed, to fight only from ambush, and to retreat in safety at will, that the Modocs owed their victories over the troops and their long immunity from capture. Its title is the name of one of the Modoc chiefs.

THE design of our new cover fully explains itself to all who are familiar with our magnificent scenery. To those who are not we will say that it represents the industries and products of this region, and contains engravings of familiar scenes in every State and Territory and along every important line of travel in the Great West. There are the Mouth of the Columbia, the true West Shore of America; the Falls and Locks of the Willamette, Oregon; the interior of a bonanza mine, Nevada; Marent's Trestle, on the Northern Pacific, Montana; Mammoth Hot Springs, National Park; Mount Tacoma, Washington Territory; Red Butte and Swan Lake, on the Utah & Northern Railway, Idaho; the celebrated Yosemite of California; and a salmon cannery on the Columbia. The beauty of the design and excellence of the engravings require no comment.