

GROWTH OF PORTLAND.

So rapid has been the growth of our city, and so engrossed have we been in our expanding business relations, that but little attention has been paid to the natural beauties that surround us and exist in our very midst. The site upon which the city stands is unexcelled for beauty of location, and the scenic panorama of Nature witnessed from our very streets, no matter in which direction one may turn, is refreshing and invigorating in the extreme. Visitors notice this feature especially, and never fail to comment upon the pleasant sensations experienced, while walking through the crowded and noisy streets, whenever their eyes rested on the graceful lines of Mount Hood or the rounded cone of St. Helena. The river with its islands and numerous craft; the hills and ravines back of town; the residence streets with their fringe of shade trees, and, above all, the city itself, as seen from the hills on the west, present beautiful pictures, especially attractive to one to whom these scenes are new, and imparting an undefinable sense of contentment and happiness to those who witness them daily. Our artist gives us glimpses of a few of the most familiar scenes, including the recreation park, a view down the river, and the entrance way to our beautiful City of the Dead.

Yet Portland is not seen in its best light from an artistic standpoint, pleasant and refreshing as that certainly is, but from the vantage ground of its position as the metropolis and commercial center of the Pacific Northwest. In September last THE WEST SHORE presented engravings of the business blocks and commercial streets, together with an accurate and complete description of the city, containing many statistics of its growth and trade during the previous year. It now presents a general statistical summary of the city for the year 1883, compiled chiefly from the large holiday number of the *Oregonian*, whose enterprise in collecting and publishing so great an amount of valuable information settles it even more securely in its position as the leading daily of the Northwest.

Portland has 125 business firms and corporations with a capital ranging from \$40,000 and upward, fourteen of them having \$1,000,000 or more, making a total of \$32,000,000 invested in large business enterprises, exclusive of the host of dealers, manufacturers, etc., operating with a capital ranging from \$500 to \$30,000. The wholesale trade aggregated \$53,050,000, the largest items being grain, hops, flour and feed, \$11,000,000; groceries, \$6,500,000; dry goods, \$3,550,000; machinery and agricultural implements, \$3,500,000; hardware, stoves, etc., \$3,600,000; boots and shoes, \$2,500,000; wool, \$2,000,000.

The total value of dutiable imports from foreign countries was \$678,851. Eighty-one vessels, with a registered tonnage of 88,260 tons, sailed to England and other European countries with 2,923,644 centals of wheat, valued at \$3,426,741, and 276,558 barrels of flour, valued at \$1,345,800; total, \$4,774,541.

In Portland proper 398 buildings were erected at a cost of \$3,018,100; East Portland, 144, at \$322,500; in

Albina, 198, at \$638,500; in Sellwood, 55, at \$60,000; or a total of 776 buildings, costing \$4,039,100. Real estate transfers foot up \$5,784,961.85, and street improvements cost \$347,597.05.

At the Post Office \$72,708.88 were received for stamps, etc., and \$349,113.95 from money orders and notes, while \$793,921.55 were paid out to holders of money orders and notes.

In manufacturing industries 5,481 hands were employed, turning out products valued at \$11,423,000, being an increase of 1,303 hands and \$3,689,000 in products over the previous year.

The population, estimated from data carefully collected, is shown in comparison with the census of 1880 as follows:

	Buildings.	Population.	
		1883.	1880.
Portland.....	4,788	30,018	17,577
East Portland.....	1,020	6,522	2,984
Albina.....	323	2,295	143
Suburbs.....	302	1,345	160
Total.....	6,411	40,180	20,814

Increase in three years, 25,336, or 122 per cent.

COLUMBIA RIVER BAR.

The Astoria Chamber of Commerce has forwarded a memorial to Congress asking for an appropriation of \$500,000 for the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia. It shows that the commerce of the river is increasing at the rate of 25 per cent. annually; that 838 vessels, with a registered tonnage of 1,152,994 tons and cargoes valued at \$41,000,000, passed over the bar in 1883; that large American wooden vessels drawing from 23 to 26 feet of water cannot cross the bar with a full cargo, so that the carrying of grain is chiefly confined to the English iron vessels of lighter draft; that the bar can be so improved that a vessel drawing 26 feet can cross at any time; and properly asserts that the improvement of the Columbia River bar is the most necessary work contemplated in the Northwest.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE FOR 1883.

From Observations Taken at the U. S. Signal Station, Portland, Or.

Month	Mean Barom.	Highest Temp.	Lowest Temp.	Mean Temp.	No. of Clear Days	No. of Fair Days	No. of Cloudy Days	No. of Rainy Days	Total Rain.
January	30.125	55.0	8.0	37.5	4	10	17	19	13.70
February	30.165	60.0	7.0	33.0	11	12	5	9	2.34
March	29.952	75.0	31.0	50.4	18	3	10	10	6.40
April	29.922	74.2	33.2	49.2	2	12	16	20	7.88
May	29.942	84.0	40.0	57.4	6	14	11	8	1.67
June	30.008	87.0	44.0	63.4	14	12	4	2	.08
July	29.976	94.0	48.0	66.9	25	5	1	0	.00
August	29.981	87.0	43.5	62.8	24	5	2	3	.19
September	29.966	81.2	44.5	61.2	19	7	4	11	.67
October	30.041	60.0	37.0	50.8	4	11	16	16	3.91
November	30.041	60.0	33.5	46.5	1	11	18	22	8.25
December	30.119	56.4	24.2	41.9	6	14	11	15	6.94
Total				51.8	134	116	115	135	51.44

Light snow fell on thirteen different days, at no time sufficient for sleighing, and generally turning to rain before the storm ended. Prevailing direction of the wind, south.

THE WEST SHORE for 1883 contains 282 illustrations of cities and scenery, and gives information of more than 400 localities. It is, in fact, a perfect encyclopedia of the Pacific Northwest. On receipt of \$2 we will send, postage paid, a complete indexed volume, neatly bound in paper. Address THE WEST SHORE, Portland, Or.