

THE WEST SHORE.

Tacoma, W. T.

June, 1885.

Portland, Or.

VOL. XI. ESTABLISHED 1875. NO. 6.

THE WEST SHORE.

An Illustrated Journal of General Information, devoted to the development of the Great West.

Published Simultaneously from Tacoma, W. T., and Portland, Or.

Subscription price, per annum.....\$2 00

To foreign countries, including postage.....2 25

Single copies.....25

Subscription can be forwarded by registered letter or postal order at our risk.

Postmasters and News Agents will receive subscriptions at above rates.

L. SAMUEL, Publisher,
PORTLAND, 122 Front St. 908-910 Pacific Av., TACOMA.

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THE recent conference between our business men and Mr. Shelby, of the traffic department of the Union Pacific, can but result in advantage to the trade of this city. Assurance was given that a tariff schedule would go into effect on the 1st of June which would put Portland jobbers on an equality in Idaho with those of the East. This is good. Now if our capitalists will build those large reduction works so much talked about, the Idaho trade will be secured and held by a double interest.

THE acting Governor of Montana has issued a proclamation establishing a quarantine against cattle from certain States and Territories, the most important of which are Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois and Indian Territory. Cattle from those sections must be stopped on the Territorial line until examined by the Territorial Veterinary Surgeon, a process requiring at least ninety days. All importations from Texas by rail are prohibited. Some criticism has been made by journals in Oregon and Washington, laboring under the impression that the proclamation included cattle from all sections. Oregon, Washington and Idaho are not included, and the driving of cattle from this region to Montana will continue unabated. Montana certainly is justified in taking stringent measures to protect her great stock interests, even though it entail some loss upon individual owners.

THE return of the feeble remnant of Joseph's once powerful band of Nez Percés has given rise to much opposition and the expression of grave fears by the people and press of Northern Idaho. That those in whose minds the horrible massacres on Camas Prairie are still fresh should object to the presence among them of any of the perpetrators is not to be wondered at. Such feelings are natural and deserving of respect. That, however, there can be any danger to be apprehended from these few survivors, humbled in spirit and enfeebled in body by eight years of exile and practical captivity, does not seem

in the least probable. The more influential citizens, instead of countenancing and encouraging this feeling of hostility, should endeavor to check it and cast their influence on the other side. Too much agitation of the subject will inevitably lead to the execution of some of the bloody threats made by reckless men, followed by the usual train of horrors; for even these broken-spirited people would prefer death with arms in their hands to unresisted assassination.

THE "History of the Willamette Valley," edited by H. O. Lang, and just issued from the press of George H. Himes, merits the careful perusal of every pioneer of Oregon. It is the only volume treating upon the subject which in its contents fulfills the promise of its title. Many volumes have been published and many contributions made to the press, having for their theme some era, incident or enterprise, but never before has a genuine effort been made to compile a complete history. The majority of the historical contributions referred to have been the work of partisans—efforts of the supporters of some idea or theory to prove the stability of the ground upon which they stand. In too many of them zeal and a determination to "confound the adversary" have caused the writers to wander far into the realms of the imagination on the one hand, and to suppress or distort important facts on the other. Such writings are not history. They are, however, valuable material for the use of the cautious, discriminating and studious historian. All such material has been digested by the compiler of the present volume, as well as facts gleaned from hundreds of publications which bear upon the subject incidentally. A perusal of the work reveals how carefully, conscientiously and exhaustively the compiler has performed his task. The editor's style of treatment of the subject is admirable. It was his design to produce a popular history, one which, though accurate in details, should be attractive to the general reader, and not simply a labored stringing together of dry facts. The composition is easy, though vigorous, and the text is unburdened with references and foot notes, which, though highly appreciated by the student, are vexatious stumbling blocks in the way of the general reader. Both because of its completeness of detail and pleasing manner of treatment, the volume is highly entertaining to one possessing the least interest in the subject. The book contains 902 royal octavo pages, is carefully indexed, and is encased in full leather binding. The expense of production was necessarily great, both in compiling and publishing, and Messrs. Himes and Lang are entitled to full credit for what they have accomplished. "The History of the Willamette Valley" should find a place on every library shelf in the State, both because of its intrinsic merit and as a deserved encouragement to its enterprising publishers.