

petition may be looked for between the new route and all the old American lines, especially since an effort will be made to establish new steamer routes to Australia and China from the terminal point on Burrard Inlet. The result will be awaited with considerable interest by the people of the Coast.

NOTHING is more convincing of the fact often stated in THE WEST SHORE, that the settlement of our Western valleys and table lands and the cutting up of our great cattle ranges into farms will not destroy the live stock interests, than a careful comparison of the statistics of different localities. The Commissioner of Agriculture reported in 1884 that Illinois had 900,948 dairy cattle, valued at \$35 each, and 1,442,344 stock cattle, worth \$28 each. In contrast with this stands Texas, with 667,501 dairy cattle, worth \$24.50 each, and 4,277,700 stock cattle, worth \$17.51. When the totals are considered we find Illinois has 2,300,000 cattle, valued at \$72,000,000, while the 5,000,000 cattle of Texas are worth only \$90,000,000. Texas shows eighteen cattle to the square mile, and Illinois forty-two. It is very evident that the settlement and cultivation of a region, in addition to other advantages, adds to the numbers and value of live stock it supports, and to the general wealth, which, however, is taken from the hands of the few and given with the increase into the hands of the many.

FLOAT TIN has at various times been found on the Coast, but the ledges from which it come have never been discovered. Prospectors should not neglect any indications of tin, for a good ledge of that metal would be worth more to them and the country than a dozen silver lodes. On this subject the *Chicago Mining Review* says: "The discovery of tin in the Black Hills of Dakota in many localities, the development of mines upon veins of the mineral sufficient to establish its character and permanency, and the purchase of mills for the purpose of utilizing the same, have already attracted the attention of English capitalists, and a number of investments have already been made. It would seem, in view of the immense demands for this mineral in this country, and the great cost to consumers, that capitalists would be awake to the importance of this discovery, and certainly investigate the probabilities of the advantages offered in this direction."

COPPER MINES in the West are very largely dependent upon the silver contained in the ore for their successful working. Take, for instance, the great copper producers of Butte City. Were it not for the large percentage of silver they could not so successfully compete with the mines of Lake Superior, where labor and the cost of reduction are so much less. Such being the case, the copper men are as much interested in the question of maintaining the position of silver in our monetary system as are the great silver kings of Colorado, Utah, Arizona and Nevada. When the inevitable fight comes in Congress next winter the silver and copper men will be found pulling together.

HARNEY VALLEY, OREGON.

THE conflicting statements as to the agricultural value of Harney Valley (in Grant County, Oregon,) still continue to be made. All the best meadow land is held, or rather "claimed," under the swamp land laws, while the remainder is occupied solely by stockmen, who assert that it is valueless for agriculture. A gentleman who recently returned from the valley corroborates these statements, and adds that the nights are too cool for grain and corn. He considers the valley good only for dairying and stock raising. Such does not, however, appear to be the opinion of others no doubt as well qualified as he to judge of its capabilities. One of these, who has recently made a personal examination, contributes the following to the *Prineville News*: "The area of Harney Valley proper, including the arms that extend up small creeks which flow into it, is as much as 600,000 acres, most of which is good mowing, grazing and farming land. Standing on the low hills surrounding this valley, one can see the herds of horses and cattle, which sight very much recalls the scenery on the plains, which in early days were covered by countless herds of buffaloes. The reports of Indian scares have generally been invented for the purpose of keeping people from settling the valley. There was an Indian excitement a few days ago, which resulted in the finding of twenty Indians, all told, of whom nine were old, decrepit and nearly blind, and the remainder women and children. This report is substantially a fact, as investigated by a company of regular soldiers sent up from Fort Bidwell about two weeks ago. Of all the land I saw in Harney Valley, I did not see more than a section of land that could be possibly considered as swamp. There are thousands of acres of good mowing land in different parts, which is made good by the annual overflowing of the valley from the numerous streams of water that pour down their channels from the melting snows in the timbered region lying back of the low hills on all sides of the valley. These overflows generally take place in March and April, drying up in the latter part of May, and remaining so the balance of the year. The first meadow grass that appears is the wire grass, which does well while the water covers the ground, and, when the water leaves, an immense growth of wild redtop and clover grows up, which, all taken together, make the most nutritious food, capable of keeping cattle beef-fat in the winter months. But, for fear one may think this immense extent of valley is all good, I would say that it is not all mowing land. There are large tracts of sage, rye grass and greasewood lands, of which, perhaps, not more than one-tenth would be fit for mowing land on natural meadows. The sage land is good, as is also the rye grass land, for farming, while the greasewood land is a never-failing browse which actually keeps cattle and horses fat during the winter; then comes the meadow land, which never fails of a crop. I was shown a small piece of land, which did not look any better than thousands of acres surrounding it, which Mr. Mace, the owner, said produced forty-two bushels of wheat to the acre in 1884."