

Little Wood River.....	Tons.
Smoky Bullion.....	30
.....	30
Making a daily capacity of.....	500

The construction of more mills and concentrating works is in contemplation. At Rock and Camp creeks alone, it is believed, over 100 additional stamps, having a capacity of 200 tons per day, will be put in place in the next twelve months.

The agricultural lands of Wood River are rich, but not very extensive; they are mostly pre-empted. They can only be farmed at a considerable outlay for irrigating ditches; but once this advantage is secured they are turned into perfect gardens, where anything known to the north will grow. A few thousand dollars would make a good many fine farms on Wood River. Five hundred acres adjoining Ketchum have been fenced with wire and boards and nearly all placed under cultivation. The cost of securing irrigation was about \$3,000, fencing the same, and now the land yields a crop that will net the owner about \$3,000 a year. This is an instance.

The chief agricultural section of this region is Camas Prairie, a fertile plain thirty by fifteen miles in extent, lying about twenty miles west of Hailey. The whole prairie is magnificently watered, and in season covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, making it a paradise for stock. The soil is a rich black loam, about twenty inches in depth, with a heavy clay subsoil. The numerous creeks flowing through the valley keep the clay soil wet, so that, however dry the top soil may look, plenty of moisture is always found within a few inches of the surface. Water in endless quantities can be found almost anywhere on the prairie, at a depth of from two to eight feet below the surface. Many settlers have wells with sufficient water for all stock at that depth. This condition of soil renders the lands of this prairie very productive. Immense crops of oats, wheat, barley and all small grain, and all kinds of vegetables and fruits, can be grown easily and to great profit. The natural grasses yield wonderful crops of hay, and tame grasses, wherever tried, flourish amazingly. Timothy, alfalfa and clover have been sown, and have proved luxuriant and very hardy in growth. Tame grasses and all fine small grain find their natural elements here, and consequently yield enormously. All kinds of vegetables, such as potatoes, beets, turnips, peas, beans, onions, cabbages, etc., are successfully and very profitably cultivated, and the market for all that is not needed for home consumption is sure and at paying prices.

The mountains in the north are covered with a heavy growth of pine timber, thus giving plenty of wood for fuel and lumbering purposes. Two or three saw mills are here, from which good building and fencing lumber can be obtained for from \$20 to \$40 per 1,000 feet. In the hills surrounding the prairie are found choice grazing lands, where stock find good living and keep fat all the year round. Cattle, sheep and horses require but little prepared feed and scarcely any shelter, the bunch grass of the hills affording splendid feed all through the year. There can be no doubt that this valley will prove

a wonderful agricultural belt, and that it is a choice spot for new-comers in search of a pleasant home. No more fertile or productive lands can be found in Idaho, where such a diversity of crops can be raised with so little labor and expense. Several settlements have sprung up on Camas Prairie within the past two years.

DILLON AND GLENDALE, MONTANA.

THE flourishing town of Dillon, Montana, is a good example of the progress made in the West under the joint influence of railroads and mining interests. Five years ago but one solitary log cabin stood where now is a prosperous town of 1,600 inhabitants. The land and cabin were purchased by the Sebree, Ferris & White Company, and laid out into a town in 1881. It is situated on the line of the Utah & Northern Railroad, sixty-nine miles south of Butte and 348 north of Ogden. It is a commercial centre of much importance in Southern Montana, and is made a common point with Butte and Helena for freight and passenger rates by both the Northern Pacific and Utah & Northern, being the first town on the line of the latter occupying that position. Indeed, only those two populous cities exceed it in Montana in the volume of business transacted.

Dillon has several substantial brick business houses, containing heavy stocks of goods, and the trade of its merchants extends throughout Southern Montana and to many points in Idaho, since it is the only commercial town of importance between Ogden and Butte. In 1884 the First National Bank drew exchange to the amount of \$3,000,000, and is only exceeded in its volume of general business by three banks in Helena and one in Butte. Not only has this bank done a largely increased business the current year, but the Dillon National Bank has been organized to furnish the additional banking facilities needed, and reports a prosperous business.

Not only commercially, but educationally and socially, Dillon is the centre of Southern Montana. It contains a handsome school house, which cost \$20,000, of whose advantages the people of the surrounding country avail themselves as much as possible. Many wealthy men engaged in mining or stock raising reside in the town, and a number of very neat residences have been built. One especially elegant attracts the eye of the stranger. It is the property of Mr. W. C. Orr, on which he has expended \$35,000. Remarkable progress has been made in five years in giving the town an air of age and solidity, which is the result of the enterprise of its citizens and its excellent location as a permanent commercial point. So self-evident is the certainty of growth and prosperity, that no one hesitates when he builds to erect a substantial and expensive structure.

The development of mines in the surrounding country is an important factor in the prosperity and growth of Dillon. Beaverhead County stands third in the list of mineral producing counties in Montana, being exceeded only by Silver Bow and Lewis & Clarke. These mines offer a ready cash market for the merchants and help to sustain the agricultural and stock interests, which