

THE WEST SHORE.

Vol. XI.

Portland, Oregon, December, 1885.

No. 12.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

THE WEST SHORE.

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

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.
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L. Samuel, Publisher, 122 Front St., cor. Washington, Portland, Or.

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ume where two or more are ordered, viz.: Paper, \$3.50 for two and \$5 for three; cloth, \$5.50 for two. The bound volumes form a collection of pictures of this region which it would be impossible to procure in any other form, accompanied by appropriate and accurate descriptive matter.

OREGON'S decennial census, taken midway between those of the United States, has been completed for 1885. The enumeration is made for each county by the Assessor, who does not adopt the systematic and thorough method of the national enumerators, and whose returns are necessarily inaccurate and incomplete. Nothing is more certain than that every county in the State has added largely to its population during the past five years, yet in some counties a decrease is reported, amounting in one instance to fifteen per cent. Assessors make the taking of the census incidental to the other duties of their office, hence they naturally omit many names from their lists. As compared with the national census, the returns are as follows: 1880, total population, 176,714; 1885, total, 204,051—males, 113,149; females, 83,902. To this must be added 4,420 Chinese in the city of Portland not included in the above. In 1880 the vote of Oregon was 40,816, which was a ratio of one in four and one-third. The vote of 1884 was 52,682, which, at the same ratio, indicates a population of 228,288. This is beyond question nearer the mark than the assessors came, and in the year which has elapsed additions have probably brought our population up to 235,000.

AT the Granger Congress recently held in Boston a memorial to Congress was adopted, requesting that body to amend the patent laws so that innocent purchasers and users of articles which may happen to be infringements of the proprietary rights of some patentee be relieved of responsibility, and manufacturers and vendors alone be liable to suit for damages by the owner of the patent. This is a measure of relief to which the consumers of this country are entitled. Innocent purchasers should not be made to suffer for the acts of unscrupulous manufacturers, or be mulcted in damages to fill the pockets of a purchaser of some almost unknown patent right. A sufficient illustration of the injustice of this is the persecution a short time since of many of our farmers by the purchaser of a drive well patent. Men who had paid for a well and used it in good faith for several years were sued by the owner by purchase of an old patent and compelled to pay a heavy royalty. Such conduct is simply legal robbery, and it is the duty of Congress to render it impossible. With agricultural machinery appliances multiplying every year, it is manifestly unjust to lay upon our farmers the responsibility that should appertain alone to pirate manufacturers and dealers well aware of the nature of the articles they handle.

THE standard of excellence of THE WEST SHORE is being continually raised. Additional artistic talent has been secured and publication facilities have been materially improved. The expense of producing the magazine has been doubled within a short period, but the publisher feels justified in this course by the increased favor with which it everywhere meets. The magazine for 1886 will be superior in merit and interest to any previous volume.

THE January number of THE WEST SHORE will be devoted mainly to the city of Portland, and will contain a large number of handsomely executed sketches of the city and its surroundings, valuable as well for their artistic merit as for the subjects they represent. The cemetery, city park, harbor, depots and car yards, docks, educational institutions, views of the city, streets, etc., etc., will all be represented, and will combined form a collection of Portland illustrations in marked contrast with anything heretofore published. A large supplement of the new High School, beautifully executed in three colors, will be a special feature.

THE present number of THE WEST SHORE completes the volume for 1885, and contains a full alphabetical index for the year. Complete volumes bound in stiff paper covers, or in cloth and leather, are now ready, also 1884 in paper or cloth, and 1883 in paper only. The price of these is \$2 for the paper binding and \$3 for cloth, with fifty cents reduction on each additional vol-