

It is announced that the Oregon Pacific will put another large steamer on the route from Yaquina Bay to San Francisco. She will reach Yaquina Bay early in May with a cargo of railroad material from the East, and will then be run on the route as a companion to the *Yaquina*. The material will be used to extend the road to Albany.

STRENUOUS efforts are being made to induce Congress to establish a public park in that portion of Klamath County which contains the great natural wonder known as "Crater Lake." The tract specified embraces but ten Townships, making a park twelve miles wide by thirty long, a very small portion of the public domain. It is a region which will never be valuable for any purposes of agriculture, and should be protected by Congress from the clutch of those who will, ere long, seek to obtain possession of the few practicable approaches to the lake for the purpose of extorting toll from visitors. The United States has had a sufficiently warning example in Niagara Falls, and should take steps so preserve all such natural attractions as Crater Lake for the permanent and unhampered enjoyment of the people.

AT LAST the contract for cutting the Cascades Tunnel has been let, and a definite time, May, 1888, fixed for its completion. The contract was awarded to Nelson Bennett, who has already done much construction work on the Northern Pacific, and who is required to give bonds in the sum of \$100,000. There seems no doubt now that within the specified time the Cascades Branch will be in running order, and both Tacoma and Seattle will be terminal points of an overland route. The great benefits both Eastern and Western Washington will enjoy from being thus closely linked together are plainly apparent, and that the completion of this road will have a highly stimulating effect upon the whole Territory—possibly a State by that time—is undeniable. It is a matter of congratulation for the whole Northwest.

NEARLY two thousand cattle men from Texas, Wyoming, Utah, California, Nebraska, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Kansas, New Mexico, Indian Territory and Mexico, assembled in Denver on the 27th of January, one hundred and seventy-four being accredited delegates to the first International Range Cattle and Horse Growers' Convention. Though members of the National Association, which was founded at St. Louis, the companies and individuals represented by these delegates felt the necessity of organizing an association limited to members engaged in the range industry, as distinguished from stock-raising in agricultural regions. The two systems are so distinct, and to a degree antagonistic, that the range men propose a separate association as a better means of furthering the interests of the range industry. The probabilities are that the new organization, representing more definite interests and better organized enterprises, will soon become more prominent and powerful than the National Association.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE fourteenth of February is a red-letter day in the lives of thousands of young people who are afflicted with the grand passion in varying degrees of intensity. No doubt it is so considered by the young people in the engraving, though what the butterfly thinks of it is not so certain. For one whole day good old St. Valentine joins hands with merry little Puck, and a glorious time they have of it together, scattering broadcast their missives of sentiment and burlesque.

THOUSANDS have admired the beauty of Multnomah Falls in the summer time, who have little idea of how different they appear in winter. During the few weeks when ice forms in the Columbia Gorge, the falls present a strange, but still beautiful, aspect. The spray is driven by the shifting winds in all directions, till every jutting point of rock for many yards around has a long pendant of ice. When the storm is over and the icy crystals glisten in the sunlight, the effect is indescribably beautiful.

THE scenery of the Rocky Mountains, from Mexico to British Columbia, is peculiar to itself. Its leading characteristics are boldness of outline, prominence of barren rock, scantiness of timber, unique and fantastic rock formations. These features are specially observable in the accompanying engravings of the Teton Range, Prickly Pear Canyon, and the large view from the summit of Mullan Pass. The Tetons are a spur of the Rockies, lying near the corners of Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, and just north of the route of the Oregon Short Line. Their sharp, spire-like summits served as a landmark for the early trappers, explorers and emigrants for many weary miles of travel. The view across the mountains, eastward from the summit of Mullan Pass, is unsurpassed for beauty and grandeur. In the distance lies the Prickly Pear Valley, in which is the City of Helena, and back of it rise the Belt Mountains, a parallel range on the opposite side of the Missouri. Nearer by can be seen the track of the Northern Pacific winding its tortuous way down the mountain to the valley, doubling and turning so often that it is impossible to tell in which direction the train is going. Just beneath the point of observation lies the Mullan Tunnel, through which the road crosses the summit. The peculiar rock formations are widely scattered through the range, but are probably the most marked in the castellated rocks of the upper Missouri and the tributary streams. This is observable in the sketches of Prickly Pear Canyon, the Castle, the Old Woman and Turtle, etc. In passing through that region the traveler's eye is constantly finding profile faces and peculiar figures among the rocks, whose sharp and suggestive outlines impress themselves upon his memory. To one who is at all imaginative in his disposition, there is no end to the diversity of fantastic forms his eyes will discern.

THE three compositions on the subject of "Repose," are the work of Messrs. Edward Espey, E. W. Moore and