

COFFIN MOUNTAIN.

One of the many familiar objects which greet the eye of the excursionist on the Columbia is Coffin mountain, a bold mass of rock, rising from the water to the height of three hundred feet. On one side it slopes upward at an angle of forty-five degrees, but on the other three it is almost perpendicular. Its rocky surface is covered with scant vegetation and a few stunted firs, which relieve the barrenness so strongly contrasting with the luxuriance of vegetation and forest growth on the mountains through which the river runs. In former years Coffin mountain was used by the Indians of that region as a place of sepulture, and the rude structures on which lay the bodies of departed braves were a familiar sight to the early settlers along the Columbia. The engraving on page one hundred and forty-four, gives a view of the rock as seen from a steamer approaching it from the east in its passage down the stream. The rock lies near the Washington Territory side, about midway between Portland and Astoria, and is seen by thousands of travelers annually, as every steamer from San Francisco and every vessel on its way between Portland and the ocean passes almost within a stone's throw.

EVENING.

On page one hundred and forty-three are given the three prize compositions of the Portland Art Club on the subject of "Evening." The organization and objects of the club were explained in the February number, at which time were given engravings on the subject of "Repose." Other subjects treated have been Light and Shadow, Adversity, Morning, Springtime, Christmas, Home, Action and Solitude. The walls of the club room are decorated with the prize sketches on these various themes, and the collection embraces a variety of ideas and methods of treatment of which one who has not inspected it can have no idea. Of the sketches presented for "Evening," the three reproduced here were selected by the members as best in conception and treatment. The upper one, by C. L. Smith, is not only a carefully executed evening scene in a country village, but embraces a still deeper idea in the figures of the aged couple, quietly enjoying the evening of life. The center one, by Henry Epting, is a rural scene, just such a one as every country lad has witnessed hundreds of times. The cattle after wandering about or lying in shady corners during the long summer day, are now returning leisurely home in the cool of the evening. The sketch is well executed, and appeals directly to the heart of every one who has wandered away from the old homestead. The lower sketch is by G. T. Brown, and is a bit of river scenery such as is to be found in many places in the large basin lying between the Rocky and Cascade mountains. Over it is cast the warm glow of the evening, immediately following one of those brilliant sunsets only known in the West, and which, when faith-

fully reproduced on canvas, appear absurd exaggerations to those who have never witnessed such scenes. The original was in oils and strongly colored, making the effect far more striking than in the engraving, though, too be sure, not so pleasing. The others were also executed in oils, but in black and white, a method of treatment well adapted to the subject and the ideas of the artists.

SMELTER FOR COEUR D'ALENE.

No more significant exponent of the enterprise and go ahead spirit of Helena capitalists can be found than in the recent organization of the Helena Concentrating Company. Articles of incorporation have been filed in the office of the territorial secretary for a company, bearing that name, with a capital stock of \$100,000. Some of the wealthiest and most enterprising of Helena's capitalists are numbered among the incorporators, whose standing as successful mining operators and judicious business men has long been established in this territory. The officers elected for the first three months are: S. T. Hauser, President; A. M. Esler, Vice-President and General Manager; A. M. Holter, Treasurer; W. E. Cox, Secretary. The object of this new company, as announced in the articles of incorporation, is the "mining, concentrating, milling and smelting of gold and silver ores in Shoshone county, Idaho." The erection of works will be at once commenced at Kentucky, a small town about twenty-eight miles from Murray, the center of the Coeur d'Alene mining region, and ten miles from the head of navigation on Coeur d'Alene river. The first of June next will see the works in operation, with a daily capacity of fifty tons. The site for the works is well chosen, as the country on all sides is rich in quartz mines, whose product can be brought to Kentucky by easy and practicable routes. The place is also easy of access from the outside world by a route from Bath-drum, on the Northern Pacific railroad, involving twenty miles of staging and sixty miles of steambating up the Coeur d'Alene lake and river. Thus the works will be so situated that they will lay tributary the wealthy mines of the Coeur d'Alene country, and command an easy and always practicable outlet for the bullion and concentrates they produce. The new company has already secured a contract from J. F. Wardner & Co. for concentrating 50,000 tons of ore from the Coeur d'Alene mines—a work that will keep their plant busy for two years after its completion. Messrs. Hauser and Holter, two prominent members of the company, are among the wealthiest of Montana's bonanza kings, and the enlistment of their capital and enterprise to aid in developing the great resources of the Coeur d'Alene country will no doubt be hailed with acclamation by residents and mine owners in that section. This new mining district promises to become an important part of the ore producing region of the Northwest, and the building of mills and smelters, as contemplated by the Helena company, will operate to hasten its development.—*Helena Herald.*