

by fire. The Indians of the upper Pacific coast are great carvers in wood and stone, and every house and grave bears specimens of their skill. The red cedar of that region is the material in most common use. The carvings represent figures which are typical of their tradition and mythology, certain ones of which form the crest or coat of arms of the family. Totem sticks, tall cedar poles, carved from top to bottom with a great number of blended figures, may be seen standing before the house of every head of a family, and at every chief's grave, as shown in the engraving. The most prominent figures represented are the bear, whale, eagle, raven and hunter. A curious custom is that depicted at the bottom of the page. On the leading horse is strapped the body of the dead Indian, well secured to poles to maintain it in an upright position. Following behind rides the squaw who was the defunct brave's abject slave, but who now drives him rapidly before her with shouts and frequent application of a brush whip to the back of the Cayuse upon which he rides, and thus is he borne to his last resting place. The custom of placing in or upon the graves of the dead those things which were nearest and dearest during his life, is the most universal of any observed by savage tribes in all quarters of the globe. The warrior's weapons of chase and war are buried with him. In some tribes his favorite horse is led out and slain at his grave, and in the case of a great chief often his favorite wife meets the same fate, so that in the happy hunting grounds the dead chief may have his weapons, war horse and slave to attend him. In cases of cremation these articles are laid upon the funeral pyre, with the exception of horse and squaw, the former not being used by cremating tribes, who live on the coast, and the latter being fortunately not expected to follow her lord and master so quickly. In the same way the miniature canoe and valueless belongings of the child, the charms and sacred trinkets of the medicine man, and the trophies of the hunter are elevated on the same poles, consumed by the same fire or deposited in the same grave with their owner.

NOTES OF THE NORTHWEST.

A GENTLEMAN of experience thus gives his opinion of the Granite creek mines, in the Similkameen region, B. C.: We know that Granite creek is good. By next winter the best of it will be worked out. The depth of ground on Granite is from one to eight feet, and in some places deeper. The best part of the mining season is from August first to December. The high water in May, June and July interferes with successful work. There are five or six more creeks that contain gold, but it is not known how they will pan out; can not tell until summer. It is a good country to prospect in, although I do not know of any very rich claims in the camp. There are no hill or gulch claims of importance yet found. The diggings appear to be in the creek. I think the population is about fifteen hundred. My opinion is that the mines are overrated, but I am satisfied with the

prospect. From the number of persons here I think wages will not be above \$3.00 per day without board. I would not advise men to come unless they have money to prospect with.

THE product of the mines of Montana for the year 1885, as estimated by the superintendent of the U. S. assay office in Helena, is \$26,097,660.71, of which three-fifths were gold and silver and two-fifths copper and lead. The probable yield of the current year is estimated at upwards of \$30,000,000.00. Increasing railroad facilities are leading to the development of new mines, and the outlook indicates that for years to come Montana will be the leading mineral producer in the United States.

SEVERAL parties that have entered the Calispel valley, north of Lake Pend d'Oreille, this spring, to prospect the valley and surrounding mountains for the mineral deposits which rumor has located there, have been induced to leave by the hostile attitude of the Indians of that region. Many of these Indians do not belong to the Calispel tribe, but are renegades and refugees from various places, and do not relish the idea of having their place of refuge intruded upon.

THE Weiser Water Company is constructing a ditch thirteen miles long from the river to traverse the flat west of Weiser City. It carries three thousand inches of water, and can be enlarged when necessary to a capacity of twenty thousand inches. All the land covered by this canal not now settled upon will soon be located, as the irrigation facilities thus supplied render it highly valuable. Weiser will soon become one of the most fertile valleys on the Pacific Coast.

THE annual shoot of the Northwest Sportsmen's Association will take place in this city on June 4th and 5th. A number of prizes are offered, the leading one being a magnificent badge, valued at two hundred dollars, which will be an individual championship badge. The membership of the association is large, and as there are many first-class trap shooters among them, a series of close and interesting contests may be expected.

SEVERAL dredging machines are being set up in the Cœur d'Alene mines, for working the deep placers where there is too much water for ordinary working. The machines will scoop up the dirt from the bottom, raise it to the surface and dump it into the flume. Great results are expected from this method, as an enormous quantity of dirt can be handled by such a machine daily.

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