

## THE WEST SHORE.

til late in the season, work will not be well progressed before next June; but from that time to the close of the season, great developments are looked for on Pine creek.

**THE WHEAT CROP.**—The acreage of wheat in Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington is much greater the present season than ever before, and the transportation facilities for marketing the coming crop will be far better than they have been in the past. It is estimated that four hundred thousand tons of wheat will be sent to tide water from the crop of 1887, which is one-third more than the surplus crop of that region in 1886. Under the influence of the constantly increasing railroad facilities, the yield will increase every year, since there is almost no limit to the quantity of wheat the great inland empire can produce.

**MONTANA TIN MINES.**—The Montana Tin Mining Company has been engaged for five months in developing the immense deposits of tin ore on Sweetwater creek, thirty miles from Dillon. The tin ledges crop out in great masses, rising from twenty to thirty feet above the surface of the ground. One of these great ledges has been pierced by a tunnel nearly four hundred feet long, more than one-half of which is in ore, three hundred and fifty feet below the surface. This proves the quantity of ore almost inexhaustible. Assays range from one to twenty-two per cent. of tin, which is considered highly satisfactory. Developments on other claims in the vicinity also give satisfactory results.

**UMATILLA RESERVATION.**—The Umatilla Indians have finally agreed to accept lands in severalty and sell that portion of their reservation not needed for their actual occupation. The surveys will be made in the spring, and the Indians will then be located in such a manner as to have the lands allotted them in a compact body. There will be a remainder of more than one hundred thousand acres, which will be opened for purchase and occupation by actual settlers, and as much of it is equal in quality to the best wheat lands in Umatilla county, there will be a great increase in population and production in the region lying between Pendleton on the one hand and Adams, Centerville and Weston on the other.

**A RAILROAD FOR SEATTLE.**—Right of way in Seattle has been granted to the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railroad Co., an organization which last year secured terminal facilities on

Smith's cove, in that city, and made surveys for a route across the Cascades by Snoqualmie pass. The company has sufficient capital to push work, and will at once begin construction on the first section of forty miles. The prime object to be accomplished is to build a line through the magnificent timber lying east of Seattle, to the iron mines near Snoqualmie pass. This will be accomplished the present season. The ultimate purpose is to extend the line across the Cascades and through the Kittitas and Big Bend regions to Spokane Falls.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN TELEGRAPH Co.**—Capitalists of Butte City, Montana, have incorporated the Rocky Mountain Telegraph Co., with a capital stock of \$500,000.00, for the purpose of constructing lines of telegraph, as follows: From Butte to Portland and Victoria; from Butte to Medicine Hat, on the Canadian Pacific, by way of Fort Benton, with a branch to Grand Forks, Dakota; from Butte, by way of the Yellowstone valley, to Fargo, Dakota; from Butte southward, to Cheyenne, Salt Lake and San Francisco. These lines will touch every town of importance in Montana. The first line to be constructed will be the one giving Butte connection with the East, by way of Helena, Benton, Assiniboine, Medicine Hat and the lines of the Canadian Pacific.

**BUTTE CITY STATISTICS.**—There were employed in the mines and mills of Butte, during the year 1886, four thousand and five men, with an average pay roll of \$400,500.00. There were shipped by rail, two hundred and thirty-six thousand six hundred and forty-four tons of copper ore, sixteen thousand eight hundred and nine tons of copper matte, and nine hundred and ninety-seven tons of silver ore. Freight receipts were in excess of one hundred and forty-seven thousand tons, an increase over the previous year of thirty-eight thousand tons. There were three hundred and ten stamps employed in crushing ore. The total value of bullion and copper produced was \$13,246,500.00. The city is lighted by eighty-five electric lights, and claims a population, inclusive of the contiguous mining camps, of twenty-five thousand.

**BRIDGING THE COLUMBIA.**—The citizens of The Dalles are considering the question of bridging the Columbia at a point about two miles above that city. The approaches to the river are at all times above the high water mark, and it is estimated that a bridge, with a span of three hundred and fifty feet, which is considered all