

The annual report of the Granite Mountain Mining Company, of Montana, states that the total product of the Granite mines to date has been \$14,335,135.38, at the government standard value, while the total receipts have been only \$10,988,800.24, showing a difference of \$3,346,335.14, which is attributed to the government's open hostility to silver. The company has secured all the property necessary for its purposes and is now free to devote its energies to the development and working of properties already acquired. The property composing this greatest silver mine known was located in the fall of 1872, but was allowed to lapse from time to time until July 6, 1875, when what was known as the Granite Mountain lode claim was again located, and a few days later recorded. Three years afterward the Granite Mountain Extension lode was located. The claims were thought to be good prospects, but nothing more, until Charles D. McClure acquired title to them by deed in 1880. Then the men comprising the present company were induced to take hold of the matter. The company was formed and development work vigorously prosecuted with very gratifying results. The capital stock of the concern is \$10,000,000. During the eight years the mines have been operated they have paid \$7,600,000 in fifty-nine dividends, \$2,800,000 of which were paid since the first of August, 1888.

In the last report of the last territorial governor of Montana the following careful estimates of the value of the exports of that lusty young commonwealth for the past year are given:

Gold and silver.....	\$24,000,000
Copper.....	12,000,000
Lead.....	1,000,000
Beef cattle and horses.....	5,000,000
Sheep for market.....	1,000,000
Wool.....	2,350,000
Hides, pelts, etc.....	400,000
Total value of exports for the year.....	\$45,750,000

There are 1,785 miles of completed railroads in the state, 283 miles under construction, and 875 miles surveyed but not yet being built. The following figures show the character of the land in Montana:

Area of Montana.....	91,000,000 acres.
Area of cultivable land.....	26,000,000 "
Area of timber land.....	22,500,000 "
Land on which crops were raised in 1888.....	231,382 "
Number of farms in 1888.....	4,862

On 26,156 acres there were raised 770,200 bushels of wheat, and on 84,978 acres 3,026,972 bushels of oats. More than one-half of the total grain product was raised in the Gallatin and Bitter Root valleys, and nineteen-twentieths were raised in the western or mountainous one-third of the state.

Baker City, Oregon, is moving to secure the location of the Oregon Pacific through that city. It is the center of a rich mining and stock country, and now enjoys a large trade that might be turned elsewhere if a railroad is built through the country without touching Baker. There has already been projected to the southeast from Baker City, in order to better drain the section toward Canyon City, a railroad some twenty miles or more long, and there is a likelihood that the Oregon Pacific will go there when it builds through Eastern Oregon.

Klamath county, in Southern Oregon, produces large quantities of sugar beets of the best quality, and efforts are being made to secure the construction of a factory to manufacture sugar from that vegetable at Linkville. There is an abundance of lime, wood and water at hand to be employed in the building and in the operation of the factory, and the citizens of the

town offer special inducements for the location of such an establishment there.

Work has been begun at the Hillsboro end of the Astoria & South Coast railway, and matters in that town are considerably enlivened thereby. As Hillsboro is now assured of being made the point of junction of the Astoria & South Coast and the west side division of the Southern Pacific, all business interests are vastly improved, and that capital of one of the oldest counties in the state is certain of a prosperity greater than it ever before enjoyed.

Complaint has been made at the Port Townsend custom house that British Columbia fishermen are trespassing in American waters and taking large quantities of salmon. It is reported that vessels anchor just within British waters and send dories up the streams flowing into Boundary bay to catch the fish. Two or three canneries are said to be kept running in British Columbia on salmon obtained in American waters.

Recent improvements in the facilities for handling and working the ores of the Red Jacket mine in Eastern Oregon reduce the cost at least \$1.50 per ton. These consist of a tramway from the lower tunnel to the mill and dropping the ore so that it does not have to be handled at the crusher. The mill has a crushing capacity of forty-five tons a day, and ore enough is in sight to keep it running for years.

Eighty thousand feet of lumber are put into the Anaconda mine, near Butte, Montana, every day—25,000,000 feet a year. At the smelting works of the same company, at Anaconda, 108 cords of wood are used daily, or about 67,700 a year. All the timber used for mining purposes can be legally cut from government land, which privilege the mining companies usually take advantage of.

The West Coast Improvement Company has selected the site for the erection of the largest shingle mill in the northwest at Seattle. The main building is to be 100x200 feet on the ground, and there will be four large dry houses besides. The capacity of the mill will be 300,000 shingles per day. The work of building will be begun at once and pushed as rapidly as possible to completion.

Articles have been filed in Salem incorporating the Baker City Lime and Marble Company, with a capital of \$25,000. There are abundant opportunities in Eastern Oregon for the development of marble quarries and the lime industry. Another recent Oregon incorporation is the Young Men's Investment Company, of Salem, with a capitalization of \$20,000.

A considerable real estate sale was consummated in Boise City, Idaho, a few days ago with the understanding that the ground was to be used for depot, yard and shops of a railroad line soon to enter the town. Whether this was in the interests of the long-expected Oregon Pacific is not stated.

The first Grand Army post in Alaska was organized at Juneau nearly a month ago. It is called Seward Post No. 36, in honor of William H. Seward, who was secretary of state at the time Alaska was purchased from the Russian government.

Baker City is supplied with as pure water as any city in the country, it being obtained from artesian wells. The mains are now being extended so as to supply every part of the town for fire protection and domestic uses.