

A saw mill with a capacity of 100,000 feet a day is to be erected at Tillamook bay.

From less than twenty acres of land a farmer near Butteville, Oregon, sold hops to the value of \$10,500 this season.

The population of Alaska, as shown by the recent census will be about 38,000. There has been a large increase in the white population since 1880.

Byron Weston, the noted paper manufacturer, of Dalton, Mass., is considering the advisability of establishing a mill at Spokane Falls, Washington.

The first foreign shipment of coal from the state of Washington left Seattle last Saturday. The ship *Guardian* took a cargo of 1,672 tons from the docks of the Seattle Coal & Iron Co., which was consigned to parties in Honolulu.

The Oregon Pacific railroad, known as the Yaquina line, has been placed in the hands of a receiver. This action was taken at the request of the attorney of the Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., of New York. Mr. T. E. Hogg, president of the company, was appointed receiver.

Coal of excellent quality and of unlimited quantity is reported as having been found within two miles of Salmon City, Idaho. Gold has also been found in paying quantities in the same locality, and it is expected that a stampede will set in to that section early next spring.

One of the most valuable cargoes ever shipped from the Columbia river was dispatched from Astoria in a German vessel last week. It comprised over 20,000 cases of salmon, 26,000 sacks of flour, and 22,000 sacks of wheat, representing a value of \$227,000. To transport this cargo by rail would require 340 cars, each carrying ten tons.

A resident of Aberdeen, Washington, is reported as having located quartz claims somewhere on Fraser river, British Columbia. The ledge is said to be three-fourths of a mile across. Some of his specimens run as high as \$300 per ton by assays. The find is reported to be on the bank of the river, near the Canadian Pacific railroad.

Representatives of a large woolen manufacturing establishment at Knoxville, Iowa, are conferring with the citizens of Chehalis, Washington, relative to a removal of the works to that place. Chehalis is making a special effort to secure manufactures and will probably offer sufficient inducements for the location of this institution, which would be of great benefit to the city.

The reports of natural gas finds in Oregon are similar to reports of discoveries of genuine anthracite coal on the Pacific coast. It may be here in large quantities, but like the gold of the Yukon, it yet stays where nature stored it.

The crown paper mills, at the falls of the Willamette, are to be enlarged by the addition of two stories to one wing of the present building, and the erection of a new structure 40x80 feet in size for storage purposes. This mill is now running night and day, and has orders on its books which would necessitate its running steadily for about six weeks were no more taken. The business has been perfectly satisfactory to the company having charge.

A company has been incorporated at Snohomish, Washington, for the purpose of supplying the town with an abundance of pure water. The system will be built in a substantial manner, iron pipes being used throughout, and the water will be taken from Pilchuck creek, a small stream flowing down from the mountains. One million gallons a day will be supplied, with an additional quantity for use in case of fire. The present supply is very unsatisfactory, the water being taken from a lake and conveyed in wooden pipes which have become so weakened with age as to render them almost unfit for service in case fire should require an extra pressure.

Ever since the Southern Pacific acquired control of the Oregon & California lines, work has been steadily prosecuted in improving the roadbed by taking out the iron rails, with which the track was originally laid, and sub-

stituting sixty pound steel in their stead. This is now finished and the entire line from Portland to San Francisco is a continuous steel track. Other betterments have been made at the same time, until now the managers feel they have a line of railroad second to none on the coast. With the completion of the grand union depot and the construction of projected lines, Portland's railroad facilities will be far superior to any city west of the Rocky mountains.

The case of the Catholic Bishop of Nesqually against the United States, for possession of the land occupied by the government post at Vancouver, has been decided by the United States district court for the state of Washington in favor of the defendant. The claim of the church is based upon its establishment of a mission station at Vancouver with the consent of the Hudson's Bay Company, which held possession of the tract under the authority of the English government at that time. The property consists of 430 acres and is valued at about \$750,000. The case has been before the courts in one form or another for many years and has attracted a great deal of attention. The decision of the court not being satisfactory to the plaintiff a notice of appeal to the supreme court of the United States has been filed.

A ditch twenty-seven miles in length is under construction from the East Umpqua river to the gold mines on Myrtle creek, in Douglas county, Southern Oregon, of which ten miles are already completed. The ditch will be five feet wide at the top, three at the bottom, and two feet deep, and will supply an abundance of water for working. It is expected the ditch will be completed by Christmas, when mining operations will begin. This same ground has been worked more or less for years, and has always paid good wages, but water has never been plentiful enough to admit of work being carried on extensively. This new enterprise will supply this essential article, however, and the prospects are favorable for a large amount of gold being secured, as it has been shown conclusively that it exists in great quantity.

On Thursday morning the sale of seats opened for perhaps one of the greatest attractions that the Marquam Grand Opera House has had since its opening day. It is the famous Hanlon-Volter-Martinetti English Pantomime and Novelty Combination, which is said to be absolutely the most stupendous aggregation of its kind that has ever been brought before the public. This organization will open at the Marquam Grand Opera House on Wednesday night next, instead of Monday evening, owing to the fact that they will not close at the Grand Opera House in San Francisco until Sunday night, and not be able to reach Portland until Wednesday morning. A force of mechanics has already been sent in advance to arrange all of the paraphernalia for the tricks, aerial performances, the pantomimic spectacles and various features.

There was displayed in a window of the First National bank of Albany last Saturday the first gold brick ever produced by the mines on the Santiam river. The Albany Mining and Milling Co. has erected a small mill on their property in that region, and a \$300 brick was the result of the first five and one-half ton lot of ore worked. A large and continuous ledge of the same quality of ore is in sight, and the successful working of these mines seems now assured, on a scale that will afford a rich return for the investments of the company and will prove an important industry for Albany. The company expects to begin soon to run the present mill night and day, and arrangements are being made to put in a twenty-stamp mill and \$50,000 plant next spring. In the meantime the mill now in operation will continue its work, and the piles of other gold bricks that will be taken from these mines in the future will demonstrate to the most skeptical the wealth and magnitude of the Santiam mines.

The ship *City of Philadelphia* is now in Portland with a consignment of steel rails to be used in relaying the track of the Oregonian railway, and another cargo is due in a short time. All rails to be used are the standard weight, twenty pounds to the foot, and when completed the new line will be the equal of any in the state. Several of the new cars ordered for use on this road have been delivered, and the probabilities are that within the next six weeks the line will be in operation as a standard gauge road. The section of country through which it passes has no superior on the coast for fertility, and when connection is made directly with Portland there is no question but it will be one of the best paying properties in the northwest. Many thousands of acres of land now lying idle will be brought under cultivation, and furnish homes for many thousands of people seeking locations in this section. Aside from the benefits to be derived from employment of the small army of men required to operate a railroad of this character, the general welfare will be promoted to a wonderful degree.