

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Items of General Interest From All Sections.

DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS

All the Cities and Towns of the Pacific States and Territories—Washington.

County immigration conventions are all the rage in the Evergreen state this month.

A resumption of the operations of the paper mills at Everett is a matter of considerable importance to that town.

A consignment of Kaffir corn will soon arrive from Kansas and an effort will be made to induce Adams county farmers to give it a thorough trial.

Specimen photographs of Whatcom county timber have been forwarded to an Eastern polytechnic institution, to be used in the regular course of study.

The people of Puyallup are rejoicing in the mildness of its climate, which fact is evidenced by the presence of blooming roses and chrysanthemums.

Another large batch of land has been patented by the Northern Pacific railway. It consists of 595,318 acres lying in Yakima, Walla Walla and Franklin counties.

To this state has been secured a separate district for river and harbor improvements by the authorities at Washington. An engineering office will be established at Seattle.

The Ritzville farmers and business men are very joyful on account of the bright prospects for a good year. Summer followed ground is permeated three or four feet with moisture and a good crop is almost assured.

A good suggestion has been made to build flatboats with a capacity of ten or fifteen tons, to be loaded with ore at or near Fairview mining camp, B. C., in the Osoyoos division upon the Okanagan river, and float them down to Wenatchee.

The Pacific County Bar Association has taken steps to prevent Oregon lawyers from practicing in the superior court in the district which comprises Pacific, Wahkiakum and Lewis counties. The last legislature passed a law allowing only those lawyers from other states to practice in Washington courts whose states granted the same privileges to Washington lawyers. It appears that Oregon laws do not permit lawyers residing in this state to practice there.

Two carloads of machinery have arrived from the East for the Seattle firm that successfully bid for two of the new warships. The buildings are now all in readiness, including the building ways, which are covered by a roofed shed 200x75 feet, giving ample room to build both the torpedo boat and the revenue tug. Not the least significant of the recent extensions is the shop for steel ship building which is now completed and ready to receive its machinery and tools.

Real estate agents of Spokane are jubilant over the increase of their stock in trade of alluring inducements. The bank clearances for the week ending January 25, exceeded those of Seattle, Tacoma and Helena. It may also be noted that the railroad traffic shows a remarkable increase, and the hotels and restaurants are filled with more strangers than at any time for three years previous. This increase, together with big tin mines working in the Coeur d'Alene and a lengthening list of shippers in the Slocan and Trail Creek districts; with wheat advancing until it is worth about 20 cents per bushel more than last year; with new enterprises guaranteed for this city, and with the other signs of new prosperity, Spokane has no complaint to register at this date.

Oregon.

A new steamer for the coal trade is soon to be put on between San Francisco and Coquille City.

A mining and coal-shipping corporation has been started at Bandon, with a capital stock of \$150,000.

The building of the Astoria railroad has already consumed \$100,000, which is at the rate of \$50,000 per month.

A rabbit drive had is now being indulged in by the citizens of Lakeview, and thousands of the animals have been killed.

It is estimated that the wool crop alone sold to such good advantage that \$600,000 was disbursed in the vicinity of The Dalles last year.

Benton county, which now has six flouring mills, is soon to have another. The new mill is to be of a complete roller process and is to contain modern machinery.

The farmers around Roseburg have been cashing up their wheat, taking advantage of the prevailing advance of the market value of that commodity; the result is much corn is being placed in circulation which cannot be accounted with the opening season.

The Willamette river seems to be steadily deepening every year and also increasing in volume of water. In places the channel has an entirely different course than that remembered by the oldest settlers. It really seems to be going back to its old bed of prehistoric times. Such radical changes have taken place in the channels of other rivers, but the cause of which has been just as deeply involved in mystery.

A short time since cannerymen were complaining of a slow market for their

wares, and those who had not packed fall fish were railing against those who had. Of late there has been a brisk demand for salmon, and all the fall pack has been sold and shipped, and there are only a few small lots of chinook left on the river. It is stated on good authority that more salmon has been shipped from this section during the present month than during January of the five previous years. The demand is principally from the East, where many new markets have been opened up. It will be remembered that the pack of fall salmon was very large, and it has found favor and has been sold for a good price.

At a recent meeting of the state board of labor commissioners of California in San Francisco reports from Professor Hilgard of the state university, who was appointed to test the relative merits of building stone from different sections, were received and discussed. This report was secured for the purpose of selecting the best material for the new depot building, at the foot of Market street. Samples from the state of Nevada, California, and from Pioneer quarry at Yaguna were submitted, and the Oregon stone was found far superior to either of its competitors. If the stone for San Francisco's big depot, which will require 10,000 tons, is selected upon its merits it will be taken from the Pioneer quarry in this state. This stone is the same that was used in the building of the famous Parrot block on Market street in San Francisco, which is pronounced the finest of its kind in the United States.

Idaho.

The late Goddard murder case cost the county of Nez Perce \$7,524.

A shipment of 70,000 fruit trees was recently made from Moscow to Camas Prairie.

A snowslide carried away the mill at the Vanderbilt mine, two miles south of Hailey.

Another payment is due the Nez Perces in February of \$150,000. It might be very handy these dull days to be an Indian.

Development work on the Black Hornet has suspended for the present. The owners will put up a ten-stamp mill for reducing and saving the gold.

The machinery for the new packing company at Idaho Falls has arrived and is being placed in position. Contracts have been made for a large number of hogs, so that slaughtering may commence at once.

The Boise mining exchange is starting off in a business-like manner. The members seem to be in earnest in the matter, and filled with a determination to score a success. The exchange promises to be a great benefit to the mining industry of the state.

Some Indiana citizens desiring to come West have written for offers and inducements as a bonus for their starting a wood-pulp mill. It would require considerable soft wood, such as cottonwood, linn, buckeye, etc. All things being favorable another desirable industry will be started in Idaho.

Montana.

The diphtheria epidemic has died out at Belt and the public schools have reopened.

Billings' latest enterprise is to construct a \$10,000 opera house with a capacity for 600 persons.

A recent fire at Helena destroyed a \$30,000 milling plant of the Montana Lumbering & Manufacturing Company.

A brewing concern has just finished a fine cold-storage house and are preparing to put in bottling works in connection with their establishment at Belt.

The assessed valuation of Montana is \$124,076,585.50, while its indebtedness is only \$2,798,080.82. For a state that is only six years old, Montana is doing remarkably well.

The business of the Anaconda post-office is too large for its present accommodations and as there is no suitable building, it probably means the construction of a new block. The postoffice inspectors are in the city looking the matter up.

The municipal authorities of Helena, under authority of a popular vote to that effect, tried to dispose of about \$600,000 worth of bonds recently, bearing interest at 5 per cent. There was only one bidder, and the matter was postponed for thirty days.

British Columbia.

It is likely that the War Eagle will put up a milling plant of its own at Rossland.

A new brewery will soon be erected at Sappington. It will have a cold storage plant in the same building.

The present air compressor at the Le Roi mine having proven too small, a new twenty-drill one will be put in. This company is a steady dividend payer.

A private bill will be introduced at the approaching session of the legislature for the purpose of incorporating a company to build a railway from Penton to Cascade City. The proposed line will run from Okanogan lake to Midway, thence to the North Fork of Kettle river and to Grand Forks, thence east to Cascade City.

The people of Rossland are now considering the proposition of municipal corporation. Two meetings have been held. At the first meeting a committee was appointed to learn the opinions of the property-holders on the subject. This being favorable, at the second meeting a committee was directed to draft resolutions to the legislature, now in session, praying for incorporation.

—There is a movement in North Adams, Mass., to make the town a city. With a population of 21,000, it claims to be the largest town in America, with the exception of Watervliet, N. Y.

TELEGRAPHIC RESUME

Events of the Day in a Condensed Form.

OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

Items of Importance From Domestic and Foreign Sources—Cream of the Dispatches.

Potter Palmer, of Chicago, is being considered by the administration as the possible successor to Theodore Roosevelt, as ambassador to Germany.

It is reported that Germany has ordered twelve torpedo-destroyers from a London shipbuilder. The new vessels are to have a speed of thirty knots an hour.

A railroad bridge near Sausalito, Cal., collapsed from the weight of a locomotive, resulting in the death of the engineer and serious injury to the fireman.

Right Hon. Hugh C. E. Childers, formerly first lord of the admiralty, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and financial secretary of the treasury, died in London.

General Joseph H. Porter died at the Grand Union hotel, New York. The immediate cause of his death was complications from a gunshot wound in the lungs, received during the war.

The rolling mills of the Illinois Steel Company, located at South Chicago, which were shut down December 31, have resumed, giving work to 6,000 men, who have been idle since the shutdown.

A physician of Rio de Janeiro declares that he has found a cure which is almost certain in its effects for yellow fever. The physician's new remedy consists of the internal use of doses of the extract of eucalyptus.

A dispatch to the London Pall Mall Gazette from Cairo, Egypt, says a serious revolution has occurred at Khartoum, growing out of differences between the mahdi and the tribes belonging to the interior of Soudan. The mahdi is practically overthrown.

The Berlin Tageblatt says: "It will be the duty of continental diplomacy to convince America that England's motives in the Armenian question are political, and not humane, and thus dissuade the United States from co-operating with England."

A dispatch to the New York World from Caracas, says: Anti-English meetings are again being held. The women of Venezuela form branches of society for the defense of national territory, and will boycott all English household goods.

Belya Lockwood, once a presidential candidate on the woman's rights ticket, and now a practicing attorney in Washington, has been debarred as a practicing attorney or agent before the pension bureau. She is accused of having improperly accepted a pension fee of \$25.

Pinkerton detectives have arrested Express Agent George Kroat, of Colorado Springs, Colo., on a charge of being implicated in the theft of \$35,000 from Wells-Fargo Company several months ago. Kroat claims to be innocent, saying he had been robbed by highwaymen.

William Gambold, a railroad brakeman, has begun suit against the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for \$25,000 damages for malicious prosecution. The suit is the outgrowth of the American Railway Union strike of 1894, and is brought as a test case.

A special dispatch from St. Petersburg says: Arrangements point to a conclusion between Russia, Great Britain, France and Italy for a final settlement of the Armenian question. These include Russia's occupation and administration of Anatolia, and the purchase of Cyprus by Russia.

The first signs of the Dominion government's intention to carry out its promises towards the protection of the country, in the event of trouble with any other nation, are seen in the estimates of the coming year, which have been presented to parliament by the Hon. G. E. Foster, minister of finance. The total estimate for the ensuing year is \$41,830,881, about the same as last. In the expenses for the maintenance of the militia, however, there is an increase of \$373,716 over last.

The unexpected order for Commander Ballington Booth's recall to England from America, has occasioned so much disquietude and murmuring among the rank and file of the Salvation Army in this country that General William Booth, father of Ballington Booth and commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army forces throughout the world, who is now in Australia, has decided to visit the United States next year.

The treasury department is exceedingly anxious that a large proportion of the gold offered in payment of the new bonds shall be obtained in Europe, and for the purpose of encouraging imports, it is intimated that the bidder who offers foreign gold, or who demonstrates that he has gold on the way at the time the bids are opened, will be given preference in the awards, other things being equal, over others who offer domestic gold.

The second opinion in the Eastern Oregon branch asylum case has been handed down by the supreme court. This time the injunction is dissolved and the constitutional question still unsettled. The opinion was written by Judge Wolverton and concurred in by the other two members. In its ruling, the court admits that the question is one of grave importance, but does not

consider the case within its jurisdiction to determine upon constitutional grounds.

C. W. Smith, of San Francisco, has been named as a new receiver for the Atlantic & Pacific railroad.

The Coliseum in Chicago has been selected as the place for holding the national Democratic convention.

The American board has received word from Erzeroum, Turkey, that through the relief money which is sent, bread is given daily to about 1,500 persons in that city alone. But applicants for relief are nearly twice that number.

March 25 the German reichstag will celebrate in an elaborate manner the signing of the preliminary peace of 1871.

Three members of the last Ohio legislature have been indicted for bribery. The names are not made public yet.

The Liberty bell, which has been on exhibition at the Atlanta exposition, has been returned to Philadelphia. Its arrival there was announced by a salute of forty-five guns.

Charles Asimus, who murdered James Greenwood September 21 last, died on the gallows at Kalamazoo, Wash. His last words were: "I must die; I am all right; the sheriff he good man; one bad man, I, must die. I'm all right."

Whittaker Wright, an Australian yachtsman, has offered a \$500 cup, to be sailed for during the Riviera season, and with the object of bringing about a meeting between such big yachts as Britannia, Satauita, Ailla and possibly an American yacht.

The Japanese legation in Washington has received an important telegram from the foreign office of Japan with a direction to make it public, by the terms of which the rich island of Formosa, which Japan acquired from China, will be opened up to trade and commerce.

The Blue Jay, Silver Bow and Gray Rock mines, of the Butte & Boston group, in Butte, Mont., have closed down, and over 300 men are thrown out of employment. The pumps have not been withdrawn from the mines, which shows that the shutdown is only temporary.

In view of the report circulating in the United States that William K. Vanderbilt is shortly to announce his engagement to Miss Amy Bend, Vanity Fair, published in London, this week asserts that William K. Vanderbilt will shortly announce his engagement to an English duchess.

Lord and Lady Sholto Douglas have abandoned their theatrical tour through California and returned to San Francisco. The lord attributes the failure of the trip to the heavy rains and the fact that his advance agent left him in an inopportune time. He says he will try it again shortly.

The London Observer says: "We have good authority leading us to express the belief that Germany recently invited Russia and other powers to co-operate in a plan hostile to England's continued occupation of Egypt. According to our information and belief this proposition was declined by Russia."

Emperor William is firmly determined to carry out the project of doubling the size of the German navy. A high German official says he has had repeated conversations with the emperor on this subject during the past three weeks, and he asserted that during the coming summer the plan for the reorganization of the navy will be drawn up.

The forthcoming monthly statement of the government receipts and expenditures for January will show that aggregate receipts will be approximately \$28,237,070; expenditures, \$32,696,430, leaving a deficit for the month of about \$3,459,160, and for the seven months of the present fiscal year of about \$18,813,875. Receipts from the customs during the present month will amount to about \$16,380,798; from internal revenue, \$11,041,401; from miscellaneous sources, about \$1,815,473. This is a decrease of about \$1,000,000 in receipts from the customs as compared with January, 1895, and an increase of about \$2,000,000 in receipts from the internal revenue.

A dispatch to the London Standard from Madrid says: The papers here protest energetically against the United States senate committee's attitude on the Cuban question. They declare that the insurgents have fulfilled none of the requisites by international law or usage for the recognition of belligerence. The government organs, with a view of pacifying the public irritation, point out that President Cleveland, his ministers and the federal authorities so far have preserved a perfectly correct and friendly attitude toward Spain, contrasting strongly with the popular sympathy and assistance the insurgents have obtained from the American people.

Lloyd Montgomery, the self-confessed murderer of his father, mother and Daniel B. McFarmer, has paid the penalty of his crime by death on the gallows. The prisoner exhibited considerable pluck, considering his youth, and did not flinch upon the scaffold. The execution took place, as required by law, in an inclosure in the jailyard at Albany, Or. An hour before he went upon the scaffold he wrote out and signed the following statement: "I did it. I am guilty. O God, have mercy on me. Take me as I am, a poor sinner. I am sorry for what I have done. God, do have mercy on my poor soul; for my sake, do, and forgive all my sins, each and every one of them, and forgive those who sin against me. Oh, God, help the precious souls to see the way of life for my sake. Do help them and guide them through this life."

MARIN AND THE ENEMY

Another Engagement With Insurgents Reported.

THE CUBANS WERE PUT TO FLIGHT

So Say the Havana Dispatches, Which Add That the Enemy Was the Main Force Under Gomez.

Havana, Feb. 5.—General Marin has had an engagement with a body of insurgents that he reports to be the main force under Gomez, and that was put to flight with a loss of twenty killed. The entire absence of any details as to the number of insurgents in the body attacked leaves some ground for doubt as to whether it was, in truth, Gomez' immediate following. Pretty much the whole of the combined columns under General Marin, including 1,700 cavalry, seem to have been engaged. This force was equipped with a special view to running down and cornering the insurgents, once it should come face to face with them, and great expectations were founded on its supposed ability to do this. But the report of today's engagement, although it indicates that the Spanish attack was made with great dash and vigor, seems to indicate that the insurgents were successful in evading the Spanish forces as they have been at any time heretofore.

General Marin had information that Gomez had encamped at the plantation of Luz, and prepared for a combined attack by all the columns under his immediate command. Two columns were ordered to take the advance, together with seven squadrons under Colonel Ruiz. Upon coming up with the insurgents' vanguard, the Spanish cavalry made an impetuous charge, passing over the enemy's second line and falling upon the main force, that was stationed near the plantation of Luz. The insurgents were put to immediate flight, leaving behind them twenty killed, eleven with machetes in their hands. There was apparently no successful pursuit, for the rebels succeeded in carrying off their wounded, the number of which is unknown. Several prisoners were taken. The loss of the troops is insignificant.

It is also reported that the columns under General Cornell, operating in combination with those under Generals Linares and Aldecoa, are in pursuit of a numerous band of insurgents near Artemisa, which is supposed to be Maceo's main force. This band is said to be striving to effect a junction with Gomez, and it seems in a fair way to do so, as there is no apparent check in its advance along the southern coast of Pinar del Rio.

Further news is awaited with lively interest, as it is believed it will be proved in a very short time whether the efforts of Maceo and Gomez to form a junction will prove successful.

TRANSVAAL AFFAIRS.

Situation More Serious Than Appears on the Surface.

New York, Feb. 5.—A dispatch to the World from London says: The Times intimates that the situation in the Transvaal is much more serious than appears on the surface. It calls attention to the fact that the appeals against the Boers and the dispatches stating that there is imminent danger, called to it by Uitlanders, are sent from points under British rule, thus showing an absolute censorship of telegrams by the Transvaal authorities, for the Eastern Cable Company reports that the lines are all right.

Mr. Bayard, speaking as an ex-secretary of state, says the sending of a United States man-of-war to Delagoa bay, or Cape Town, with instructions to the captain, or other officer in command, to proceed to Pretoria and watch the court proceedings in behalf of Hammond and the other accused Americans, would be entirely within the province of the president and very advisable, for a special representative of the United States government cannot be dispatched in time for the trials.

London, Feb. 5.—A correspondent of the African Critic, at Johannesburg, cables that he has collected "damaging evidence of the refined tortures of a captain and trooper of Jameson's force by the Boers, whose command afterwards ordered the two prisoners shot."

The Colorado Lynchings.

Washington, Feb. 5.—President Cleveland today sent to congress the following message:

"In my last annual message allusion was made to the lawless killing of certain Italian laborers in the state of Colorado, and it was added that the dependent families of some of these unfortunate victims invite by their deplorable condition gracious provisions for their needs. It now appears that in addition to three of those laborers, who were treacherously killed, two others, who escaped death by flight, incurred pitiable disabilities through exposure and privation. Without discussing the question of the liability of the United States for these results, either by reasons of treaty obligations or under the general rules of international law, I venture to urge upon congress the propriety of making from the public treasury a prompt and reasonable pecuniary provision for those injured and for the families of those who were killed."

A Race Expected in English Waters.

New York, Feb. 5.—The World's Glasgow correspondent wires that Valkyrie has been ordered from New York to the Clyde, preparatory for early English regattas, and it is expected Defender will cross and race Valkyrie in British waters.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

Condensed Record of the Doings of the Nation's Lawmakers—Senate.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Senators were late in arriving at the senate chamber today. Hale reported back the urgent deficiency appropriation bill and gave notice that he would ask to take it up Monday. Morrill called up the bill for the payment to the widow of the late Samuel F. Miller, justice of the supreme court, of a sum equal to the balance of his salary for the year in which he died. Morrill explained that the justice had left only a house, encumbered by a \$10,000 mortgage, and that the widow's circumstances were such as to make the appropriation desirable. The bill was passed. The resolution directing the secretary of agriculture to execute the law relative to seed distribution was then taken up, and George spoke in defense of the course of the secretary. Gallinger and Allen supported the resolution. The resolution gave way at 2 o'clock to the silver bond bill, and Call continued his speech begun yesterday. Mitchell of Oregon followed in support of the silver substitute, consuming the rest of the day.

Washington, Feb. 3.—When the senate convened today the silver bond bill had the immediate right of way to the bill, which, he said, deserved its fate of being strangled by silver, and, in denunciation of the mine owners of the Rockies, who, he declared, were responsible for the agitation in favor of free coinage. The senate committee on privileges and elections decided to report in favor of seating Dupont, Rep., as senator from Delaware. The committee divided on strict party lines, being five to four against. Republican senators in caucus today decided to make an attempt to complete the reorganization of the senate, and to meet next Friday for the purpose.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The long contest over the silver bond bill is at an end in the senate, that body having passed the free silver coinage substitute for the house bond bill by the decisive vote of 43 to 35—a majority of seven for free silver. This result was reached at 3 o'clock today, after three hours of caustic debate and sharp parliamentary fencing. The bill provides: "That from and after the passage of this act, the mints of the United States shall be open to the coinage of silver, and there shall be coined dollars at the weight of 412 1/2 grains, Troy, of standard silver, nine-tenths fine, as provided by the act of January 8, 1837, and upon the same terms and subject to the limitations and provisions of the law regulating the coinage and legal-tender quality of gold, and whenever the said coins herein provided for shall be received into the treasury, certificates may be issued thereon in the manner now provided by law."

House.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The attendance in the house was slim today. Wadsworth, from the committee on agriculture, reported the agricultural appropriation bill. On motion of Doolittle, a resolution was adopted requesting the president at his earliest convenience, to transmit to congress the report of the board of engineers on the Nicaragua canal. The bill to amend the dependent pensions act of 1890, so that in considering widows' claims should be deemed sufficient proof of the death of the soldier, was passed. A bill was passed for the reorganization of the customs collection district of Alaska.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The house today confined itself to routine business. Most of the session was devoted to the District of Columbia appropriation bill. The committee on ways and means adopted a resolution providing for an investigation of the tariff discrimination against American products and the effect of the repeal of reciprocity laws. The resolution was introduced by Tawney. Experts to make the investigation are provided for. Representative Maguire, of California, addressed the house committee on Pacific railroads in opposition to the funding bill. There was much discussion as to whether the government holds prior title to the other interests. Chairman Powers appointed Messrs. Arnold of Pennsylvania, Watson of Ohio, and Bell of Texas, a committee to investigate the question of the priority of the lien.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Attendance in the house today was small. Powers asked unanimous consent for consideration of a senate bill to pay the widow of the late Justice Samuel F. Miller \$7,149, the balance of his salary for the year in which he died. Loud objected and the bill was referred. Bills were passed to grant to the St. Louis & Oklahoma City railroad right of way through the Indian and Oklahoma territories; to amend the act granting to the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf railroad right to build a branch road to Fort Smith. A resolution reported by Taft from the committee on foreign affairs was adopted, calling on the president, if not incompatible with the public interest, to transmit to the house all correspondence between this government and Germany relative to the exclusion of insurance companies of the United States from transacting business in Germany. The house then went into committee of the whole and resumed consideration of the Columbia appropriation bill.

Expenditures for Canada's Militia.

Ottawa, Feb. 3.—The annual report of the minister of militia gives the total expenditures for the militia last year as \$1,547,013. Only 90,877 put in their annual drill of twelve days last year. The adjutant-general calls attention to the obsolete rifles with which the force is equipped.

THE RISE IN WHEAT

Decidedly Encouraging to the Growers.

INTERNATIONAL COMPLICATIONS

More Than Anything Else, the Cause of the Substantial Improvement in the Wheat Market.

The great nations of the earth are now standing glaring at one another with their sleeves rolled up, and it is doubtful whether a great war can be averted much longer. It is this condition of international relations more than anything else, we think, that is causing the substantial improvement in the wheat market. We hope that the price will continue to rise and be at such a figure when the next crop comes in that every farmer will be able to recoup on the losses of the last three years and come out with a snug little sum for a rainy day. The disproportionate rise in the local market is due no doubt largely to the unusual demand for loading the many vessels now at Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and San Francisco. A Portland paper states that besides the large number of vessels already in the Willamette, thirty-six to forty are expected within a month. The Ledger, of Tacoma, states that more vessels are soon to arrive in that port for the purpose of taking on wheat. These charters are not taken and must be made use of with as little delay as possible, hence the urgent demand for Walla Walla wheat to fill out the cargoes.

London Standard's Views.

The following from the London Standard will explain in a measure reasons why there should be at least a small rise in the price of wheat: "The area of wheat grown in the United Kingdom in 1895 was the smallest ever recorded since any attempt at a statistical statement was made. For the whole United Kingdom it was 1,456,200 acres, or more than 500,000 acres less than 1894. The total product of the wheat crop in Great Britain is officially estimated at not more than 37,194,256 bushels, while the total requirements were 240,000,000 bushels. More than 2,000,000 acres have gone out of wheat cultivation in England in the last twenty years. The average per acre last year was the smallest ever known, only 26 1/2 bushels. It is also stated that Russia's wheat crop was 50,000,000 bushels short in 1895, and the rye crop 80,000,000 short. This came from a decline in the yield per acre. Great Britain cannot afford to outrive wheat at the prices of the last two or three years."

Decline in Shipments.

A resume of the grain shipments as made by the Tacoma Ledger, shows that the amount of wheat coming to that city this year is not nearly as large as it was last year. Up to December 1, only 3,500 cars of wheat, approximately, had arrived from Eastern Washington grain fields. One thousand of these cars arrived during November, 800 during October and 600 cars between September 10 and October 1. These figures were obtained from the state grain commission which began to inspect grain the second week of October. About 500 cars had rolled into the city before inspection began, making between 3,400 and 3,500 cars altogether. Besides this there are 500 cars which have arrived here for shipment to San Francisco that are not enumerated in the above figures.

Last year during the months of August, September, October and November, 5,143 cars had been received here besides about 1,000 cars that had passed through the city consigned to San Francisco.

As previously reported in the Ledger, the reason for the light movement is that farmers are holding to their crop, expecting higher prices, and also that the illegal rebates alleged to be granted by the O. R. & N., are sending a great deal of the wheat which had heretofore come to Tacoma to Portland and San Francisco this season. The average receipts now amount to twenty cars daily. The wheat market has shown a rising tendency for ten days past, and if prices continue to go up, the movement will increase as producers will be more anxious to dispose of their crop. Notwithstanding the depressing outlook a number of ships have already loaded cargoes here and many others are on their way to take on wheat and flour cargoes at the Tacoma docks.

Agricultural Suggestions.

We ought that our nation feeds the world, but it does not by any means. We import products to the amount of \$5,000,000. There are brought in more or less of all grains; many horses and mules, eggs, cheese, butter and condensed milk; potatoes by the thousands of bushels. Let us hope there will be a change some day.

So often the side branches of farm work fail to pay because carried on negligently. A dozen hens of base should bring the farmer as much revenue as a 10-acre wheat field. The return the care of his chickens would bring is underrated, and even the children are not trained to a proper interest in them.

The relative value of timothy and wild hay has not yet been thoroughly investigated; but so far as experiments have come under observation they seem to be favorable to wild hay against timothy. The other question, as to which is the most profitable crop for the farmer to grow, must be largely settled by the farmer himself. The question of soil and location must be considered.