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The best investments in land on the Pacific Coast are in the Yakima Valley. The soil and climate are productive of more diversified crops than any other section of the country.

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I have a larger and better list of Farms, Stock Ranches and City Property to sell than ever before. Also a big lot of land in the coming wheat section of Eastern Washington.

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Farmers Custom Mill

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Capacity 150 barrels a day
Flour exchanged for wheat
Flour, Mill Feed, Cheap Feed, etc always on hand.

WU FANG'S MISSION

PART OF A PLOT TO SAVE THE EMPIRE.

Wu Ting Fang Has Not Been Degraded by His Government, But is on an Important Mission.

When that Americanized Celestial, Wu Ting Fang, for some years Chinese minister to Washington, departed from the United States, it was widely advertised and as widely regretted, that he was going home to be degraded because he had failed in defeating the Chinese exclusion bill before the American congress. With such craft was this idea disseminated throughout the world that most people who care anything at all about the matter, believe to this day that Mr. Wu has gone from a place of honor in the United States to take a minor and absolutely unimportant post under his government at home.

Wu's Greatness.

But the facts in the case are slightly different from what they seem. If the plans that are making are carried out by the governments interested in them, Wu Ting Fang will be the greatest man in the Chinese empire within a few years. So great are the plans that the personality of Wu Ting Fang ought not properly to be considered at all in connection with them. He is a mere cogwheel in the great machine that has been set in motion by at least three of the great powers of the earth to preserve the Chinese empire from disintegration, and save her commerce to the nations of the world upon equal terms.

China is now paying an indemnity to the powers, under the treaty that ended the occupation of Peking by the allies, after the great Boxer outbreak. The treaty stipulations as to what basis—silver or gold—these indemnities are to be paid up in, is vague. But China, when she came to make the first payments, paid upon a silver basis and in silver, that being the currency of the country, claiming that the treaty called for nothing but silver payments.

In this contention, China was vigorously upheld by the United States, and Japan and Russia signified that the silver payments would be acceptable to them, although, on account of the depreciation in the price of silver, the payments in silver are of much less amount than would be the same payments in gold. Germany, England and France all accepted the silver payments at first under protest, and will continue to accept them under protest until the last payments have been made, and then they will put in a demand for further payments to make up for the total difference between gold and silver payments for the full amount of their indemnities. When that demand is made, as it is certain to be made in the end, it will come the next great test as to whether China shall stand as a nation, or be divided into spheres of influence among the nations of the earth.

The Test is Coming.

China knows that this test is coming. The government of the United States knows it, and the government of the United States is going to stand behind China in insisting that her territory be not taken from her to satisfy a disagreement over the price of silver and gold as set forth in a treaty of peace. Wu Ting Fang has gone to China for the express purpose of keeping his government informed that the United States will stand behind China in insisting upon making the payments in silver, and that the influence of the United States will be used against any partition of the empire. Russia, satisfied with the part of China she got during the Boxer troubles—Manchuria—takes the same attitude as the United States, and Japan also takes that attitude.

These three nations, having large commerce with China, will prevent any encroachments upon Chinese territory, not, perhaps, because of love for China, but because their interests demand that the empire be kept intact so that they may freely enjoy a part of the great commerce of that country.

United States Watchful.

It is even suggested in Washington that a good part of the great navy that the United States is building, will be put into Far Eastern waters as soon as it shall have been completed, and at any rate, until the new navy is finished, a sufficient fleet of vessels will be kept close to Chinese waters, as an object lesson to the world that this country has commercial interests there that it intends to safeguard. On account of this watchfulness of Chinese affairs, the army in the Philippines will for some years be kept at a considerable strength, unless a change of administration at Washington shall change the whole policy of affairs toward the Far East, where American commerce is developing rapidly.—E. S. Little.

PRECEDENCE IN AUSTRALIA.

Recent Distinctions Conferred by the King Stir Up Contentions Among Officials.

The recent distinction conferred by the king on the cities of Melbourne and Sydney and giving their chief magistrates the enhanced dignity of lord mayor and the title of right honorable has raised some questions of etiquette and precedence, says the London Chronicle. It is contended in some quarters that the title of right honorable gives the lord mayor of Melbourne, the temporary capital of the commonwealth, rank and precedence over the president of the federal senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, who are only honorables. If at the next great viceregal function the lord mayor of Melbourne attempts to go ahead of the first commoner of the whole commonwealth, complications may arise. But perhaps, in the meantime the Herald's college in London will be consulted on this and kindred points, and an amicable solution arrived at. By the way, Montreal and Toronto, the leading cities of Canada, are in-

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Syrup of Figs appeals to the cultured and the well-informed and to the healthy, because its component parts are simple and wholesome and because it acts without disturbing the natural functions, as it is wholly free from every objectionable quality or substance. In the process of manufacturing figs are used, as they are pleasant to the taste, but the medicinal virtues of Syrup of Figs are obtained from an excellent combination of plants known to be medicinally laxative and to act most beneficially. To get its beneficial effects—buy the genuine—manufactured by the

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP
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For sale by all leading Druggists, in original packages only, bearing the name of the Company.

quitting why they also should not have lord mayors. Well, if they bestir themselves and request Lord Strathcona to prefer the request in the right quarter, doubtless their ambition will be gratified. The Canadians are not so pushful in "making representations" as the Australians.

Putting it Gently.

Gerald—I'm going to kiss you when the clock strikes nine.

Geraldine—Wouldn't that be foolish; the clock sometimes runs be-fore.—New York Times

PHOTOGRAPHS ON FRUIT.

Explanation of the Manner in Which They Are Made by French Artists.

Apples upon the surface of which are perfectly reproduced the photographs of the emperor and empress of Russia and of the president of the French republic have been shown in France, says a consular report.

Before photography was employed, images were produced by means of figures cut from paper and stuck on the surface. When the paper was re-

moved the image appeared light and the fruit dark, or vice versa, according to the manner in which the paper was cut and applied.

At present, however, photographs are reproduced with all their details. Strong negative electrotypes are employed, having great resistance and reproduced on thin films. The films are obtained by photographing the subject many times. The film is held in place by two rubber rings or is stuck by some matter that will not obstruct the rays of light, such as albumen or the white of an egg.

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Building paper, lime, cement brick and sand, Wood gutters for lawns and dwellings a specialty.

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INDIGESTION

is the cause of more discomfort than any other ailment. If you eat things that you want and that are good for you, you are distressed. Dr. Cassell's Dyspepsia Tablets will give your digestion perfect and remove all symptoms. You can safely take anything at any time, if you take these tablets afterward. See all druggists under a positive guarantee. 25 cts. Money refunded if you are not satisfied. Send for a free sample. W. H. Hooker, Buffalo, N. Y.

NICOLA COAL
BRITISH COLUMBIA COAL FIELD

To be opened up and developed by American capital and enterprise.

**THE
Western Coal and Iron Company**

501 Bernice Building, Tacoma, Wash.

With Nelson Bennett as president, have secured a large tract of coal land in the Nicola Valley, British Columbia, in all, 2560 acres, or four full sections, with five large seams of coal known to underlay the land, and containing over 100,000,000 tons of the highest grade of Bituminous Coal that has been found in the Northwest. It makes the finest and best coke in the world, and for steam and domestic purposes there is no better coal produced in the country. The coal is situated in Southern British Columbia, about 160 miles east of Vancouver, British Columbia and from New Whatcom and Bellingham Bay points. The Canadian Pacific Railroad and the Great Northern Railroad are now both ready to construct and extend their lines into the Nicola coal field and will be there this year. This beautiful Nicola Valley will then be turned into a beehive of gigantic industries. The Western Coal and Iron Company are now offering the first block of its treasury stock at the low rate of

15 Cents Per Share

The Crow's Nest coal shares sold in 1896 for 10c per share. Today the stock is worth \$125 per share; it advanced from 10c to \$36 in two years. And it is safe to say that the Nicola Coal offers today just as good chance to the investor as did the Crow's Nest in 1896. We are quite certain that the stock is sure to advance to par (100 per share) this year. If you want to be in it on the ground floor and make 700 per cent on your investment in a few months, decide quick as this 15c stock will not last very long. The stock will be advanced next month. The Standard Oil Company has bought 2660 acres, the adjoining coal land, only 2½ miles from our Company's property and in the very same coal basin and paid

\$2,500,000 CASH FOR THE LAND

This is glorious news to those holding Western Coal and Iron Company's stock. The Tacoma company intends to place their coal on the market here as soon as shipping facilities have been furnished. For further information I cordially invite you to call at my office, where samples of the coal, reports, maps, diagrams, prospectuses, letters from prominent bankers, lawyers and other business men, who have investigated this coal proposition can be seen. Respectfully,

JOHN HAILEY, JR.
LOCAL AGENT,
Room 16, Judd Building,
PENDLETON, OREGON