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JUNE, 1897

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SETTLERS' GUIDE,

TO

Homes in the Northwest

BEING

A HAND-BOOK

OF

SPOKANE FALLS,

THE

Queen City of the Pacific.

1885.



WALKER, L. BEAN,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

GROCCER,

UNION BLOCK,

Howard St. Spokane Falls, W. T.

SETTLERS' GUIDE

—TO—

▶HOMES▶IN▶THE▶NORTHWEST▶

BEING A

HAND-BOOK OF SPOKANE FALLS, W. T.,

The Queen City of the Pacific,

Its Matchless Water Power ^{and} Advantages
as a Commercial Centre.

PUBLISHED BY

DALLAM, ANSELL & EDWARDS.



SPOKANE FALLS:
EVENING REVIEW BOOK AND JOB PRINT
1885.

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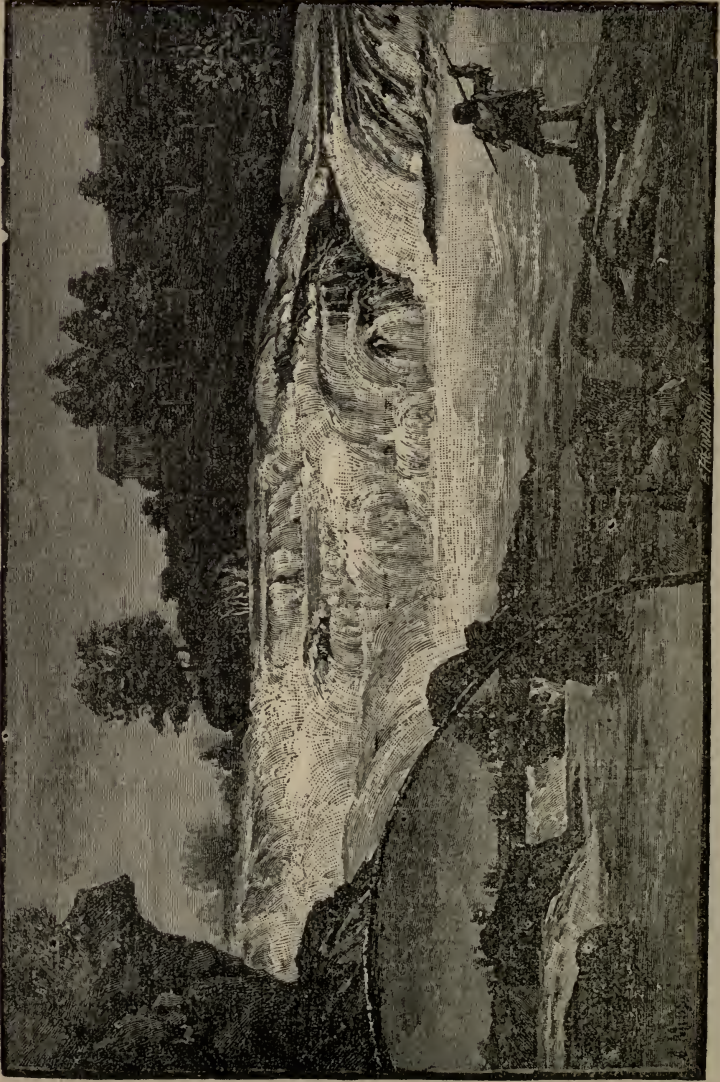
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FALLS OF THE SPOKANE.







Introductory.

Since the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad, almost every newspaper east of the Rocky Mountains has devoted considerable space and attention to the country and towns along its route, and very many of the larger and more prominent city dailies have sent special reporters through to the extreme northwest to gather the most reliable information to be obtained to serve in the most attractive style to their armies of readers. The eagerness with which this knowledge has been sought and relished shows something of the interest felt in "the states" in this northwestern empire. While these reports have almost invariably been furnished by experienced writers, and often by trained journalists, they have always been prepared in haste and with but a very superficial knowledge of the country described. The result has been that they were generally grossly exaggerated or fell short of the actual truth.

The compilers of this work have been urged to the task of its production by many of the best citizens of our young city. The matter contained in its pages has been submitted to many of them, to whom we are under obligations for valuable suggestions and assistance, and has met with their unqualified approval. We have endeavored to simply state facts, which can be verified by proper investigation. In no part of the country is capital so urgently needed as in the new regions of the West. Houses are to be built, towns created, roads made, land broken, machinery put to work to raise and harvest crops—and it all takes money. There are no accumulations of past industry to fall back upon. The capital must be brought in from older communities, either by the settlers themselves or by banks and other agencies for making loans. The great drawback to the development of new regions is the scarcity of money and the high rates of interest. Both are caused by lack of knowledge and confidence on the part of capitalists in the East. When money is a drug in the market at five or six

per cent. in Pennsylvania, New York, and the New England States, it is in active demand at ten or twelve per cent. in Washington Territory, with security offered of first-class real estate mortgages. For small loans secured by chattel mortgages on crops and machinery, Washington farmers are sometimes forced to pay as high as four per cent. a month.

But capital is cautious, and, to attract it to this country, we must show this a profitable place for investment. To do this, is the object of this work. To show that nature has done enough to secure abundant success to the industrious farmer, stock-raiser and fruit-grower in Eastern Washington, and that the miner, manufacturer and artisan cannot find equal inducements elsewhere on this continent, we will let facts speak for themselves. Our city of Spokane Falls is the natural centre of one of the richest and most extensive regions of country to be found in the United States. Its plains and plateaus are covered with productive soil, in which all kinds of grain matures to its fullest perfection, and its mountains and hills hide untold treasures of the precious metals. To attract to these the attention of the capitalists, the mechanics, the husbandmen and others in the overcrowded East, who desire to seek an abode with us, and that they may be prepared for just what they will see when they come, is the aim of this book. That it may not return to us void, but accomplish the work to which it is dedicated, is the earnest wish of

THE AUTHORS.

Spokane Falls, January, 1885.

Washington Territory.

No section of the Union has attracted more attention during the past two years than Washington Territory. Practically unknown before the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and the public attention being so thoroughly occupied by the Dakota boom, the wonderful excellences of this country and the inducements it offers to settlement were slow in being brought to the notice of the people in other portions of the country.

The length of Washington Territory, from north to south, ranges from 200 to 250 miles, and its greatest breadth from east to west is about 360 miles. Its coast length is 245 miles, and its full shore line 1738 miles. It is smaller than most of the Territories and several of the Western States, having an area of only 66,994 square miles, or 44,796,160 acres, but is, nevertheless, one and a half times as large as New York or Pennsylvania. Exclusive of the area covered by the waters of Puget Sound, and the mountainous region, there would probably remain 40,000,000 acres. Of these 20,000,000 acres are timber lands, about 5,000,000 are rich alluvial bottoms, and 15,000,000 are prairies and plains. A large proportion is well adapted for wheat culture, and all of it for stock raising. The tenth census of the United States, taken in 1880, gave the Territory a population of 75,120. So rapid has been the increase that the population has more than doubled during the past four years, an increase almost unprecedented in the history of our country and which promises to continue for many years to come.

The Cascade Mountains which take their name from the numerous waterfalls that pour down their rugged faces, divide Washington into two unequal parts, each of which is characterized by a marked dissimilarity in topography, soil, climate, and, to some extent, productions. This range of mountains is a prolongation of the Sierra Nevada chain, and traverses Washington in a course slightly deviating from north to south. The average distance of these mountains from the Pacific

Ocean is about 110 miles. As the range reaches northward it puts out spurs in many directions, so that the whole country in Washington, west of the Columbia is broken and hilly. About 150 miles east of the Cascade Mountains the Blue Mountains stretch from the interior of Oregon toward the northeast, penetrating the southeastern corner of Washington. At a distance varying from 40 to 70 miles west of the Cascade Mountains is another range running also north and south, known as the Coast Range. Generally separated from the Pacific Ocean by an intervening narrow strip of upland, this range has an altitude from 3,000 to 5,000 feet. Mount Olympus, not far distant from Puget Sound, towers to the height of 8000 feet. These mountains are all densely wooded.

These ranges conjointly with the numerous hills which flank and border and run from them, especially in the country west of the Cascade Mountains, break the surface of the land, cutting it up into numberless valleys of varying extent and of great fertility, each of which is traversed by a more or less important stream.

There is no part of the United States that is richer in natural resources than Washington, but they have been only slightly developed and are comparatively unknown. The climate is healthy and delightful, and the soil is of the most fruitful character; there is an inexhaustible supply of timber, vast mineral wealth and very valuable fisheries. Before 1869 there was not a single railroad in this region. But the building of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company's lines, and the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad have given a wonderful impetus to this part of the country, and the great influx of settlers and capital has resulted in a proportionately greater outflow of its products to the markets of the United States and the world.

The capabilities of this vast region being unlimited, there is room for millions of people to profitably engage in the development of the resources of wealth that abound everywhere in this political division.

The climate of Washington is mild and equable. The mean temperature of January ranges from 10° to 20° higher on the Pacific than on the Atlantic side of the Rocky Mountains. This difference is caused by the Japan current, which modifies the climate of the Northern Pacific Coast in the same way the Atlantic Gulf Stream tempers the climate of the British Isles. There is, however, a great dissimilarity in the climate of Washington between those lands lying west of the Cascade Mountains and those east of them.

West of the Cascade Range the winters are rainy, rather than cold. The winter or rainy season begins about the middle of October, often later, and ends about the first of May. The rains are more copious in December, January and March. At the beginning and end of the wet season the rain is usually in showers, with many intervals of bright weather. Snow sometimes falls but speedily disappears. Thunder storms are exceedingly rare; hail-storms, hurricanes, earthquakes and other destructive phenomena are scarcely known.

East of the Cascade Mountains, it must be remembered, the climate and natural features of the country are very different from those



of the great basin lying west of them, so that the popular division, Eastern and Western Washington Territory, is warranted.

In the eastern section the thermometer is much higher in summer and lower in winter than in the western section. The rainfall is only half as heavy. From June to September there is no rain, the weather being perfect for harvesting. The heat is great, but not nearly so oppressive as a much lower grade would be in the Eastern States, and the nights are invariably cool.

The winters are short, but occasionally severe. Snow seldom falls before Christmas, and sometimes lies from four to six weeks, but usually disappears in a few days. The so-called "Chinook," a warm wind, is of great benefit to the country; it blows periodically and melts deep snows in the course of a few hours. This warm atmosphere is caused by the passage of the wind across the Japan current.

In Eastern Oregon and Washington spring begins in February, with warm, pleasant weather and lasts until the middle of May. At this season rain falls in sufficient quantity to give life to vegetation and insure good crops. The average temperature is 52°.

Autumn weather in October and November is generally delightful. There is often frost by night, but the days are usually warm and bright. The season is marked by showers, and also by thunder storms in some localities. The mercury ranges between 55° and 70°.

Northern Idaho.

The five counties comprising the "pan-handle" or northern portion of Idaho, for the purposes of this work, may be considered as actually a portion of Eastern Washington. The residents of that section voted almost unanimously in favor of annexation to Washington, the Idaho Territorial Legislature has endorsed the proposition, their incoming Delegate to Congress was elected on that issue, and as both political parties in this Territory strongly favored it in their recent platforms, it may be said to have been endorsed by the voters of Washington at the polls last November. It now only awaits congressional action, which is strongly hoped for at this session. In character and appearance it is very similar to Western Montana and portions of Eastern Washington and Oregon. The scenery is indescribably wild and picturesque. The present Idaho line is only eighteen miles east of Spokane Falls, and this is the natural gateway to, and the supply point 'or its valuable mines, as well as the point at which its vast forests around Lake Cœur d'Alene must be cut into lumber.

The Northern Pacific Railroad, while traversing Idaho for only a comparatively short distance, passes through a region of abundant and magnificent timber, many of the trees being from seven to ten feet in diameter, and of great height. The varieties are red fir, white pine, white cedar, hemlock, tamarack, and larch. The construction of the

Northern Pacific Railroad has made this wild and hitherto comparatively unknown country accessible, and its resources and capabilities are being investigated by large numbers, while settlers are going in rapidly to whom its timber alone will be an important source of wealth. The capabilities of soil generally in Northern Idaho are great, and, unlike Southern Idaho, abundant and seasonable rains render irrigation unnecessary. The grazing areas, as yet largely unoccupied, are of the same general character of superiority as those of Montana, Washington and Oregon. Many beautiful and highly romantic streams are crossed, the water of which is of exceeding freshness and purity, while rapids and falls are of frequent occurrence, furnishing water power of unlimited capacity all through the country which can be easily and cheaply utilized by future settlers for manufacturing purposes. Northern Idaho is teeming with all kinds of the large wild game which are found upon the mountains or in the primeval forests of the Northwest. Of swift, noble rivers and deep, placid lakes, Northern Idaho has its scores. Snake River, which flows along the western boundary of Idaho, is navigable from the Northern Pacific Railroad on the Columbia River eastward for 200 miles. Clarke's Fork of the Columbia, Cœur d'Alene and St. Joseph Rivers are each navigable, and larger than the Ohio at Pittsburg. The Kootenai, Vermillion, Palouse and Clearwater are larger, and compare favorably in picturesqueness with the Susquehanna, or other similar streams which are recognized as the noblest and most beautiful possessions of the Alleghanies or Blue Ridge. All of these and hundreds of minor water-courses are swift and clear currents, full of trout and other species of fresh-water fish.

It has very many beautiful lakes of clear fresh water, the most noted of which are Coeur d'Alene and Pend d'Orielle, each within easy reach of Spokane Falls, and are the hunter's and sportsman's paradise. It also contains some of the most valuable mineral fields yet known, of which we will speak more fully elsewhere.

Eastern Washington.

The terms Eastern and Western Washington are generally understood to refer to the portions on the east and west sides of the Cascade Mountains, and that is the division which will be followed in this book, although that portion between the Cascade Range and the Columbia River is often referred to as Middle Washington. Eastern Washington is about 180 by 200 miles in extent and contains, approximately, 36,000 square miles, or 23,000,000 acres, an area more than three times the size of Maryland and even larger than the States of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont together, and vastly more arable. With the system of railroads,

which are now projected, in operation, which is not many years ahead, and the mills and manufactories in operation here which are bound soon to come, all this vast country will be directly tributary to Spokane Falls, as its natural manufacturing, mining and commercial centre.

The soil in Eastern Washington is generally a dark loam and often of great depth, composed of alluvial deposits of decomposed lava overlying a clay subsoil. This rests upon a basaltic formation which is so far beneath the surface as to be visible only on the banks of the water courses. Some of the more broken sections have considerable "scab" land which is unfit for agricultural purposes but is excellent grazing land. The constituents of the soil adapt the country peculiarly to the production of wheat and other grains, as well as vegetables, while the mild climate makes this an excellent fruit growing country. Although the dry seasons often continue for months, this light, porous land absorbs and retains enough moisture from the atmosphere to insure perfect growth and full harvests.

This assertion is so at variance with common experience that it might well be questioned. Happily, it is susceptible of explanation. In spite of the fact that there is scarcely a shower between May and the following September and that the average rainfall for the year does not exceed twenty inches, there is always the requisite moisture for maturing the crops. Paradoxical as it may seem, if the rain were greatly in excess of this low average, damage would certainly ensue; and it is equally sure, if successful farming depended upon the limited rainfall, there would be poor harvests. The clouds supply only in part the moisture which is needed. The warm air-currents, surcharged with vapor, which sweep inland from the ocean up the channel of the Columbia River, prevent drought. The effect of the atmospheric currents in tempering the climate is very beneficial. Their influence upon the vegetation is no less vital. The moisture with which they are laden is held in suspension during the day, diffused over the country. At night it is condensed by the cooler temperature, and precipitated in the form of a fine mist on every exposed particle of surface which earth and plant present. The effect is that of a copious shower.

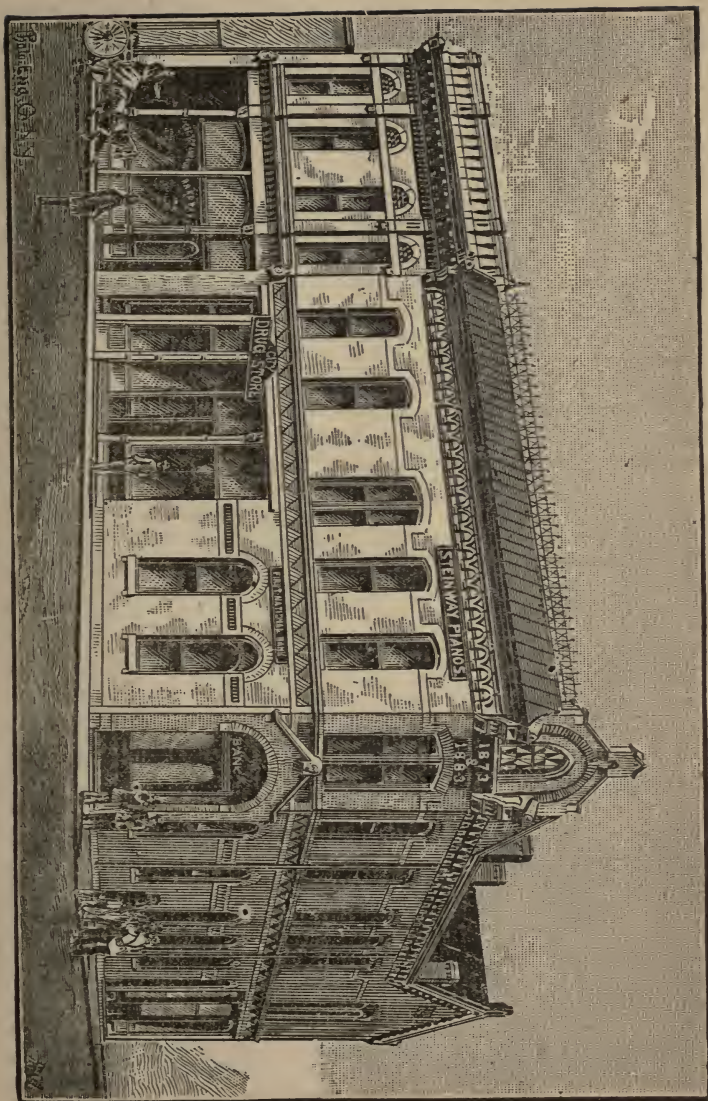
The climate of the great region lying between the Bitter Root and Coeur d'Alene Ranges of the Rocky Mountains and the Cascade Range is subject to the same regulating influences which determine the character of the climate west of the Cascade Range. The currents of the Pacific Ocean form a great river of equatorial warmth, which, leaving the coast of Japan, flows across the Pacific, follows the American Pacific Coast, sends its warm breath known as the Chinook winds, over elevated plains and through mountain defiles far into the interior. It is, therefore, a climate of greater mildness and equability than is found in the same or approximate latitudes elsewhere on the American Continent, the average indication being 30° in winter and 85° in summer. The amount of rain and snow is less than west of the Cascade Range; but the snowfall alone is greater, there being little or no snow in the coast counties. Snow, however, rarely occurs here before Christmas. The dry season is longer, but is not of such severity as to require artificial irrigation for the growth and maturing of crops.

Only at mid-day is the heat ever considerable; the mornings and evenings are perfectly fine and enjoyable, and the nights are refreshingly cool and invigorating.

The Great Plain of the Columbia.

The most important portion of Eastern Washington, and that which will always be most directly tributary to Spokane Falls, is that portion best known as The Great Plain of the Columbia River, which in this work deserves the most minute description. In order to show complete accuracy, as well as impartiality, we will quote largely from the report of Lieutenant Thomas W. Symons, of the Corps of United States Engineers, which was transmitted by Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War, to the United States Senate, in response to a resolution of that body calling on him for "information respecting the navigable waters of the Upper Columbia River and its tributaries, and of the resources of the country adjacent thereto." We shall quote freely from this report, because in its official nature it is entirely unbiased, and because it contains statements that might be regarded as exaggerations should we make them without such verification. Of this section, Lieutenant Symons says :

"The northern portion of the interior Columbia Basin, known as the Great Plain of the Columbia, may be described as that area bounded on the west by the Cascade Mountains, on the south by the Blue Mountains, on the east by the Bitter Root and Coeur d'Alene Mountains, on the north by the Mountains of the Moses and Colville Reservations, and those in a triangular area between the Columbia River and Clarke's Fork. This area is about 145x155 miles in extent and contains approximately 22,000 square miles, or 14,080,000 acres, an area as large as Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island put together. This section is also known in popular parlance as the "Bunch-Grass" country, from the fact that nearly all the plains and hills are covered by this most hardy and nutritious grass. In the Spring and early Summer when it is green and juicy, it is very sweet and palatable and cattle eat it with avidity. During the Summer it ripens, and the heat of the sun and dearth of moisture dry it up and color it a rich yellow brown, but in this condition it is even better for stock than it was in its early green state. I have been told by an old pioneer packer, who for many years packed through the country, that his animals would keep in better condition on bunch-grass alone, than they would if fed on ordinary hay and grain. Bunch-grass has become the synonym for things good, strong, rich and great. The bunch-grass country is the best and finest country on earth! Bunch



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.

grass cattle and horses are the sweetest, fleetest and strongest in the world ; and a bunch-grass man is the most superb being in the universe ! Over nearly the whole of this Great Plain of the Columbia, there is now spread a rich and fertile soil, varying in depth from a few inches to hundreds of feet. This soil has been produced by the grinding action of the ice and drift of the great glacial epoch, by the water-wearing action of the chauplain epoch and from the disintegration of the rocks during the last and present existence of the Terrace epoch, by the action of the Summer's rain and heat and Winter's frost and cold, and chemical decomposition arising from exposure to the atmosphere. Soil arising from the disintegration of volcanic rocks is known to possess in a high degree the qualities and mineral constituents needed by plants. The most fertile soil of France, Italy, the Sandwich Islands and California, are of this nature, and the wondrous harvests in some localities of the Bunch-Grass country shows that its soil has no superior anywhere. From an inspection of the topographical charts it will be seen that nearly all of this vast area is susceptible of use, either for agricultural or grazing purposes.

"In order to particularize a little in regard to this Great Plain of the Columbia, let us suppose that portion north of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers to be divided into four nearly equal parts, by a line drawn due south from the Big Bend of the Columbia River, near Camp Spokane, to Snake River, and a line due east and west through the southern end of Colville Lake.

"The northeastern section may be termed the Spokane Section, the southeastern as the Palouse Section, the northwestern as the Crab Creek and Grand Coulee Section, and the southwestern as the Moses Lake Section.

"To these must be added the section south and west of the Snake, or Walla Walla Section ; the one south of the Clearwater and east of the Snake, as the Lewiston and Mount Idaho Section, and the one to the west of the Columbia as the Yakima Section.

THE PALOUSE SECTION.

"The lands of this section are nearly all of good quality and are being rapidly settled. This section is well watered, the main streams being the Palouse, Cow Creek, Rock Creek, Pine Creek, Union Flat Creek, Rebel Flat Creek, Potlatch Creek, and the headwaters of Latah or Hangman's Creek, besides which are many smaller streams.

"Considerable "scab" land exists in the western and northwestern parts of this section. The land so designated by the people of the country is that where the original volcanic rock is exposed and uncovered by any soil. Patches of this exposed rock exist scattered through the most fertile regions. This is the most fertile, most thickly settled, and best known of the four sections, north of the Snake. Several fine towns have been started in this country ; the principal one, and the one which is destined to become quite a railroad and commercial centre, is Colfax, at the junction of the North and South forks of the

Palouse. The western portion is devoid of timber, but in the eastern portion, about the headwater streams of the Palouse and Hangman's Creek, plenty of fine timber exists.

THE SPOKANE SECTION.

"This section is more varied than any of the others. In its southeastern part is Coeur d'Alene Lake and the fine timber-covered country surrounding it. In its northeastern and eastern parts are the Spokane Plains and the fertile prairies scattered through the northern woods. Its western portion comprises some of the finest farming lands in the Territory, among which are those known as the Deep Creek, Four Lakes, Upper Crab Creek, Hangman's Creek, and Cottonwood Springs Countries, Gordon Prairie, etc. The Spokane River runs through this section, giving water transportation for the timber from the great forests about its headwaters, and furnishing one of the finest water powers in the world. The main line of the Northern Pacific Railroad runs diagonally through the section, along the Spokane River.

"Due west from Spokane Falls and extending in a westerly direction, is the divide between the streams which flow north into the Spokane and south into Crab Creek. This divide is higher in appearance than the country to the north and south. It abounds in springs and swales, where the waters collect and then flow away as rivulets and brooks through the gently rolling hills at first, finally becoming more deeply encanyonned as they near their destination at the greater river, or creek. Of course those flowing north into the Spokane River cut more deeply than those flowing south. This divide is of importance in the economy of the country, as it furnishes an excellent route for a railroad, which will pass through an extremely fertile and desirable country, and be easily accessible from both sides throughout its entire length. This railroad is one which in the near future must certainly be built. Its starting point must be at the Falls of the Spokane, from whence it will stretch away westward to the Okanogan and vicinity of the Wenatchee, bearing in one direction its loads of grain to be ground into flour for shipment to the great world, and in the other direction the fuel, lumber and merchandise required by the inhabitants along the route through which it passes.

"Upon the plain just above where Hangman's Creek joins the Spokane, is situated the City of Spokane Falls, and it is certainly unexcelled in the whole world as a townsite. There never will be any mud, and pavements will never be needed in this beautiful place, which is already assuming the dignity and business appearance, as well as the name, of a city. The Northern Pacific Railroad here crosses Hangman's Creek, and first reaches the Spokane River. Several other railroads have been projected, which, when built, will make the town an important railroad centre. Its situation and natural advantages must make it a place of consequence, and great things are predicted of it.

"The climate is truly delightful and of the most undoubted health-

fulness. In the vicinity are all the elements which go to make up an attractive place of residence; beautiful scenery of varying plains and mountains, prairie and timbered hills, lovely lakes for boating, fishing, bathing, etc; a picturesque river abounding in the finest trout, unexcelled rides and drives, and hunting of all kinds from prairie shooting to deer, elk and bear hunting among the summits and gorges of the mountains.

THE CRAB CREEK AND GRAND COULEE SECTIONS.

At the time Lieut. Symons made his report these regions were little known and the only inhabitants, he states, were "three or four cattle men living along Crab Creek" and two or three others. He pronounced it, however, "a very fine agricultural and grazing section." The southern portion, or Crab Creek Section, is well watered by streams heading along the divide already mentioned, and there are numerous valleys of varying width covered with rich grain and grass-producing soil. Foster Creek, with its many branches, is farther north and in that section there are many springs, small lakes, and every inducement, in the way of natural advantages, for thousands of settlers to make prosperous and pleasant homes. The more western or Grand Coulee portion of this section is now much better known than at the time Lieut. Symons made his report. It is known as the Big Bend country and has proven, so far as tested, to be equal to any portion of the Territory (not even excepting the famous Walla Walla and Palouse Sections,) in the richness and productive qualities of its soil. We shall allude to it more minutely elsewhere in this book.

THE MOSES LAKE SECTION.

This last one of the four sections is purely uninviting and Lieut. Symons finds no word of commendation for it. He describes it as "a desert pure and simple, an almost waterless, lifeless desert. A large portion is covered with boulders embedded in a loose, light, ashy soil, other portions are covered with drifting sands, and taken all in all, it is a desolation where even the most hopeful can find nothing in its future prospects to cheer."

OTHER SECTIONS.

The Walla Walla, Yakima, Lewiston and Mount Idaho Sections each have large areas of rich and productive soils, where abundant crops are grown without irrigation, as well as finely timbered and grazing lands. These regions lie contiguous to the mountains and are well watered and inviting to settlers. The Walla Walla Section has been settled for many years and its productions of wheat and fruits are known far and wide. The wheat production of this section for this season is estimated as high as 6,000,000 bushels and its quality cannot be excelled. For stockraising these regions are counted vastly

superior to Montana. The climate is very mild and the bunch grass very abundant. Cattle graze even to the summits of the mountains and fare well all winter without feed, other than that gathered on the range.

TRIBUTARY TO SPOKANE FALLS.

All these sections which have just been described, with even a much larger scope of country, must become densely populated and directly tributary to some manufacturing and commercial centre. It has a total agricultural area of not less than 10,000,000 acres, of which probably not more than one-tenth is taken up and under cultivation. It will be readily seen that its producing capacity is stupendous. It will be able to produce 150,000,000 bushels of wheat, besides oats, barley, rye, corn, vegetables and fruits of every description. Wheat has often gone as high as 56 bushels per acre, corn 40 bushels and potatoes 500, while the different varieties of fruits have been grown with flattering success. Apple trees generally come in bearing in three years after planting. California has always been jealous of Oregon and Washington Territory, so that an allusion to this section from that quarter cannot be held other than as an acknowledgment forced out by the facts. We quote from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, as follows:

“Eastern Washington Territory is probably destined to become the richest and most renowned wheat growing region in the world. The great body of its arable land is in the southern portion, known locally as the Spokane, Walla Walla, Palouse and Yakima Countries, which have an unbroken area more than 150 miles square, extending from the foot-hills of the Cascade Mountains eastward to the Idaho boundary line, and from the Oregon line northward beyond the Great Bend of the Columbia River. But Eastern Washington, in its entirety, is distinctively an agricultural region of great fertility; for, in addition to its vast scope of rolling prairies and plains in the southern and middle sections, there are, in its more northerly portion and extending so far as the British Possessions, numerous rich and well watered valleys, such as the Okinakane and Colville Valleys, the latter of long standing fame. Eastern Washington has been described as the ‘Valley of the Columbia River in Washington Territory, lying east of the Cascade Mountains.’ The appropriateness of this description will readily appear by an examination of your map, showing the courses of this river and its numerous tributaries. Here the climate is most favorable to health, the soil yields the largest average return of wheat, drouth is unknown, the crops never fail, and the ultimate capacity for production of cereals of the highest grade has been estimated by good judges as high as 150,000,000 bushels per annum.

“Northeasterly extends the great Palouse Country, which covers a fertile circle of land, almost illimitable in extent, and whose productiveness has been proven by trial experiments, here and there, in advance of its occupation for general husbandry, which now is to be heralded by the advent of railroads. The people of the Willamette

Valley have constrained themselves to believe that theirs was the garden of the world and but one remove from Paradise, but the fact confronts them that, in point of productiveness and diversity of cereals, fruit and vegetables, the new land we have referred to, can anywhere double-discount it. Dr. Blalock, than whom no one is more entitled to the honors of discovery of this bonanza of agricultural wealth, has demonstrated to anyone's satisfaction, who will give it an examination, that, not only the elevated plains, where his first efforts were made, but the sage lands, which were considered the barrenness of desolation, can be made to blossom as the rose. His farm in the 'sage-brush tract,' from which some of the finest peaches ever seen have been received at the *Oregonian* office, will yield a great variety of fruits, besides all kinds of vegetables; but the bulk of this tract produced a yield in wheat and barley which would put to effort the best producing grain lands of the Willamette Valley to exceed. The Doctor is the modern Colossus of wheat-growers, and enjoys the proud distinction of being the largest producer per acre in the world—1,000 acres of his 2,400-acre hillside farm having yielded in excess of 50,000 bushels of wheat the present season."

To further verify our statement as to the productive qualities of this section, we append an extract from a letter written by Philip Ritz, an old settler and a practical farmer and fruit-grower in Eastern Washington. Mr. Ritz says:

"Wheat, rye, oats and barley grow finely without irrigation in all our soils which contain clay or loam, and can be raised on the sandy portion of the valley, with irrigation. Three years ago, when our valley contained a population of less than six thousand souls, all told, we raised about a million bushels of grain, seven hundred thousand bushels of which were wheat."

"I have seen large fields of wheat average fifty-six bushels to the acre, and weigh sixty-two pounds per bushel; and have seen fields which yielded forty to fifty bushels per acre from a volunteer crop—that is, produced the second year from grains scattered out during harvest, sprouting during the fall, and growing even without harrowing."

"We generally raise the variety known as 'club' and sow it in the fall or spring. We produce about forty bushels of corn to the acre, of the large Yellow Dent variety, and it ripens nicely by the first of September."

"The potato is perfectly at home here, growing large, fine and mealy. I let a neighbor have nine pounds of the Early Goodrich variety last spring, from which he raised 1,575 pounds. Sweet potatoes yield finely, but they are not so sweet as farther south. Turnips, beets, cabbages, tomatoes, peas, beans, onions, are all raised with ease, and in great abundance."

"Although this country has been settled but a few years, there are already a number of fine bearing orchards. I commenced here six years ago last spring, on ground that had never been fenced or plowed. After thoroughly plowing up about five acres of ground, I planted it in

orchard with small yearling trees. This season I had a thousand bushels of the finest peaches that I ever saw grown, fully equal to the best Delaware and New Jersey peaches, besides large quantities of apples, pears, plums, cherries, apricots, grapes and every variety of small fruits. Fruits of all kinds are perfect in every respect, in this climate, particularly plums, the curculio having never been seen. I have a hundred bearing plum trees; one imperial gage two years ago produced four hundred pounds of delicious rich fruit, which brought eight cents per pound; last year it had about the same amount of fruit, which sold for twelve and a half cents per pound; many other trees did nearly as well. There is a large number of orchards just coming into bearing in the country. The climate is so dry that we never see anything like mildew or rot on the grape. I had grapes, last summer, ripen, and have a fine flavor, although they lay entirely upon the ground."

We turn from these extracts to quote again from the valuable report of Lieut. Symons, giving some conclusive facts and figures bearing on the productive qualities of this region tributary to our embryo city. He says:

"In order to show the extraordinary fertility of this region of the Columbia River, I give below the statistics from the United States Census Office of the average yield, per acre, of the cereals grown in 1879 in the State of Oregon and Territories of Washington, Idaho and Montana, comprising those regions drained largely by the Columbia River and its tributaries. Montana is included in this region for the reason that, while most of the Territory is drained by the Missouri, a large proportion of the cultivated land is on the headwater streams of the Columbia, in the Missoula basin."

Cereals of the United States; average yield per crop of 1879.

STATES.	Barley.	Buck-wheat.	Indian corn.	Oats.	Rye.	Wheat.
Oregon	31	17	22	29	16	17
Washington	39	24	19	41	14	24
Idaho	33	27	35	12	24
Montana,	30	13	29	36	29	27
Average for above region,.....	33	18	25	35	18	23
Average whole United States...	22	14	28	25	11	13

"From this it is seen that the average yield of barley per acre in this Columbia country is 50 per cent. greater than the average yield in the whole United States, including this region; the average yield of buckwheat is 29 per cent. greater; the average yield of Indian corn is 11 per cent. less; the average yield of oats is 40 per cent. greater; of rye is 64 per cent. greater, and the average yield of the most important cereal of all, wheat, is 77 per cent. greater than the average of the United States."

"I give below the average yield of the cereals per acre of the

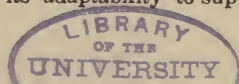
cereal crops of 1879, for the principal agricultural States of the Union, and those whose average is the largest:

STATES.	Barley.	Buck- wheat.	Indian Corn.	Oats.	Rye.	Wheat.
Arkansas	12	6	19	13	7	6
California	21	22	28	27	9	16
Dakota	17	8	22	28	10	11
Illinois	22	11	36	32	16	16
Indiana	23	10	31	25	12	18
Iowa	20	10	42	34	15	10
Kansas	13	10	31	19	12	9
Kentucky	24	10	24	11	7	10
Massachusetts.....	25	12	34	31	10	16
Michigan.....	22	12	35	34	13	19
Minnesota.....	26	11	34	38	16	11
Missouri.....	19	11	36	21	12	12
Nebraska.....	15	11	40	26	12	9
New York.....	22	15	33	30	11	16
North Carolina.....	11	8	12	8	5	5
Ohio.....	30	13	34	31	13	18
Pennsylvania.....	19	15	33	27	9	13
Texas.....	13	11	12	21	8	
Virginia.....	17	8	16	9	7	9
Wisconsin.....	25	9	34	34	14	13

"The statistics regarding the production of Irish Potatoes in the States and Territories where they are principally raised, is given in the following table:

STATES.	Acres.	Bushels.	Yield per acre.
Washington.....	6,823	1,035,177	152
Oregon.....	11,106	4,359,930	122
California.....	55,471	4,550,565	82
Connecticut.....	32,375	2,584,262	80
Illinois.....	151,126	10,355,707	69
Indiana.....	91,985	6,232,246	68
Iowa.....	121,358	9,932,537	82
Maine.....	71,416	7,999,625	112
Massachusetts.....	32,660	3,070,389	94
Michigan.....	134,274	10,923,060	81
Minnesota.....	51,419	5,184,676	101
Nebraska.....	28,374	2,150,873	76
New Hampshire.....	29,659	3,358,828	113
New Jersey.....	41,683	3,563,793	85
New York.....	349,903	33,612,313	96
Ohio.....	173,321	12,719,215	73
Pennsylvania.....	185,429	16,284,819	83
Rhode Island.....	5,988	606,793	101
Vermont.....	38,855	4,438,172	114
Wisconsin.....	99,266	8,509,161	86
Dakota.....	6,960	664,086	95

"These statistics are only given to show the great fertility of the soil of this country drained by the Columbia, its adaptability to sup-

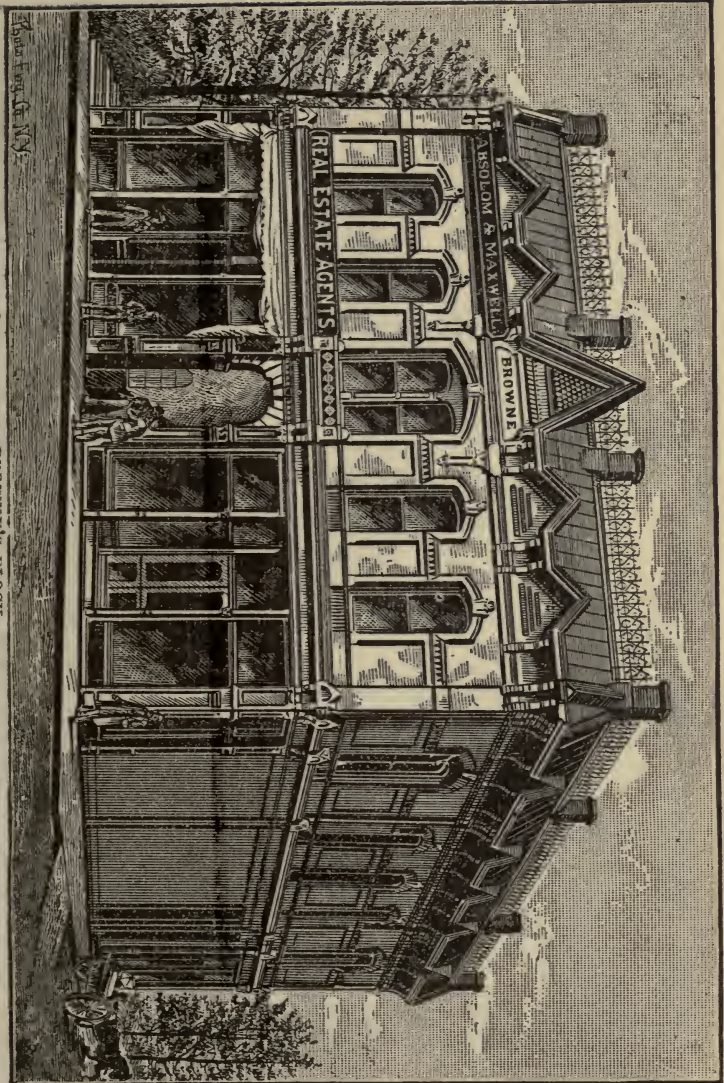


port a large population engaged in agricultural pursuits, and the enormous crops which its immense acreage must yield as soon as a population sufficient for their cultivation is attained, and means of transportation provided. This country is far away from the seat of government and is very little known, but is bound soon to force itself on the attention of the country, as one of the grandest portions of our domain, unexcelled by any, in the productions of the earth, in the beauty, extent, and yield of its waters, in its mountains clothed with splendid forests and enfolding mines of the useful and precious metals, and in its climate."

"In consequence of its great and sure promise, our legislators should look upon it with liberal eyes and grant abundant aid to all desirable works of public improvement which may be undertaken to facilitate transportation, sure of a prompt and rich return in the increased prosperity and loyalty of the people."

"From the interior water ways, the Columbia and Snake Rivers, should be removed, as far as practicable, all the rocky fetters which prevent and hinder full and free navigation. Commerce will require it, the people will demand it, and it must be done sooner or later."

We have claimed Spokane Falls as the natural mining, milling, manufacturing and commercial centre for this vast region, and we will now follow with the facts on which we base this assertion. Our city is young, almost dating its existence from the time of the entrance of the Northern Pacific Railroad, so that we cannot present a stupendous array of figures and statistics to prove our point, but we will appeal to facts equally conclusive and convincing. We shall briefly allude to its location and history, and more fully to the resources and future demands of the country of which it must ever remain the trade centre, and to some of the enterprises which this country demands, showing that they can succeed best if located here. We shall endeavor to show the superiority of our water power and its adaptability to various manufactories; with the materials for such in easy reach, and the home market for their products. We shall endeavor to show this the natural supply point for an extensive and rich mineral district and the inducements for the location here of extensive smelting and reduction works. This city is making rapid progress in educational and moral advancement, and we shall endeavor to show that it possesses all the natural elements, advantages and surroundings for a great inland metropolis.



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BROWN'S BLOCK.

SPOKANE FALLS.

THE JEWEL CITY OF THE PACIFIC.

The Advantages of its Situation and its
Resources Superior to any Other
in the Northwest.

In the older States of our Union, manufacturing and commercial centres were established almost entirely on account of the location being peculiarly fitted for such centres of trade. With the march of civilization West a spirit of greater enterprise, push and determination seemed to be possessed by the people, and it was soon discovered that pluck, zeal, determination and enterprise could establish and build up great and prosperous cities, even though they might not possess all the natural advantages of location previously thought necessary thereto. We have only to instance Chicago, Indianapolis, Peoria, Kansas City, Denver, Fargo and others of that character, to prove our assertion. But, when a place has all the possible natural advantages of location, is surrounded with vast regions of the most productive country in the world, inexhaustible forests of the finest timber and mountains of gold, silver, iron, lead, copper and coal, and is peopled at the same time with men of energy, grit and go-ahead enterprise, with an abiding faith in the future and full of determination to make it succeed success may be said to be already assured. Spokane Falls has within itself all the elements which have operated to build up all the principal cities of this continent, and does not have to depend on a single feature, as almost every one of them have been compelled to do. Our fathers depended upon a good location and its peculiar advantages and surroundings to make a city; the more progressive, stirring Westerner often depends on his own pluck and energy, with equal success. We

have each of these advantages in Spokane Falls, as we shall endeavor to fully show in this article, and, while trusting largely on the former, we do not undervalue or depreciate the latter advantage. We know that no amount of natural advantages can make a city unless there are good earnest men within its own limits. Otherwise, a place less favored by nature, but more favored with enterprise, will make immense strides of progress, while the place which nature intended should be the city is left in almost its primitive condition.

SITUATION.

Spokane Falls is situated on the Falls of the Spokane River, and takes its name therefrom. It would be very difficult to imagine a more beautiful town-site. The river, having its source in Lake Coeur d'Alene, flows in a westerly direction until its junction with Hangman's Creek, just west of the city, where it turns abruptly to the north. From the falls, the ground slopes, on the south side, gradually for a little more than half a mile, where it rises more steeply into a line of small pine and fir-clad bluffs. The hillside leading up to the top of this bluff is not too steep to build on, and is even now well dotted with residences, many of them of a very handsome and substantial character, and several of our most prominent citizens are preparing to make their permanent home in that part of the city. On the top of this bluff is a handsome plateau, delightfully situated so as to command a view of the present city, the river, the falls and the rolling plain stretching away to the north, with its background of towering pines and rugged mountains. This plateau will surely be one of the most beautiful residence portions of the city in the near future. It is a delightful situation, airy and cool in Summer, and high enough to escape the fogs of Fall and Winter. Between this bluff and the river lays the city proper, the Northern Pacific Railroad running almost through its centre. The city stretches up and down the river for nearly two miles, and is very beautiful in its design as well as location. It is regularly laid out, with streets and avenues from eighty to one hundred feet wide. It is built on a solid gravelly foundation, its graded streets make the best drives in the world, and mud and dust are practically unknown. There will never be any need of pavements, and the millions of dollars spent in that way in other cities will be saved to Spokane Falls. On the north side of the river comparatively little improvement has yet been made, but the location is fully equal to that on the south side, a large area has been surveyed into town lots, and the city's growth for the next few years will doubtless be largely in that direction.

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

In alluding to the marvelous growth of Western towns, especially those along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, the *West Shore*, published in Portland, Oregon, calls attention to the fact that many of them have but a "mushroom" growth and are inflated beyond their proper limit. In drawing a distinction between such and this city, it says: "A year's dependence upon its own resources invariably reveals the character of a town's growth, whether it is founded on a

permanent basis or has only been inflated by an organized 'boom.' A town that in its second year grows still faster than in its first, whose trade increases, whose wooden buildings are supplanted by brick, whose situation renders tributary to it a vast extent of surrounding country, rich in natural resources that are rapidly undergoing development, such a town soon demonstrates that its growth possesses all the elements of stability. But when in its third and fourth years it continues to grow in the same or even greater ratio, when it possesses within itself unrivaled facilities for manufacturing, and when its relation to surrounding regions is such as to render it the natural railroad centre for all the arteries of commerce by which the products of those regions are brought to the great trunk lines which span the continent, it is not only relieved of the imputation of being a 'mushroom city,' but becomes universally recognized as a natural metropolis, awaiting only the further development of its resources to become a large city. Such a town is Spokane Falls! ¹²

That such a hopeful look into the future may not appear purely visionary, it is only necessary to take a glance at the city's past history. It is not yet seven years since the original townsite was first platted and surveyed, and the growth of the city has been substantially within the past three years. We quote from a sketch written by Rev. H. T. Cowley, for many years a missionary among the Indians in this region and now editor and proprietor of the *Spokane Chronicle*. It sounds almost romantic when we remember that the place described now has a population of 3,500 or 4,000 permanent inhabitants, with business houses, residences, and public improvements that would do credit to a city ten times its size and age. Mr. Cowley says:

"Beyond the memory of the oldest aboriginal Spokane, the enchanting groves of pine surrounding the Great Falls of the limpid mountain river which takes its name from the dominant tribe of Indians who held sway in this region, have been the favorite camping grounds in Summer and the rendezvous in Winter, of the Spokane Nation. In the Spring of 1873, Mr. J. N. Glover, the present Mayor of the city, and the only original pioneer now resident, arrived here from Salem, Oregon, via Lewiston, prompted by the reported probable selection by the Northern Pacific Engineers of the Spokane Valley as a favorable route for the projected transcontinental railroad. Mr. Glover found himself preceded by several other parties, most prominent among whom were L. R. Scranton, J. J. Downing and a Mr. Benjamin, who had built a small saw-mill with a sash and muley saw run by an old-fashioned overshot water-wheel. A part of the old frame still stands in Mr. Cannon's present mill. Besides these men, there was also a lawyer named Swift who dispensed, or dispensed with, the administration of justice as suited the interest of his clients. In fact, there was a decided tendency to anarchy in the little community, and Mr. Glover had no great difficulty in persuading the proprietors of the saw-mill and a few cabins, to part with their squatter's rights and improvements for the sum of \$4,000. One of the proprietors, who was a fugitive from justice on the charge of cattle and horse thieving, had to be approached in the night in order to complete the purchase, and was found concealed in

the dense underbrush near one of the ponds over the river, where he had been hidden some time, armed to the teeth. In the entire region now constituting Spokane Country, there were probably not a hundred souls. Mr. Glover went below and brought up his wife about the middle of August. A small box house had been built by the former mill owners on the site where now stands the rear of Glover & Gilliam's livery stable, and this had to answer for their domicile until Fall. Mr. Glover went below again and bought an entire new outfit of machinery for the saw-mill and selected a stock of goods in Portland for their store. The machinery was put in operation late in the Fall, and before Winter closed in they had run out 100,000 feet of lumber and built a store-room and dwelling combined, adjoining the first building.

"Quite an Indian scare occurred this year, which was about equally shared by both the natives and the whites. Unfounded rumors of an expected outbreak got afloat and were magnified by the Portland papers until it created such an excitement that several left the country. It was reported in the papers that Spokane Garry, who was represented as an educated savage, was serving written notices on settlers that they must give up their claims or expect to feel the scalping knife, and that large numbers of Indians were fortifying at White Bluff, on the Columbia River. That there was no particle of foundation for the rumor, was evidenced by three missionary visits to the Spokanes that season by Rev. H. H. Spaulding, of the Nez Perces Mission, at Lapwai, who at the urgent solicitation of a delegation of Spokanes, came and preached among them and baptized two hundred.

"The Spring opened up with no active promise, but there was much to be done in the way of improvements to incomplete dwellings, and several hundred thousand feet of lumber were added to the stock, but there was only a limited demand and but very little money in the country. The principal events of the season were the visit of General Jefferson C. Davis, Department Commander, and successor of the lamented General Canby. General Davis arrived the evening previous to the writer's advent, and the next day a pleasant pow-wow was held with the Indians, who had just returned from their 'canas digging,' about the first of July. The writer had come at the request of Father Spaulding, who had during the visits of the previous year become much interested in the Spokanes, but whose last sickness had prevented his return to fulfill his promise. The Indians were not only peaceably inclined, but were anxious for instruction in the white man's ways. Satisfied that something might be done for them, the writer made arrangements during the Summer to bring his family from Mt. Idaho beyond Lewiston, and establish a Mission at the Falls. The Indians bargained to exchange horses, oats, furs, etc., for lumber, and by the aid of a carpenter named Poole, who with his family of four arrived a day later, a dwelling and school-house were built for the mission.

"The first school district between Spangle's and Colville Valley was organized that Fall of 1874. The first school was held in the writer's house and comprised four pupils. The first Territorial election was also held in Spokane Falls Precinct in November 1874, in the front

room of Mr. Glover's house and Hon. Robert Wimpy was elected Representative. Messrs. D. F. Percival, L. S. Myers and another County Commissioners; J. N. Hofstetter, Sheriff, and Mr. J. N. Glover Justice of the Peace. The county seat of Stevens County, which then included all of Spokane, Lincoln and Douglas Counties, was then at Fort Colville, and thither the writer went on a journey of eighty-five miles in December, to secure the necessary teacher's certificate. On his return the writer met Deputy Sheriff Poole at Chewelah, in charge of the first criminal convicted at Spokane Falls for theft by Justice Glover. The culprit was the notorious Susaune, who had been the Indian wife of several renegade white men.

"The Winter and Summer of 1875, was one of great financial depression all over the Coast, and but very little improvement was made in the Spokane Country. During the Summer of this season Rev. S. G. Havermale, then a presiding elder of the Methodist Church, passed through the town with his wife on his way from Colville, and was impressed by the beauty of the scenery and the power and probable future utility of the Falls. He saw, too, that it would be an exceptionally fine location for educational institutions and with a project for the establishment of an academy, he decided to make it his future home. Mr. and Mrs. Havermale returned late in the Fall of 1875 and pre-empted what is now known as Havermale's Addition to Spokane Falls, and the water power adjoining it.

"Early in the Spring of 1876 there were added to the embryo town Mr. Frederick Post with his family, having decided to locate here his flouring mill, which he had been making preparations to locate at the rapids, ten miles up the river, but as help was scarce he did not get his mill in running order until the Winter of 1877-78. During the Spring and Summer of 1876 the town firm built a storehouse and hall on the corner where now stands the First National Bank. This building was urged to completion in time for the celebration of the National Centennial. A surprisingly large number of people assembled at the Falls that year from the whole region north of Snake River and celebrated the event with great enthusiasm. The affair was quite a revelation to the settlers of the region as it was not dreamed there was such a population.

"In the Spring of 1877 the town-site firm dissolved partnership. The mill and store business had not been profitable, but Mr. Glover held on. This was the year of the Nez Perces' outbreak, and was the most trying period of the history of our settlement. From the 27th of June till the 10th of August there was a season of intense anxiety for the safety of the whole upper country, and many removed to Walla Walla. The little community at the Falls, however, braved it through, and suffered no harm. On the 10th of August, General Frank Wheaton arrived in command of five hundred troops, accompanied by Indian Inspector E. C. Watkins, for the purposes of preventing the return of the hostile Nez Perces through the upper mountain passes, for overawing the natives, and for arranging to place them on reservations. The troops pitched their camp on Mr. Havermale's claim, and on the 15th, 16th and 17th of August, a grand council was held with all the

Indians of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, except Moses-band, who refused to come in. The only result, however, of the council and the presence of the troops, was to inspire confidence among the settlers, and the establishment of two companies of infantry at the Falls for wintering, preparatory to building Fort Coeur d'Alene. The season was signalized also by the visit of General Sherman and escort, who came through here from the East and arrived here via the Mullen Road. It was on this trip that the General selected the site of the above fort.

"The Spring of 1878 saw the departure of the troops to Coeur d'Alene, the revival of the prospects for building the Northern Pacific Railroad, and on the arrival of Messrs. Cannon & Browne, whose purchase of an interest in the townsite and the addition of a large stock of goods by the firm of Cannon, Warner & Co., gave a fresh impetus to the place. Mr. Gray built the beginnings of the California House, and opened it on Thanksgiving Day on the occasion of an entertainment for the benefit of the public school building which had been begun in the grove, where now stands the Northern Pacific Freight Warehouse. The next year, 1879, brought with it the surveying of the route for the Northern Pacific Railroad, the establishment of the first newspaper, the Spokane *Times*, by Hon. F. H. Cook, and the erection of the large stores of F. R. Moore & Co., J. T. Graham, Friedenrich & Berg, R. W. Forrest, and the Northern Pacific Hotel by Arthur & Shauer. In the Fall the hardware store of L. Ziegler and Clark & Rickard were also added."

This is a graphic and accurate picture of the early history and foundation of our city. From 1879 progress was steady but slow for two or three years. Few lost faith in the town, but the outlook was not always the most hopeful. The Northern Pacific Railroad—built from Wallula on its way eastward—reached here in 1881, and with it came an increased prosperity, but it was not until the Fall of 1882 that the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company's Line along the Columbia River gave the place railroad communication with Portland, and it was not until September 1883, that the union of the two ends of the Northern Pacific in Montana gave it an outlet to the East. Certainly the people were not idle during this time, but they labored under the disadvantage of being practically shut out from the outside world. Really the first opportunity that Spokane Falls had of making known her situation and advantages came with the completion of the railroad, and her real and rapid growth actually dates from that period. Although that has only been sixteen months ago, half of which have been Winter months, and the last six have witnessed one of the greatest financial depressions ever felt in this country, yet the population of the city has vastly more than doubled, its march of improvement has not been checked, and greater enterprises of public improvement than ever before are being inaugurated for the coming season. One of the editors of the Chicago *Times*, certainly a disinterested party, who visited our city eight months ago, wrote of it to that paper as follows:

"The wonder of the place is its immense water-power, and which in the means at hand for utilizing the same is, perhaps, greater than that

at Minneapolis. One must first become accustomed to the grandeur and beauty of the scene, and which fairly rivals Niagara, before any proper conception can be had of the magnitude of the medium in a means of development and manufacture. There is power sufficient for twice the spindles, machines, and manufactures of the New England States—more than is utilized in the manufacturing cities of Lowell, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Rochester, and Patterson combined; is in excess of that at Minneapolis, and best illustrated, comparatively, with that at Appleton, Wis. There is more value, in dollars and cents, in the water-power at Spokane Falls than is possible to attain—more than any other known, unless it be at Appleton. The source of supply is not drawn from mountain torrents, but covers a vast extent of undulating country in Coeur d'Alene district, proceeding directly from that large body of water, is reinforced in innumerable streams, and of such temperature from the conditions incident that its flow is perpetual, and "never freezes." Its value is simply incalculable, and, with the immense forests at hand and other means of manufacture common to the country, must prove a first means in maintenance of the same. The natural advantages incident with such diversity of interest tributary to its doors as is found in all surroundings fixed, in the natural channel of trade, such condition as must inevitably result in the building of an important city."

"Its present population is estimated at three thousand, the character of its people progressive, its institutions liberal, and its government good. The immediate vicinity is a gravel formation, with prevailing basalt rock, and the region susceptible in grazing purposes; but at a few miles distance a general change to fertile prairie transpires, with open country extending in all surrounding—save at the east, which is mountainous—with extensive valleys concluding such course and all directly tributary to this point. North, and extending to the Columbia, is Colville Valley, comprising over one thousand square miles, recently opened to settlement and offering rare inducements, the land fertile, and producing extraordinarily in all cereals. South, and beginning within the limits of the city, farming lands extend generally to the Farmington country and to Snake River, a vast region of highly-productive land, mostly occupied and among the older settlements of Eastern Washington. This region in a succession of valleys extends from Idaho Line on the east to Oregon on the south, from Spokane River on the north to the Cascades at the west. A railway proceeding from Spokane Falls, as already projected, and terminating at Lewiston, is to traverse such district in early completion, and will establish the importance of this vicinity beyond any present means of estimate. Commencing ten miles west is the region known as the Big Bend of the Columbia, 200 miles long by 150 wide and embracing 30,000 square miles, now sparsely settled, but holding rare opportunity, and all tributary to Spokane Falls. To the east in a distance of ninety miles, and with the best practicable route determined, is the famous Coeur d'Alene Country, rich in mineral and promising as definitely in placer mines as is common to the age. Whatever there may be in it, as in other surroundings cited, it is all tributary from the place which I

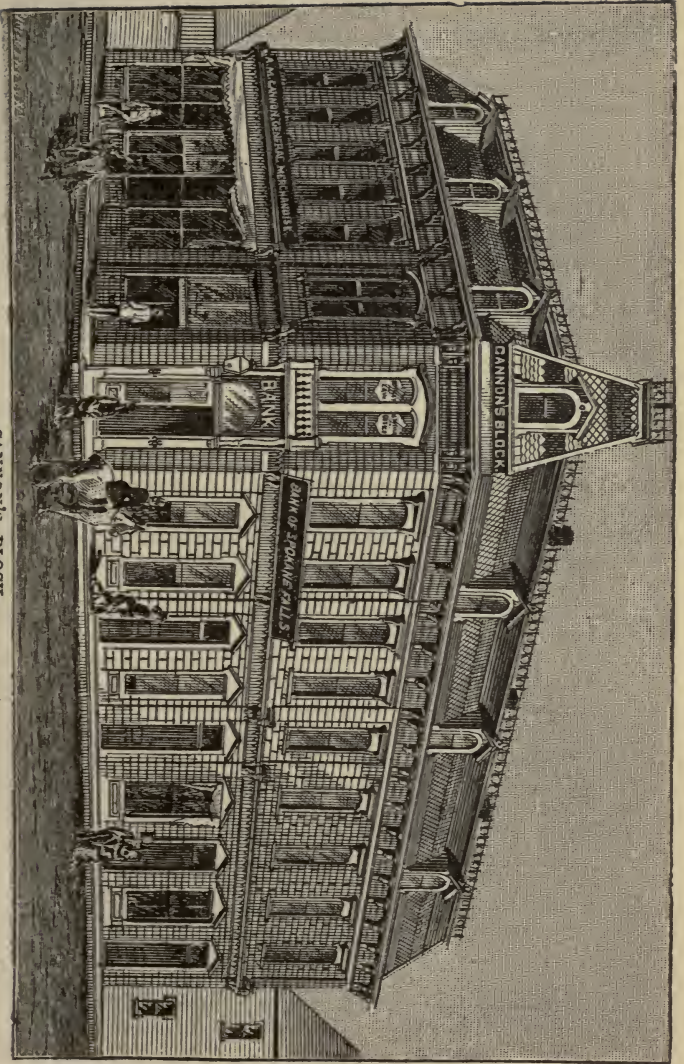
write, and the building of a city at Spokane Falls depends in no manner upon any one interest, but rather comprises the resources and industries of the whole country. In this there is unlimited supply in best lumber-fields, grazing regions, agricultural facilities, and the best possible means in every manufacture. The place was a considerable hamlet five years since, is not the creation of a discovery, nor has it come from the excitement common to a mining camp, but is rather the result of the fortunate combination comprised. In promise it holds all prominence, and occupies as favorable a situation as is known to the country. The town is built along a bold, broad plateau, commands the grandest outlook, and embraces the most enchanting, captivating, loveliest situation possible to conceive. The falls, of which there are seven separate leaps—and like a 'lion's paw' in the various divides of the stream—and a series of cascades, are the one grand, unceasing attraction; but the place in all its relations is perfectly elegant, and calculated to charm the beholder in every sense. For tourists and observers it is a perfect *sine qua non* in any first trip of the continent, and eventually must take precedence with the most popular resorts."

THE WATER POWER.

The falls of the Spokane River, within the limits of the city, are certainly among the most remarkable in the world, and have excited the wonder and admiration of visitors from all parts of the country. We do not believe there is another instance where so many favorable conditions exist for handling, controlling and utilizing such a vast volume of water. No civil engineer could have designed a better work than has been done here by Providence. In order to properly appreciate the situation and worth of these falls, it will be necessary to describe the river from which they are fed. On this point Lieut. Symons, says:

"The Spokane River, by its situation and characteristics, is bound to play an important part in the settlement and ultimate well being of the whole country within a great distance of it. At Spokane Falls is a magnificent water power, one of the finest in the world and situated as it is in the midst of a splendid agricultural country, most of which, however, is treeless, there seems no room to doubt that it will become a great manufacturing and commercial centre. By means of the river and Coeur d'Alene Lake, and the tributary streams of the latter, a magnificent and widely extended area of timber land lying along the Coeur d'Alene and Bitter Root Mountains can be made to yield its forest-covering for transportation by water to Spokane Falls, there to be manufactured into lumber and distributed throughout the agricultural lands to the south and west. In return for this lumber and fuel, these lands will send their wheat to the Falls to be manufactured into flour, and sent from there to the seaboard to be shipped to the markets of the world. Large portions of the country are better suited for pastoral purposes than for agricultural, and it is reasonable to expect that here at these falls will be erected great woolen manufactories, to work up the raw products of the country into cloths and blankets required

CANNON'S BLOCK.



by the inhabitants thereof. Large quantities of brown hematite iron ore have been found near the Spokane River, below the Falls, and it is known that other iron deposits lie to the north. Quantities of flax have been grown the past few years in the country to the south of Spokane Falls, and it must also be brought to this great water power to be manufactured into thread, cloth, etc., and the seed into oil. The number of manufacturing enterprises for which this place seems adapted is very great. I may enumerate, besides those mentioned, the manufacture of all kinds of wooden ware, of agricultural and farm implements, wagons, carriages, furniture, leather, harness, boots and shoes, pork, beer, and iron and metal works in great variety. The Spokane River, in the upper part of its course, presents the estimable peculiarity—especially valuable in view of its use as a water power—of never freezing. It seems to be fed by many springs between the Falls and Coeur d'Alene Lake, which have the effect in the coldest weather, of keeping the temperature above the freezing point. It would seem as if nature could not have done more to make this a great manufacturing and commercial centre, and a beautiful, healthy and attractive place."

Lake Coeur d'Alene, the source of the Spokane River, is one of the most beautiful and beautifully located sheets of water in the Northwest, well stocked with the finest trout and is surrounded by mountains covered with forests of the finest timber and containing a large variety of wild game. The depth of the lake has never been fathomed, though plummetts have been sunk 1,800 feet. The water is very clear, and the bottom can be easily seen at a depth of fifty feet. Its area is between 150 and 200 square miles. Its outlines are very irregular and the scenery surrounding it is very enchanting. The principal feeders of this lake are the Coeur d'Alene and Saint Joseph Rivers, each of which are navigable for steamboats for many miles. The timber section surrounding this lake covers an area of over 200 square miles. Its magnificent forests of pine, cedar, fir, hemlock and other woods are practically inexhaustible, and it is the only timber region of that magnitude on the Pacific Coast which is tributary to water power. The logs from this timber region can be run down the rivers and streams flowing into Lake Coeur d'Alene, and from there down the Spokane River to the Falls. The Spokane River has been pronounced the finest logging stream in the world by experienced lumber men from all parts of the country. The river is swift and deep, with hard basalt bed, steep banks and clear cut shores. The current will average about three miles per hour. The vast Columbia Basin, which embraces an area of nearly 250,000 square miles, or over 140,000,000 acres, is bountifully watered, but has no convenient water power near the forests which cover most of the mountains and hills. The streams generally flow in rugged, inaccessible, narrow canyons. They are raging torrents during the season of melting snows, and carry little or no water at other times—unsuited for logging at either time. By the time they reach an accessible mill-site they have reached the level plain and lost their force and power. The Spokane River is the single exception to this rule. It seems that nature planned to place this water power at a point where railroads and other means of transportation could reach the mills and

manufactories which it should operate. Instead of being shut in by impassable barriers, it is located thirty-five miles out on the plains. The river being so swift at high water would sweep away barriers erected for its control were it not for another noble work of nature. Instead of being in one volume, the river at the Falls divides into seven different channels, separated by islands of black basalt rock as hard as steel. The banks and bottom of the river are of the same material, which ages cannot wear away. Another aid to controlling the water is the fact that there are a succession of eight falls averaging about twenty feet and one great fall, where all the channels re-unite, of about seventy feet. The rapids and falls extend over a linear distance of nearly half a mile, and the fall of the river in that distance is one hundred and fifty-six feet. At extremely low water these falls are estimated by competent engineers to furnish 144,323 horse-power, and at an average stage 214,954 horse-power. By a system of flumes and dams, which could easily be constructed, this could be vastly increased. Above Big Island, a dam six feet in height can be constructed at a cost not to exceed \$3,000, and from this water can be flumed down both main shores and along the islands, furnishing abundant power to a hundred great mills and factories before returning to the river channels above the main fall. A flume or flumes projected from the channel bed of the river at any point below the first of the cascades would furnish almost unlimited power all along the river for a mile or more. But one of the most remarkable features of this river is the excellent provision nature has made for controlling the stage of water at the Falls. About twelve miles from the reservoir (Lake Coeur d'Alene) the river bed is contracted by jutting walls of great basaltic rocks coming so close together that they act as a gateway or dam to hold back the waters of the lake when its volume is so vastly increased by the melting snows of the mountains. This natural dam is so effective that no matter how high the lake rises, the water at Spokane Falls never rises more than six feet. It also checks the flow of the water so that the mud brought down the mountain streams settles to the bottom of the lake and the drift wood is lodged along its banks, leaving the waters in the Spokane clear of either. With slight improvements, this dam can be made so effective that the supply of water at the Falls can be regulated at will. A prominent manufacturer from Lowell, Massachusetts, who visited our city during the past Summer, when told of this advantage, pronounced this water-power the best on the continent. Governor Pillsbury, the Minneapolis miller, of world-wide reputation, admired the water power chiefly because of the ease with which it can be controlled and the inexpensiveness of utilizing it, and this is the universal expression of all who have inspected it.

THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY.

Stretching along the Spokane River from the falls to Lake Coeur d'Alene is a gravelly plain from one to four miles wide which is very beautiful in appearance but of the productive qualities of which there are various opinions. Some excellent wheat has been grown in places, but there are doubts as to whether there is sufficient soil mixed with the

gravel to make that crop profitable from year to years. Its fruit producing qualities, however, are thought to be excellent. So well satisfied are the people of this fact that almost every tract is occupied by filings in the Land Office. With the exception of this tract, the arable lands in the immediate vicinity of Spokane Falls is limited. South of the city for a few miles the land is broken and rocky, though well wooded. Frequently patches of a few acres are very fertile but the other portions are not suitable for the production of grain. Fruits and vegetables do well. Four or five miles south is Moran Prairie, containing several thousand acres of fine farming lands as well as a large grazing domain. About the same distance north is Plateau Prairie, a level elevation containing three thousand acres of the finest land to be found anywhere. East of this is Peone and Pleasant Prairies, each much larger in extent than the first named and very productive—equally so with Illinois, Iowa or Minnesota. Going west six miles we come to the White Bluff Prairie, containing a large extent of fine land, but little inferior to those named. A few miles farther away are larger bodies of fine land, much of which still remains unoccupied but is being rapidly settled. Among these are the Rockford and Farnington country to the south and east, the Palouse Section to the south and southwest, the Big Bend region west and the Colville and Chewelah country farther north. These are all rich in their agricultural possibilities. All kinds of grain do well. The tame grasses may also be grown successfully and dairying is destined soon to become a prominent industry here in connection with agriculture and fruit raising. Prices of dairy products have ruled higher on this Coast ever since its first settlement than in the principal cities of the Eastern Coast and are so ruling to-day. Indeed butter and cheese are shipped in here all the way from Minnesota and beyond at a profit. And this in the face and eyes of the fact that a few dairymen are demonstrating to their satisfaction, financial and otherwise, and to the satisfaction of all observers that dairying can be carried on as successfully here as in New York State.

In calling attention to the vast agricultural regions tributary to Spokane Falls we clip the following from a recent number of the *Northwest* published in St. Paul, Minn.:

"A few people who went out to Washington this season with the intention of settling, have returned, because they did not see any good farming land open to settlement. These people suffered from their own ignorance. If they had informed themselves about the country, they would have known that the agricultural belts of Eastern Washington are not seen from the railroad, but lie both north and south of it in large fertile areas, easily reached from the towns of Spokane Falls, Cheney, or Ritzville. The most extensive of these belts is 250 miles long, reaching from the timber country which the railroad traverses after crossing the Idaho Line, southwest to the Blue Mountains, south of Walla Walla. This is the region where the farmers harvest fifty bushels of wheat to the acre, and where the dry bunch grass supports horses and cattle all winter, so that they are fat in the spring. North and northwest of the Northern Pacific Road is another good stretch of rolling prairie, called the Big Bend Country, just beginning to fill up

with settlers. The people who turn back from Eastern Washington this year because they cannot find good agricultural land, should apply for guardians when they get back to their old homes."

LIVE STOCK.

Oregon and Washington Territory are undoubtedly the best country for cattle in the United States. The farmers allow their cattle to roam at large nearly the whole of the year, only providing fodder for them during a short time in winter. Sometimes in cold weather stock suffers; but as a rule it does well in the open air. During the winter of 1882-83 no fodder was needed.

Horses of an excellent type are largely raised. The soil and climate, combined with good blood, have produced not only the best draught animals, but also good trotters and carriage horses. Much money has been invested in fine imported stock, from the heaviest Percherons and Clydesdales to the fleetest thoroughbreds. The horses raised east of the Cascade Mountains excel those of other sections in speed. This is due to the bunch grass pasturage and the distance to watering places. The animals sometimes go on a fast trot for ten miles from their feeding places to water, thus developing muscle from their birth. In the bunch grass districts grass costs nothing.

Sheep husbandry is one of the greatest and most productive industries, being carried on under the most favorable conditions of climate. Sheep farmers prefer the ranges close to the mountains, where they say the greatest variety of grasses grow upon which the sheep thrive best. Lambing time is in April and shearing in May. In June the flocks are driven to the mountains, where they fatten and the young become vigorous. These mountains are often covered with open pine forests, through which very nutritious grasses grow, different in nature from the bunch grass of the plains. The wool produced in the Pacific Northwest is fast taking rank with the best fleeces which reach the East and has a reputation of its own in New York and Boston. The wool clip in this Territory for 1884 is estimated as high as 6,000,000 pounds. Woolen mills are even now demanded at Spokane Falls and the demand will increase continually.

The pastoral domain is much greater than many stockmen imagine. In the region of the Great Plain of the Columbia, and which is directly tributary to Spokane Falls, it comprises over 6,000,000 acres. It includes the "scab land" sections, the broken plateaus and slopes not suitable for farming, but which produce excellent grass. Cattle and sheep can often be taken off the range fat enough for slaughter, which cannot truthfully be said of any other part of the country. The meats are tender and sweet and are sold in the markets here at prices not above those in Iowa and Minnesota. Even then the stockman has many advantages over those in that section where stall feeding during the winter months is absolutely necessary.



The Big Bend Country.

To the west of the Falls is situated a magnificent empire worthy a special description. First comes the fields and cattle ranges of Lincoln County, a region but recently an unoccupied wilderness and now forming a county by itself, through which runs a good wagon road, giving easy communication with this city.

Beyond Lincoln County lies the famous Big Bend Country, another vast agricultural country tributary to Spokane Falls, from which hundreds of settlers start with their wagons loaded with supplies purchased there. A good road leads all the way to the Grand Coulee (Indian name for waterway,) which was once a secondary channel of the Columbia, and marks the eastern boundary of the region under consideration. The Coulee commences on the present course of the Columbia River, between the Sinopel and Nespalem Rivers, and extends in a southwesterly direction for fifty-five miles, when it merges into the boulder-covered sage-brush plain once the bed of a prehistoric lake. It is a deep chasm, with vertical walls, averaging about 350 feet in height, and impassable throughout its extent, excepting at one point about midway in its course, where the walls are broken down so a good wagon pass is formed. Stretching away to the west for sixty miles, by ninety miles north and south, lies the largest area of good agricultural land in one body in Washington Territory. Spreading out in swell after swell of rolling prairie, to the bluffs on the banks of the Columbia on the west and north, and to the prehistoric lake before mentioned and the Badger Mountains, lies as fair a country as ever the sun shone upon, comprising an area of 3,000 square miles, which will make 9,000 farms of 160 acres each, and leave 500,000 acres in the belt of bluffs on the Columbia River and in the Badger Mountains, nearly all of which is covered with timber and is fine grazing land. The whole prairie is covered with a tall rank growth of bunch-grass, from the great abundance of which it has by many been called the Bunch-Grass Country, and the finest farming lands in Washington Territory are the bunch-grass sections. The soil of this prairie is very rich and fertile, varying in depth from a few feet to hundreds of feet, and the wonderful vegetables, in size equalling, and in quality surpassing California itself, the prodigious grain crops, the luscious peaches, grapes and other fruits raised at the old Wenatchee Crossing of the Columbia, point with unerring certainty to the fertility of the soil and its adaptation to the raising of all the grains, fruits and vegetables of the temperate zone.

This region was erected into a separate county called "Douglas" by the last Legislature, with the county seat located at the new town of Okanogan. During the past year a large number of settlers have gone

in there, and the experiments in agriculture have been very satisfactory. Considering all of its advantages, in fertility of soil, extent and climate, competent judges have pronounced the Big Bend Country superior to the far-famed valleys of the Willamette and Walla Walla. Spokane Falls is now and must ever continue the supply point for this vast region which is destined in a few years to be densely populated. A railroad from this city through that region is already projected and will be built soon. A letter written from an actual settler in the Big Bend Country to the *Oregonian*, December 20th, makes these statements:

"As we, in the Big Bend, are beginning to feel sure of what we say, we need have no hesitation about saying it, and letting the world at large know what sort of a country we have. There is nearly as great a difference between Eastern and Western Oregon and Washington as between California and Minnesota, in climate, productions and general adaptability. Eastern Washington may be divided into two classes of country—stock country and farming country. The best stock country is in the poorest agricultural districts as a rule, *i. e.*, the stony "scab lands" are usually well watered by small ponds, and furnish plenty of grass—bunch grass and rye grass. North of the Northern Pacific Railroad there are about 12,000 square miles of territory, about 9,500 of which is first-class farming lands, and the balance mixed but mostly stock range. As nearly as can be estimated there are about 50,000 farms, of 160 acres each, north of the railroad. At least three-fourths of this area is claimed by settlers, and the rest is being rapidly taken up; the only drawback to the development of the country being a lack of transportation. Farmers complain greatly because they have no means of shipping their produce to a consuming market. But it seems even this cannot long be against the successful development of this part of the Territory, for we have one of the noblest rivers on the Coast waiting for boats to be put on it; and a wide belt of the finest agricultural land in the Northwest, which would be self-sustaining, and is capable of sustaining a railroad, in case it should be built from the Northern Pacific at Spokane Falls, thence west through the Brents Country to Okanogan City, crossing the Columbia River near Priest Rapids, and passing through the Snoqualmie Pass or through the Metlow Country to Puget Sound; or down the Columbia to Portland. Either of these plans are feasible, and no doubt one will be begun at an early day."

We also make some extracts from a letter written from that country by Mr. H. N. Wilcox to a gentleman in this city in answer to inquiries respecting the outlook and productive qualities of the prairies of the Big Bend. Mr. Wilcox located there permanently less than a year ago and has had little opportunity to make tests, but as he is a practical farmer of large experience in the States, his opinions and experience here is valuable. The letter was written without the least thought of its finding its way into print; was written to a personal friend and, therefore, is the calm statement of a farmer rather than of a speculator. Mr. Wilcox writes as follows, under date of November 20, 1884

"In my opinion Okanogan Prairie cannot be beaten in this Territory for beauty, and will rank with any for richness of soil. All that is wanted is the right kind of men to till the soil, to make it one of the banner prairies of the Northwest. Since I have been on the Pacific Coast I have made it a special point to study the nature of the different soils, and I will say that this section of country will compare favorably with any I have seen. You ask for my experience with the soil. I never had anything to do with any land that gave better satisfaction than this of the Okanogan Prairie. It is the easiest land to put under cultivation that I ever saw. Last April what sod I broke was easily harrowed all to pieces, and now this Fall I have been plowing some of land a second time and it works up like old land and is in a complete state of cultivation. The land I cultivated this past Season was all sod broken about six inches deep. It was then sowed, thoroughly cultivated and rolled. I did my breaking from the tenth to the twenty-fifth of April, and had I been here earlier all my planting might have been done fifteen days earlier than that. My potatoes were fine and my onions did remarkably well. In fact I never saw such onions raised on upland without manure. Beans are a sure crop here. I raised about five bushels which are fine. I planted beans here the tenth of April and they were never touched with frost. I raised some very fine watermelons, and in fact everything I planted did remarkably well. Had I harvested one-half what I did I would have been satisfied. We not only have a good top soil here, but the sub-soil is good, and that is one of the most important essentials to a productive country. This sub-soil will stand either wet or dry weather, being of such a nature that it receives and holds all the water that falls and in dry weather sends moisture to the surface as needed. It will take a severe drouth to effect the crops. I believe that all kinds of small grain, such as wheat, rye, oats, barley and flax, and all kinds of vegetables will do well here. My fruit trees are doing finely and I have set out some more this fall. Have two peach trees set out for a trial of that fruit. Have strawberries, currants, raspberries, and blackberries set out and all promise well. I see that everybody out here are taking a great interest in fruit."

These statements of Mr. Wilcox are a sample of the reports received during last Season. Settlers who put in crops have received the most flattering returns and a larger immigration than ever will pour into the Big Bend Country the coming Season. Most of the lands are outside of the Railroad limits and the whole country is destined soon to become a solid block of the finest farms to be found in any country. The Big Bend Country alone is capable of producing 30,000,000 bushels of wheat annually, more than the entire milling capacity of Minneapolis could convert into flour in one year, running three hundred days at their full capacity—20,400 barrels—and this region is not more than one-third of the wheat growing country which will become directly tributary to Spokane Falls as a milling centre. A handbook of Minneapolis recently published, alludes to the falls of St. Anthony as "manufactory" in the city's greatness and states that "the great manufactories which cluster in every-increasing numbers around it are the

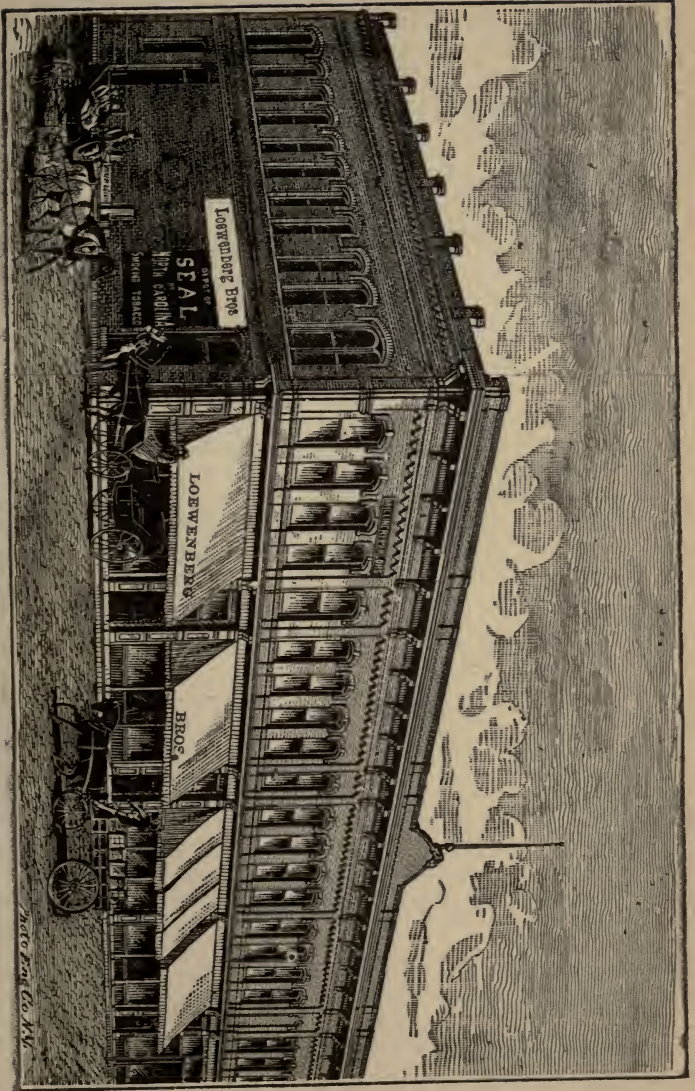
corner stones of the city and the secret of her success." With such an agricultural and timber area directly tributary to Spokane, who can doubt that our magnificent water power will prove to be the means of laying here such "corner stones" as have built up at Minneapolis a city of 130,000 within two decades.

The Mineral Resources.

Not alone on its matchless water power, its extensive agricultural and stock raising country, its inexhaustible timber supply, the adaptability of tributary regions to fruit growing and its invigorating salubrious climate does Spokane Falls depend for the full measure of its prosperity. One of the most important factors in its future growth is its inexhaustible mineral resources. Situated in the centre of a semi-circle of mountains richly laden with precious ores, the city would have an equal chance with Denver for greatness without a single other advantage. Stripped of her vast mineral resources, she would stand an equal chance for greatness with Minneapolis. With the advantages of these two cities combined, there scarcely seems room for a doubt of the future, or a single reason why capitalists need be timid in making investments here. Speculation is always more reckless in a mining country than in any other, and where the mines are valuable, and may be worked permanently, a prosperous mining and commercial city is sure to spring up. We shall endeavor to show that the mines in the semi-circle of mountain ranges on the east and north of Spokane are of this character and that this is the natural supply centre for the entire region. We will endeavor to demonstrate this from the fact of the natural advantages of this city for the location of reduction and smelting works, its accessibility to all the mining sections, its being the only point within such easy reach of them all and the only place which could possibly be selected as a supply and mining centre, suitable to all alike. We will first call attention to

THE COEUR D'ALENE MINES.

Any new discovery of the precious metals is almost sure to be prematurely heralded abroad, and to create an undue excitement and an unwarranted rush to the new region. It was so with the Coeur d'Alenes. The discovery of gold and silver in these mountains was spread abroad throughout all the land, and adventurers eager to secure a fortune without proper effort, poured into the mining region in vast armies. They came without giving the matter of the needed preparation for such a venture a moment's consideration. They were going to scoop up a few large sacks of gold nuggets and return to their homes



UNION BLOCK,



in a few weeks and dazzle the gaze of their less energetic neighbors with the splendor of their living. Such was the dream of a large majority of the 8,000 or 10,000 who hurried into the Coeur d'Alene Mountains in mid-winter to become suddenly rich by mining. They had not calculated on finding the ground covered to a depth of from five to twenty feet with snow, in fact they had not calculated on any of the hardships incident to a mountain mining camp at that season. They were not practical miners, and, consequently, had made nothing of the preparations necessary for such an adventure. But few of them were even prepared for prospecting, so as to be able to intelligently determine the richness of the country. Food and shelter could be had only at the most exorbitant prices, practical mining was impossible, and the rigors of the climate soon cooled the ardor of all who went in with little money and no experience, and the exit of such resembled the rout of a demoralized army after a disastrous defeat by a superior foe. Their dream of suddenly acquired wealth had vanished and, having determined to go, they stood not upon the order of their going. The flight was first by ones and twos, then in squads of twenty or thirty, and lastly by fifties and hundreds, each carrying bitter memories of privation, suffering, disappointment and loss, and each cursing the railroad, the newspapers and the country. These men returned to their homes all over the country bearing with them the story of their experience in the Coeur d'Alenes, of the barrenness of the whole region and the impossibility of there being gold there. To say anything favorable of these mines, in the face of such an experience, and have the public believe it, we know is no light task. But not all who went in became frightened and fled. Some three or four hundred of the more hardy and determined, of which a large number were practical miners and prospectors, have remained through the season and their operations have fully demonstrated the fact of the vast richness of the mines in these mountains. We shall make use of no varnished statements, but simply refer to facts, which are that in the mountains of Northern Idaho, between the Coeur d'Alene Lake and the summit of the Bitter Root and Coeur d'Alene Mountains, there is a region about thirty miles square which is among the richest in placer and quartz gold and silver to be found in the United States. Good prospects have been found on all the creeks and gulches, and every claim which has been worked to any extent has proven exceedingly rich, and a number of nuggets weighing from \$75 to \$140 have been picked up by different parties.

The Coeur d'Alene District has been known to a very few miners to be very rich for many years, but was never closely prospected until the Fall of 1880, when Mr. A. J. Prichard made his discoveries and locations, and to him belongs the credit of first bringing the mines into notice. Many are the vague stories related of prospectors who penetrated the wild forests and gloomy gorges of these mountains, with a foreshadowing of what was to be, but who were lured away by other excitements or compelled to return to replenish their stores, always promising to return to that particular locality that had prospected and panned so richly. Many also were the different parties who

tried to return to these "old finds" but were prevented by a lack of supplies, want of perseverance or a failure to recognize the landmarks that were to guide them again into the field known to be so rich in its store of precious minerals. Nearly twenty years ago one Wilson, who had made a location in this district, easily organized a party by the wonderful stories of the gold he had found, but after piloting his party to within a few miles of the present discoveries, lost his bearings, became bewildered and was compelled to abandon the search. His party became indignant, suspected him of treachery, and but for the kindly interference of one of the Jesuit Fathers at the Old Roman Catholic Mission, he would probably have been hung at their hands. The gold-bearing quartz and fine placer gold were found around Coeur d'Alene Lake and River and Pend d'Oreille Lake, but not in paying quantities, and to find the source from whence it came was what bothered prospectors. Prichard got on the track of this and determined to trace it to its source or spend his life in the attempt. After long and tedious journeys he was rewarded, late in the Fall of 1880, making his first discovery on Prichard Creek. As Winter was approaching, he was compelled to wait until the next season before making further observations. He returned in 1881 and made some further prospects, but was not sufficiently satisfied to spread the report of his find. The next year he went in again with two friends and prospectors, and they found enough to satisfy them of the worth and permanency of the diggings. That Fall the story of the discovery of the mines began to spread and the early Spring of 1883 saw nearly a hundred men fully equipped for a season's prospecting making their way into the mountains. They compelled Prichard to pilot them in much earlier than he wanted to go, as the snow was still from five to ten feet deep, and the streams very high. Reaching his former camp, they found the water so high that it was impossible to reach bed-rock, and most of the party retraced their steps, cursing Prichard and the folly of looking for gold in such a place. But a few remained, and when the waters subsided they were amply rewarded for their perseverance. Soon the news began to spread and the excitement to grow. Many came in from the surrounding country and many rich discoveries were made and claims located during 1883. From a handful of men in July the population increased to two or three thousand before Winter. Many remained during the entire Winter, and such was the excitement that those who wanted to get into the mines could not wait for Spring, but floundered through many feet of snow, enduring many untold hardships, in their eagerness to be first in the mines. The early months of 1884 saw the great rush we have mentioned in the first part of this chapter, following by its attending disaster. As we have already stated, several hundred remained during the entire season just past and they were so successful and sent out such amounts of gold dust every week during the Summer and Fall that public attention was again attracted to the mines and there were continual accession to the numbers during the latter part of the season until two or three thousands were again found in the different camps, most of whom were prepared to remain there during the entire Winter. These are

made up almost wholly of practical miners and capitalists—a class badly needed. While the mines are rich, they are not poor men's mines! Their situation is such that it takes capital to open and work them. Active mining operations closed nearly two months ago, and, while the season's work was carried on under great disadvantages, it was enough to astonish the croakers who have been crying the mines down as a "humbug." Mr. Hussey, the banker at Murray, estimates the output of the region during the Summer at between \$300,000 and \$400,000, and states that next season fully as much will be taken out each month. Several of the best claims are now owned by men of large capital, who will spare no expense to open the mines next season. Eastern and European capital has been attracted by the evident richness of the camp and some of the claims have been sold at exorbitant figures. Two or three ditch companies have been formed and commenced operations on ditches which will cut and drain the best regions, and next season's work will be startling to those who have so confidently denounced the mines and everybody who has advocated them. Thus far the placer claims have averaged \$40,000 per acre. The quartz claims are also numerous and developing slowly but surely. Recently the "Mother Lode" was bonded to English and Denver capitalists for \$30,000. The progress made in the camp during the past season has been enormous. Parties who have had faith in the mines have invested their money freely and living there now is vastly different from one year ago. Then letters could only be obtained by paying fifty cents each for them, while now there is a United States postoffice there regularly supplied by carrier from the railroad. There is a telegraph line from Spokane Falls, a good newspaper, good hotels, etc. The best way to reach the mines is to come direct to Spokane Falls and from here take one of Hall & Martin's covered coaches to Coeur d'Alene City. This is the best natural road into the mines. A ride of two hours up one of the finest valleys on the continent brings the traveler to Coeur d'Alene City and the lake of the same name. There one of the handsome steamers of the Coeur d'Alene Transportation Company will take him up the lake to the Mission, from which place a splendid road was recently graded into the heart of the mining section. This is the only route into the mines which can be kept open and traveled at all seasons of the year, and the only route over which freight can be hauled—all the others being used for pack animals. At Spokane Falls miners can procure complete outfits of everything needed, cheaper than at any other point. A railroad has been projected from this city into the mines, the company organized and stock subscribed, and, but for the recent financial depression, would now be under construction. Ores from these mines can be brought here cheaper than to any other place on the railroad, reduction and smelting works could be built and operated here and Spokane Falls is bound to be the lap into which the wealth of the Coeur d'Alenes will be poured.

THE CHEWELAH MINES.

The latest discovery of precious minerals in the region tributary to Spokane Falls is that in the Colville Valley, fifty miles due north of this city near the town of Chewelah. For sometime these minerals

have been known to exist in that region, but it was not until July last that locations were made in the immediate vicinity of what have proved to be the richest mines of the whole section, and certainly among the richest yet discovered on this Continent. Attention was first attracted to the Chewelah District by the working of a mine seven miles north of the Chewelah townsite, by a syndicate of monied men, among whom was Mr. J. N. Squier, of this city. These gentlemen had faith in their mine and have spent large sums of money in tunneling, sinking shafts, etc., and, while the ore assayed well, they refrained from publishing anything in relation thereto until the mines proved rich beyond question. This was the view generally taken here, as a repetition of Coeur d'Alene craze was deprecated by all, as likely to do more harm than good. In fact, exaggeration has been carefully avoided in every statement published relating to these mines.

Chewelah, a small hamlet hardly ever heard of before springing into prominence in connection with the mines now bearing that name, is near the centre of the new mining district. Two and one-half miles southwest of Chewelah is a new and promising town named Embrey, in honor of the gentleman who really was the first to thoroughly prospect the country, and who has had many years of experience at mining in Idaho, Montana, Colorado, California and auriferous sections of the Pacific Coast. This place is in the midst of and is surrounded by partially developed mines that are really what has given the country the reputation it has for possessing rich ores. These places are about fifty miles north of Spokane Falls, and two good wagon roads connect this city with that part of the country, and stage and freight lines are now running out of the Falls regularly, conveying merchandise and passengers to the new land of promise. The means of communicating from this point on the railroad is so easy that from necessity traveling and freighting are bound to be from this place. Quite a mining camp has already sprung up at the new town of Embrey, and a few of the men have pushed far enough into the hillside to be able to keep at work all winter, and the product of those claims so worked is conclusive proof that these mines are sure to rival the famous Comstock, that made Virginia City one of the liveliest cities in the world a few years ago. The ledges in which the mineral exists are quite easily worked and promise great results. All kinds of minerals have been discovered in a greater or less quantity, but the chief ones are gold, silver, copper and lead, and the latter two will pay for working the ores, leaving the other metals as a clear gain. There is so much of the ore that even if it should run low millions of dollars could be taken out. Next summer the mines will be the scene of refreshing life. Claims will be opened everywhere, and crushers put up. Those who are there have unbounded faith in the country, and they have every reason to feel satisfied with the outlook, as the assayer with his scientific research has now shown by test the ore to be of great value. These assays are not made from picked rock, nor are they confined to one particular spot. The reports brought to us from the camp during the past two weeks are of the most satisfactory nature. From some 30 or 40 assays

the ore has run from \$9 to over \$350 to the ton in silver alone, most of the specimens going above \$100. The test was only made for silver, and there is a large per cent. of lead and copper in the slag. A few days ago we had an opportunity to look over the assayer's certificate given on the assays of several samples of rock known as croppings, that is taken from near the surface of the earth. One assay taken from the Enterprise mine, owned by Thomas Fuller, showed 179.37 ounces in silver, with no account taken of gold, lead and copper. The Fiske mine on poor rock showed 16 ounces in silver; but this is by no means a fair showing for the claim, as the owner sent specimens to Burlingame, the well-known assayer of Denver, who returned reports showing the rock to run \$172 per ton in silver. Galena taken from the Cleveland mine, owned by A. M. Baldwin & Co., shows up 126.13 ounces in silver; and a cropping from the Phil Sheridan mine 11.66 ounces in silver. Since those assays were made Prof. Reilly, an experienced and practical assayer, has examined much rock from various parts of the district for his own satisfaction, and has met with wonderful results. Work has been progressing right along on the Silver Gem, a mine that opened up with good prospects. Lately the men at work cleared off the face of a vein nine feet in thickness, and as the appearance of the rock was not such as to indicate any particular value, the rock was thrown over the dump out of the way as fast as it was blasted out. Prof. Reilly, the local assayer, happened to visit the mine and took home a number of the fragments to make an examination. The result so surprised him that he made other tests, and when convinced that no mistake had been made, informed the careless miners that they were throwing away quartz that averaged from \$75 to \$80 per ton. This ledge is nine feet thick and runs the same value clear across the face. It is simply impossible to estimate the value of such a ledge, and it is safe to say that the Silver Gem will become one of the notable mines in the history of American mining.

It must be remembered that all of the rock from which assays have been made has been taken from near the surface and known as "croppings." These croppings have been worked for several feet underground, and fine well defined ledges found. It is well known that silver-bearing quartz grows richer the deeper the ledge goes, and if its croppings show such flattering prospects, at two or three hundred feet the ore must be immensely rich. The Chewelah District comprises all the country within a radius of twenty miles of the town of that name. It includes the mines about Embrey, as also those about Trout Lake, eight miles south; the belt of mineral near the town of Argentum, seven miles northward from Chewelah, where is located the Squier's mine, and the valuable and fabulously rich mines, about eighteen miles west of Chewelah, owned by Messrs. Friend & McKinney. Silver is the predominating metal in all the quartz found in this region, so far discovered. Yet rich gold fields, in gravel, have been worked for years along the bed of the Columbia River, and even the town of Chewelah has surrounding it some rich gravel prospects. Only two miles from the Indian Agency buildings, located there, up Sherwood Creek, fifty cents to the pan is often obtained.

How is this new mining district to effect Spokane Falls, is now the question. It takes no profound reasoning to show that it will contribute largely to the growth of this city. The mines are within easy reach of Spokane Falls, in fact the mines are really only accessible from the railroad at this point. A large sum of money has been expended on the roads leading from the Falls to Chewelah, Embrey and Colville during the past few months, and there are few roads in the northwest in better condition. Tri-weekly stages are now carrying the mail and passengers between these points, and this service will be increased to daily stages as soon as the Winter breaks up. Besides the stage lines there will be several freighting companies in operation. This means of transportation will have to answer for some time, as the projected railroad to be built to the Columbia River can not be constructed for a year or two. Not only will our city be greatly benefited by holding the key to the position, so to speak, from whence all supplies are bound to be drawn, but it will bear another and closer relation, not only to the Chewelah, but all other quartz mines in the Northwest. Reduction works, smelters and refineries are necessary adjuncts to successful mining regions, It will not pay to take out ores and ship them to some distant point to be reduced to bullion, and as the demand grows such industries must spring up. Here is where these works are certain to be located. It would be folly to construct them elsewhere. The cheapest and very best of power exists in this city, and the ease with which quartz can be conveyed to mills here favors such projects. As soon as men of capital are convinced that the mines will justify such an investment these refineries will spring into existence. We feel satisfied that a few years hence, among its many other manufacturing industries, that of reducing crude ores to shining bricks of precious metals will be pre-eminently the leading interest.

THE PEND D'OREILLE MINES.

One hundred miles from Sund Point, a station on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and on the Pend d'Oreille Lake, and about ninety miles north of Spokane Falls, is the town-site of Pend d'Oreille City, lying in the centre of the new mining district of that name. Within a few miles of this town-site the Hudson Bay Trading Company had a post some thirty-eight years ago. Fur bearing animals were plentiful, and considerable business was done in this vicinity by that company at this early date. A few years later gold was discovered at the mouths of the numerous streams tributary to the Pend d'Oreille River, and quite a rush was made into the country then, from the Colville Valley, and the old trail cut through the dense undergrowth, up and down the rugged canyons, and over the high mountain peaks from that valley to the gold fields has again become of importance, and the fallen timber and brush, accumulated through the past quarter of a century, are once more being removed to make room for the pack trains and saddle horses that will undoubtedly pass over it in the coming Spring and Summer.

Thousands of dollars in dust were taken out in pockets during the first few years of the rush, but the country being large, very little

prospecting having been done in the surrounding country, and the cost of living being very high, prospects, which are now considered fair, were left for new fields where it was presumed more gold could be obtained with less labor. "Old-timers" still lingering around the Colville Valley, tell tales (probably much colored by the elapse of time) of the wonderful pockets that were "worked out" in this region long before the tide of immigration turned to the Northwest, and wish, with a sigh, for the good old times again.

After having been deserted for a period of about twenty years, these same diggings are again attracting attention, and their wealth, like that of Gold Hill, Nevada, bids fair to be far outdone by the quartz ledges which crop out in nearly every canyon in the district. There are placers here which will probably prove good paying properties, but long after hydraulicing has ceased on the numerous creeks and mountain streams, the galena and carbonate ledges (unless all the old prospectors now in camp have been much led astray) will be turning out lead and silver in quantities to compare with the yield of the Comstock.

The work that has been thus far done has been carried on quietly, very little having been said about the camp through the newspapers, notwithstanding the fact that work is progressing on three quartz ledges in the dead of Winter, and that two placer claims were profitably worked during the past season and that several more will be opened during the next Spring and Summer.

The carbonate and galena ores are of a low grade, but exist in such large quantities that if but a small profit to the ton can be gained in working them, the future prosperity of the district is assured, and from all assays so far received it is confidentially believed that the ores warrant the statement that this result will most assuredly be brought about. The district has, as yet, been very little prospected for quartz ledges, and it is anticipated that during the coming season discoveries even more important than those already recorded will be made.

The two most accessible routes into this district at present are: From Spokane Falls, via Colville, W. T., over the old trail mentioned above, or from Sand Point, down the Pend d'Oreille River with boats. The former route, over the trail, will not be traversable before the middle of March, on account of the heavy fall of snow on the mountain ranges, and the latter route down the river, will probably remain closed until about the same date, the river being covered with ice nearly the entire distance from the railroad into camp. Parties going down the river should secure the company of some one familiar with the trip, as there are several rapids and falls to be avoided, the running of which might prove fatal to parties not conversant with their whereabouts.

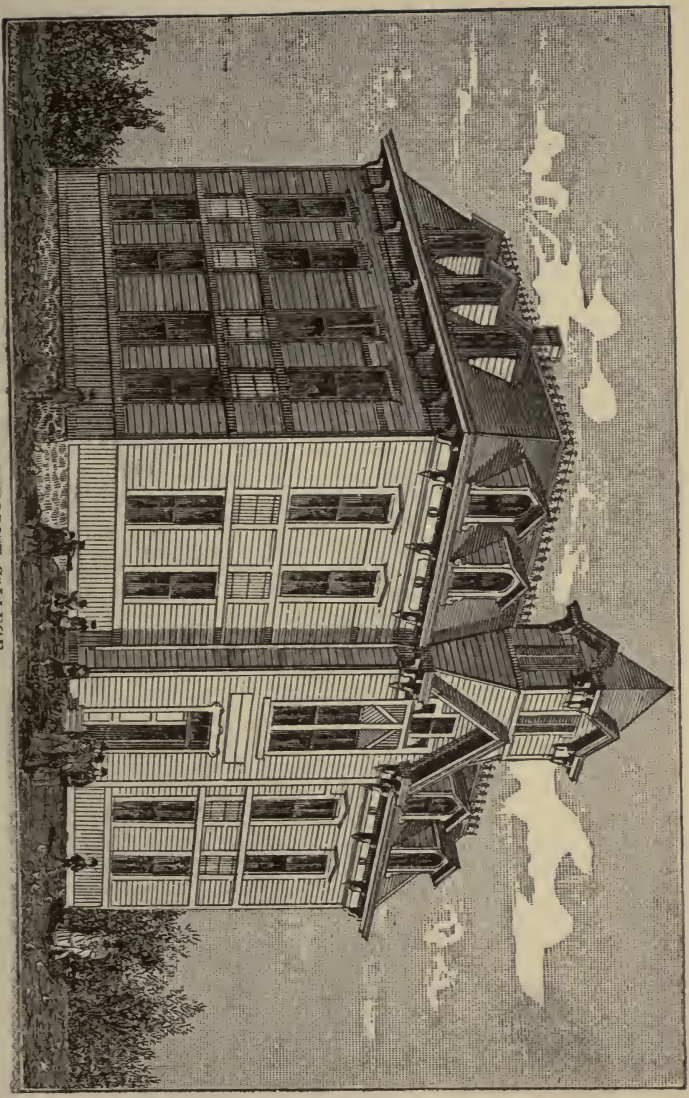
There will probably be a large number of prospectors visit this region this coming Season, but it is hoped by all parties in camp that they will postpone their trip until the snow has fairly left the mountains in order that new parties coming in may take with them plenty of provisions for their own use, as at present there is only enough in camp to carry those already there through the Winter. There are now several parties camped along the river, between Sand Point and Pend

d'Oreille City, awaiting the breaking up of the ice on the river, having been caught in the ice while endeavoring to reach the camp this Winter.

Pend d'Oreille City presents a picturesque appearance at the present writing, everything out of doors being mantled in its Winter attire. Several cabins are progressing as fast as the cold weather will permit and ere Spring rolls around quite a respectable little town will have grown up. Four blocks of the townsite have been surveyed, nearly all of the lots are being occupied or claimed by parties who intend to build as soon as possible. The camp is at present quiet, prospecting, having stopped for the Winter, and the inhabitants (about fifty in number) are patiently awaiting the disappearance of the snow, when work will be resumed again. The more recent development of this district is just now in its infancy but its vastness of extent and the richness of its deposits make it an important factor in the future of Spokane. This is the nearest and most accessible point on the railroad and is sure to be the supply centre for this region. A railroad from here to Kettle Falls will give rail and steamboat communication with the Pend d'Oreille mines at all Seasons, and this will doubtless be secured in time to aid materially in their development.

THE SIMILKAMEEN DISTRICT.

Prof. J. M. Tiernan, of this city, has made explorations of the northwestern portions of our Territory and the adjacent portions of British America, and has published reports of the wonderful mineral richness of those regions. Prof. Tiernan's reports excited no particular interest at the time of their publication, owing principally to the Coeur d'Alene excitement, but later developments made by experienced prospectors have more than verified the Professor's statements. Prominent among the sections which showed the richest prospects and which will, in a few years, attract a large share of public attention, the Similkameen and Mount Chopaca Districts, being a portion of the fifteen-mile strip of land, reserved by the Government for mineral purposes, on the north side of the Moses Indian Reservation and contiguous to British Columbia, and which extends for two hundred miles east and west. That this district is very rich in its store of precious metals, there is no doubt and the wonder is that it has remained so long practically unoccupied. History states that mining was carried on there by the Hudson Bay Company and the Indians twenty-five and thirty years ago, and traces of their operations may yet be seen in places. Since that time it has almost been forgotten, but stories of its wealth were handed down, as a tradition, from one to another until within the past few years, when a few adventurous prospectors found their way there and the result of their search more than confirmed the previous stories. In April last a party of five gentlemen, experienced prospectors, was made up in Spokane Falls for the express purpose of making thorough prospects in this region. They traveled northwest to the mouth of the Okinakane River, passing up that and the Similkameen Valley. They prospected principally along the Ellinaheen range of mountains. These mountains are from two thousand to three



METHODIST COLLEGE



thousand feet high, are covered with a luxuriant growth of timber and abound in springs and water courses. The Similkameen River flows at their base, and Nature has made every provision for the erection of mills of all kinds, the cutting of lumber for building purposes, and working the mines. Over forty different ledges were discovered and located by this party and they returned with some of the finest specimens ever brought to this city. Their richest discovery was made near the top of Mount Ellimaheen, and which they named the Tye mine. The ledge is over two feet thick and is easily traced for over fifteen hundred feet. The ore is among the richest found in the Territory, showing an assay as high as \$400, silver, to the ton, with traces of free gold. The Reformer or Mother Lode, they so named on account of its vastness rather than its richness. It runs from thirty to forty feet in thickness, can be traced for a long distance and is said to carry gold and silver in the proportion of about \$50 in gold and \$200 in silver to the ton. A few men of wealth have already found their way there and discoveries of equal richness have been made on lands yet included in the Moses Reservation. They are waiting for the Government to remove the Indians so as to allow the mines to be worked—which will no doubt soon be done. Three mines, called the Eagle, Cabaar and Enterprise, on the north side of the Similkameen River, are being worked. Two-fifths of the Enterprise mine was sold to Walla Walla parties for \$12,500, and each of them are considered very valuable, but the ore in them does not run so high as that in the higher altitude on the south side of the Similkameen River. There can be no doubt that the opening of this district will be of the utmost importance to Spokane Falls, as this is the only place which can possibly become its base of supplies. From this city there is a level grade and a good wagon road directly to the Similkameen region and the building of a railroad from Spokane to Kettle Falls, on the Columbia, will bring the mines to our very door. The Cascade Range shuts the mines off from the west and this is their natural and only outlet.

THE KETTLE FALLS DISTRICT.

In addition to the Chewelah, Pend d'Oreille and Similkameen Districts, to which we have alluded, all of which are located in Stevens County, that county has just developed a fourth mining region which has been named the Kettle Falls District. This is situated on the west side of the Columbia River and west of the Pend d'Oreille District. This is among the very latest discovered and shows immense deposits of the finest sand and crystalized carbonate ores, similar in character to the Leadville and Eureka ores. In addition to these, a number of large veins of coal have been discovered in that region, which experts declare will coke as readily as the noted Westhartley coal. These coal veins have been traced for a mile or more in length, showing a width of from five to twenty feet, and the fields are thought to be very extensive. This will prove of incalculable value and add immensely to the richness of the region and to our city, which stands at the gateway of the very best outlet to that entire country. The old mines in the Kettle Falls District are not being vigorously worked at present, although

some fabulously rich samples of ore have been brought from them. Rich gold fields, in gravel, have been successfully worked along the Columbia River for years. What promises to be one of the most important of these is the hydraulic diggings, which will be opened up fully this season, owned by Judge Still, of this county, and nine other gentlemen. This claim is located at the mouth of Mill Creek, six miles above the famous Oppenheimer claim. It has a vast extent of three or four thousand acres, is located so that the whole surface can be easily washed and is known to be immensely rich. Its owners have just refused an offer of \$100,000 for their claim.

Hydraulic mining along this portion of the Columbia River has been done at different places for many years, some of the most extensive of these operations being carried on by Chinamen. Lieutenant Symons alludes to their work as follows: "There are quite a number of Chinamen engaged in mining on the river bars. Many bars have been worked and abandoned, and others have not been worked, owing to the difficulty of getting water to them. In some instances the Chinamen have put in flumes several miles in length and constructed quite extensive works to obtain the precious metal from the gravel and sand. In the construction of these works they often display much ingenuity and knowledge of hydraulics. In one place, just below the Spokane River, they have taken the water from Hawk Creek and conducted it about three miles in ditches and wooden flumes made of whip-sawed lumber, and have taken it to a large bar-island in the river, crossing the intervening channel by means of an inverted syphon, also made of whip-sawed lumber." The mineral regions specifically alluded to are, by no means the only ones tributary to this city. Others, notably those around Lake Pend d'Oreille and the Metflow District, have been partially prospected and are known to contain valuable deposits, and still others are being discovered. Those described are sufficient to prove the bright future before our city. The *Seattle Chronicle*, published in a city which feels under no obligations to Spokane Falls, a few days ago made this candid statement: "Spokane Falls is expecting to reap a rich harvest from the different mining camps next season. It seems to be situated in a semi-circle of what promises to be a very rich mineral country. The Coeur d'Alene on the east and southeast, the Kootenai and Upper Columbia on the north and the new discoveries on the west and northwest. The latter promises to be very rich and extensive."

A MICA MOUNTAIN.

Another valuable auxiliary to Spokane Falls' growth is a mica peak, which is being rapidly opened and developed, and which is considered a perfect bonanza to its lucky owners. The Spokane Falls *Evening Review* recently called attention to it in an article from which we make the following extract: "Few of our readers may be aware of the existence, in sight of this city, of one of the most promising mica mines in the country, but it is there all the same and is being worked by a syndicate of Denver capitalists. Mica is a valuable mineral that can be found, in paying quantities, only in a few portions of America.

Heretofore the chief supply of mica has been drawn from North Carolina, but the indications now are that Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho will wrest much of the trade in that material from the Southern State. Little has been known and less said in regard to this mine, and in fact no large shipments have been made from the claim, although much valuable mica has been taken out during the past few months. By some means, ten residents of Denver got hold of the mine and incorporated a company under the name of The Mica Peak Mining Company, of which J. D. Coplen is President, and E. Moses, Secretary. We met Mr. Coplen to-day while he was in the city on business, and he gives a very favorable report of the project. Mica Peak is a high elevation in the chain of mountains southeast of this city and is some twenty-five miles distant. The mountain is plainly to be seen from this place. Considerable work has been done on the mine and a force will be kept constantly in operation. The company has an order on hand for 5000 pounds from Denver, and when it is filled the stuff will be shipped through to New York. Spokane Falls will be the shipping point for this mine. The mica taken out is in large sheets, that is large sheets for that kind of mineral, and has been pronounced as good as the best in the market. There is a ready sale for all that can be mined, and as it brings between \$11 and \$12 per pound it will be readily seen that the mine is an exceedingly valuable one. This is but another of the many industries that will go to aid in building up this city during the next few years. If the mine proves to be more extensive than it is at present known, it will give employment for a large force for all time to come, and will be the source of a large income to those who hold stock in the company."

COAL FIELDS.

The vastness of the timber regions of the Territory and the meagre demand for coal, has tended to retard the development of the coal fields within our borders, but this fuel is known to exist in very large quantities and of the very finest quality. With the building of mills and manufactories here will come a demand for coal, and the fact that it can be had within easy reach of Spokane Falls will encourage such investments here. We have already alluded to the rich and vast deposits of this fuel one hundred miles north, in our article on the Kettle Falls Mining District, and this will be brought to our very doors within a year, by the construction of a railroad. The Governor of the Territory, in a recent address, publicly stated that "all of Western Washington was one vast coal basin." Within a few months our city will be directly connected with that region by the completion of the Cascade Branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Another very large coal region is found in the Yakima Valley, between Yakima City and Ellensburg. These mines can be very easily worked and the quality of the coal is found to exceed that in the Western part of the Territory, near Seattle, and which is particularly noted for its heat-producing qualities. The Northern Pacific Railroad is now completed and in

operation to these Yakima coal fields, putting them but a few hours from Spokane Falls.

A PLUMBAGO MINE.

The Ellensburg *Localizer* says: "Every week develops some new discoveries in the mineral district northwest of this place, in the extensive mineral belt about the headwaters of the Cle-el-um and other tributaries of the Yakima River. This time we have to record the discovery of a valuable silver lode on the Catches, just above the Cle-el-um. We have a specimen of the ore that we think is very rich, and is, perhaps, the very best that has been brought to public notice. The discoverers are John Davis, David Wheaton, L. Cassady, John E. Voice and Leroy Gilham. They went five or six days to Catches Lake, and in their prospecting they discovered what was thought to be silver. It is found, however, to be a genuine mine of plumbago, with a small per cent of silver. The plumbago in places is soft and can be spaded out like peat. It is perfectly pure, and some of it resembles hornblende, is in flakes, and will mark like a lead pencil on paper. It is difficult to tell what it is worth on this coast—perhaps several hundred dollars a ton. A man could get out several tons a day." These mines are situated only one hundred and fifty miles from Spokane Falls, and are directly connected with us by the Northern Pacific Railroad, now completed and in operation.

Manufacturing and Business.

The present industries of Spokane Falls are two flouring mills, three planing mills, two sash, door and blind factories, one excelsior packing and mattress factory, one machine shop, two carriage manufacturing, two banks with a capital of \$300,000, one fence manufactory, one cigar factory, one saw mill, three breweries, sixteen saloons, one hide and fur depot, three wholesale liquor dealers, nine grocers, four drug stores, nine general merchandise stores, two boot and shoe stores, two furniture houses, four hardware stores, four wholesale dry goods houses, three lumber dealers, three commission merchants, three harness factories, seven real estate dealers, two ice dealers, two agricultural implement houses, one grain dealer, one soda water factory, four jewelers, one broker, four money loaners, four millinery stores, three fruit and confectionery stores, two book stores, four tailors, eight contractors and builders, three butcher shops, two skating rinks, three second hand stores, three bakeries, five hotels, four restaurants, several boarding houses, four livery and feed stables, one live stock dealer and a number of small retail dealers in various branches of trade. The city has six practicing physicians, twenty-three attorneys, one

abstractor, four surveyors, four insurance agents, three dentists, two photographers, five barber shops, two weekly newspapers and one daily.

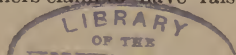
The business of the town has increased marvelously. Four years ago the amount of trade here did not exceed \$100,000 per year. The past year it is estimated to have amounted to nearly \$3,500,000. This vast increase is due largely to this being made a wholesale distributing point, and the business could have been much more largely increased, had there been sufficient capital here.

Among the enterprises which are demanded here and which could not fail to succeed we may name flour mills, saw mills, woolen mills, planing mills, sash, door and blind factories, tub and bucket factories, starch factories, beet sugar factories, furniture factories, alcohol works, breweries, paper mills, vinegar factory, tannery, barrel factory, wagon and carriage manufactories, machine shops, gold and silver reduction works and smelters, shot tower, iron and steel works, car works, linseed oil works, boot and shoe manufactory, agricultural machinery works, foundry, pork and beef packing houses, fruit canning establishment, cracker factory, and many others too numerous to mention. All those enumerated would find plenty of raw material produced in this country, and would have all the country within a radius of several hundred miles in which to find a market without competition.

Grain, Fruits and Vegetables.

Wheat is the staple agricultural product of the entire country. Its superior quality has made it famous in the grain markets of the World and always insures for it the highest market price. The berry is heavy and full and often exceeds, by from five to nine pounds, the standard weight of a bushel. The average yield is from twenty to forty bushels per acre, and it makes the very finest of flour.

Oats yield heavily and, like wheat, usually overrun the standard weight, by from four to nine pounds to the bushel. The average yield is probably about thirty-five bushels per acre. In the richer soils and more favored localities the yield is much greater. Barley has been and can be grown here with eminent success. Samples gathered of the farmers in this region have been pronounced in quality superior to that grown in other localities by experts in San Francisco and Eastern cities and frequent shipments are made all the way to Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis and Cincinnati, in which markets it has made a reputation for superiority. We are not prepared to give an accurate estimate of the average yield, but some farmers claim to have raised



fifty bushels per acre. It has excellent properties for brewing purposes, makes the very best feed for hogs, and by many is thought to be superior to oats for horses.

Rye and corn are largely raised in this section, but do not succeed so well as in the more southern parts of Oregon. Corn is said to average here about forty bushels and rye from twenty to twenty-five per acre. Of recent flax has been raised for export, and its culture is a permanent industry. It is not unusual to obtain from 400 to 800 pounds of clear fibre per acre. The seed nets one dollar per bushel. Linen making could be successfully engaged in, as there is convenient water power in Spokane for driving any number of looms and mills. The culture of hops is one of the most important and profitable industries in Western Washington and the Yakima Valley, and it is claimed they can be grown with equal success in this section. They are grown on the river bottom lands, and, with proper cultivation, a large yield of superior quality is obtained. The crop runs from 1,500 to 3,000 pounds per acre. The crop sells readily at prices ranging from fifteen to twenty cents per pound, and the export demand is steady. In 1882, owing to a strong speculative demand, the price reached one dollar per pound. The advantages connected with the hop industry are a suitable soil, the certainty of a good crop, early bearing of the vines, extraordinary yield, low cost of production, facilities for securing poles, fuel for drying, and cheap labor for picking.

Fruits of delicious aroma and flavor, and of remarkable size and beauty, can be raised in great abundance. Apples grow to perfection. The tree is indigenous to the soil, the fruit is large, highly colored and of delicious taste. The trees are stout, hardy and prolific.

Prunes thrive as well as in any other part of the world. The trees are healthy and vigorous and bear early. The fruit is rich, mellow, large, and has a delicate aromatic taste.

Plums are prolific, magnificent in size and color, and are sweet and of fine flavor. There are many varieties, and the trees are hardy and reliable bearers.

Pears of all the best known varieties, early and late, of large size and excellent flavor, are produced in profusion. The trees are hardy, bearing at a remarkably early age. Some specimens attain a weight of three pounds and upward.

Cherries, unexcelled anywhere, grow in unlimited abundance. The trees are hardy and heavy bearers, and the fruit is superior in size and beauty.

Peaches have been cultivated satisfactorily along the Columbia River and in the Walla Walla Valley, as well as at many other points east of the Cascade Mountains. Sufficient experiments have not been made here yet to enable us to speak positively as to whether they can be grown successfully in this altitude. Mr. J. J. Stage, an experienced horticulturist, who has a farm and nursery adjoining the townsite, says: "I have peaches and apricots that have grown well and stood the last two Winters, but have raised no fruit yet."

Strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries and currants,

delicious in flavor, large in size, and perfect in all respects, are easily raised and are quite abundant.

Mr. Stage estimates the number of apple trees in Spokane County at 55,000, plum trees 5,500, prunes 4,400, peaches 5,000 and grapevines 600.

Vegetables of every variety and of the finest quality are produced. Potatoes, cabbages, onions, turnips, squashes, beets, carrots, parsnips, cucumbers and celery grow to large size. All the vegetables named thrive equally well and give abundant crops in both sections of the country, notwithstanding the climatic distinctions which exist east and west of the Cascade Mountains. Melons, tomatoes and some of the fruits, however, flourish better in the warmer and drier atmosphere east of the mountains. Rev. Neal Cheetham, who lives near Waitsburg, sold \$600 worth of melons raised on less than one acre.

Of his experience with vegetables, Mr. Stage says: "Vegetables of all kinds do excellently; in fact, I have never, in all my experience of eight years, grown better onions, cabbages, potatoes, beets, carrots, beans, turnips, etc., than I have here this year. I raised 11,600 pounds of onions, on one-fourth of an acre."

The average yield of wheat per acre may safely be stated at 22 bushels; of oats and barley, 35; corn, 40; rye, 21; peas, 40; beans, 36; potatoes, 300; sweet potatoes, 150; turnips, 600; carrots, 500; parsnips, 500. Cabbages produce from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds, and hay from two and a half to three tons per acre.

Growth.

The population of the entire Territory has increased at a very rapid rate. By the Government Census, in 1870 it was 23,955. In 1880 it had grown to 75,116—an increase of 213 per cent. in ten years. In 1884 the population exceeded 150,000—an increase of over 1000 per cent. in four years. Spokane Falls has had a much more rapid increase than that. By an official census taken less than two years ago the population of the city was about 1,600. In October last the permanent population was estimated by careful observers to be at least 3,500 and cannot now be much less than 4,000, showing that the city will nearly treble its size in two years, and that at a time of the greatest depression known in this country. In 1882 the vote of Spokane Falls was 336. At the election two years later it was 1010. The number of its business houses and the amount of business transacted here has increased in a still greater proportion, as a large wholesale trade with the smaller towns is now carried on by our business men. This is a very remarkable showing, when we remember that it was only November 29, 1881, when the Governor signed the bill incorporating this as a city. Another

remarkable feature of the city's growth is the fact that it has been almost wholly from within and not from outside capital. That it may be seen that the city has not been boomed ahead of the outlying country, we have but to allude to the progress made by Spokane county. In 1882 the vote of Spokane county was 1,900. The county then included the territory now embraced in the new counties of Lincoln and Douglas and covered an area of over 10,000 square miles. The county now has an area of but 1,534 square miles, yet at the general election last Fall, the vote was nearly 3,000 and the vote of the territory formerly included in Spokane county, was 6,000, showing an increase for the whole county of over 300 per cent. an increase even greater than that for the city. In 1883 the assessment of property in Spokane county, (the territory now included in the counties of Spokane, Lincoln and Douglas) aggregated \$3,183,378. In 1884, in the same territory it aggregated \$4,702,102, an increase of nearly 50 per cent. in one year. Five years ago the taxable wealth of Spokane Falls was not over \$30,000, while now the city pays taxes on property assessed at \$1,500,000, at a very low valuation.

Educational.

The permanent population of Spokane Falls is of a very highly intellectual and moral character, composed of the families of those enterprising persons who have gathered here from the Coast cities and from the East, to unite their energies in the work of building up a city. The people of Spokane Falls deserve to be complimented more for their generosity in furthering the cause of education than they do on account of their beautiful townsite, their superb water power, their fields of waving grain, their sublime mountain scenery or their mines of the precious metals. It cannot be said of Spokane Falls, as of most new towns, that the people have gone crazy in their eager pursuit of the almighty dollar. They recognize the fact that intellectual culture is the genius of the age in which we live, and constitutes in itself a true exponent of real wealth and power. Within the past two years a public school building which cost nearly \$8,000, a Methodist College more costly and a building for a Catholic College, to be under the management of the Jesuit Fathers, have been erected. This latter structure is an imposing one and cost \$15,000.

The city public schools are in charge of Professor L. H. Prather, of the Asbury (now known as the De Poe) University, Indiana. The schools are divided into six different departments, each of which is presided over by an experienced assistant. The grading and management of the schools, and the intellectual and educational standing of the scholars is equal to any schools of like character in the Eastern States. The schools now have an attendance of two hundred and sixty pupils. The present school building has four separate departments,

LAKE COEUR D'ALENE.



and was thought at the time of its erection, less than two years ago, to be sufficient for the demands of the city for a number of years. Already it is found to be only half large enough and two of the city churches are rented by the city and used for school purposes. The High School has organized a literary society which is doing good work.

On Riverside Avenue, in the central part of the city, is located the Spokane English and Classical School, a select school organized in September last and conducted by Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Libby, with able and competent assistants. This school was organized and is conducted on a high plane of efficiency and has met with very encouraging success. It has enrolled over sixty pupils in the first two terms. Mr. and Mrs. Libby are confessedly among the most competent instructors in the Territory and are greatly beloved by their pupils. Their school is to be one of the permanent institutions of our growing city and is constantly enlarging its facilities. It is doing a good work.

The Spokane College is a regular chartered institution with full course of study and a competent corps of instructors. Graduates for the college course of four years will receive the usual degrees. Besides the regular college course, there are the usual normal, preparatory and commercial courses, so that the students of all grades may be received and their wants fully met. No pains are spared to make this institution equal in all respects to those of the East. The college property consists of about twenty acres of land beautifully situated on the north side of the river with a view of the Falls, and of a fine building costing over \$3,000. The Preparatory Department of the College opened in November 1882, under the instruction of Rev. I. C. Libby, the first President. Mr. Libby was in charge of the college two years. During his administration several students became quite well advanced in languages and mathematics. In the Fall of 1884, Rev. R. E. Bisbee took charge of the college and employed as assistants Rev. L. D. Pangborn, L. D. Westfall, Mrs. M. C. Walts and Miss F. M. Williams, the latter two being music teachers. Classes are organized in Latin, Greek, geometry, algebra, philosophy, history, logic, book-keeping, etc. A literary society has been organized and holds weekly meetings. The college is under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but is by no means sectarian in its purposes. Its aim is thorough scholarship and a high standard of moral and Christian character. Great credit is due the generosity of the citizens of this place, without regard to denomination, in establishing and maintaining the institution. Though yet in its infancy, Spokane College is destined to take its place among the great institutions of the land.

Let no one who contemplates coming to this city have any fears of a lack of educational facilities. Besides those enumerated the Rodney Morris (Episcopalian) school is located here and expects soon to open with excellent facilities and a full course of study. The Gonzaga (Catholic) College Building, to which we have alluded, is completed and will no doubt be opened this season. The recent death of the resident pastor, Rev. Father Ruellan, has caused a delay, which, however,

will be only temporary. Spokane Falls promises to be the great educational centre of the Pacific Northwest.

Churches.

The Congregational, Catholic, Episcopalian, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches are represented here with active working societies and resident pastors. All have houses of worship except the Presbyterians, and they have just purchased a lot, in a very desirable locality, preparatory to building this season. These societies are all composed of an active intelligent membership, have good Sunday Schools and are in charge of pastors whose ability is of a high order. Christians desiring to remove here can find pleasant church homes with these people.

Climate.

In the inquiry made about a new country the climate is always the chief burden. It is a matter that interests those of sound bodily health as well as those who are invalids. We think many exaggerations have been made in representing the climate of Eastern Washington. Some have misrepresented by stating that the Winters are extremely rigorous and severe, while others have erred in asserting that there is no cold and disagreeable Winter weather here. We have alluded incidentally to the climate of this region on page 13. The fact is, there are Winters here when there are several weeks of quite cold and disagreeable weather, but certainly not so much as this northern latitude might lead one to believe. Being so far north it would be cold here, but for the fact that we are not subject to the natural influences of climate—that is, not located with reference to the zones. In the three months called Winter, we have the climate of Maryland, Washington City, and Jefferson City, Missouri. In the Winter we have the influence of the soft, warm winds from the China and Japan Seas, and in Summer these winds are cooled by the high range of mountains lying to the west, north and east of the Spokane Country. According to the Signal Service record, the average temperature for 1882 was 57.70°. Here in the Falls, that Winter, there were but seven days when carpenters could not do outdoor work, and not more than two weeks between November and January when it was not common to see painters doing outside work. During the year, there were 21 days when the maximum thermometer was below 32°, and six days when it exceeded 75°. Rainfall, 20.18 inches. When we have hot weather, the heat is not at all oppressive; everybody laboring without any inconvenience. The nights are always cool and refreshing, making light blankets a

necessary part of the bed clothing. Nothing could be more thoroughly delightful than the Spring and Fall months.

Some seasons, snow may lie a month or six weeks on the ground. Usually, however, it disappears within a few days. The speedy melting of the snow is due, at times, to a somewhat remarkable phenomenon. A periodical warm wind blows up the channel of the Columbia from the southwest throughout the year. This is called the Chinook. It penetrates the gaps and passes of the mountain ranges of Montana. Before it the snow melts so rapidly that often in the course of a few hours no vestige remains where it lay a foot in depth a day before. The Chinook wind is a great benefit to the country. Its warm, moist atmosphere is doubtless the result of its passage across the great thermal ocean stream, known as the Japan current, which operates so powerfully to mitigate the climate of the entire Northwest Coast, that otherwise would be cold and rigorous in the extreme. Further, when it is very cold, there are no razor-like winds, as in Nevada, Utah and Nebraska.

Spring begins in February with warm, pleasant weather, and lasts until the middle of May. At this season rain falls in sufficient quantity to give life to vegetation and insure good crops. The climate is quite healthy, the death rate in Spokane Falls last year being less than ten to the thousand, the usual average being about seventeen throughout the whole country.

Meteorological Summary for the Years of 1882-83-84.

WAR DEP'T, SIGNAL SERVICE, U. S. ARMY, }
AT SPOKANE FALLS, W. T. }

1882.

MONTHS.	TEMPERATURE.				WIND		Total rain or melted snow— inches.
	Mean.....	Maximum.....	Minimum.....	Absolute range..	Prevaling Direction.....	Max Velocity..	
January.....	22.8	42.0	*17.0	59.0	W	28	4.54
February.....	26.1	45.0	*14.0	60.0	S W	29	2.25
March.....	36.5	68.0	7.0	61.0	S W	44	1.04
April.....	44.4	69.0	29.0	40.0	S W	30	2.84
May.....	54.5	84.0	32.0	52.0	S	32	1.54
June.....	64.7	94.5	39.0	55.5	S W	35	1.17
July.....	69.2	97.5	45.0	52.5	S W	32	.83
August.....	68.9	101.5	38.0	63.5	S W	20	.14
September.....	59.0	87.0	36.0	51.0	S W	24	.80
October.....	44.4	61.0	28.0	33.0	S W	24	4.81
November.....	33.8	52.0	14.0	38.0	N E	20	2.44
December.....	33.8	49.0	2.2	46.8	S W	23	3.54

Annual Mean Temperature, 46.5.

Highest Temperature, 101.5.

Lowest Temperature, *17.0.

Total Rainfall or Melted Snows—Inches, 25.99.

NOTE—*Below Zero.

1883.

MONTHS.	TEMPERATURE.				WIND.		Total rain or m'd snow—Inches.
	Mean.....	Maximum.....	Minimum.....	Absolute range..	Prevailing Direction.....	M'xin Velocity..	
January.....	23.8	47.2	*27.7	74.9	S W	31	2.13
February.....	19.8	47.3	*21.4	68.8	E	24	2.95
March.....	40.8	67.2	25.0	42.2	N E	25	.85
April.....	46.0	70.0	29.0	41.0	W	37	1.93
May.....	55.3	78.7	34.0	44.7	S W	31	2.11
June.....	65.3	95.4	39.2	56.2	S W	28	.60
July.....	71.1	96.7	46.0	50.7	S W	23	.00
August.....	68.8	96.3	39.0	57.3	S W	23	.15
September.....	57.7	84.0	35.0	49.0	S W	16	.08
October.....	44.3	70.4	24.0	46.4	S W	26	1.48
November.....	39.0	57.6	19.8	37.8	S W	31	1.98
December.....	29.5	47.0	3.5	43.5	N	28	.21

Annual Mean Temperature, 46.8.

Highest Temperature, 96.7.

Lowest Temperature, *27.7.

Total Rainfall or Melted Snow—Inches, 14.37.

NOTE—*Below Zero.

1884.

MONTHS.	TEMPERATURE.				WIND.		Total rain or m'd snow—Inches, ...
	Mean.....	Maximum.....	Minimum.....	Absolute range..	Prevailing Direction.....	M'xin Velocity..	
January.....	24.4	50.9	1.2	49.7	N	22	1.79
February.....	21.3	48.8	*17.8	66.6	NE	29	3.04
March.....	35.9	58.2	12.0	46.2	SW	22	1.54
April.....	50.2	73.0	31.5	41.5	SW	22	1.33
May.....	59.8	88.8	37.8	51.0	SW	21	.56
June.....	65.7	93.8	42.8	51.0	SW	26	2.58
July.....	65.7	91.0	42.8	48.2	SW	19	1.06
August.....	69.6	97.5	44.3	53.0	SW	16	.54
September.....	52.5	75.3	32.8	42.5	S W	19	2.43
October.....	46.9	70.5	26.0	44.5	SW	17	1.82
November.....	37.7	56.2	18.0	38.2	NE	16	.59
December.....	15.5	44.3	*17.8	62.1	W	23	3.28

Annual Mean Temperature, 45.4.

Highest Temperature, 97.5

Lowest Temperature, *17.8.

Total Rainfall or Melted Snow—inches, 20.56.

NOTE.—*Below zero.

D. MOORE,
Sergt. Signal Corps, U. S. A.

Transportation.

At present Spokane Falls has but one line of railroad—the Northern Pacific—but this is one of the best equipped and best managed roads in the country. But this is the centre of a great system of radiating stage lines and wagon roads and is destined within the next few years to become an important railroad centre. A railroad is soon to be built north, passing directly through the Chewelah and Colville mining camps, and agricultural valleys, to Kettle Falls on the Columbia River. From there the river is navigable for large steamers for 350 miles. A line of boats is to be run in connection with this road, which will place us in direct connection with the Canadian Pacific Railroad and the vast regions of British Columbia.

A railroad is also projected to run west, through the famous Big Bend wheat fields to Priest's Rapids, on the Columbia, from which point there will soon be steamboat navigation to Portland and the sea coast. The United States Government has nearly completed the locks at the Cascades and plans are being perfected to remove the obstructions to navigation at The Dalles, which will open the river to free navigation to the Pacific Ocean.

A railway has also been projected to run south, up Hangman Creek, which will drain the rich and highly cultivated section coming to within a few miles of Spokane and spreading all the way to Lewiston, Idaho. A branch from this road will be built through Moscow and on south to the Snake River, securing another route to connect with water navigation to the Ocean. From this road another branch will be constructed north and northeast around the south end of Lake Coeur d'Alene and into the famous Coeur d'Alene mining regions. This is the most practicable and accessible railroad route into these mines and it is a line that will be built very soon. The main line will be extended on southeast so as to connect with the Utah & Northern, giving us direct connection with Butte, Ogden, Salt Lake City, Denver and another route to all points east and south.

These are the lines at present projected, which are to centre at Spokane Falls, and which will doubtless, be constructed without serious delay. They are roads projected by Mr. Villard and which but for his reverse of fortune and the financial disaster which came upon the country, would now be under contract, in the course of construction or completed. The development of the country and the rapid growth of this city which they will hasten will demand still other lines in a few years.

Questions and Answers.

In order to present in as concise form as possible the information desired by parties in "the States," in reference to this country we append a list of the questions most frequently asked, by parties writing here for information, with each properly answered:

What is the population of Spokane Falls?

About 3,500.

What are the prominent features of the climate?

Moderate, healthful, and in the main pleasant.

How much snow and rainfall?

A good deal of snow in Winter and the rainfall in Summer rather light.

Have you plenty of water and is it pure?

In most localities plenty and always pure.

What is the character of the soil in and around Spokane Falls?

The soil varies in character.

How near to Spokane Falls can vacant Government lands be obtained?

North, about twenty miles, mostly timber. West, one hundred miles. South, all taken, but good claims can be bought for very reasonable figures.

What is the price of railroad lands in the vicinity of Spokane Falls?

From \$2.50 to \$10.00 per acre, on ten years time at 7 per cent. No reduction for cash.

Are there any good grazing lands in your section?

Yes, plenty of them.

How far is Spokane Falls from the Columbia River?

About fifty-five miles to the nearest point.

Are there plenty of fish in the streams?

Yes, and a great abundance of game in the mountains.

How far are the Coeur d'Alene mines from Spokane Falls, and what are your nearest mines?

About ninety miles to Coeur d'Alene, and the nearest mines (Chewelah) are about fifty miles away.

Have you means of travel and transportation to and from the mines?

Yes, there are regular lines of stages and freight teams, in connection with steamers, and railroads are projected to each district.

What are your educational facilities?

Good graded public schools, two colleges, and one private or select school.



What is the price of fuel ?

Three dollars per cord for pine wood.

Have you any coal ?

None yet in use here. Coal has been discovered within one hundred miles and of good quality.

Are the churches well represented ?

We have six different churches.

Do you manufacture brick in Spokane ?

Yes, and of excellent quality.

What wages do mechanics receive ?

Carpenters get from \$3.00 to \$3.50, masons from \$4.00 to \$6.00, and laborers from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per day.

Can you raise fruits, and what kind ?

All kinds raised in temperate climates. Small fruits, apples, plums, etc., do splendidly.

How cold does it get at Spokane Falls ?

It very rarely gets as low as thirty degrees below zero. The past Winter it did not get so cold as twenty below, and the Winters are generally no colder than this one.

What is the railroad fare from Chicago and St. Paul to Spokane Falls ?

Emigrant rate, \$54.00 from the former city, and \$42.00 from the latter.

Have you any Indians and are they troublesome ?

Only a few and they are not troublesome. All of them will soon be removed to reservations remote from us.

What class of people in and around Spokane Falls ?

Nearly all Americans, intelligent and thrifty.

What are the chief industries of the country ?

Mining, agriculture, grazing, lumbering and fruit growing.

What are the taxes ?

Less than one per cent. of actual value of property.

What is the best route from the States ?

Buy tickets over the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Is there much stock raised about Spokane Falls ?

Some, but not a great deal as yet.

Does stock have to be fed in Winter ?

Stock now lives on the bunch grass range all Winter, when the snow is not too deep, but usually farmers prepare for thirty days feeding.

Are there any mineral springs near the Falls ?

No, but Medical Lake has mineral waters possessing medicinal properties.

What public improvements has your city ?

The Holly Water Works, Telephone Exchange, will have gas this Spring, and Electric Light soon.

Would you advise a man of fair means to move to Spokane Falls ?

Yes, if he has fair judgment, energy and pluck.

What is your water power ?

One hundred and forty-four thousand horse power at low water.

What kinds of timber have you ?

Pine, cedar, hemlock, fir and tamarack, mostly.

Are the professions well represented ?

Yes.

How many stage routes centre in Spokane Falls ?

Seven.

What is the price of lots in Spokane ?

Dwelling lots from \$50 to \$100, and business lots from \$500 to \$4,000

What is the cost of living ?

Food and produce are a very little higher than they are in Illinois, while clothing rates about the same as in all of the States west of the Mississippi. Boarding house rates are about one-third higher and rents nearly double.

What is the price of building material ?

Good lumber \$10 per M. and brick \$8 per M.

How far are you from Portland ?

Distance by rail, 374 miles.

What is the character of your buildings ?

Mostly wood, but we have nine fine brick blocks.

At what rate can money be had ?

From one and a half to two per cent. a month.

What Outsiders Think of Spokane.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette*, a few weeks ago, alluded to this city in the following language: "To show the rapid strides of this place I will mention the fact that, whereas the lands were taken up five years ago at \$2.50 an acre, the tax duplicate of Spokane Falls runs to-day up in the millions. Flour and saw-mills are running day and night and cannot supply the demand nor work up the wheat and logs offered. Spokane Falls is bound to become the Minneapolis of the Pacific Slope within a very short time. The climate here is still soft and pleasant; I gathered yesterday four varieties of wild flowers upon the hillsides back of the city, which, considering that this point is at nearly forty-eight degrees north latitude, and far north of Portland, Maine, is almost incredible. I have no interest here, no axes to grind, no town lots to boom, (I wish I had;) hence when I say that this is the loveliest spot on the North American Continent, it is from pure conviction."

In a three column article in the Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette* of a late date, summing the results of his observations on the Northern Pacific Railroad, General H. V. Boynton, Chief of the Washington Bureau of that paper, says: "The most productive grain region of the line, not excepting the famed Red River Valley, is without doubt that of which Walla Walla and Spokane Falls, both in Washington Territory, are the centers. The former is already well developed, and the capacities of the latter have been sufficiently tested. This region is

about twice the size of the Red River Basin ; it has a soil as inexhaustible ; it will produce more wheat to the acre, and it enjoys a climate where the Winters bring little discomfort, and are for the most part and through most seasons mild and attractive. The wheat is not so hard as that of the Red River, but the great excess in the yield makes up for the deficiency. The belief of the railroad officials is that the wheat from this section can be profitably transported to Duluth for shipment eastward by the lakes. In the near future, however, much of it will be turned into flour at Spokane Falls, a place which promises to become the Minneapolis of the Western end of the road. It is beautifully situated on the rocky bluffs overlooking a river which affords unlimited water power. The northern timber belt is close at hand on one side, and the wheat region just described on the other. It already has a thriving business, mills, lumbering establishments, schools, churches and two colleges. It will soon give heavy business to the road. In fact, it has now outgrown the very liberal freight accommodations which were provided when the road was opened to the place, and once afterward enlarged."

One of the most flattering tributes ever paid to our city was in an editorial published but a short time ago in the *Portland Standard*. It certainly comes from an impartial source and from a city that has never been accused of having a disposition to magnify the importance of other localities. The *Standard* says :

"As a specimen city of the Pacific Northwest, Spokane Falls, Washington Territory, takes the lead. If, as it has been aptly termed, the Northern Pacific Railway is a rosary of beautiful and thriving towns and cities, the *Standard* is cosmopolitan enough to experience pleasure and gratification in knowing and saying, that for rapid, yet permanent growth, for enterprise and thrift, Spokane Falls, among all the towns in Washington Territory, is the gem ; stands pre-eminent, It is doubtful if the Western Slope of the Continent can produce a better exemplification of indomitable pluck and push, a prouder result of genuine American enterprise than is afforded by the career of Spokane Falls.

"Less than thirty months ago Spokane Falls was a village of about 300 people: raw in growth in all that pertained to progress. To-day, a bustling city of more than two thousand people, with bright newspapers, church and college edifices, opera house and public halls, bank and business blocks of metropolitan size and character, elegant residences, parks and drives, municipal arrangements for gas and water works, defiantly challenges public attention. The city gives an open-armed welcome to all comers, and prides itself upon doing the honors royally ; especially if there is that in the credentials of the stranger which guarantees an addition to the moral, social and financial strength of the community.

"Spokane Falls is no longer mere promise, but performance. It is the vestibule or gateway, into a vast, and as yet comparatively new territory on the North; an empire yet to be taken from the only isolated portion of the Continent and transformed into inviting and profitable homes for hundreds of thousands of people; a region already available

for the farmer, and miner, the stockman and the lumberman. To the South lies tributary an agricultural domain unequaled in production; to the West stretches away the famous Big Bend Country, and on the East, the farming lands merge into the mining district of the Coeur d'Alenes, the Comstock of the Pacific Northwest. For these mines, for all the immense domain we have mapped out, Spokane Falls is the commercial metropolis, the base of supply, the market for production, and nothing but the blindest stupidity or narrow selfish policy can forfeit this advantage.

"Withing the gates we find a citizenship that while it is phenomenally liberal in moral, social, religious and educational status, gives quick recognition to the multiplying resources of that locality. It is pleasant for the *Standard* to make this statement; not intending any invidious comparisons with other towns in that region, which are big with the muttering greatness of coming municipalities, but simply to chronicle that which is highly creditable to the people of the community in question, of interest to our local readers, and information to the intending immigrant."

Mr. Chas. A. Pillsbury, who has the largest flouring mills in the World, and who is located in Minneapolis, in speaking of the future cities of the Northwest, says: "Portland may be a great city some day, Seattle and Tacoma may become great cities, but Spokane Falls has all the advantages which will be sure to make it *the greatest city in the Northwest before many years have elapsed.*"

Conclusion.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter," the readers of this book, in the States, will doubtless ask, Would you advise us to come to Spokane Falls? If you have pluck and energy and a little money you are willing to invest with it; if you are content to live where people rustle for a living, are content to take your place among them and wait a reasonable time for a rich return for your toil, we say emphatically, YES! If you can scrape together barely enough to pay your expenses here, and would come expecting to find a land where people could live and grow wealthy without labor, be always free from care, aches, pains and disease, we say just as decidedly, No!

This is the poor man's country in the sense that it pays a larger reward to industry than almost any other. To the farmer we can present three conditions essential to his success—a comfortable climate, just warm enough to ripen crops and mature his fruits and vegetables; a soil of more than average fertility, with enough moisture to make the soil productive, and a good market for his products. To the capitalist we present one of the best places for investment on the continent; a city now in its infancy but sure to grow, in a few years, to one of the

most prominent manufacturing, railroad and mining centres in the country. To the mechanic we present that grandest opportunity which can ever come to those of his class—the opportunity to secure plenty of labor at good wages. To those seeking a pleasant place in which to make a home and spend life, as far as possible, at ease, we present a favored climate, a city delightfully situated, with good society, schools and churches, an atmosphere of moral refinement in which to rear and educate their children, and all the elevating influences of an Eastern city. To the tourist and sportsman we hold out the inducement of streams and forests abounding with fish and game, pleasant drives, opportunities for boating and bathing and scenery equal to the boasted pleasure resorts of Italy and Switzerland.

To all people who expect to labor who expect to begin with energy and keep it up, until a competence is gained; who will add moral, social, industrial and financial strength to the community, those now here extend a hearty welcome. Wit-living individuals had better give this country a wide berth.

During the next quarter of a century, here will be the theatre of the most stupendous public and private enterprise, which ever the world saw. Fortunes will be made, and the children of another generation will enjoy the luxuries of wealth. Careful investments now, while the opportunities are presented, cannot fail to be profitable. The history of the development of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and others, will be repeated here. It must be so, and the events of the next ten years will convince the doubting of the truth. There is no other country as the Spokane, so near the market and so fertile, where the land can be had for the asking. There is, in fact, no other prairie country in The Great Northwest that is not already cultivated.

Spokane Falls has an organized Board of Trade, composed of its intelligent and energetic business men, which is constantly engaged in promoting the welfare of the city. Its interest and influence covers a wide range and embraces the entire region tributary to the city. Immigrants and capitalists looking into the resources of the country are treated with courtesy and supplied with all the necessary information. The United States Land Office, for all of Washington Territory north of Snake River and east of the Columbia, is located here, also a branch office of the Northern Pacific Land Department. These combine to render this an especially desirable place at which to secure information about the lands of Eastern Washington, and to be used as a base of operations while searching for a suitable location.

Appendix.

Resolved, That the Board of Trade of the city of Spokane Falls, through its special committee, appointed for that purpose, fully endorse the foregoing work entitled "Settlers' Guide to Homes in the Northwest; Being a Hand-book of Spokane Falls, the Queen City of the Pacific," and recommend the same for its truthfulness and accuracy; and be it further

Resolved, That the committee are hereby instructed to place a copy of the said work in the various Public Libraries where the same may be of use to those seeking information in regard to Eastern Washington Territory.

Adopted, February 6, 1885.

G. H. MORGAN,
Vice-President.

MILLARD T. HARTSON,
Secretary.

We have read the proof sheets of the work entitled "The Settlers' Guide," which issues this week from the press of our contemporary, the REVIEW, and do not hesitate to indorse it as a very interesting and thoroughly reliable representation of the points in regard to Eastern Washington and Spokane Falls about which there is at this time such extensive inquiry. Messrs. Dallam, Ansell & Edwards have spared no pains to make it thorough, accurate and comprehensive. *Spokane Falls Chronicle, Feb. 5th, 1885.*





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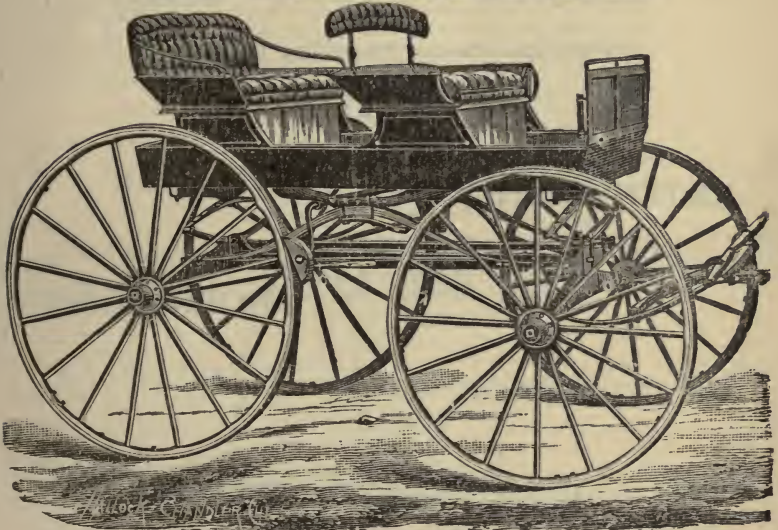
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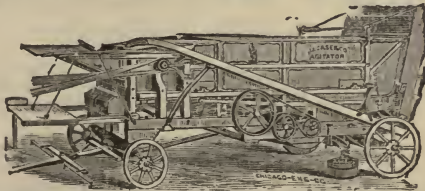
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


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