

ber of acres of Indian reservations. This statement would influence many votes in the West; it would be a good political cry. The negotiations began, and by persuasion, promises, and at last by threats, about one-third of the Indians were induced to sign the agreement. After that signatures came in very slowly. The commissioners hired their interpreters to assist them to obtain signers. The attorneys, who claimed that they had been retained by the Indians to defend their rights, worked hard to induce the people to sign. These attorneys were working on a contingent fee—the usual ten per cent for collection—and of course would receive nothing unless the treaty went through and the sale was made. Indians who were corrupt were hired, I was told, to vote more than once, signing first the name by which they went at the time, then the name which they had borne earlier in life, and later perhaps some still earlier name. The names of absent schoolboys were added to the list on the mere statement by some Indian that they were in favor of the sale. So by cajoling, promising, bribing, browbeating, bullying, and using illegal votes, the sale, which was bitterly opposed by one-half the tribe, was at last carried through by a bare majority.

What the Indians require today is something more than mere food and

What the Indians Require.

clothing. They need to be directed with some intelligence and interest. The conditions of each tribe or each agency should be studied by some fairly intelligent and experienced person, and the particular method thus determined to be the one best suited to the needs of the people should be employed. Agents and agency employees who are careless or indifferent should not be retained in the Indian service, and it should be the business of the inspectors to really learn how far the employees residing permanently on the reservation are actually interested in the Indians under their charge. It is gratifying to notice that this force of inspectors has recently been increased, and that some of the men chosen for the position feel a real interest in their work; and are willing to follow up the agency employees so that they will be obliged to do their duty. The farmers employed on reservations where agriculture can be practised should be real farmers. They should spend seedtime and harvest out among the camps and settlements, teaching the Indians how to perform the various operations of farming. The farmers on reservations where the Indians are stock-raisers should be practical cattlemen. They should understand their duties, and have something of the loyalty of the old-time cowboy. The cattle should be really cared for; cattle belonging to adjacent whites should be kept off the reservation, and the Indian's cattle held on it.

PRECIOUS METALS PRODUCT OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

WELLS, FARGO & COMPANY,
EXPRESS AND BANKING.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 31, 1898.

The following is our annual report of precious metals produced in the states and territories west of the Missouri river (including British Columbia and North West territory), during 1898, which shows in the aggregate: Gold, \$78,461,202; silver, \$39,016,565; copper, \$46,200,648; lead, \$13,344,251; total gross result, 177,022,666. The "commercial" value at which the several metals named herein have been estimated is: Silver, 58 cts. per oz.; copper, 12 cts. per lb.; and lead, \$3.65 per cwt.

Allowance must always be made for probable variations from reported figures, by reason of constantly increasing facilities for transporting bullion, ores and base metals from the mines outside of the express and the difficulty of getting entirely reliable data from private sources. Estimates obtained in this way are liable to be exaggerated and are, to a considerable degree, guesswork; but with some modifications on this account, made herein, the general results reached, while only approximately correct, may be accepted as the closest approximation possible under the circumstances.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	Gold Dust and Bullion by Express.	Gold Dust and Bullion by Other Conveyances	Silver Bullion by Express.	Ores and Base Bullion by Freight.	TOTAL.
California.....	\$12,486,968	\$2,915,685	\$ 64,443	\$ 2,639,255	\$18,106,351
Nevada.....	1,599,626	1,200,159	605,589	190,168	3,595,542
Oregon.....	1,542,342	640,027	38,735	4,015	2,215,119
Washington.....	209,531	111,063	52,002	85,000	457,596
Alaska.....		3,253,991		67,500	3,321,491
Idaho.....	2,487,000		3,723,665	5,437,600	11,648,265
Montana.....	4,630,080		9,425,000	29,843,000	43,898,080
Utah.....	1,205,660	962,622	101,323	8,212,283	10,481,888
Colorado.....	23,177,262		14,456,559	3,682,823	41,316,644
New Mexico.....	161,416	143,450	75,235	1,324,765	1,704,866
Arizona.....	1,089,978	1,477,047	686,757	11,721,447	15,575,829
Dakota.....	6,575,220		95,000	34,200	6,704,420
Texas.....	5,250		275,850		281,100
Wyoming.....	21,225		26,750	4,300	52,275
North West Territory and British Columbia.....	11,975,000		3,935,200	1,753,000	17,663,200
Total.....	\$67,766,558	\$10,694,644	\$33,562,108	\$64,999,356	\$177,022,666

The gross yield for 1898, shown above, segregated, is approximately as follows:

Gold.....	44 32-100.....	\$78,461,202
Silver.....	22 4-100.....	39,016,565
Copper.....	26 10-100.....	46,200,648
Lead.....	7 54-100.....	13,344,251
Total.....		\$177,022,666

The year's combined product of the metals herein treated of, is the greatest in the history of the countries—United States of America and British Columbia and North West Territory—that of gold, \$78,461,202, being above any previous record officially reported; and the world's output of gold for 1898—approximately \$280,000,000—is amazing. The most notable increases have been in South Africa, \$25,000,000, the British Possessions of the Northwest, \$6,000,000, Australasia, \$6,000,000, and the United States of America, \$3,000,000.

Annual Products of Lead, Copper, Silver and Gold in the States and Territories West of the Missouri River, Including British Columbia and North West Territory, 1870-1898.

YEAR.	Product as per W.F.& Co. statements, including amts. from British Columbia and West Coast of Mexico.	Product after deducting amts. from British Columbia and West Coast of Mexico.	Net Products of the States and Territories west of the Missouri River, exclusive of British Columbia and West Coast of Mexico, divided, are as follows:			
			LEAD.	COPPER.	SILVER.	GOLD.
1870.....	\$ 54,000,000	\$ 52,150,000	\$ 1,080,000		\$17,320,000	\$33,750,000
1871.....	58,284,000	55,784,000	2,100,000		19,286,000	34,398,000
1872.....	62,230,959	60,351,824	2,250,000		19,924,429	38,177,395
1873.....	72,258,693	70,139,890	3,450,000		27,483,302	39,206,558
1874.....	74,401,045	71,965,610	3,800,000		29,699,122	38,466,488
1875.....	80,889,057	76,703,433	5,100,000		31,635,239	39,968,194
1876.....	90,875,173	87,219,859	5,040,000		39,292,924	42,886,935
1877.....	98,421,754	95,811,582	5,085,250		45,846,109	44,880,223
1878.....	81,154,622	78,276,107	3,452,000		37,248,137	37,576,030
1879.....	75,349,501	72,688,888	4,185,769		37,032,857	31,470,262
1880.....	80,167,936	77,232,512	5,742,390	\$ 898,000	38,033,055	32,559,067
1881.....	84,594,417	81,198,474	6,361,902	1,105,000	42,987,613	30,633,959
1882.....	92,411,835	89,207,549	8,008,155	4,055,637	48,133,039	29,011,318
1883.....	90,313,612	84,639,212	8,163,550	5,683,921	42,975,101	27,816,040
1884.....	84,975,954	81,633,835	6,834,091	6,086,252	43,529,925	25,183,507
1885.....	90,181,260	87,311,382	8,562,991	7,838,036	44,516,509	26,399,756
1886.....	103,011,761	100,160,222	9,185,192	9,276,755	52,139,851	29,561,424
1887.....	104,645,959	103,327,770	9,631,073	10,362,746	50,833,884	32,500,067
1888.....	114,341,592	112,665,569	11,263,630	18,261,490	53,152,747	29,987,702
1889.....	127,677,836	126,723,884	14,593,323	14,793,763	64,808,637	32,527,661
1890.....	127,166,410	126,804,855	11,509,571	20,569,092	62,930,831	31,795,361
1891.....	118,237,441	117,946,565	12,385,780	13,261,663	60,614,004	31,685,118
1892.....	111,531,700	111,259,508	11,433,947	19,370,516	50,607,601	29,847,444
1893.....	104,081,591	103,827,623	7,756,040	23,631,339	38,491,521	33,948,723
1894.....	105,113,489	104,844,112	8,223,513	22,276,294	28,721,014	45,623,291
1895.....	118,164,642	117,896,988	7,170,367	27,052,115	35,274,777	48,399,729
1896.....	126,289,536	121,949,536	6,536,026	28,713,305	33,684,933	53,015,242
1897.....	153,435,469	142,853,469	8,775,144	36,388,694	34,034,034	63,655,597
1898.....	177,022,666	159,359,466	11,894,251	45,897,648	35,081,365	66,486,202

The exports of silver during the past year to Japan, China, the Straits, etc., have been as follows: From London, \$27,404,923; from San Francisco, \$5,217,409. Total, \$32,622,332, as against \$48,412,000 last year. Pound Sterling estimated at \$4.8665.