PATTI'S OMAHA ENGAGEMENT

It Will Be Inaugurated at the Coliseum Tonight.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE EVENT.

The Diva and Her Matchless Company to Arrive at 10 O'clock This Morning—Plots of the Operas.

Il Trovatore Tonight.

At 9:30 this morning the Grand Italian opera company, with its world-wide famed singers and magnificent chorus, its great leaders and incomparable orchestra, will arrive from Denver at the Union Pacific depot, and there is every indication that a great throng, particularly of the interpreters of the lyric art in this city, will be present to heartily welcome Mme. Patti, Patti, Albani, Nordica, Tamagno, the wonderful tenor, and the many other artists.

Only at the Millard have apartments been engaged in advance for any members of the company. To this hotel will go immediately upon the arrival of their train Mme. Patti, accompanied by her husband, Signor Nicolini; Mme. Albani and her husband, Mr. Ernest Gye; Mlle. Nordica, Mlle. Pettigiani and sister, Mme. Valda and Mrs. Loran, Mr. M. Grau, Signor Arditi the musical director, Signor Novara and Signor Navelli.

The diva and her husband will occupy a sunny suite of seven very delightful apartments on the parlor floor, and facing Douglas street. The suite includes reception parlors, drawing room, sitting and dining rooms, two sleeping apartments, bath and toilet rooms. All, but particularly the drawing room and boudoir designed to be occupied by Mme. Patti herself, are of superb appointment, even to the most minute detail.

Mme. Albani and husband have a suite of five rooms directly adjoining Mme. Patti's and a duplicate of hers.

Also upon the same floor Mlle. Nordica finds a suite of three handsome rooms awaiting her. On the floor above, or the second, Mme. Valda occupies four apartments. Signor Arditi two, Signor Novara two, and Mr. Grau a like number. Upon the third floor Mlle. Pettigiana and sister have a suite of three rooms, and Signor Navelli one apartment.

A dispatch received from Denver last night said that Mme. Patti and all the members of the company were in the most perfect health, a fact which will greatly enhance the pleasurable anticipation entertained regarding their appearance in this city.

Everything is in perfect readiness for the long anticipated event, which finds its inauguration this evening in the opera of "Il Travatore," and its continuance tomorrow afternoon with "The Barber of Seville."

At the Coliseum.

The arrangement for seating the immense audiences which will attend the performances tonight and tomorrow, are very complete. The chairs have all been numbered and the public is thoroughly familiar with the location of the various sections from the diagram published in THE BEE, so that ticket holders can move toward their seats and thus avoid blocking the entrances. The large force of ushers were thoroughly drilled in their duties by Louis Baehr, the head usher, yesterday afternoon, and there will be no delay in seating the people as fast as they arrive.

In order to avoid a great rush when the doors are opened, they will be thrown open two hours before the performance commences.

The main entrance of the building will admit the audience to the amphitheatre and the large entrance just south of it will be used for those holding tickets to the main floor.

In the matter of exits very complete arrangements have been made. There will be six exits from the amphitheatre and five from the main floor. Those from the amphitheatre are as follows: One in the northwest corner, one in the southwest corner, three at the center of the east side and one at the northeast corner. The exits from the main floor are in the centre of the east and west sides. Policemen will be stationed at each exit and every precaution will be taken to prevent confusion.

To guard against any possible danger from fire, a fire brigade will be on hand and hose will be stretched throughout the great building ready to attack any incipient blaze which may show itself.

Cloak rooms have been arranged in the southeast corner of the building and will be in charge of competent attendants. Nothing has been neglected which could add to the comfort and enjoyment of the audience.

THE PLOTS.

Stories of the Two Great Operas to be Produced at the Coliseum.

"Il Trovatore," an opera in four acts, words by Cammarano, was first produced in Rome January 19, 1853. In 1857 it was brought out in Paris as "Le Trouvere," and in London, 1856, in English, in "The Gpysy's Vengeance." It was produced in Rome in the same year with "La Traviata," but unlike the latter, it was greeted at once with an enthusiastic welcome. It today shares with "Martha" and "Faust" the highest place in popular admiration.

The opera opens with a midnight scene at the palace of Aliaferia, where the old servitor, Fernando, relates to his associates the story of the fate of Garzia, brother of the Count di Luna, in whose service they are employed. While in their cradles Garzia was bewitched by an old gypsy, and day by day pined away. The gypsy was burned at the stake for sorcery; and in revenge Azucena, her daughter, stole the sickly child. At the opening of the opera his fate has been discovered. As the servitor closes his narrative and he and his companions depart, the Count di Luna enters and lingers by the apartment of the Duchess Leonora, with whom he is in love. Hearing his voice, Leonora comes into the garden, supposing it is Manrico, the troubadour, whom she had crowned victor at a recent tournament, and of whom she had become violently enamoured. As she quits the court, Manrico appears upon the scene and charges her with infidelity. Recognizing her error, she flies to Manrico for protection. The count challenges him to combat, and as they prepare to fight she falls to the ground insensible.

In the second act we are introduced to a gypsy camp, where Azucena relates to Manrico, who has been wounded in the duel with the count, the same story which Fernando had told his friends, with the addition that when she saw her mother burning she caught up the count's child, intending to throw it into the flames, but by mistake sacrificed her own infant. As the story concludes a messenger arrive summoning Manrico to the defence of the castle of Castellar, and at the same time informing him that Leonora, supposing him dead, has gone to a convent. He arrives at the convent in time to rescue her before she takes her vows and bears her to Castellar, which is at once besieged by the count's forces.

The third act opens in the camp of the count, where Azucena, arrested as a spy, is dragged in. She calls upon Manrico for help. The mention of his rival's name only adds fuel to the count's wrath, and he orders the gypsy to be burned in sight of the castle. Fernando has already recognized her as the supposed murderer of the count's brother, and her filial call to Manrico also reveals to him that she is his mother. He makes a desperate effort to rescue her, but is defeated, taken prisoner, and thrown into a dungeon with Azucena. Leonora vainly appeals to the count to spare Manrico, and at last offers him her hand if he will save his life. He consents, and Leonora hastens to the prison to convey the tidings, having previously taken poison, preferring to die rather than fulfill her hateful contract. Manrico refuses his liberty, and as Leonora falls in a dying condition the count enters and orders Manrico to be put to death at once. He is dragged away to execution, but as the count triumphantly forces Azucena to a window and shows her the tragic scene, she reveals her secret, and informing the horror-stricken count that he has murdered his own brother, falls lifeless to the ground.

The Barber of Seville.

Il Barbiere di Siviglia—The Barber of Seville—an Italian opera bouffe in two acts, words by Sterbini, founded on Beaumarchais' comedy, was first produced at the Argentina theater, Rome, February 5, 1816. Rossini wrote the music in three weeks time. The scene of the opera is laid at Seville, Spain. Count Almaviva has fallen in love with Rosina, the ward of Dr. Bartolo, with whom she resides, and who wishes to marry her himself. After serenading his mistress, who knows him only by the name of Count Lindoro, he prevails upon Figaro, the factotum of the place, to bring about an interview with her. In spite of her guardian's watchfulness, as well as that of Don Basilio, her music teacher, who is helping Bartolo in his schemes, she informs the count by letter that she returns his passion. With Figaro's help he succeeds in gaining admission to the house disguised as a drunken dragoon, but this strategem is foiled by the entrance of the guard, who arrest him. A second time he secures admission, disguised as a music teacher, and pretending that he has been sent by Don Basilio, who is ill, to take his place. To get into Bartolo's confidence he produces Rosina's letter to himself and promises to persuade her that the letter has been given him by a mistress of the count and thus break off the connection between the two. By this means he secures an interview and an elopement and private marriage are planned. In the midst of the arrangements, however, Don Basilio pops in an appearance and the disconcerted lover makes good his escape. Meanwhile, Bartolo, who has Rosina's letter, succeeds in arousing the jealousy of his ward with it, who thereupon discloses the proposed elopement and promises to marry her guardian. At the time set for the elopement the count and Figaro appear. A reconciliation is easily affected, a notary is at hand, and they are married just as Bartolo makes his appearance with the officer to arrest the count. Mutual explanations occur, however, and all ends happily.

FORT WORTH.

How the Texas Town has Grown Within a Few Years.

FORT WORTH, Tex., March 1.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Some eight years ago this was a frontier village, now it claims 35,000, and is really one of the most growing cities of Texas. Beautiful for situation it is laid out on an ample plan—with a union depot from which trains go out in eleven directions. Its bank clearings have generally been over 100 per cent greater of late than in corresponding weeks a year ago. The Spring Palace is being enlarged and is to be opened in April. The new postoffice is a beautiful structure, five stories high with a cupola. It is estimated that the cost will be $110,000. It will afford offices in the three upper stories for business men. The Trinity river flows by on the north. There is an artesian well that affords a good supply of water for the city and for an ice factory. Ice is sold at 1 cent a pound at retail. This city is about Thirty miles west of Dallas—which is also on the Trinity and is perhaps the largest city in Texas. It claims over fifty thousand inhabitants. The region from Dennison southward to Austin comprises much of the finest prairie region in the state and is well settled up, so that in color of soil and general appearance it seems much like our best prairie regions in Illinois and Nebraska. Land ranges in this cultivated belt from $20 to $40 per acre. In the timbered regions from Milson county southward the price of land is from $3 to $10 per acre. The soil is of a lighter color, but very easily broken and produces good cotton, corn, vegetables and fruit. It much resembles, but is more level than southern Illinois. Early strawberries are now being shipped from near Galveston. Farmers are hard at work getting their land ready for cotton. The rains have put the soil in fine condition.

STATE NEWS.

Christian Church Dedicated.

RISING, Neb., March 2.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The large new Christian church was dedicated here today. It is the best church building in the city. The services in all the other churches were dismissed for the occasion and there was a very large and enthusiastic attendance. Rev. F. M. Rains, national secretary of the Church Extension society, preached the sermon. More than enough money was raised to pay off the indebtedness.

Verdigre's Strides to Greatness.

VERDIGRE, Neb., March 2.—[Special to THE BEE.]—No town in northern Nebraska has changed more in the last few weeks than the town of Verdigre, situated at the end of the Creighton branch of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad, fifty miles from Norfolk. Last week while in Omaha D. E. Johnson, president of the bank here, bought $1,400 worth of stock in the town site of Verdigre and today another big deal has been made, D. E. Johnson and Charles Kamanski buying several thousand dollars worth of town property. Three of our most enterprising business men are preparing to build fine residences as soon as the weather permits. We are only six miles from the reservation, the nearest point reached by the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad. This fact is becoming known and every train brings crowds of home seekers.

Believed to Have Been Drowned.

SUPERIOR, Neb., March 2.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—About 3 o'clock this afternoon three children of James Edney, who resides in this city, near the Republican river, aged respectively three, four and five years, wandered away from home and have not been found. A red hood which belonged to one of the children was found on the bank of the river near where a hole was cut in the ice, and it is feared the children have fallen into the river and drowned. Some boys claim they saw the children about 5 o'clock playing near the Elkhorn & Santa Fe round house, but this is not considered authentic. Mrs. Edney, mother of the children, is almost distracted with grief. A large searching party are now out searching the river and surrounding neighborhood. Some citizens state that they say three children going north from town about dark. If so, the night being cold, unless they are soon found it is feared they will freeze to death.

Items from Gothenburg.

GOTHENBURG, Neb., March 1.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The lake and canal are nearing completion and will give this place a water power surpassing any yet developed in the state. Manufactories of various kinds are solicited. Several capitalists are already investigating the advantages and negotiations are pending for several large industries of this kind to be erected early in the spring.

Last fall the Gothenburg Land Investment company platted a 160-acre addition adjoining the western limits of town upon which has been erected a beautiful and commodious three-story hotel which will be opened to the public in a few days. Although this hotel is at present the only building upon that tract, and is nearly a mile from the depot, it will not be long before there will be erected a number of brick business blocks and dwellings transforming the bleak and uncultivated prairie into a busy mart of commerce as evidenced by the sale of more than $15,000 worth of lots in that vicinity and parties are only waiting the arrival of spring and material when active operations will begin. Plans have arrived for another hotel to be built some five blocks east of the one alluded to. This will be of brick, three stories high, containing upwards of fifty rooms and furnished throughout with the latest conveniences.

This has been one of the most open winters ever experienced in this locality and mechanics were employed during the entire winter in building dwelling and business houses, some half a dozen of the former and three of the latter having been erected and the work is still going on. Business of all kinds has been unusually good all winter.

Editor Springsteen of the Independent has enlarged his paper to double its former size and gets up a neat and newsy paper.

The farmers of this vicinity are taking steps for the organization of a stock company to operate a mill and elevator and are meeting with much encouragement thus far. The organization is to be composed exclusively of farmers.

There is a strong probability of a railroad being built from here south to Farnam on the B. & M. The distance is only about twenty-five miles and the road can be built with very little expense.

REPUBLICAN VICTORY SURE

Two Hundred and One "Sure Enough" Electoral Votes.

ONLY THIRTEEN WERE NEEDED.

These May Be Obtained Without Either New York or Indiana—Arbitrary Coin Inspectors—The Change in Stamps.

The Republican Column Solid.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Within a few weeks there will be forty-four stars in the American flag. The committee on territories in both houses of congress have reported in favor of admitting Wyoming and Idaho to statehood, and as there is no objection from the majority these reports insure success for the proposition.

The admission of Wyoming and Idaho will complete the addition of at least five republican states to the union under the administration of President Harrison. These are the two Dakotas, Washington, Wyoming and Idaho. There is very little doubt that Montana will be republican for all time in the future, but in as much as she elected a democratic governor last year I will place her in the doubtful column for the purpose of the argument I am about to present, tending to show that the republicans, if they will but act judiciously and fair, can have a majority of the electoral votes for the next generation to come.

With the admission of Wyoming and Idaho there will be 88 senators and 332 members of the house—a total of 420 men in congress. It will thus be seen that 211 electors will be necessary for a presidential choice. If we would consider Montana republican, the republicans may easily secure a majority of the electoral votes without either of the old-time doubtful states, New York and Indiana, as the admission of the six new states gives the republicans nineteen electoral votes, or a grand total of 201 "sure enough" republican votes in the electoral college and doubtful states with strong republican tendencies as follows: Connecticut, 3; Delaware, 3; West Virginia, 6; New Jersey, 9; Indiana, 15; New York, 36—a total of 72 doubtful votes inclined to be republican, and which will be republican if treated candidly and considerately.

I now count among the reliably republican electoral votes the following: California, 3; Colorado, 3; the Dakotas, 7; Washington, 3; Idaho, 3; Wyoming, 3; Illinois, 22; Iowa, 13; Kansas, 9; Maine, 6; Massachusetts, 14; Michigan, 13; Minnesota, 7; Nebraska, 5; Nevada, 3; New Hampshire, 4; Ohio, 23; Oregon, 3; Pennsylvania, 30; Vermont, 4; Wisconsin, 11, and Rhode Island, 4, a total of 198, exclusive of Montana.

With Montana and New Jersey, or with Delaware, Connecticut and West Virginia, or Indiana alone, the republicans will have a majority of the electoral votes. This makes a

REPUBLICAN VICTORY EASY ENOUGH

without New York or without Indiana. There are about half a dozen ways in which the thirteen votes necessary to republican success can be taken from the doubtful column of seven states without touching New York or Indiana. With the latter state the whole list of doubtful states may be thrown out and the republicans will have a majority of the electoral votes and two over.

There are some exceedingly arbitrary officials under the federal government. An instance of what would appear to be unauthorized and cruel arbitrariness was brought to my notice the other day at the sub-treasury in Cincinnati. There is a clerk who passes upon coin presented for redemption who should receive some instructions from his superiors. This man, I am told upon good authority, insists that whenever coin is placed in his hands for examination he is obliged to stamp it as being below the standard of treasury values in the event it appears to be the slightest defective.

National and private bankers in the course of their daily business receive a great many gold and silver coins which are worn. They are obliged to take them in over their counters at par because the money is lawful, and the government does not contemplate loss to the people on account of the effect which age may have upon its money. The law provides that whenever a legal tender, gold or silver certificate, bank note, or any other piece of coin or currency issued under authority of the government, becomes worn or defaced it shall be redeemed by the government's agents at its face value. There was a time when the government made a reduction for mutilated notes, and the reduction was in proportion to the missing sections of the bill or note. Now, however, there is no reduction, and torn notes and notes with missing pieces are redeemed at face value. The same applies to gold and silver coins which have been mutilated. A coin which is worn by age should be redeemed at par value by the government, as the holder is in no way responsible for the light weight of the coin. This is the

SPIRIT OF THE LAW

in relation to coins, if not the letter.

This clerk at the sub-treasury in Cincinnati insists upon stamping the letter "L" on every light coin placed upon his counter, whether he is asked to redeem it or not. If a private citizen should present a gold or silver coin to this individual and ask whether it is genuine or counterfeit, light or full weight, the clerk after determining the question insists upon stamping the coin for just what it is, although he is requested not to do so. The arbitrariness of this clerk has cost the bankers who send coin to the Cincinnati sub-treasury for exchange a great many thousands of dollars during the past few months and has led very many to appeal to the treasury department to send their coin here when anything is wanted in the way of exchange.

On the 23d of February the crusade against the "sickly green stamp" that has continued since 1887 was brought to an end by the discontinuance of the issue of the objectionable stamp and the substitution of one more in accord with the aesthetic tastes of the American nation. The introduction of the new stamp is in consequence of the issue of the new series of stamps that was called for some time ago. The series just brought before the public is the fifth series since the introduction into this country of the postage stamp.

There is no man in this country better posted on stamps, that is, postage stamps, than Third Assistant Postmaster General Hazen. When seen recently in his cosy little office in the department, he expressed himself as perfectly ready and delighted to talk on the subject of the postage of the United States. Scattered around the room in frames are a number of stamps of different series, all, however, of American origin. Much care has been taken in the arrangement of this stamp album, and as General Hazen became interested in his subject, he moved around to the various cases and illustrated his

TALK ON STAMPS,

with an occasional reference to the stamp under discussion.

"The first issue of United States stamps was in 1847," said the general as he called attention to the stamp. "There were but two denominations, the 5 cent and 10 cent stamps, and they lasted until 1861 when the reduction in letter postage to 3 cents brought forth a new series that lasted just ten years. The series of '51 was enlarged a few years after its introduction by the additional denominations of 3, 12, 24, 30 and 90 cents. The series of 1861 was called forth by the rebellion, the real cause being a rather peculiar one. At the breaking out of the war there were a number of stamps in the hands of southern postmasters who, thinking that they would never be called upon to account for the stamps in their possession, were using them secure from the United States government, for which they return no equivalent. Postmaster General Blair, cognizant of this fact, issued a circular in which he stated that all stamps of a previous issue would not be accepted as postage after a certain date. A short time was given in which to redeem all such stamps which after that date would be valueless. The series of '61 was then brought out and lasted until 1869 when they were replaced by the 'horseback,' steamboat and railroad' stamp which, however, did not gain the popular favor and as much traduced as the late green product made only a few years ago. There were many reasons for this last change, the strongest reason being the dissimilarity existing in the stamps of the series. In the twenty years of life of this series there were many changes made in the different stamps comprising the series and a change had to be made to restore the homogeneity of the series. The change referred to was not only in color but also in design. In 1887 several changes were made; the 1-cent stamp containing the head of Franklin was re-engraved and a new border substituted.

"The reduction of postage in 1883 did not call forth a new series of stamps, but several of the existing series were changed. The 3-cent stamp, not representing any single rate of postage, was dropped, but a demand arising for it shortly after it was again issued. The 4-cent stamp was made necessary by the double rate of postage adopted in 1883. The head of Jackson, abandoned on the 3-cent stamp when replaced by that of Washington, was placed on this stamp. The Garfield stamp of the 5-cent denomination came out in 1881. A 7-cent, a 12-cent and a 24-cent stamp were originally embraced in the '70 series, but they were afterward dropped."

The change in the character of the stamps as explained by General Hazen were called forth by the necessity for harmony in the stamp series, as so many changes had been made in the different denominations that they were all different from the rest of the series. Up to this time the United States postage stamps had been recognized by foreign governments as the finest and most artistic produced. The change was therefore made to rebuild the series and render it perfectly harmonious.

The question of aestheticism involved is a rather peculiar one and has had not a little influence in deciding the fate of an unpopular number of the series that has just gone into the past. The color of the stamp was always objectionable and its recall was demanded from the first. The stamp in the first place had been designed to be printed in metallic red and the green color in which it was afterward printed was entirely inharmonious and not at all fitted to show the beauties of the engraving. The want of harmony between the engraving and color constituted a reason for revisiting the othe denominations in which the color had been changed without alteration of design. Hence the new issue of 1890.

No change has been made in the postage due, the newspaper and periodical and the special delivery stamps, nor of stamped envelopes and postal cards.

A WOMAN'S STRANGE CAREER.

A Lawsuit in New Mexico Deepens a Wisconsin Mystery.

CENTRALIA, Wis., March 2.—One of those strange stories not infrequently concealed under the brief statement of facts in legal documents comes to light in the suit brought in the United States court at Las Vegas, N. M., over a Wisconsin estate. Last December Marian L. Bensley of this place started home from California. She was taken sick on the train and died in the Montezuma hotel, owned by the Santa Fe railway company at Las Vegas. Now comes one Bertrand G. Chandos as executor, and sues to recover from the hotel company the property which the deceased had in her possession at the time of her death and turned over to one Edward Wilder.

In the '60s Marian L. Bensley, as she was known in later years was married to John Bensley, a California "forty-niner," who was at the time of the marriage estimated to be worth at least $500,000. The courtship took place in the Palace hotel in San Francisco, the bride-elect claiming to be the daughter of Lord Everston of England and widow of Sir Grenville. She represented herself to be the owner of a castle and a vast tenantry in Scotland and a lordly residence in London. After their engagement the bride betook herself to London, where she said they would shortly be married at her residence with all the pomp and glory befitting her station. At the appointed time, when Mr. Bensley went to claim his own, his bride had, on the advice of friends, changed her mind relative to their marriage in a public manner, as she at first proposed, deeming it an unwise policy to make a public demonstration of her union with "merely an American business man," and they were therefore privately wedded at her stopping place.

The London mansion and her Scottish castle have since been proven to be entirely mythical, and "Burke's Peerage" knows no such name as Lord Everston, and the alleged Grenville couldn't be found.

John Bensley died in the city of Centralia June 19, 1889. His remains were taken to California for interment. Mrs. Bensley accompanied the body and soon after her arrival, from fatigue and other causes, was taken sick and died at Las Vegas, N. M., on December 30 last. Now comes Bertrand G. Chandos, who was supposed to be acting only in the capacity of bookkeeper and foreman for Mrs. Bensley, and files an affidavit in the office of the county judge of Wood county, setting forth that he is the brother of Marian L. Bensley and that he and his three sisters, two of whom reside in Illinois and one in St. Louis, Mo., are the only heirs at law to the estate. The community was greatly surprised at this development and if the truth of the allegation is admitted as set forth by Chandos it is believed that John Bensley was unaware of the relationship, for he has relatives here with whom he was particularly confidential and especially in regard to all points touching relationship and they knew nothing of it. In the Las Vegas affair there are some peculiar circumstances. The dispatches fail to say on what ground Edward Wilder claimed Mrs. Bensley's personal effects. It is conjectured, however, that this is a three-cornered struggle for the property between Chandos, the administrator of the estate in New Mexico, and a like personage from California. Wilder may have been the agent of Chandos, who has gained possession of the property, and who has gone to Kansas by the order of Chandos and where he is now proceeded against.

Lincoln's Condition Unchanged.

LONDON, March 2.—The condition of young Abraham Lincoln is unchanged.

Emin Pasha at Zanzibar.

LONDON, March 2.—Emin Pasha has arrived at Zanzibar.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Statistics on the Subject for the Month of January.

The monthly report of imports and exports and of immigration into the United States for the month of January by S. G. Brock, chief of the bureau of statistics, to the secretary of the treasury, was issued this morning, says a Washington special to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. From this it appears that our exports during the month were $75,259,149, or $1,799,159 greater than for January, 1889. The imports for same month were $62,805,024 and $5,454,251 less than for January, 1889. Our exports of merchandise for January, 1890, exceeded our imports and thus giving a balance in our favor of $12,363,315, quite a favorable showing for the first month of the year. For seven months, dating from the close of the last fiscal year, June 30, 1889, and ending with January 31, 1890, the excess of our exports over our imports is $99,608,933. As compared with corresponding months one year ago, there was $33,055,093. It is a very handsome increase of $66,553,840. If we take the twelve months ending with January 31, our exports exceed the imports by the sum of $153,923,569; whereas the corresponding twelve months one year ago shows a balance the other way and against us, our imports being in excess of our exports in the sum of $33,057,713. Our exports of gold during the month of January were $463,969, and imports $1,050,867, a balance in our favor of $585,898. In January, 1889, the balance was the other way of $447,904. Our exports of silver for January, 1890, were $3,147,985; our imports of silver were $1,404,823.

Exports of silver in January, 1889, were $3,033,471. Imports, $1,563,418. The total immigration in January was 11,293, as against 10,278 for same month in 1889. For seven months ending January, 1890, the immigration was 201,708, and 219,580 for same time one year ago.

Messrs. J. F. Marquardt & Son, prominent druggists of Tiffin, O., say that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gives the best of satisfaction and takes the lead there.

SPRING COMES IN FEBRUARY.

The Delightful Climate of the State of Washington.

REMINISCENCES OF EARLY DAYS.

The Lewis and Clarke Expedition—John Jacob Astor's Fur Trade—Emigration in the Forties—Regions Yet Unexplored.

Some Early History.

OLYMPIA, Washington, Feb. 27.—[Special to THE BEE.]—In June, 1843, well eight fifty years ago, a colony of a thousand people from the middle and western states, gathered at the then frontier town of Westport, Missouri, to set forth in wagons and on foot for Oregon a country practically unknown, more than 2,000 miles away. There are men and women still living in Oregon and Washington, now both states in the union, who belonged to that company. The boundaries of Oregon, which then extended to the British possessions, were for some time after that still in dispute between England and the United States. These were not the first visitors, however, to that northwestern realm. Sir Francis Drake visited the shores of Puget Sound nearly three hundred years before and in the same century Spanish navigators appeared. Great Britain sent hither Cook, Vancouver and Mears. In 1592 Juan de Fuca, a Venetian navigator, entered the strait that now bears his name. Coming down to our own century the overland expedition of Lewis and Clack, fitted out by President Jefferson, in 1803 followed the Columbia river down to Cape Disappointment. In 1810 John Jacob Astor formed the Pacific Fur company, with a principal establishment at Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia, and a connecting line of posts to the Missouri river. Great Britain having set up a claim to a part of the territory, a convention in 1818 provided for a joint occupation for ten years, by citizens both of the United States and Great Britain. The "Oregon controversy" was not finally settled until 1872, the emperor of Germany acting as arbiter, and fixing the international boundary as it now is. In 1845 the settlers in Oregon, principally the thousand who had journeyed from Westport, demanded efficient government, and a provisional arrangement was entered into.

In 1844 Vancouver district, embracing all of Oregon north of the Columbia, was established as one county by the Oregon government. In 1848 congress organized Oregon territory, and Joseph Lane was appointed the first governor. In 1852 the legislature provided for five counties north of the Columbia river. In that year a convention was held at Monticello on the Cowlitz river, and a memorial was sent to Washington, asking for a separate territorial government, to be organized under the name of Columbia. The congressional committee reported a bill with that name. When it was put on its passage, however, a Kentucky member moved to substitute the name of Washington on the ground that Columbia was sufficiently honored by the name of the District of Columbia, and congress adopted the suggestion. In 1854 the first legislature met at Olympia at the call of Governor Stevens. Stevens had the previous year surveyed a railroad line from Lake Superior to Puget sound, with a branch to Portland. In his address to the legislature, he spoke at great length of the necessity for railroad communication with the east, from a point on the sound, over the Cascade mountains. His remarks are sufficiently enlightened to be read with profit today. He spoke not only of the claims of Western Washington, but in detail of the resources of eastern Washington, northern Idaho and Montana, making favorable mention of "the Court d'Alene prairie and Spokane plain, of the Colville, Walla Walla and Yakima valleys."

In 1858 began the publication of the Pioneer Democrat at Olympia. I have looked over its columns with great interest down to 1859. It was a four page sheet with six wide columns, and was a really readable and presentable paper. There were at that time only three organized counties north of the Columbia, and the number of people did not, in 1852, exceed one thousand. There were in the territory three small sawmills, which in two years increased to thirty-three; there were, in 1852, not to exceed a dozen trading establishments, while in 1854 the number was fifty. In Olympia, in 1852, in 1853, there were twenty-six structures; in 1854 the number had grown to ninety. In 1856 the fourth legislature met in the new capitol building, the same which is still in use. In 1852 the only way of getting into the territory was on the Cowlitz river in batteaux and canoes; in 1853 a highway was opened between Walla Walla in the extreme southeast of Washington and the sound, over the Cascade mountains.

In his message to the legislature in 1879, Governor Ferry who had been in that office since 1872 said: "It is almost impossible to enlighten the public mind in regard to the climate and the agricultural productions of this territory. The eye is cast upon the map, and when it is discovered that the territory is situated between the forty-sixth and forty-ninth degrees of latitude, it is recollected that the northern part of Maine is intersected by the forty-sixth parallel, and it is immediately concluded that the climate and natural productions of the two localities are similar. However, after that time this erroneous impression began to be removed. The mitigating effect of the warm Pacific current, and of the southest wind, began to be understood. In 1884 Governor John C. Squire now one of the senators from Washington, made a report to the secretary of the interior, and as previous reports had been brief he enlarged upon the subject. The attractions of Washington, he says, "with its glacier-covered mountains, its waterfalls, its majestic winding rivers with their precipitous bluffs, its mighty expanse of island-dotted sea, its deep broad forests, certainly present a new and inviting field for the tourist and the artist." He enters into a detailed and picturesque description of the territory, of the agricultural lands east of the Cascades, of the forests of matchless timber to the west, of the mosses, lichens and herbs that everywhere abound, of the stores of iron and coal, and of the abundance of game in the mountains and of rare fish and oysters along the western coast.

There is a portion of Washington which has never been explored; it is the country lying between the Olympic range and the Pacific ocean, and extending from Puget Sound to the Quinalt river. The Indians are ignorant and superstitious concerning it, and there are few even of hardy hunters' tales told about it. Its extent is 3,500 square miles. It teems with herds of elk and deer, and the cougar and bear are said to be familiar features of its animal life. The Indians have a legend that it was once inhabited by a powerful race, more civilized, than any tribe of Indians today, and skillful in working gold and silver, and even iron. It is for this reason that they feel a superstitious dread concerning it. An expedition will go out the coming summer, and thoroughly explore this region, which will doubtless be one of peculiarly favorable climatic conditions, and abounding in useful trees and vegetable growths, and perhaps in mineral treasures of great value.

The warm southwesterly wind that sweeps up the great Columbia valley, and over Washington both east and west of the Cascade mountains, melting the snow suddenly from the plains and mountains and breaking in a day the icy fetters of winter, is known popularly as the "Chinook" wind. The name was originally that of a small tribe of Indians on the north shore of the Columbia, when Astor established his post in 1808. The northwest summer wind which falls upon Astoria in a direct line from Chinook Point also received that name at an early day.

The "Cascade blossom," a flower that blooms only at a certain altitude in the mountains, is equally popular with the Edelweiss. From a base of emerald, somewhat like bunch grass in appearance, there rises a slender stem, which is topped by a brilliant bunch as large as an orange. This on examination proves to be composed of myriads of blossoms one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter. The flower is attractive to the eye not only, but is very fragrant. Its beauty and its rarity render it highly prized.

On Christmas last flowers were blooming in yards and gardens at Olympia and Tacoma—roses, chrysanthemums and violets, notwithstanding they have had a week's sleighing here since the year began—a rare phenomenon—the grass is now everywhere green, plants are sprouting and buds are swelling, and the very early flowers are already seen in yards. In a week or two vegetable nature will respond to the notes of the birds, which are already heard among the trees.

D. C. B.

March April May

Are the best months in which to purify your blood, for at no other season does the system so much need the aid of a reliable medicine like Hood's Sarsaparilla, as now. During the long, cold winter, the blood becomes thin and impure, the body becomes weak and tired, the appetite may be lost. Hood's Sarsaparilla is peculiarly adapted to purify and enrich the blood, to create a good appetite and to overcome that tired feeling.

Hood's Sarsaparilla will cure, when in the power of medicine, scrofula, salt rheum, sores, boils, pimples, all humors, dyspepsia, biliousness, sick headache, indigestion, general debility, catarrh, rheumatism, kidney and liver complaints, and all diseases or affections arising from impure blood or low condition of the system.

"In the spring I get completely run down, I could not eat or sleep, and all the dreaded

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Has a larger sale than any other sarsaparilla or blood purifier, and it increases in popularity every year, for it is the ideal Spring Medicine.

"I have for a long time been using Hood's Sarsaparilla, and believe me, I would not be without it. As a spring medicine it is invaluable." E. A. RHODES, 130 Ontario Street, Chicago, Ill. Be sure to get

The Spring Medicine

diseases of life seemed to have a mortgage on my system. I have now taken two bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and have gained 22 pounds. Can eat anything without it hurting me; my dyspepsia and biliousness have gone. I never felt better in my life. These two bottles were worth $100 to me." W. V. EULOWS, Lincoln, Ill.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

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100 Doses One Dollar

COAL AT NEWCASTLE.

There Is Plenty of It and the Place Enjoys a Boom.

NEWCASTLE, Wyo., Feb. 28.—To the Editor of THE BEE: In the issue of THE BEE of last Wednesday your local railway reporter said: "It is understood that the B. & M. has decided to build an extension this year of its northwest branch from Newcastle, Wyo., to Buffalo, mining camp some distance beyond there. The great discovery of coal at Newcastle failed to pan out in quality, consequently there is no market for it and the road is thrown out of an expected big traffic."

Our people are justly indignant that such an absurd statement should be published. The writer also shows a complete ignorance of this country in referring to Buffalo as a mining camp. It is a town of 1,000 inhabitants, in the center of the richest farming country in the territory, among other advantages having a government land office, electric lights and a military post. The object in building the line is to reach a country rich in undeveloped resources, pass through Buffalo and make a connection with the Northern Pacific, a connection much needed. The Newcastle coal has given such complete satisfaction that at the present time not one-twentieth of the demand can be supplied. It has met the highest expectations of the owners and the railroad company, as is evidenced by their enthusiastic praise and the fact that extensive improvements continue to be made for enlarging the output and carrying it to market.

It is not usual that our entire community should feel it a personal grievance that a mistake should be made in a small newspaper item, yet that is true here. It is because we are just commencing the biggest boom on record. The surveyors are working between here and Buffalo and material is being piled along the two miles of track already constructed. It is settled positively that a line will be built from here to Lead City this summer, and possibly the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley may build to us. The extensive coke furnaces being put in at the mines, the drilling for oil, and the fact that the county will be divided and Newcastle be made a county seat are all elements that will help to create the marvellous growth and development every one is sure is at hand. Newcastle, with a population of 1,500, is less than six months old. It is because we have not yet had time to place our advantages fully before the reading public that we are ready to criticize an item that ordinarily would attract no attention.

H. C. HENSEL.

RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS.

Their Fanaticism Undermining the Republic.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 2.—Rev. Dr. Tobias Schanfarber lectured today at Har Sinair temple on "Religious Movements in Congress." He said the introduction of bills savoring of religion will shake the very foundations of our government and work for the establishment of anarchy. These legislators forget in their zeal for their religion that they are endangering the grand structure of the republic. The standards of their religion are pessimistic, full of darkness and gloom. Where its precepts are not strong enough to require adherence they would call in the strong arm of the government for their heavenly work. Not by all the Blair Sunday rest and educational bills that were ever devised will a condition of affairs be instituted to the credit of government and mankind; not by joining our free public schools to the church of non-sectarian Christianity will the millenium be brought about. Force is a poor weapon. We have enough law. We want more liberty. Chain the minds of freethinking men and they will soon break the links and hurt the tyrant.

Change of life, backache, monthly irregularities, hot flashes, are cured by Dr. Miles' Nervine. Free samples at Kuhn & Co., 15th and Douglas.

The Death Roll.

LONDON, March 2.—Sir Edward Baines, proprietor of the Leeds Mercury, one of the most influential liberal organs in the north of England, is dead, aged eighty-nine.

KENOSHA, Wis., March 2.—Judge Edward Martin died suddenly yesterday.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 2.—Ex-Governor James Edward English died today. He contracted a severe cold early this week which developed rapidly into pneumonia. He was seventy-six years of age and leaves a widow and one son.

A Gambler's Horrible Suicide.

CORRY, Pa., March 2.—Sam Mason, one of the nerviest of Pittsburg's old time gambling proprietors, attempted to commit suicide on the night express at this place. He cut himself horribly in the throat, on both wrists, under the arm pits and stabbed himself in the abdomen. Mason was reputed to be quite wealthy, but a brother says he has not been himself for some time owing to several hard business reverses. The man's condition is dangerous and he is dying.

Paulsen Defeated.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., March 2.—Hugh McCormick today defeated Axel Paulsen in a ten mile skating race at White Bear lake. The race was for the world's championship, $400