



The Skagit River.

The Skagit and Snohomish are the two largest as well as longest rivers flowing into Puget Sound. The Skagit is the longer river and if cleared from obstacles to navigation would be navigable for light draft steamers about 75 miles. About the same as the Snohomish. There is about an equal amount of agricultural land fit for cultivation on these rivers. This river rises east of the Cascade Mountains. Much of its waters are received from streams draining Mount Baker and other very high peaks; consequently the waters of the river are higher in summer than winter, yet rise slower, and overflow their banks less, than the Snohomish.

The Skagit drains the southern portion of Whatcom county, reaching the Sound by two mouths, called the North and South forks. Skagit City, a new town site, recently surveyed and platted, is situated near the head of the delta or forks of the Skagit, and within the forks. It is located upon bottom land above the reach of freshets. Edward McAlpine is proprietor. At present most of the business is done adjoining to but off from the platted town site. Skagit City is at present the business center of the river.

The North fork of the river is about five miles long; reaches the Sound about three miles from La Conner, in fact all of the Swinomish flats are considered part of the river valley, although we have described them separately. I believe steamers have never tried to ascend the North fork, its entrance being very shoal at low water. The South fork is the main river channel, its mouth is just at the south line of Whatcom and north line of Snohomish counties. This fork is about eight miles long. Steamers like the *Zephyr* or *Fanny Lake* can easily ascend at all seasons of the year.

The first settler on the river was Wm. H. Sartwell, who stopped a while on the Snohomish, then settled on the Skagit in February, 1863.

By the Spring of 1866 there were five settlers on the river, Wm. H. Sartwell, Wm. Alexander, Wm. Johnson, J. V. Abbott, and Edward McAlpine. T. R. Jones brought the first family to the river. They settled in 1870. By 1871 there were six families. In 1872 there were fifteen, now there are about fifty families, and some three hundred white people on the river, not including the Swinomish flats. There is about 1,200 acres of land under cultivation on the river, besides a great deal diked near the mouth, but not yet cultivated.

No logging has ever been conducted on the North fork. For several years camps have been in operation near the mouth of the South fork, but this year is the first that regular logging has been carried on any distance up river. Now there are four camps on the South fork, and two more situated near the jam.

The jam is the peculiar feature of the river; the lower end of it is about two miles above Skagit City, is divided into a lower and upper jam. The lower jam is about 1,400 feet long. Then the river is clear for about three-fourths of a mile to the upper jam, which is over half a mile long. This jam acts as a check upon the settlement of one of the finest regions in the Territory. Only two families, and some fifteen people having settled above the jam. All of the settlements being crowded within the delta, or along the forks of the river, while a magnificent country along a fine navigable stream, for over sixty miles above the jam, is by this means prevented from being opened to settlement and cultivation, to say nothing of the numberless mines of the best coal found on the Sound, or the great amount of the finest timber that the jam prevents coming into market. Logging can be carried on only to a limited extent until after their removal, as the high land is too far back from the river to haul lumber from; even the most favorable town site, Skagit City, being situated on the bottom land, near the forks, for the reason of there being no high land on the river below the jam. Perhaps no river

in this Territory offers greater inducements than this for settlement, provided this jam was removed. Its bottom land, timbered mainly with alder, vine maple etc., is more easily cleared than the Stillaguamish, Snohomish, or most other river bottom lands in the Territory. The timber, on the high land, is of excellent quality above the jam, as well as easy to get out, and float down, there being few obstacles in running logs, after the removal of the jam, to what are found on other rivers, the current of the Skagit being steadier and slower than the Snohomish; while something over half a dozen coal mines are prospected, and some work done toward opening them; two of the mines are situated below the jam, and between the South fork of the river and the Stillaguamish. The rest are above; the removal of the jam is necessary to secure their early development. Such being the case, can we wonder that the whole energies of these people are turned toward trying to secure the removal of this jam.

The Legislature has been petitioned, bills have been introduced into Congress, seeking appropriations for its removal. Engineers and others have examined the jam, and have estimated that it would cost about \$15,000 to remove it, but so far no effectual aid has been received. Despairing of outside aid, at various times parties have been to work to see what could be done at home. Some two years ago our friend John Campbell and others, associated themselves together for the purpose of cutting a passage around the jam, by clearing sloughs filled with jams, close beside the river, hoping at the time to be repaid by logs they could secure from the upper jam, and leave a channel large enough for a steamer to pass up river. Their means were exhausted before they accomplished their object.

Last winter, about February first, three men from the Snohomish, Marvin Minnick, Daniel McDonald and John Quirk, together with Joseph Wilson of the Skagit, started to work to cut a channel large enough for all purposes of navigation through the center of the upper and lower jams. Mr. Campbell is zealously assisting them by all means in his power. These men evidently mean business. They began with no flourish of trumpets, nor expensive materials. They are men of experience and practical working talent in water as well as land logging. The tools they use are very few, cheap and simple; but very effective. We have been acquainted with most of these men for a long time, know them as thoroughly practical workers. They have pledged their all to the enterprise. Have cut and cleared away some two or three hundred feet of the lower jam, and loosened it so that when the June freshets come it will probably go out, leaving the main jam of a half mile of cutting to be cut through. These men hope to be remunerated in part by the logs they get out of the jam, suitable for saw logs, and in default of Government aid of which the prospect is slight they expect that when they have demonstrated to all interested that they are the men fit to succeed in the enterprise, that sufficient support will be donated by the Coal Companies, the logging and agricultural interests of the Sound, connected, or that may be connected with that river to carry them through. These logs will probably only partly pay them, meanwhile their work is liable to stop for lack of credit, or for want of funds to carry it farther on. The whole Sound region owes it to the enterprise, and patriotic public spirit of these men to see that they are sustained and that they do not fail for lack of support. From what we know of them, we are certain that if they are half way supported in money or credit they will not fail. We understand they ask no donations to be made, or support subscribed, except that it be upon the condition that they clear a passage sufficient for all purposes of navigation through the whole upper and lower jams, before they receive a penny of the amount subscribed. Upon the faith of this subscription, if made soon, they can easily procure all necessary supplies. The balance, if any is left, will go to them. Upon such terms as these, it

seems as if there ought to be raised at least \$10,000 over the whole Sound. They will probably get \$5,000 worth of logs out of the jam, thus making themselves even upon this noble enterprise; for our part we feel like aiding such public spirited men by all means in our power.

To those who have never witnessed such a sight the jam is well worthy of a visit to the river. The river here is probably from 400 to 600 feet wide, and very deep. A great part of the jam is composed of timber that scarcely ever rots. It is the accumulation of ages, we have no means of estimating how long. It looks as permanent as the forests beside it. It was probably caused by big trees and other drift wood lodging in a bend or upper end of a shoal or island, gradually, or perhaps in a single season closing the whole channel. After this was once accomplished, all the drift in the river would necessarily be lodged at its upper end. The division between the two jams was probably caused by extreme high water at some time causing the lower portion of the jam to move down a short distance, while the rest remained fixed.

In the jam are found trees of all sizes from the fir, cedar and spruce ten feet in diameter and three hundred feet long, down to the merest brush wood. These are wedged and jammed together in every conceivable form. The parts projecting out of the water are usually covered with long pendant moss, while from the rotten wood or earth attached to roots or logs may be seen bushes or alder trees alive and growing as well as if they were upon solid land, in place of over twenty five feet of water flowing beneath them. It is a sight once seen not soon to be forgotten.

The first store on the river was started by Mr. Campbell some five years ago at Skagit City. About one year ago he sold out to the energetic and enterprising gentleman Mr. Daniel E. Gage, who now owns the store there.

The father of Mr. Gage settled on the river some five years ago. He had quite a large family, most all of whom still reside on the river. Mr. Gage's rancho adjoins the Skagit City town plat. Since Mr. D. E. Gage bought out the store, he has nearly or quite doubled the business formerly done there. He now is cramped for room, will build a new and more commodious store building this season. The most immediate and pressing want of the river is regular steam communication with Seattle and other points on the Sound. The steamer *Zephyr* has been up this river, and tied up to the jam. A steamer like the *Zephyr* or *Fanny Lake* could from the start have full freights monthly from Seattle, stopping at Mukilteo, Tulalip, Hattis Landing, on Hattis slough, Centreville near the mouth of the Stillaguamish, thence passing eastward of Camano Island, and up the South fork of the Skagit to Skagit City, they would have nearly a direct route, would supply about a dozen logging camps and furnish direct steam communication to over six hundred persons, who now are wholly without any. As soon as harvest time, if not before, there would be full freights on this route for semi-monthly if not weekly trips. After the first year or two it would be as paying a route as the Snohomish river trade, which now employs three steamers per week. We understand that the new proprietors of the Centreville store will be laying in a large stock of goods within a couple of months. Mr. Gage will be largely increasing his stock about the first of May. Provided a steamer will run on no other terms, he alone offers to pay full freight for the first trip, to induce them to adopt the route. We should think the self interest of steamboat men would induce them to try this route without delay. For instance the *Fanny Lake* runs up White river and Snohomish each once a week. She has ample time, and would undoubtedly find it profitable to start with trips once a month and increase by fall to weekly trips to the Stillaguamish and Skagit or she might come up to Snohomish City going and returning, and thus find it profitable to go once a week from the start besides establishing direct steam communication between the Stillaguam-

ish and Skagit rivers and the Snohomish.

The interests of the people along these rivers are nearer a unit, than any other portion of equal size in the Territory. This movement would do more than any thing else to unite these interests and develop them, besides being very profitable to the one putting a boat on this route. Will not Capt. Hill or some other gentleman try it? If they will, we should feel like doing all in our power to cause the same to be declared a steam mail route, and have the mails carried directly to the people along this route.

Mr. Campbell after selling out his store to Mr. Gage, removed up to the jam, and opened up a stock of goods to deal mainly with the Siwash and purchase furs; he is doing quite a business there.

Owing to no direct steam communication there seems to be no specialty in the crops raised on the river, like what we see at Climacum in Jefferson county, or on the Swinomish flats, but every thing elsewhere grown on the Sound, is raised successfully on the river. There is no Attorney or Notary Public on the river, and no liquor saloons. Dr. Roland is the only physician, he lives near the mouth of the North fork. There are three clergymen on the river; T. McGill, Methodist, Wm. Pierce, Universalist, and B. N. L. Davis, Baptist.

They have a building used for all public, religious and social gatherings at Skagit City, a Good Templars Lodge of forty-five members and a Grange of forty members.

There is no regular hotel on the river, although suitable accommodations are furnished travelers and others by Mr. Gage. We have taken this much space in describing this river, because few have ever tried to write it up, we hope within a couple of months to be able to go as far up this river as it is navigable. To examine the coal, and report upon the upper river.

The Skagit River Above the Jam.

During the past year we have made frequent trips to the Skagit, and have quite closely studied its resources, the results being from time to time presented to our readers in various articles descriptive of that beautiful river valley, the largest in the Puget Sound basin; but all these articles related only to that part of the Skagit situate below the jam, we never having found time convenient for visiting the country above until last week, when we started on the morning of the 3d of December, in company with Lafayette S. Stevens, from John Campbell's, to make the trip.

The residence of Mr. Campbell is situate about ten miles from the mouth of the Skagit, being about two miles above where the river is divided, forming a delta, flanked at the sides by the north and south forks of the Skagit, as they are called; the north fork reaching salt water near La Conner, at the south boundary of the Swinomish Flats, while the south fork forms near its mouth the north boundary of the Stillaguamish Flats. These two flats being the largest bodies of improved tide lands in the Territory.

The lower jam, one year ago, came down abreast of Mr. Campbell's house, but thanks to the unceasing and energetic work of the jam loggers, the lower jam has been cut away, so we pulled Dr. Folsom's boat up the river where the jam used to be to the new camp of the Jam Company at the foot of the upper jam. The lower jam was nearly one-half mile long, and the distance between the two about three-fourths of a mile.

The portage around the jam being now only about three-fourths of a mile against two miles or over, the distance prior to the removal of the lower jam.

We had provisions enough for a week's trip, blankets, etc. Expected to find Indians at the jam, or at Campbell's, and had already waited one day for them; they not coming, we packed our grub, blankets, etc., around the upper jam, found a shovel-nosed canoe, one side broken and cut down from four to six inches below the original height of it, yet still a fair running canoe. It was late when we left Campbell's, yet we succeeded in reaching Steven's house before

dark, situate on his timber claim some ten miles in a direct course, twelve miles at least by the meand-rings of the river above the jam.

This part of the river has always borne an excellent name, yet we were surprised at the breadth and depth of the main stream, as well as its adaptability for navigation. The only time it has ever been known to freeze over was winter before last when Mr. S. measured the breadth of it on the ice at several points above the jam, finding its average breadth for the part we traveled over this day to be some two hundred yards or six hundred feet, while the center of the channel at the average stage of the river is some twenty five feet deep.

In theory the clergy are usually supposed to be so devoted to preparing us all for the hereafter, that they are not expected to be taken up with the material prospects of this life, yet practically we oftentimes find them the best business managers and excellent judges of the value of real estate, as well as of the most fit and proper places to invest so as to secure the greatest returns on investments made from the future progress of a community, and the rise in the value of property consequent thereon.

The clergy have shown their characteristic practical good judgement, socially as well as financially in their settlement in this valley. There being so many settled there in proportion to the population that one of the representative men of the community remarked to us not long since that the Skagit made a specialty, of preachers. We would also add that the excellent moral tone of that whole community would seem to indicate that they had exerted a moral influence for good that equalled their business judgment in settling in a valley of so much promise, yet we supposed that they all resided in settled portions of the valley below the jam. Judge of our surprise, when we found that nearly the first rancho above was owned by the Rev. David Sires of Seattle, situate about one and one-half miles from the jam; while at a place four miles above the jam where the river makes nearly a right angle (the turn is so short and sharp), it has received the euphonious title of the "Devil's Elbow" here. As if to keep up the proper balance and to preserve the eternal fitness of things in their social and moral relations, another preacher resides at the outer angle of the Elbow. The Rev. Mr. Davis. His house is situated upon the first land reached at all elevated above the river bottoms, as if the muscular development of his Satanic majesty's arm, as it approached so near his elbow, was specially raised above the general level, so that the Rev. gentleman should not be too often visited with an uncalled for application of the principles of immersion or submersion, or other water baptism, whenever the river should take a sudden rise around the Elbow. We understand this gentleman has demonstrated the adaptability of the soil of the Elbow to produce a rise of a different nature in the growth of hops, these being very successfully grown by him. They doubtless will before many years be classed among the leading industries of the valley, as they now are of the Puyallup; the Puget Sound hops being superior to those grown anywhere else in the Union.

The place situated within the interior angle of the Elbow is owned by Mr. Otto Clement, he being at the time away from home, up river at the coal mines.

Two miles above the Elbow the Nookachamps flows into the Skagit. This stream is navigable for steamers some two and a half miles to the falls, which are some ten feet high, affording a first class water power which is held by a Mr. Savage. A large body of logging timber adjoins the place, which is being taken up by a number of recent settlers there. Adam Brewer's claim adjoins Mr. Stevens'. Here is situated one of the finest tracts of fir timber on the river, on land elevated but very little above the general average of the bottom land. The tract is about one mile long by a half mile deep. Probably some ten or fifteen million feet of marketable lumber is here, valueless until the jam is removed so it can be taken to market.

During the past three years Mr. S. has spent much of his time cruising the

country over, particularly for coal, silver, etc. Has had occasion to travel up and down the river perhaps as much or more than any one man. His log cabin is very solidly constructed, being situated nearly half way between the jam and the coal mines, it has served as a sort of depot of supplies. The Indians and others have repeatedly tried, with very poor success, to break into the house in his absence.

The morning after our arrival there was cold, rainy, and very disagreeable to be compelled to paddle up stream against a swift current. Waiting a couple of hours for the rain to cease, just as we were about starting, a large Chinook, salt water canoe was seen passing down stream. We hailed them, finally they were induced to come ashore, unladen their dried salmon, clean out their canoe, the cloutchmen, children, and a couple of the men camping near the house, while two of the party took us up river. Leaving the Indians to do the work, with our blankets, and the mats in the canoe we soon made ourselves quite comfortable despite the rain. The afternoon was quite pleasant. We arrived at the coal mountain just after dark. A short distance from the river, a cabin was situated, to which place we directed the Siwash to take our blankets etc., so we could camp there for the night. The Indians made so much noise, that they were recognized by a large rancherie of Siwash across the river, with whom they previously had had some difficulty. This was the occasion of our party suddenly becoming so religiously inclined that they deemed it necessary to pack up their salmon; gather together their *ietas*, and start with every thing they possessed for the Tulalip Indian Reservation, so they could place themselves under the protecting care of Father Chrouse for the winter.

This also explained why it was so difficult to hire these Indians to come again up river.

Before we had time to make a fire and prepare our supper, the Siwash across the river were all in a commotion. They lighted up torches, danced a war dance, and made night hideous by every kind of noise and defiance known to a savage. Our Indians were unarmed, those across the river gathered together all their old muskets and other fire-arms, paraded up and down the river in their canoes, using *hiss meateie wa wa*, as our Siwash expressed it, and discharging volley after volley of musketry. At one time nearly a dozen muskets being discharged at once. We presume they were charged with nothing but powder, their actions appearing to indicate that they wished to indulge in a little harmless braggadocio and bullying, rather than anything else. Although our Siwash said they were *delate* scared. Having no weapons they could only answer the defiance sent them by scolding back across the river in Chinook and the native Indian dialect.

We could understand enough of the talk to see that we had no cause of personal apprehension for ourselves, and that the talk was simply between the Indians. At first it amused us, but soon it became very monotonous, and they being liable to keep it up all night, so we would have no good chance for sleep, we decided, notwithstanding the darkness, to go to the miners' cabin, some three-fourths of a mile from where we were, there being a good trail the whole of the way, so Mr. S. took a cedar shake and split it up with his knife, so that with the pieces he made a large torch, by the light of which we walked quickly to the miners' cabin. When within a few rods of it, Mr. S. threw down the torch saying he would try to make the boys believe that we came up from the river through the intense darkness without any light. Walking up to the door and knocking, obtaining no answer, we went in, took possession, found an excellent fire in the fire place, candles below the table, which we lighted, remains of supper there also as if some one had left the table but a few minutes before, and had no time to remove the dishes. A number of *Harper's Magazine* lay spread on a bench before the fire, as if some one had just placed it there, and did not wish to lose his place.

One bunk looked as if it was just prepared to sleep in for the night, while another appeared as though its occupant had just left it.

The situation presented was certainly quite strange, yet thinking the boys must have seen us, and had temporarily, left for a joke, we made ourselves comfortable, opened a history and read aloud for nearly an hour, when we heard a voice some distance outside of the cabin calling to us, we answered, made known who we were, when in came Frank P. Scott, and Charles Kinneth, the two miners living in the cabin; Kinneth stripped to his shirt and drawers, held in his hand a Henry rifle. The sky was clear and frosty. The weather freezing cold, and the two were chilled through. We naturally imagined what all this meant.

They told us that a short time previously they had some trouble with these Indians in their vicinity. That they had heard the war songs as well as the repeated volleys of musketry.

They did not know what it all meant, but supposed it indicated mischief, perhaps directed against them, as the Indians were quite jealous of the work going on at the mines.

That shortly after the firing of the heaviest volleys they saw our torch, not hearing us talk, they inferred that we were Indians bent on mischief. Their first impulse was to get out doors in the dark, where they could watch, and shoot if necessary.

They saw us throw down the torch, but did not recognize us. Scott was so excited that he was sure we were Siwash, bent on mischief, and was determined to get the rifle and send a half dozen volleys after us to find out.

Perhaps owing partly to the small amount of clothing on him Kinneth was cooler, preferring to wait, and find out for certain.

The Hatshadish creek flowed by the cabin, making such a noise that even if we had talked ever so loud it probably would not have been heard; yet the idea was so ridiculously absurd, that we came near having a half dozen bullets shot through us because *Morse* kept from talking so long that they could not tell who it was, that we inwardly resolved we would never be guilty of the like offence again.

We had some apples with us, which the boys were very glad to get. We gave them all that were in our pockets; afterwards we discovered a single apple left. We agreed that the one who was most scarred should take the apple. Kinneth took the apple.

The next morning we visited the Skagit, New Cumberland and Cascade coal leads, then returned to the river bank, and crossed over to the rancherie to get a full view of the mountain formation, see the camp of the Indians, and find out the cause of their pow-wow the night before.

At Mr. S.'s place, the morning before, our Indians took out of their canoe near a ton of dried salmon. They had along with them plenty of vegetables, etc., showing there was no lack of food; yet we saw them place on the shore rotten salmon that looked as if they were picked up dead, and stinking. We asked what these were for, and ascertained they intended to eat them, and eat them they did.

We thought we knew what filth among Siwash was, but at this rancherie opposite the coal mines, we saw more than we could believe possible of human beings.

Prior to the removal of the lower jam, most of the salmon were caught there; now they go through the upper jam and are caught high up river. This year very few salmon, comparatively, have been found in any of the rivers on the Sound, next year being the year for them to run; yet more in the Skagit than the other rivers. They are also larger here than elsewhere. At this rancherie the Indians have been curing the salmon all the past season. Have tons of them on hand, can get plenty of food, yet like a dog seem to relish a change from freshly killed food to carrion. It is now about the end of the winter run of salmon. The *tyee* salmon that have battered themselves all to pieces on the rifles, are found on the beach dead, or nearly so, and putrid in the water. Around this place the Indi-

ans had gathered huge piles of these rotten fish. The stench was horrible. A person had to step carefully not to get his boots befouled with the nasty, slimy, rotten, stinking stuff. Yet right in the centre of some of the foulest of these heaps were cloutchmen dressing these rotten fish, preparing them for food, apparently unconscious of the odor, and relishing such food.

Upon seeing such sights as these several times repeated, I ceased to wonder that these Indians smelt nearly as bad, in fact just like the rotten fish they handled and used for food. This taint of carrion when once in the system, will not be removed for years, never unless this class of food is wholly abstained from.

Mr. S. stopped at the mines. We had not time to go farther up river, but returned the same day to the jam. We propose before many months to go to the head of navigation for canoes on the river. We took pains to make full inquiries of Mr. Anos Everett, the gentleman who built Mr. Gage's store, and who makes his home at Kullum, situated at the mouth of Kullum or Baker river, some 40 miles above the jam, as well as Mr. Stevens and others in regard to the upper river not visited by us; so we close this article with the following summary of the up river:

The Skagit river valley is the largest, the river the longest in Western Washington. With the removal of the jam, it is navigable from its mouth to a point some ten miles above the Sock, which stream flows into the Skagit ten miles above Kullum, making sixty miles of navigable water above the jam, or near seventy-five miles from its mouth.

Many of the tributary streams rise high up on the mountains, so that the volume of water is unusually uniform; the highest water being in the summer. It rarely overflows its banks. Has few riffles, sand bars or snags above the jam.

Gold, silver, iron, lead and copper are found, some in paying quantities in the valley. Coal of the very best quality, equal to the best Cumberland coal, or superior to it, is found at the coal mountain, twenty-five miles above the jam, while at other points a hard, slimy coal, looking something like the anthracite, is found at Kullum, also at a place lower down on the river, between the South fork and the Stillaguamish.

Below the coal mines very little timber is found near the river banks, the high land being back from the river, the bottoms being covered with alder vine-maple, hardhack, with a small amount of spruce and cedar.

Above the mines the high land comes near to or adjoins the banks of the river; the fir timber here is excellent, superior perhaps to any other part of the Territory. Around the mouth of the Sock there is a large body of excellent agricultural land easy to clear. The Sock is supposed to be navigable. Some idea may be formed of the resources of the valley, when of the quarter of a million of acres of bottom and tide land, and upwards, every acre is equal in productive capacity at a very small estimate to two acres of the best Iowa or Illinois prairie. This does not include the wealth to be developed out of the timber and the coal, yet but little of this wealth can be utilized until the jam is removed.

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CHARGES REASONABLE.

Skagit Coal Mines.

It is now generally admitted that the whole eastern side of the Sound from its head to British Columbia is one vast coal field, many places the coal runs too deep for practical work, yet doubtless exists in vast quantities over nearly the whole of this area, between the Cascade Mountains and the sea.

In a geologic sense, this coal seems to be of more recent formation than the coal bearing strata of the so-called Carboniferous period belonging to the so-called Tertiary formation, the coal being formed in a geologic age of a time similar to the Tertiary coal formations found around Richmond, Virginia; the Puget Sound coal beds forming perhaps the largest body of coal yet discovered of so recent a period.

Whenever there is a dislocation or break in the strata, the coal is found near enough the surface to work, consequently most of the coal fields are to be found along the foot hills of the mountains or some little distance back from the shore line of the Sound.

At several different points in the Skagit valley, coal mines have been discovered, as at or near Kullom, some forty or fifty miles above the jam, also at the range of hills between the South fork of the Skagit and the Stillaguamish rivers, only a few miles from the Sound; but in this article we propose to limit the description to what is disjunctively called the "Skagit Coal," found at the coal mountain, which rises from the river bank, some twenty five miles above the jam; about forty miles from the mouth of the river.

It was first known that there was coal in that vicinity, through an Indian called Charlie Seam, who came to J. J. Conner's store some four years ago, then established at the forks of the Skagit, and offered to take Mr. C. up to this place, and show to him, "the fire stone, all the same as at Watecom," referring to the coal mines at Selhome on Bellingham Bay.

About two years ago Mr. Amos Everett and Mr. L. S. Stevens in company with this Indian undertook to prospect this mountain thoroughly. They then discovered the coal strata on that mountain, where the claims there are at present located.

Mr. Everett first discovered the coal near the works of the Skagit Coal Company. Just after he discovered it, a loose rock or stone, rolled down the face of the mountain, here very steep, from above him, breaking his leg, finally compelling him to have it amputated just below the knee. Mr. E. is now a resident of Kullom. Messrs. Stevens and Everett are now among the most enterprising, go ahead pioneers and explorers of the Skagit, although Mr. E.'s misfortune has prevented him from taking an active part in mountain climbing. Mr. S. is a very active prospector, has very thoroughly prospected this whole mountain, which as it is nameless should either be named after Everett, in consideration of his discovery of the coal and of his accident at the same time, or after Mr. S. as its most thorough explorer.

The mountain is upwards of three thousand feet high, flanked on the north and east sides by the river and Hatshadiah creek, and on the west by a strip of low land running from the Skagit to the Stillaguamish river. So low is this strip of land, that at high water canoes have come from one river to the other by water.

Some day when a prosperous town is built up in this vicinity, with its iron furnaces, machine shops, etc., we may see a railroad joining the strip of fertile land found between the Skagit, Stillaguamish and Snohomish, some ten to twenty miles from salt water, through this natural route for such a highway, afforded by this low land to the Stillaguamish, thence up the south fork of the last mentioned river to near the Pill Chuck valley, thence to Snohomish.

The Hatshadiah creek is quite a large stream of water, with a very rapid fall, some ten feet to every five rods for a mile, affording the best of water power.

The three claims already located are the Skagit, Cascade and New Cumberland. These claims were located soon after the discovery of coal some two years ago. No coal has been discovered except on the east, south and northwest faces of the mountain, being the sides towards the creek or river. On the other side of the mountain the coal strata all dip so far below the surface as to be not discoverable. All the coal from these claims have been thoroughly tested for smelting, forging or blacksmithing purposes, it is decided to be fully equal to the best Cumberland coal.

Although there is now a wagon road around the jam, yet before its removal it would not be profitable to mine on a large scale. After that there will be an extraordinary chance for a few to invest their capital to good advantage in working the mines.

The Skagit mine is situated on the east face of the mountain, directly above the creek, and within one mile of the landing. There is an excellent road most of the way to the river. This coal dips about 60 degrees. Three shafts have been sunk, respectively 70, 25 and 20 feet deep. Their entrance is about 120 feet above the bed of the Hatshadiah creek. Seven strata of coal are here found on this face of the mountain, that run from two to eight feet each. A one hundred and fifty foot tunnel on the level of the creek would tap them all. Work is now suspended here. It is expected that it will be resumed shortly.

It is from one fourth to one half a mile from the works of the Skagit to the Cascade coal mining claim. The works are situated about one-half mile from the river, and about 350 feet above its level. Four more veins lower down on the face of the mountain have been prospected. The vein opened dips 12 degrees. The Cascade was discovered two years ago, work began one year ago. Messrs. Stevens, Kineth, Walkhoff and Scott are all at work here. They with J. J. Conner, of LaConner, and some others have a very heavy interest in this mine. One incline is run 76 feet deep, with a tunnel on lower level also tapping this same vein of 70 feet. The vein is 6 feet thick, pure, solid coal, of the very best quality, with every natural facility for profitable working.

This mine is situated near the north end of the mountain. The Skagit being to the eastward, the New Cumberland to the westward. The dividing line between the claims of the Cascade and New Cumberland being the Loretto creek named after Miss Loretto McLoughlin, the first white child who ever visited these mines. This creek runs from the top of the mountain to the river, a precipitous streamlet, small, but very beautiful from the clearness of its water, and rapidity of its fall, at one place high up on the mountain it has a clear fall without a break of some 300 feet.

Messrs. Stevens and Prichard discovered the New Cumberland claim about two years ago; their works are about one-half mile from the Cascade to the westward, and about one-half mile from the river. Work began one and one-half years ago, are now at work. Have run tunnel one hundred and fifty feet into vein, which stands on edge, and traced from opening of tunnel one-half mile or more! This is the best quality of coal found in these mines for cooking, forging or mechanical work found on this coast, and equal to any in the United States. As soon as these mines are placed so they can get their coal to market, by the removal of the jam, this will drive out every other kind of coal for mechanical work on this coast.

Support that Should be Given to the Loggers of the Jam.

In the article on the Skagit river, published in this number on the inside, from April 8, 1876, we then described the magnitude of the work of these enterprising Skagit jam loggers, who without Government aid, personal funds, and but little private assistance, had undertaken one of the greatest works of public utility ever attempted on this coast; nothing less than opening up for settlement and cultivation a tract of country large enough to support 100,000 people.

These jam loggers have worked there now nearly a year. Have removed a jam

between one-fourth and one-half mile long, reduced the portage distance one and one-half miles, and have begun work on the upper jam. To do this they had to cut through from five to eight tiers of logs from three to eight feet in diameter, or nearly thirty feet deep of solid cutting of a channel wide enough for a steamer to run where the lower jam was. Already this work is of use in opening up a timber tract, where parties have taken advantage of the work done by these jam loggers, and have sent several booms of logs down where this jam formerly was. We believe they have not as yet recognized the help of the jam loggers in improving the value of their timber and affording a market for it.

To say the jam loggers are doing their work thoroughly and well, conveys no adequate idea of the magnitude and thoroughness of the work done. What they have received from sale of logs taken from the jam, and contributions from citizens, will only partially pay actual expenses, yet these men should have something more than this as a suitable recognition of their great work.

We think the General Government even if it declined to grant them a money recompense for their public services could well afford to grant each of them a whole section of timber to be located above the jam on its removal, and proof made of the fact to the local Land Office. Of the five energetic men, who began work there, Fritz Dibbern has succeeded to the place and interest of James Quirk, and Dennis Starrs to that of Joseph Wilson. The five jam loggers now at work there being: Dennis Starrs, Marvin Minniek, Donald McDonald, Daniel Hines, and Fritz Dibbern.

The Greeley Monument.

Over 10,000 people witnessed the unveiling of the Printers' bust of Horace Greeley at Greenwood Cemetery, New York, on the 4th instant.—Exchange.

Soon after the death of Horace Greeley (who was esteemed by the craft the greatest of American printers and journalists since the time of Franklin) a committee of printers was appointed by the New York Typographical Union, for the purpose of devising a plan to erect a monument to the illustrious dead, wherein none others than printers, or those intimately connected with the profession, should contribute. Accordingly the committee soon after issued a circular, requesting every printer in the United States to furnish the price of 1,000 ems of matter, and every printing establishment one pound of type metal. The request of the committee was promptly responded to by the craft, and the amount so contributed aggregated upwards of \$100,000. This sum has been devoted to the erection of one of the costliest as well as the most emblematical monuments ever erected in this country, and is a just and feeling tribute to the memory of a great representative American by his countrymen of the same profession which he so much honored while living.

How recent some of the settlements are on the Sound, and how healthful is the climate may be readily seen upon looking for the cemeteries elsewhere usually found to contain a greater number than are found among the living in the same communities; while all around the Sound we see very few cemeteries, and these tenanted by few who have made them their last resting place.

Only three white women's graves are found in Snohomish county. Reflections of this nature were awakened a few days since by a conversation with Joseph Lisk, one of the oldest settlers of the Skagit valley. In February, 1874, he lost an infant daughter, some five months old, named Maria C. Lisk, while May 21, 1876, his boy Joseph DeLisk died, aged six years and three months. When we met Mr. L. he was on his way from Seattle, where he had procured two very neat and appropriate tomb-stones to mark their last resting places; we believe them to be the first tomb-stones brought to the Skagit river.

It is said that there are in the United States over 40,000 idiots, estimating the population at 40,000,000—one for every thousand. For the care of these "dait" ones there are ten asylums, none of which have been in existence over thirty years.

The President's Message.

Owing to the extreme length of the message, and a press of other matter, we are unable to give that document in full. We, however, give the leading portions of it, as follows:

"In submitting my eighth and last annual message to Congress, it seems proper that I should refer to and in some degree recapitulate the events and official acts of the past eight years.

It was my fortune or misfortune to be called to the office of Chief Executive without any previous political training. From the age of seventeen, I had never even witnessed the excitement attending a political campaign but twice antecedent to my own candidacy, and at but one of them was I eligible as a voter, and under such circumstances it is but reasonable to suppose that errors of judgment must have occurred. Even had they not, differences of opinion between the Executive, found by statute to strict performance of his duties, and writers and debaters, must have arisen. It is not necessary evidence of a blunder on the part of an Executive because there are those differences of views. Mistakes have been made, as all can see, and as I admit; but it seems to me that in selections made of assistants appointed to and in carrying out the various duties of administering the Government, who are in nearly every case selected without a personal acquaintance with the appointee, but upon recommendations of the Representatives chosen directly by the people, it is impossible where so many traits are to be allotted that the right party should be chosen in every instance. History shows that no administration has been free from these mistakes. But I leave comparisons to history, claiming only that I have acted in every instance from a conscientious desire to do whatever was right, constitutional, within the law, and for the interests of the whole people.

"Failures have been errors of judgment, not of intent. My civil career commenced, too, at a most critical and difficult time. Less than four years before the country had emerged from a conflict such as no other nation had ever survived. Nearly one-half of the States had revolted against the Government, and of those remaining faithful to the Union a large percentage of the population sympathized with the rebellion and made an enemy in the rear almost as dangerous as the more honorable enemy in the front. The latter committed errors of judgment, but they maintained them openly and courageously; the former received the protection of the Government they would see destroyed, and reaped the pecuniary advantage to be gained out of the then existing state of affairs, many of them by obtaining contracts and by swindling the Government in the delivery of their goods. Immediately on the cessation of hostilities the then noble President who had carried the country so far through its perils fell a martyr to his patriots at the hands of an assassin. The intervening time to my first inauguration was filled up with wranglings between Congress and the new Executive as to the best mode of reconstruction, or, to speak plainly, as to whether the control of the Government should be thrown immediately into the hands of those who had so recently and persistently tried to destroy it, or whether the victors should continue to have an equal voice with them in its control. Reconstruction, as finally agreed upon, means this and only this, except that the late slave was, emphatically, giving an increase, as was supposed, to the Union-loving and Union-supporting voters; as, if free in the full sense of the word, they would not disappoint this expectation. Hence, at the beginning of my administration the work of reconstruction, much embarrassed by the long delay, virtually commenced. If I erred, it was wholly in approving those acts, which I did most heartily, urging the Legislatures of States that had not yet done so to ratify the fifteenth amendment to the constitution. The country was laboring under an enormous debt, contracted in the suppression of the rebellion, and taxation was so oppressive as to discourage production. Another danger also threatened us as a foreign war. The last difficulty had to be adjusted and was adjusted without a war, and in a manner highly honorable to all parties concerned.

"Taxes have been reduced within the past seven years nearly \$300,000,000, and the national debt has been reduced in the same time over \$455,000,000. By refunding the six per cent. bonded debt for bonds bearing 5 and 4 1/2 per cent. interest respectively, the annual interest has been reduced from over \$130,000,000 in 1869 to a little over \$100,000,000 in 1875. The balance of trade has been changed from over \$140,000,000 against the United States in 1869 to more than 150,000,000 in our favor in 1875. It is confidently believed the balance of trade in favor of the United States will increase and not diminish, and the pledge of Congress to resume specie payments in 1879 will be easily accomplished, even in the absence of much desired legislation on the subject."

After alluding to our foreign relations, the army and navy, and the Indian policy of the Government, all of which he pronounces in a satisfactory condition, General Grant thus expresses his determination to retire from public life:

"With the present Congress my official life terminates. It is not probable that public affairs will ever again receive attention from me, further than as a citizen of the Republic, always taking a deep interest in the honor, and integrity, and prosperity of the whole land."

During the past year the progress of the Skagit has been very rapid. They have now regular steam communication direct with Seattle, per steamer *Fanny Lake*. The new store and hall of D. E. Gage is ready for use, arrangements are being perfected for building a good hotel at Skagit City. The public spirited and energetic jam loggers have removed the lower jam, will remove the upper before long, so that their future progress is assured. One pressing want is direct steam mail communication with Seattle. It now takes two or three days to get their mail via La Conner, while the *Fanny Lake* comes through the Stillaguamish river, stopping at Centreville, and on to Skagit City in one day. This

is the only proper route to supply fully both the Stillaguamish river valleys and the Skagit with direct steam mail communication at small expense. We understand the people of these two regions have united in operating to secure this very desirable result, in which we wish them success.

The STAR commenced publication eleven months ago with a circulation of between three and four hundred copies. It has had a regular, steady, yet very rapid increase in circulation from the beginning. This number is devoted more particularly to the representation of the interests of the Skagit and Snohomish.

For this purpose we have furnished much new matter, as well as made use of matter that has formerly appeared in the STAR, relating to that portion of the Sound. To furnish the extra copies desired, and supply our regular mailing list, among the largest in the Territory, we this week publish three reams, or sixty quires, being between fourteen and fifteen hundred copies, being perhaps the largest single issue of any paper ever published in Washington Territory.

This article on our inside headed "Skagit River," first appeared in the STAR with the one headed La Conner, April 8, 1876. The other articles reprinted have appeared at sundry times between that date and the present, are placed in one number to give a fair showing of the resources of the southern portion of Whatcom county.

New Advertisements.

NOTICE.

All persons indebted to me are expected to settle, by note or cash, immediately. ISAAC CALHOUN, Proprietor Snohomish Exchange.

Atheneum Meeting.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the regular annual meeting for the election of officers of the Snohomish Atheneum, for the ensuing year, will be held at the Riverside Hotel, in Snohomish City, W. T., on Monday, Dec. 25, 1876, at 4 P. M. There will also be presented at said meeting a proposition to reorganize the Atheneum by amending the articles of incorporation of the same, so as to permit its more rapid growth and secure more capital and more efficient work in carrying out the objects of the Atheneum, by substituting a joint stock incorporation in lieu of life and term memberships, and such other changes as upon consideration of the members may be deemed necessary. Per order of the President. 49-1 ELDRIDGE MORSE, Secretary.

GRAND BALL!



A Grand Ball will be given at the RIVERSIDE HOTEL,

CHRISTMAS NIGHT, DECEMBER 25, 1876

All are invited. 49-1d SNEONE BROS.

NOTICE!

The copartnership heretofore existing under the firm name of Jackson & Co., in mercantile business at Lowell, Snohomish county, W. T., is this day, by mutual consent, dissolved. Mr. D. B. Jackson continues the business and will be responsible for all partnership debts contracted by him or Henry Jackson, and all moneys due the firm will be paid to him. D. B. JACKSON, 49-4w E. D. SMITH.

Great Attraction!

—AT— JOHN SULLIVAN'S!!

RECEIVED DIRECT FROM NEW YORK, AN IMMENSE STOCK OF Toys and Fancy Goods THE LARGEST IN THE CITY.

Which I can and will sell cheaper than any other house in Seattle. Call and see them. Ladies and gentlemen, Boys and Girls. On hand, as usual, a fine assortment of Candles, Nuts, Figs, Dates, Pop-Corn, Maple Sugar, &c JOHN SULLIVAN, Commercial St., Seattle.



La Conner, W. T.

This town does an extensive shipping business each year in agricultural products raised on the Swinomish Flats. It is situated about one mile north of the south entrance of the Swinomish Slough. One of its chief drawbacks is the shallow and crooked channel of the slough; yet most of the difficulties of navigation of this slough for Sound boats could be remedied by buoying out the channel; this would cost but little and would be of great benefit to the commerce of the Sound. This town is built upon one of those peculiar rocky hillocks that rise like islands in a sea, out of the dead level of these flats. The town contains two good stores, one hotel, warehouses, wharves, etc., and quite a number of neat residences. Messrs Samuel Calhoun and Michael Sullivan were the first permanent settlers in this vicinity. Calhoun settled there April 15, 1863; Sullivan June 15, 1863. A telegraph line ran through the place within a year or two afterwards, and a Post-office within a couple of years after that.

The flats consist of tide marsh that has to be reclaimed by diking and draining. But little of this kind of work was done in a systematic manner prior to 1870; although some few had been at this work a few years prior to that date. Messrs. Sullivan, Dodge, Calhoun and Conner were among the first. At the start many mistakes were made and much money uselessly wasted from not understanding the best methods of diking, putting in dams, flood gates, etc. The greatest mistakes being made in making the dikes and dams too light and too narrow, not clearing the creek bottoms properly for the dams or putting in brush sufficiently around them so as to keep musk rats etc. from injuring them. Mr. Calhoun has had an extensive experience in diking, and promises to give our readers the benefit of an article upon that subject before long.

An estimate can be made of the amount of work done near this town, by the following list of the principal farms diked ready for cultivation, or in cultivation within two and a half miles of La Conner. Except where otherwise stated nearly all is in cultivation as well as diked:

Michael Sullivan.....	100 acres.
J. S. Conner.....	400 "
E. T. Dodge.....	300 "
Samuel Calhoun.....	270 "
Dr. G. V. Calhoun.....	160 "
Walker & Gill.....	160 "
Leando Pierson.....	160 "
James Harrison.....	150 "
James Gaches.....	120 "
John Cornelius.....	100 "
Thomas Lindsey.....	100 "
Culver estate, 100 acres diked, 60 cultivated.	
Alden place, 100 acres diked, 20 cultivated.	

It is expected that about 2,000 acres more will be diked within three or four miles of La Conner this year. About the average cost of building a substantial dike three feet high, six feet base and two and a half feet top is \$2 per rod. It costs 25 cents per rod additional to keep it in repair for the first few years until the dike becomes settled. If put up in first-class shape at first, often times no repairs are necessary.

The average yield of this land is sufficient to astonish one used to the most fertile Iowa prairies. Oats and barley average 60 bushels per acre. Wheat 30 to 60. But little of the ground is properly prepared for wheat raising. It is the opinion of the farmers there, that where this kind of land is put in proper shape, or any thing near like it, for raising grain, barley and oats, would average 100 bushels per acre, and wheat from 60 to 80 bushels per acre. Some small fields have yielded over 80 bushels per acre for the whole field.

The people in that vicinity shipped in 1875, their first shipping year, about 400 tons of barley and oats to California. The total exports being 1,000 tons, and about 1,100 acres cultivated. That was the crop of 1874.

This year, of the crop of 1875, about

1,000 tons were shipped to California, besides shipments to other places.

Calhoun Bros. alone shipped to California about 300 tons of oats, and sold elsewhere 100 tons more of barley and oats. This was the product of about 320 acres of land besides what was lost, destroyed or retained for home consumption. Some 6,000 bushels of grain being lost by storms etc., and 40 tons of grain sank with the *Pacific*.

Mr. E. T. Dodge cut last year about 200 tons of hay, and sold about 150 tons of barley and oats, beside amount retained for consumption. He is a very systematic farmer. Ever since his settlement there in 1867, he has kept a regular journal of every thing taking place on the farm. He will send us before long a transcript of the principle items recorded by him during that time. He has succeeded well in dairy business. In 1874 the butter made per cow was 218 pounds, raising all the calves. In 1875 the butter made per cow was 228, raising only the heifer calves. All this butter averaged 40 cents per pound.

This ground is peculiarly adapted to onion raising; they grow splendidly and mature well. Turnips, cabbages, mangel-wurzels, beets, carrots, etc., grow to an enormous size. The Early Rose does the best of any kind of potatoes.

Dr. Church is the name of the physician at La Conner.

J. J. Conner is hotel proprietor. The stores are kept by B. L. Martin, and Mr. Gaches. They do an extensive trade. The telegraph office is situated across the slough. The operator, Mr. Gilliland, is also Notary Public, draws most of the business papers required by the people in the vicinity.

Swinomish Slough

Sometime ago the following article appeared in relation to this slough:

"SWINOMISH SLOUGH.—This slough connects the waters at the mouth of the Skagit river with Patilla Bay, passing between Fidalgo Island and the main Swinomish flats. The slough is some eight miles long, affords the main channel of communication along the east side of the Sound from Seattle to Bellingham Bay, on account of the dangers oftentimes attending a passage through Deception Pass. The channel of the slough is very crooked, shifting, shallow and winding. At several places are bars nearly obstructing navigation, yet these obstacles can be removed at small expense if it were not from the continuous shifting of the channel. This requires that the channel be staked out anew every little while. The owners of the steamer *Libby* have so far been public spirited enough to do this at their own expense. Yet this being a public navigable channel used by all trading there, traffic worth nearly one half million dollars being compelled to pass one way or another through this slough this year, it is not right to expect one company to do all this work alone. Many channels of one-fourth the commercial importance, often have thousands of dollars annually spent upon them by the Government, while here there is nothing done except by these steamboat owners, and every scow or sloop passing through undoes their work. Would it not be well for all interested in the trade passing through this slough to combine to induce the Government to cause the channel to be kept properly staked, buoyed and dredged out, and until the Government does this, for all to take a part in keeping the slough navigable for all wishing to navigate it."

This article was generally read, copied by other papers and commented upon quite favorably. The Bellingham Bay *Mail*, the official paper of Whatcom county, upon republishing it, indorsed the proposal in the following items:

"Most certainly it would be well; nothing better. If we remember rightly, we have suggested this matter before. We should bear in mind that Congress does not make appropriations for these purposes without being petitioned. The citizens of La Conner and the mail contractor, who are mostly interested in this matter, should start the petition and send it to our Delegate to Congress, Judge Jacobs. They may rest assured that he will give it all possible consideration by urging its importance upon

Congress and the proper Department. This is a measure of great commercial importance, and yet of no considerable expense. We presume that an expenditure of \$2,000 would so dredge and improve the channel of the slough as to make it safely navigable for light-draft steamers and schooners at nearly all stages of the tide. But as the banks and bars are liable to shift or vary during the June and January freshets from the Skagit, an additional outlay of \$1,000 will doubtless be necessary to keep the stream in good navigable condition constantly. Our Delegate and Congress can readily understand the great necessity of this improvement when it is stated that in the immediate vicinity of Swinomish Slough over ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND bushels of grain will be produced this year, which yield it is estimated will be increased at the rate of fifty per cent. per annum for the next three years. This local trade, together with the general traffic between Seattle and Whatcom county, including the U. S. Mail, must pass through this channel. It is too late in the season now to expect any Congressional legislation at this session, but it is earnestly hoped that something will be done for this measure ere the expiration of the present Congress next 4th of March."

How greatly this improvement is demanded may be inferred from the fact that next year there will be probably twice the area in grain on the Swinomish as last year; while upon the removal of the Skagit jam over 100,000 acres of land, now subject to overflow from the Skagit, will all of it be capable of being brought under cultivation at a very slight expense. This land is the most productive land in the world, will yield from 6,000,000 to 10,000,000 bushels of grain annually, to say nothing of the yield of the upper Skagit bottoms to be added to this truly enormous yield.

We understand the citizens of the community have taken the proper steps through Judge Jacobs to secure Government aid in the premises. We hope he will leave nothing undone to effect the object sought, as this work will not only benefit La Conner, the Swinomish and the Skagit, but equally the whole of Whatcom county.

**OYSTERS!**  
**OYSTERS!**  
Served in the most delicious manner at

**C C C**  
**A. W. PIPER'S.**  
**PUGET SOUND**  
**Confectionery Saloon**  
**Front Street, Seattle.**

Customers will find at this place all the delicacies of the season, the finest Java Coffee, the best Tea and Chocolate; also

**HAM AND EGGS**  
and other Eatables.

**Fresh Made CANDIES,**  
And an Assortment of

**FINE CAKES**  
Constantly on hand. Wedding Cakes made to order on the shortest notice. Ball Suppers and Parties supplied.

**Hall & Paulson**  
Manufacturers of and Dealers in  
**Furniture, Bedding,**  
**Window Curtains,**  
**Picture Frames,**  
**Windows, Doors,**  
**and blinds.**

Seattle, W. T.

M. W. PACKARD,

D. B. JACKSON

**PACKARD & JACKSON,**

DEALERS IN

**DRY GOODS,**  
**CLOTHING, HATS, & CAPS, CROCKERY**  
**BOOTS & SHOES,**

Groceries and PROVISIONS, TOBACCO and Cigars

We keep for sale the best Brand of Oregon Flour in the

Mark 1.

**A NEW INVOICE OF**

JEWELRY, WATCHES and CHAINS; WARRANTED PURE MATERIALS  
and as cheap as can be purchased anywhere in the Territory.

**BUTTER, EGGS, HAY, HIDES,**

**SHINGLES, SHIP KNEES and LOGS**

Taken in Exchange for Merchandise.

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**HARDWARE!**

wholesale & Retail.

MECHANICS' TOOLS

our SPECIALTY.

FARMING

implements,

LOGGERS' TOOLS

&c. &c. &c.

CIRCULAR SAWS

and

MACHINERY OF

All Kinds Fur-

nished to ORDER at

Factory Prices

Patent Ground hin Back Cross-Cut Saws.

Country Orders  
Promptly Filled.

**Wusthoff & Wald,**  
P. O. Box 52,  
Seattle, W. T.

**GREAT CUT DOWN IN PRICES!**

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**Jamieson's Jewelry Emporium**  
Seattle, W. T.

**Watches & Jewelry at Cost.**

Best Waltham Watch, 2 oz. case, \$20.	(Regular price \$30.)
" " " 3 " " 27.50.	" " 35.
" " " 4 " " 30.	" " 40.
" " " 6 " " 35.	" " 50.

Everything Else in Proportion

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**JAMIESON'S JEWELRY EMPORIUM!**

**L. WILBUR,**

SNOMISH CITY, W. T.

—DEALER IN—

**DRUGS,**

Medicin and Chemical.

PURE WINES and LIQUORS  
FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

PERFUMERY,  
Fancy Toilet Articles, Cigars,  
&c. &c.

Prescriptions carefully com-  
pounded at all hours.

ALL ARE INVITED TO CALL.

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**WADDELL & MILES,**

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

**STOVES**  
&  
**RANGES,**

TIN, COPPER, & JAPANED WARE

SUCTION AND FORCE PUMPS,

Lead and Iron Pipe,

GAS & STEAM PIPE FITTINGS

BRASS GOODS.

All work pertaining to the  
business done at short notice  
and in a workmanlike manner.

**Give us a call.**

SEATTLE, W. T.

vi 11.

**Swinomish Items.**

**DIKING THIS YEAR ON THE SWINOMISH.**—Last week we walked from Skagit City to La Conner, crossing the Skagit at Mr. Tallot's place, the way by trail and wagon road to the house of Mr. Cornelius, along what is known as Pleasant Ridge. This ridge extends into the centre of the Swinomish flats somewhere like three miles from the Skagit. From the end of the ridge one of the finest views in the Territory may be witnessed. The place of Mr. Cornelius being situated at the foot of and around the end of it, and covering some 20 acres or so of the end of the ridge, forming one of the most beautiful, picturesque and fertile as well as productive ranches found anywhere. Coming from the Skagit, one sees to the right of the road a tract of level marsh, mostly above tide level, containing several thousand acres of land. But little of this is covered with timber. It requires diking, not against the tide so much as the annual overflow of the Skagit, caused in part by the backing up of the Skagit by the jam. It has been estimated that over 100,000 acres of the very best kind of marsh land could easily be reclaimed in a body here by a slight dike, on the removal of the jam.

For several years past a number of persons have been at work trying to dike in a tract of land situated on the east side and adjoining Pleasant Ridge. The task commenced is now just about finished, the tract enclosed being about as follows: C. J. Chilberg, 160 acres; Robt. Kennedy, 160; C. H. Chamberlain, 160; Isaac Chilberg, 240; Nelson Chilberg, 80; Albert Leamer, 160; S. Calhoun, 160; J. Cornelius, 40. Total, 1,160 acres. Besides this tract there will be finished this year, of dikes commenced in part previously, dikes enclosing the following lands on Swinomish and Sullivan's sloughs: J. S. Conner, 140 acres; J. Sullivan, 172; M. Sullivan, 40; Geo. Alden, 60; Culver estate 60; Dodge & Lindsey, 20; D. B. Jackson, 300; Isaac Jennings, 160; Edward Ballou, 160; C. Miller, 160; Robt. White, 80; J. F. Terrence, 80; Jas. H. McDonald, 160. Total 1,592 acres. Forming a total of 2,752 acres of tide flats enclosed this year on the Swinomish flats, in addition to what was previously under cultivation there.

**VIEW FROM PLEASANT RIDGE.**—The editor of the *West Shore* is in the habit of obtaining pictures of representative buildings, scenery, etc., found on the northwest coast, and having engravings or cuts made of them, so they appear in his journal. We wish he could get a view of Swinomish flats as they appear with the grain stacked thereon. The view alone will well repay a visit from Oregon. After viewing for miles field after field of such grain as can only be raised from such land as this, one could not well say that this Territory was not a good agricultural community.

**FORTY ACRES OF OATS.**—Two weeks ago Thos. Lindsey threshed his oats raised the past season on a forty acre tract. They yielded 3,600 bushels, or an average of 90 bushels to the acre.

**TWENTY-EIGHT ACRES OF BARLEY.**—Messrs. E. & A. Seightred raised the past season on 28 acres, part of J. S. Conner's town claim, a crop of barley averaging over 90 bushels to the acre.

**TELEGRAPH OFFICE AT LA CONNER.**—Arrangements have been made to erect a Building. The citizens of La Conner have raised the funds to establish an office at that place. It is expected that the office across the river on the Swinomish reservation will be discontinued, and the telegraph office of the Western Union Telegraph Co. established at La Conner instead, as soon as the building etc. is ready for its removal.

**SALOON,  
T. F. MARKS  
PROPRIETOR.**

SNOHOMISH CITY, W. T.

The best of wines, liquors and cigars. always on hand at THE OLD STAND.

v1 n10.

**W. H. Pumphrey,**

SEATTLE, W. T.

**BOOKSELLER & STATIONER.**

Always keep large stock of everything usually kept in a first class

**BOOK STORE.**

—:O:—

**Pianos & Organs,**

SOLD ON THE

**Installment Plan.**

—:O:—

EASTERN

**News Papers**

AND

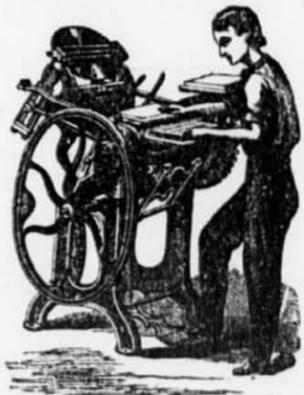
**Magazines**

furnished at Publishers prices in coin. Cash strictly in advance.

v1 n1

**NORTHERN STAR  
JOB OFFICE,**

Snohomish City, W. T.



**A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF**

Business and Legal Blanks on HAND.

**All kinds of job work**

IN THE

BEST STYLE AT REASONABLE

PRICES.

**Ladies' Visiting Cards**

**A SPECIALTY.**

**NEW ENGLAND**

**HOUSE**

Main st. Olympia, W. T.

E. T. YOUNG - - Proprietor.

The NEW ENGLAND is

eligibly located, its accommodations for families unsurpassed.

The House is kept open allnight.

MEALS SERVED AT ALL HOURS

Charges very moderate.

—:O:—

The New England coach will be at the Wharves on the arrival of STEAMERS PASSENGERS AND BAGGAGE TO AND FROM THE HOUSE FREE OF CHARGE.

All stages leave the door.

v1 c1

**CUSTOM MADE**

Boots and shoes. Manufactured and Sold wholesale and Retail BY

**BENJ. VINCENT**

Main st., Olympia, W. T.

Latest styles Boots and shoes made to order. Allwork warranted and satisfaction guaranteed.

Also agent for the celebrated.

**NEW WEED**

**"Family Favorite"**

**SEWING MACHINE.**

Why is it the Best ?

IT IS THE MOST SIMPLE, DURABLE, PERFECT.

It runs easy and quiet, Has no cams for shuttle motion, Has no springs to get out of order. The needle is set correctly without screw-driver, or tool of any kind. It can be cleaned or oiled without lifting from the table; and the best thing of all, It has Perfect Self Adjustable Tensions. Call and examine this Machine before buying elsewhere. v1 n8.6m. BENJ. VINCENT.

**NORTH PACIFIC**

**MUTUAL LIFE**

**ASSOCIATION.**

Portland, Oregon,

INCORPORATED 1874,

CAPITAL \$100,000 00 Gold

Coin Basis.

**DIRECTORS.**

P. WASSERMAN, Pres't; E. QUACK

BUSH, Vice Pres't; W. S. LADD,

Treas.; D. W. WAKEFIELD, Sec'y;

W. H. EFFINGER, At'y, M. P.

MORSE, Gen'l Agent;

WM. WADHAMS, J. W. BRAZEE,

J. L. ATKINSON.

LIVE ACTIVE AGENTS

**Wanted.**

Apply to

J. H. Munson,

Supt't Agencies, Olympia,

Washington Territory.

v1 n23

**BLACKSMITH!**

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING OPENED A

**New Blacksmith Shop,**

AT

Snohomish City,

Washington Territory,

**IS READY TO DO**

ALL KINDS OF LOGGERS AND

FARMERS WORK IN HIS LINE.

WITH NEATNESS AND

Dispatch.

SHOP IS BACK OF MARK'S SALOON.

Call and see my work.

L. HANSEN.

v1 n36.

**DOLLY VARDEN SALOON**

FRONT STREET, NEAR THE PAVILION

SEATTLE, W. T.

**At the DOLLY VARDEN WINES, LIQUORS, BEER AND CIGARS,**

Of the BEST QUALITY, will always be served to our customers.

**CUTTER'S OLD BOURBON WHISKY**

AND THE BEST CIGARS IN SEATTLE, Are the specialties at this house.

**SMITH & JEWETT.**

Proprietors.

E. SHONE.

K. SHONE

**RIVER SIDE HOTEL!**

SNOHOMISH CITY, WASHINGTON TERRITORY,

**Shone Brothers**

Having recently leased this convenient and well known Hotel

Building, for a Term of Years and refitted it in good style, beg leave to inform the community that they are now prepared to accommodate the public. They propose keeping a strictly

**First Class Hotel.**

The Table will be supplied with the best the market affords.

FIRST QUALITY OF WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS ALWAYS ON HAND

Every attention will be shown for the convenience of the patrons of

v1:5

This House.

**STOVES AND TIN WARE.**

**S. P. ANDREWS & CO.**

DEALERS IN

Cook

Parlor

and Box

Stoves

Pumps iron and Lead Pipe.

All job work pertaining to the business done in a workman-like manner.

ORDERS FROM ABROAD

Receive Prompt Attention.

Store on Commercial Street,

SEATTLE, W. T.

Wm. H. WARD,

**BLACKSMIT**

One Door West of Snohomish Exchange.

SNOHOMISH CITY, W. T.

All orders received at this shop will be attended to with neatness and dispatch.

FARMERS WILL BEAR IN MIND THAT IN ORDER TO GET ONE OF THE

**Improved horse Hay**

Forks

They must leave their orders in time.

All tools used in Logging

Camps made to order, and

as cheap as can be

got on the

Sound.

v1 a1

**COSMOPOLITAN SALOON!**

Opposite Northern Star Building,

Snohomish City, Wash. Ter.

The bar supplied with first-class

WINES,

LIQUORS,

& CIGARS.

ALSO

**NOBLE WHISKY!**

Try It.

W. B. Stevens.

v1:42

**National Business College.**

EDUCATES THOROUGHLY FOR BUSINESS.

Receives students any week-day of the year. State of advancement not material.

Day and Evening Sessions!

The year through.

Instruction Individual.

College "Journal" sent free upon application. Address,

DeFrance & White,

v1:n44. Lock Box 104, Portland, Ogn.

**Upland Nursery!**

—:O:—

FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBBERY AT REDUCED RATES.

—:O:—

Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach, Cherry, Quince, Grape, Gooseberry, Currant, Blackberry, Raspberry, Strawberry, Nut-Bearing Trees, &c. &c., all in

**Great Variety!**

Send for Catalogue and Price List to

John M. Swan, Olympia W. T.

H. D. MORAN is my agent at Snohomish City, W. T.

—:O:—

John M. Swan, Olympia.

The following we republish from the STAR of September 30, 1876, in relation to the machinery required by the farmers on the Snohomish:

**STEAM THRESHER.**—Notwithstanding the steam thresher of Mr S. Calhoun could do so much work, it was found that another machine of a similar character could be used to good advantage this year. Therefore Messrs. Paulson & Loveland ordered one through Messrs. J. & G. Gaches. The order was sent to San Francisco by telegraph. The machine came up by steamer, and was in the field at work within seven days after the order was sent. The engine is of twelve horse power. The machine was on exhibition at the Mechanics' Fair at San Francisco at the time of the purchase. It was the only one there, and there was considerable difficulty in getting it away.

**PROFESSIONAL CARDS.**

**ELDRIDGE MORSE,**  
Lawyer;  
SNOHOMISH.

**Dr. A. C. FOLSOM,**  
Physician and Surgeon.  
Office in NORTHERN STAR building, upstairs.

**W. M. TIRTLOT,**  
Lawyer,  
Notary Public and Conveyancer.  
Snohomish City, W. T.  
v1:35

**DENTISTRY.**  
Dr. J. C. GRASSE, DENTIST,  
SEATTLE, W. T.  
Office in Stone & Barnett's new building on Commercial street.  
All work warranted.  
1:8

**William R. Andrews,**  
Attorney at Law.  
Office: BUTLER'S BUILDING,  
Opposite Occidental  
SEATTLE, W. T.  
v1:3

GEORGE MCCONAHA, C. H. HANFORD  
**MCCONAHA & HANFORD,**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,  
Seattle, W. T.  
Office on the upper floor of the Seattle Market building.  
v1:30

**LARRABEE & HALL,**  
Attorneys at Law,  
Seattle, W. T.  
Practices in the Courts of Washington Territory.  
v1:4

**H. C. VINING,**  
Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c.,  
MUKILTEO, W. T.  
Full stock of Blanks on hand.  
Business done with accuracy and dispatch.  
1:24

IRVING BALLARD, WM. A. INMAN  
**BALLARD & INMAN**  
Attorneys at Law, Solicitors in  
Chancery and Proctors  
in Admiralty.  
SEATTLE, - - - W. T.

**WILL PAY PROMPT ATTENTION**  
to all business entrusted to us.  
v1:3

**McNAUGHT and LEARY,**  
Attorneys and Counsellors  
at-Law,  
PRACTICE IN COURTS OF RECORD,  
AGENTS FOR  
PHOENIX,  
HOME,  
NORTH BRITISH and  
MERCHANTILE  
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

**Money Loaned,**  
Real Estate bought and sold,  
Collections made,  
Conveyancing, &c. &c.  
SEATTLE, W. T.

**JAMES McNAUGHT, JOHN LEAR-**  
v1:11

**SNOHOMISH CITY MARKET REPORT.**

STOCK.	
Milk Cows, per hd.	\$25.00 @ 50.00
Work Oxen, per yoke	\$150. @ 250.
Beef cattle, on foot, per lb.	50 cts
Horses, per hd.	\$50 @ 100
Sheep, per hd.	\$2.50 @ 5.00
Hogs, on foot, per lb.	5 cts.
GROCERIES, PROVISIONS &c.	
Bacon, per lb.	14 cts
Pork, do.	8 cts
Chickens, per doz.	\$3. @ 4.50
Eggs, do.	15 @ 20
Flour, per bb.	\$7.00 @ 7.50
Wheat, per bush.	\$1. @ 1.25
Butter, per lb.	35 @ 40 cts
Hides, green, per lb.	3 cts
Potatoes, per bush.	65 cts.
Oats, per bush.	2 1/2 cts.
Ground Barley, per ton.	\$42.50
Hay, per ton.	\$12.00 @ 14.00
Candies, per lb.	25 cts
Beans, do.	5 cts.
Sugars, do.	10 @ 16 cts.
Syrup, per keg of 5 gals.	\$4.50
Dried Apples, per lb.	12 1/2 cts.
Nails, per lb.	7 @ 8
Course salt, per lb.	2 cts.
Tobacco, do.	75 @ \$1.20
Coal Oil, per case.	\$5.00
Cabbage, per lb.	1 1/2 cts
Turnips, do.	1 1/2 cts
Apples, per bush.	8.50
Wood, per cord, deliv'd.	\$2.50
Ship Knees, per in.	40 @ 50 cts
Logs, per M ft.	\$5.50
Hewed Timber, per lineal foot.	10 cts.

**SAN FRANCISCO GRAIN MARKET.**

WHEAT, new, per ct.	\$1.50 @ 1.55 1/2
choice old milling	1.57 1/2 @ 1.62 1/2
BARLEY, new, per ct.	1.00 @ 1.05
choice old brewing	1.10 @ 1.20
OATS, new crop, per ct.	1.30 @ 1.45
RYE, firm at	1.45
BUCKWHEAT, per lb.	3 1/2 cts
Hops, Wash. Terr'y, per lb.	9 @ 10 1/2 cts
GROUND BARLEY, per ton.	\$4.00 @ 26.00
HAY, per ton.	7.50 @ 13.50

**THE PACIFIC TRIBUNE!**  
DAILY AND WEEKLY.  
Seattle, W. T.

The Daily is the oldest, largest and best in the Territory.  
The Weekly, now in its sixteenth year of publication, contains more reading matter than any of its Territorial contemporaries.  
The contents of both will include the fullest home news, editorial matter, the latest telegrams from abroad, correspondence, interesting miscellany, &c.

**TERMS:**  
Daily per annum, \$10; Weekly, \$3.  
Advertising desired, and inserted on reasonable terms.  
Address  
THOS. W. PROSCH, Publisher.  
v1:14.

**Puget Sound Stone Yard!**

Foot of Second street  
**SEATTLE, W. T**  
Every Variety of

**CEMETERY WORK,**  
HEAD STONES,  
Monuments, &c.,

Executed in marble and other stones, with neatness and dispatch.  
All Orders Promptly Filled.  
Also all kinds of

**Masons building material**  
KEPT FOR THE MARKET.  
All Orders Addressed To  
**M. J. CARKEEK,**  
PROPRIETOR.  
v1:20.

**LATEST PATENT**  
**SPRING BED BOTTOMS**

Two Styles, at Reduced Rates.  
—ALSO—

**Wall Paper**  
Always on hand at  
**John Pike's.**  
One Door East of E. C. Ferguson's Store,  
v1:42. SNOHOMISH CITY, W. T.

**FOR SALE**

That very desirable piece of property in Snohomish City, known as the Riverside Hotel, the oldest hotel in town is now offered for sale. It is eligibly situated, in an excellent state of repair, and yields its proprietor a handsome income. It will be sold, subject to a lease which expires in four years from February next. Apply to  
**W. M. TIRTLOT,**  
Agent.  
v1:43 tt.

Wm. DODD.

JOHN E. PUGHL.

**CENTRAL HOTEL.**

*Situated at the head of Union Wharf.*

**Port Townsend - - - W. T.**

This new and elegant hotel contains **30 rooms**, possessing all the appointments of a **FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.**

Its bar is supplied with the best of WINES, LIQUORS and CIGARS. There is a first class Billiard Table and Reading Room in the Hotel. Nothing will be left undone to make this Hotel second to none in the Territory.

**DODD & PUGH.**

v1:35

**JOHN H. HILTON,**  
**BUTCHER.**

Market on Union Avenue, East wing of Blue Eagle Building.  
SNOHOMISH CITY,  
W. T.

Will endeavor to supply the community with the best quality of

**FRESH MEATS.**

All orders left in my absence will be promptly attended to.

**Logging Camps**  
Supplied.  
v1:20

**TAKE NOTICE.**

That the tax roll of Snohomish county, Washington Territory, are now in my hands, and I am now ready to receive taxes thereon. All parties not paying before the first of January 1877, will have to pay 10 per cent additional thereon.

**T. F. MARKS,**  
Treasurer.

**The Olympia Transcript.**

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING.

*Price of Subscription:*  
One copy for one year, in advance, \$3; for six months, \$1.50; single copies 10 cents.  
**E. T. GUNN,**  
Editor and Proprietor.

**WALE and CATCHING.**

**DESIGNERS &**  
**ARCHITECTS,**  
**Carpenters, Contractors and**  
**BOAT BUILDERS.**

All work entrusted to their care will be done with NEATNESS and DISPATCH.

CHARGES TO SUIT THE TIMES. Place of business at the old BLUE EAGLE BUILDING, Union Avenue, SNOHOMISH CITY, W. T.  
v1:1

**For Sale.**

160 acres of good land lying near the mouth of the Skykomish River, with 15 acres cleared and 75 bearing fruit trees, for sale at a bargain. For further particulars enquire of  
**W. H. WALE,**  
or **M. W. PACKARD.**  
v1:14

**NEW BOOK & STATIONERY STORE.**

**JOHN L. JAMIESON,**

NEXT DOOR TO SCHWABACKER BRO'S, SEATTLE, W. T.

**School and Miscellaneous Books,**

STATIONERY, CUTLERY—MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS,

CIGARS, TOBACCO and SMOKERS MATERIALS.

Subscriptions solicited for all San Francisco and Eastern Papers and Periodicals

All orders will receive prompt attention.  
v1:13

**PINKHAM & SAXE,**

**DEALERS IN**

**CLOTHING AND GENT FURNISHING GOODS,**

**SEATTLE, W. T.,**

**Our Stock Consists of**

**Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, & Under Clothing of all kinds**

We sell the best goods for the least money of any place on the Sound.

**Give us a Call.**

**PINKHAM & SAXE.**  
v1:35.

**W. A. JENNINGS,**

**WHOLESALE AND**

**RETAIL DEALER IN**

GROCERIES,

PROVISIONS,

HARDWARE,

TEAS,

TOBACCOES,

CIGARS,

MANILLA CORDAGE,

*Commercial St., Seattle.*

**W. A. JENNINGS,**

1:14:13

**FOREIGN AND**

**DOMESTIC LIQUORS,**

**CALIFORNIA &**

**IMPORTED WINES.**

**W.A. JENNINGS,**

Agent

**For Averill Paints**

**Mixed ready**  
**FOR USE.**

**PARTIES**

Going to

**SEATTLE.**

Would do well to call

**And Examine Stock of**

**W. A. JENNINGS,**

before purchasing

**Elsewhere.**  
v1:35.