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REFUGEE NOTES FROM EAST BURLINGTON

The Skagit river has again risen in her majesty, and outdone its previous efforts for some years back. Everybody at Sterling south of the railroad track was compelled to move, some not getting their household goods high enough, as the water kept raising were obliged to move again. The people of the boarding house lived in the upper story. The mill firm were drying the last of their shingles but had to let the fire out because of the water about the Dry Kilns and mill. The slough reached such proportions as to be a veritable river, carrying all kinds of riff raff and logs over people's ranches.

John Peterson thought himself secure from high water but the slough backed to his barn.

The river flooded the greater part of Mr. Doughty's land running nearly across the county road, but did not reach his house.

Buzz Jewell suffered the greatest financial loss of anyone, as the river raised so that it covered most of his forty acres, and poured over the county roads in such volumes as to cut a chasm thirty feet wide and fifteen feet deep, the roaring of which could be heard half a mile away.

Jeffery Grimbley and wife moved out in season to escape being rescued by a raft this time, "I think the women all bore in mind the instance of one lady during the last flood, being carried out and deposited upon a raft outside the front gate, and determined to get out while the traveling was good." Mt. Grimbley drove his stock to the ridge of

land in Mr. Joyce's pasture where they were safe—but had not time to get the pigs out, one was in the barn on a raft and when the water and raft rose sufficiently it swam out of the barn window and away to high land, two others were found after the water subsided, high and dry on a large cedar stump.

In the dwellings of Messers. Grimbley, Chappeau, and Rayment the water came up to the door knobs.

Mr. Chappeau and family moved out in season but not expecting such a flood failed to get some of their household goods above high water mark, no serious damage was done them aside from getting wet.

Because of the illness of his mother at Sedro-Woolley, Mr. Joseph Rayment and family had placed everything upstairs, or out of reach of the water, and gone to Sedro-Woolley. Wash tabs, kerosene can, clothes pins, wash pan, etc. silently floated off the back porch and have not been located—anyone finding above named articles would confer a favor upon Mrs. Rayment by notifying her—reward offered on the wash basin, because of its usefulness.

The flood did no damage to Wm. Crotchett except to fill all the holes in and about his barn yard. It poured a wide stream of water over the county road and ran over the road into the slough. Mr. Crotchett watched it, and it raised so fast during Thursday night that at two o'clock in the morning he fired off his revolver until he

roused his neighbors, fearing their stock were going to be drowned.

All of the bottom land and some of the orchard land of W.H. Joyce was under water, but part of his pasture being high proved a haven for neighbor's cattle.

The water came in on the ranch of J.L. Stearns along the rail road track past the house, being on a raise of ground the water lacked about four feet of reaching it. The slough also overflowed the back of the ranch but not enough to float any logs off.

The bridge over the slough by Wm. Miller's place is impassable, having been built on logs, which were jarred loose lifting the bridge about three feet into space at one end.