

country had only just begun to be developed. The increase of the last ten years, as shown by the following table, carefully compiled from the census reports, is sufficiently striking. The statistics include Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and the northern half of Missouri:

	1850.	1860.
Land under cultivation—square miles.....	13,100	33,323
Population.....	1,696,174	3,768,216
Wheat, bushels.....	15,232,688	50,601,142
Corn, ".....	68,309,537	167,366,623
Oats, ".....	15,086,840	34,477,045
Swine, number.....	2,399,164	3,635,092
Cattle, ".....	1,234,092	2,673,704

These figures show a most astonishing progress. They demonstrate an appreciation in a single decade of from nearly a hundred to more than three hundred per cent.

I beg your special attention to the following statistics taken from the carefully prepared yearly tables of the *Chicago Tribune*. As Chicago is the great commercial centre of the North-West, these figures will tend still further to illustrate the rapid growth of the North-West, and the pressing necessity for greatly enlarged facilities to transport her products to the ocean. They vary somewhat with the abundance of the crops, and the demand for them, financial embarrassments, etc., but they certainly show a most wonderful development of the resources of the West.

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FLOUR AND GRAIN FOR FOUR YEARS.

	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Wheat, bush.....	14,568,429	17,539,909	13,728,116	11,180,344
Corn, bush.....	15,487,966	26,543,233	29,449,328	26,450,508
Oats, bush.....	2,029,906	1,883,258	4,138,722	9,139,525
Rye, bush.....	295,436	479,005	1,098,825	839,760
Barley, bush.....	623,005	417,129	872,053	1,098,346
Total.....	33,004,742	46,862,534	49,227,044	48,708,483
Add Flour into Wheat...	3,500,030	7,230,865	8,331,953	7,371,420
Total.....	36,504,776	54,093,219	57,558,999	56,079,903