

# HISTORY OF NEPHI CITY.

### Special Mineral and Agricultural Resources, and How They are Being Developed.

#### MINERAL AND METAL.

OF the interesting sights to be seen in Utah is to stand on a hill overlooking the city of Nephi, and watch the smoke of the chimneys and the steam of the engines of the Utah and Northern Railway, and the smoke of the chimneys of the various industries of the city. The city is situated on a hillside, and the smoke of the chimneys of the various industries of the city is seen from a distance. The city is situated on a hillside, and the smoke of the chimneys of the various industries of the city is seen from a distance.

#### INTERNAL HISTORY.

In the memorable town of Nephi, and prepared. By the second year, a large schoolhouse was erected, and George Spencer was engaged as teacher. Joseph L. Howard was President of the school, and acted also in the capacity of bishop of the ward. He was succeeded after three years by Jacob Bigler, a Christian layman, and George Spencer was engaged as teacher. Joseph L. Howard was President of the school, and acted also in the capacity of bishop of the ward.

#### INDUSTRIES.

Aside from farming and kindred agricultural pursuits, the first industry has been stock raising. The magnificent ranges on all sides naturally led into the cattle business. Of late years the sheep industry has grown almost here as elsewhere. The secretary of the Wool-growers' Association has furnished me statistics showing that the number of sheep in Utah in 1905 was 1,500,000 head of sheep. This industry alone furnishes employment for 200 men and boys, whose wages, combined with the wool and mutton revenues, is a splendid source of wealth to the city.

#### PLASTER OF PARIS.

Half a mile east of the city are located what promises to become, perhaps the best, deposit of high quality works in the world. The right place of the quarry is a vast mountain of absolutely pure gypsum—the largest deposit in the world. It is so close to the city as to be easily accessible to the city. The deposit is so close to the city as to be easily accessible to the city.

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that the Nephi Plaster and Manufacturing Co. (office at Nephi), will have no competitors. It is perhaps needless to say that it controls now the plaster of Paris trade not only of the State but of surrounding territories and states, including California.

The process of manufacturing through steam is extremely interesting. After being brought in on the steam-car, the stone is put through crushers which reduce it to the size of a pea. To the product is added a quantity of water, and the mixture is then put through rollers which reduce it to the size of a pea. To the product is added a quantity of water, and the mixture is then put through rollers which reduce it to the size of a pea.

#### SALT, SALT, SALT.

Five miles up the canyon and within a quarter of a mile of the railroad are mountains of it—rock salt, sometimes as pure as it is transparent. It would be interesting, did space permit, to speculate upon what source lower down the canyon, crystallized and purified with such quantities of the usual mineral. How they lay, however, exposed only to be quarried from the side of the mountains—a sight worth the visit of tourists to the State.

These deposits are owned by the Nephi Salt Mining and Manufacturing Co., a concern of Nephi which has been organized and operated since first mined and shipped 4,500,000 pounds. The salt is used by stockmen all over the west, and is so pure and only because of its comparative purity, but because it is in blocks and lumps and therefore peculiarly adapted for "cattle ticks."

It is also extremely rich in the melting and fluting of ore.

#### MORE SALT.

But the most beautiful flock of nature in natural wonders is that which I am now about to describe. At the very foot of the east side comes a spring of water clear as crystal, and beautiful enough to make an angel dizzy, only to look upon it. But should the angel stoop to drink, his bow would cease to be a bow, or should he lay his folded wings in it, the sun in its millions would cease to burn with an incandescence which might improve even the fiercest enemy.

It was discovered when after the settlement of Nephi, and no doubt gave the name to the canyon. For many years it was nobody's property, any one desiring a superior salt could here and evaporate the brine. But in 1894 a corporation of Nephi citizens was formed, under the name of the Nephi Salt Manufacturing Co., to place the product on the market. To do this successfully involved an outlay of thousands of dollars for machinery, but the undertaking is now a success beyond all precedent.

The brine is evaporated by steam in two long pans, each ten feet high, the salt is then carried by a worm to a large drying cylinder where all moisture is driven out, then it is ground between rollers and bobbed just like flour, the process resulting in three grades as to fineness, but of equal purity, viz: (1) fine dry salt, (2) table salt and (3) parlor salt.

which is phenomenal. It is distributed all over the world, and is so pure that it is used in the most delicate of the arts. The first analysis of the famous French salt was given in 1811, and it was found to be pure. With these facts before him, the company will have little difficulty in reaching to the head of the market.

#### PROGRESSIVE NEPHI.

Her Representative Men and Business Enterprises.

What might be called the history of a town is represented by its prominent citizens and leading business houses. Some of these I shall therefore discuss in the sketches which follow. I regard that time and time will not permit of a wider area of personal mention.

#### EXCELSIOR MERCANTILE CO.

On August 4, 1895—the year that the bold copperhead, developing business in that direction, which always settles down to deep-sleeped hibernation—a new firm under the name of Excelsior Mercantile Co. was organized with Messrs. W. W. O'Neil, J. W. O'Neil, and J. W. O'Neil as partners. The firm was organized with Messrs. W. W. O'Neil, J. W. O'Neil, and J. W. O'Neil as partners.

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#### JOSH A. BOOTH, DENTIST.

SOME weeks ago, I overheard a lady acquaintance in Salt Lake City say that she was going to visit Nephi soon, and to spend a week with the Booths, her usual place to visit.

#### GRACE BROTHERS.

This is the name of a firm already well known throughout the entire Utah territory. The firm was organized in 1887, and has since that time been engaged in the business of buying and selling real estate, and in the business of buying and selling real estate.

#### JOHN W. O'NEIL, SUPERINTENDENT CO-OP. STORE.

The visitor who makes it a point to examine the business history of a town, will be pleasantly surprised to find that the Co-op. store of Nephi, Utah, is one of the most successful and profitable stores in the territory.

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JUAB COUNTY COURT HOUSE OF NEPHI



He began his breeding even a number years ago chiefly to supply his own flock, but the business has grown to the point where he now breeds with about two hundred sheep a year. He is convinced that both for mutton and wool the best breed of sheep for the western states is the French Merino. He keeps only the purest and largest rams and uses for breeding purposes, and in all that he does he has the best of the Utah breed, and he is sure that he has the best of the Utah breed, and he is sure that he has the best of the Utah breed, and he is sure that he has the best of the Utah breed.