

## PROVO WOOLEN MILLS.

How many of the people of Utah, when enjoying the warm, fleecy blankets on a cold winter's night, pause to consider that they own all this comfort perhaps to the Woollen Mills situated in the heart of Provo City!

More than thirty years ago, when there was only a rude means of transportation from the East, and the inhabitants of this territory were dependent directly upon natural products for clothing and food, the necessity of the Woollen Mills was fully realized.

The country having excellent water power and every thing being favorable for the manufacturing interest, woollen Mills, numbering ten, were established throughout the territory, the largest one being at Provo, and the one now considered the most progressive and successful in the West.

This institution was incorporated for \$500,000 in shares of \$100 each and began work in 1872. Its success is perhaps due to its many opportunities and its being the centre of a vast wool growing district. The cost of goods manufactured per annum is \$150,000 and every year the excellence of the goods is more widely recognized.

Not only does this factory add to the interest and popularity of the Garden City, but enriches the people through the distribution of wages.

In this industry there are one hundred and twenty five employes, seventy of which are women and girls and the remainder being men and boys.

The premises of the Provo Woollen Mills occupy a full block and are enclosed by a high board fence with a small entrance in the north and the main one in the south.

Perhaps the first thing that attracts our attention as we enter the south gate is the adobe building almost directly facing us, the dimensions of which are 30x130 ft; the salesroom and office are on the lower floor, while the upper room is used for the storing and sorting of wool.

To the north east we see a one story frame structure, 30x60 ft, called the dye house, attached to the building described, and projecting to the east.

In the background can be seen the partially hidden smoke stack, built of brick, tower-like, ninety-five ft, in height. The basement of this tower is seventeen ft. in diameter, five ft. thick and contains twenty-two cords of rock.

Having seen all on this side, we view the left. In the yards to the west of the path or road are wooden frames called tender bars, longer than they are wide, made conspicuous by the vari colored fabrics stretched upon them to dry.

Behind the salesroom a glimpse of the small brick boiler room can be had.

The next we observe to the left of the road is the finishing room, which is 30x75 ft, adobe building, two and a half stories high. On the first story are three washers, three frillers, two large screw presses, two gigs, one cloth measure and one hard waste picker.

Directly north of this building is the brick boiler room containing a powerful steam engine, which in connection with the water power runs the entire machinery.

Joining the engine room is the main edifice, 70x140 ft. in dimensions. This is a four story stone structure with a half mansard roof and a tower thirty feet above it.

The basement of this rock house serves as a store room for old machinery and the drying of wool. The weaving apartment occupies the first floor; here there are nineteen broad looms, thirty-eight narrow ones, two wrappers and dressers, one shawl fringer, one quilting frame, and a machine of sixty two spindles for making a double-and-twist stocking yarn.

On second floor is the spinning room containing four self-acting mules, of two hundred and seventy spindles each.

Next comes the carding department, in which there are eight sets of cards, three in each card, one hand mule of two hundred and forty spindles, two reels and two spoolers.

The upper story is the packing room. The wool used is entirely from the Utah clip. Most of it comes from the southern counties. Arriving at the factory it passes through the hands of the wool sorter, who divides each fleece into at least five distinct qualities.

This process completed, it is thoroughly washed, then conveyed to the dye house, where the portion that is to be colored is placed in large vats very much like barrels, each holding six or seven hundred gallons of dye.

The wool next goes to the picking room where the colors of the wool are blended for the first "breaker" in carding room, which serves to open the fibre.

From here it passes to the second breaker, finer than the first and is there prepared for the "condenser," which fits it for the spinning room. Here it is placed on one of the self acting mules and spun into yarn for warps and filling.

The yarn placed on beams, is made ready for the weaving room, where it is woven into great varieties of cloth.

Lacking the glossy finish and cleanliness so essential to all woollen goods it is taken to the finishing house, washed clean from grease, sheared and placed on a machine consisting of a very hot copper cylinder over which the fabric passes and is not only hot pressed but kept to its proper width.

All that remains is the bolting which is accomplished by a measuring machine.

Being now ready for market some is carried to the sale's room, but the greater portion is disposed of at wholesale to various parts of the country.

PRISCILLA HOOVER,  
PROVO CITY, Utah.

## PROVO LETTER.

PROVO, Dec. 29.—The case of W. H. King et al. vs. M. L. Todd, et al. has been attracting considerable attention of late in legal circles. The plaintiffs are stockholders and creditors of the Provo City Lumber company and the defendants are stockholders and assignees of the same company, reorganized. The plaintiffs charge the defendant stockholders with fraud in bringing about the assignment, and in purchasing from the assignee over \$30,000 worth of property for \$7,500. This, of course, is denied by the defendants. During Judge Blackburn's absence, Judge Zane made an order temporarily restraining defendants from disposing of any of the property involved or collecting any of the accounts. Judge Blackburn has been hearing testimony in the case for two days. Today he made

a ruling dissolving the temporary restraining order made by Judge Zane, and appointed E. A. Wedgwood receiver, to take possession of the notes and accounts, and to collect same, and to relieve Judge Saxey, the assignee. At the same time the court exonerated Judge Saxey from any complicity in a scheme to defraud creditors and stockholders.

The stockholders of the Provo West Co-operative Institution, which assigned in favor of its creditors some ten months since, held a meeting today. A report was received from Assignee Wedgwood, showing that all the property had been disposed of for over \$18,000, and that the preferred creditors had been allowed 80 per cent of their claims, and the unpreferred creditors 40 per cent of their claims. The board of directors made a report reviewing briefly the history of the institution, and setting forth the influences which caused the assignment. Since the organization of the institution in 1868, the original stockholders have received three dollars in dividends for every dollar in stock invested. Unfortunate speculation, a fire, failure of other business houses and general depression of business after the boom were given as the principal reasons of the assignment.

Iron, steel and wood work, samples of what the students of the Agricultural College of Logan can do, are being exhibited at the Court House.

Road Supervisor Haws has a force of men at work on a grade for the new iron bridge which is to span Provo river northwest of the city.

The board of education meet today at the Tinianogus school house to receive that building from the contractors.

The Provo fire ladders give their annual ball at the Opera House on Friday night.

Prest. H. H. Cluff arrived in the city from Skull Valley on Tuesday evening, and departed the next morning for Salt Lake on business. He is expected back today. He is greatly grieved over the sudden death of his son Alfred of diphtheria on Christmas.

D. D. Hanks and C. W. Buckman have asked the county court to be allowed the exclusive privilege of setting mile posts on Utah county roads. The matter is under consideration.

The mayor of Springville has notified the county court that no taxes will be paid the county on city property. The matter was referred to the attorney.

The citizens of Pleasant Grove have decided that they will not levy a 2 per cent tax to complete their school house, but prefer rather to bond.

George T. Peay is considering the advisability of bringing a \$10,000 damage suit against Salt Lake county. Mr. Peay owns a large tract of land on the shores of Utah lake, which he claims has been greatly damaged by the overflow of the lake, said overflow alleged to have been caused through the damming of the waters of Jordan river by Salt Lake county. It's the same old Jordan dam problem.

Aurora, Nev., which in the sixties had more than 5000 inhabitants, now has a population of twenty-five.