UTAH AT THE FAIR.

A Description of the Agricultural Exhibit of the Territory.

Correspondence of the DESERET NEWS.

CHICAGO, Ill., Sept. 19, 1893.—In a former communication I gave an outline of Utah's exhibit at the World's Fair of her mining industries. I will now endeavor to speak briefly of her agricultural representation. The agricultural building together with its annex covers twelve acres of ground—more than one of our large Salt Lake City blocks. It stands quite near the shores of Lake Michigan, and in form resembles the letter T, one portion being 500 feet long and the other 250 feet. The building cost $175,000, and it is planned to its details so as to give all the accommodation desired by the farmers. The many groups of statuary that adorn the exterior of the building, combined with Corinthian pillars fifty feet high at the entrance, give the structure a striking appearance. In this building all products of the soil, and also agricultural implements and machinery of all kinds are exhibited. The floor space here as well as in all the other large buildings on the Fair grounds is regularly laid out in sections, with broad alleys passing through it crossing each other in right angles. For each state and territory in the Union is allotted a space corresponding to the stock they have to exhibit; the same, of course, is the case with all foreign countries represented.

The Utah booth or section occupies a space of 60x25 feet near the center of the building. It is fenced by plain railing and wooden arches, the latter being surmounted by ten tee-pees, the emblem of Utah. Prof. J. W. Hanbury, chief of the Utah agricultural department at the Fair and who also superintended the collection of the various specimens on exhibit, decided in the court that what little means had been appropriated should be spent on the exhibits themselves, and not on superfluous ornamentation. It was supposed that this would not detract from the attention that the farmer and scientist might feel disposed to bestow on Utah, even if it did not exactly please the critical eye of the artist. Utah's booth, in charge of our genial and good natured citizen, Geo. D. Pyper, Esq., has the states of Utah and Illinois for its neighbors on the north, Washington on the east, and Nevada on the south. The chief point of interest to most visitors in the Utah department is the method of irrigation adopted by the citizens of our Territory, which is practically illustrated by a large relief map on exhibition. This map shows the Bulwell canal system in the south end of Malad valley and the northern part of the valley of the Great Salt Lake; also the mountains, the windings of Bear river and Malad river, on the other of the Lake; the canal itself with its differing branches, sloughs, etc., is accurately drawn; and it also shows the various irrigation methods used in the raising of small grain, vegetables, fruit trees, etc. The map, which is drawn on a scale of eight inches to the mile, is 11 x 19 feet in size. As a further help to the visitor in forming correct views of irrigation, there is quite a collection of photos illustrating canals, head-gates, mountain streams, farm houses, adobe walls, fords in places of irrigation, and many other points connected with watering crops for grain-raising purposes. Besides this, there are two oil paintings—the Sandbrook of Mr. Eldredge of Salt Lake City—of which one shows the primitive irrigation process of the Pueblo Indians, and the other the opening of the first irrigation ditch made in Utah by President Brigham Young and party in 1847. This was actually the commencement of systematic irrigation within the boundaries of the United States; it was the ditch first made by the Utah pioneers conveying the waters of City Creek onto the present site of Salt Lake City. Eastern people seem to be particularly interested in irrigation—being something new and novel to their experience; and several parties who previously had entertained very erroneous views regarding irrigation have, since their visit, been heard to say, when leaving the Utah booth to the effect that they had learned more on this particular point in ten minutes by examining the relief map and photographic illustrations on exhibition than during all their previous life. A number of visitors, however, conceive at the idea that irrigation must necessarily be coupled with a great deal of hard work—a point well taken, and one gentleman remarked that he would not like to live in a country where he would have to depend upon irrigation for raising a crop. "Perhaps not," replied the man in charge of the Utah booth, "but sometimes when you New Yorkers are down on your knees praying for rain, we Utahns simply turn on the water and raise our crops." The knees mentioned no more to say. The answer was so much more appropriate and striking just now, when the whole country is suffering from drouth.

In five large glass cases labelled Fruits of Irrigation are exhibited specimens of the grain in sheaf as raised in the Territory of Utah; in one of these the articles are carved artistically arranged as an Indian's bow and arrows, in the other of the cases. On a long table, more prominent than any other part of the exhibit, is a new invention in the shape of a collection of all kinds of grains, fruits, etc., in the state. This invention is the Dry Science Kinds of cereals produced in the Territory by means of irrigation. Hon. Ansonia and foreign commissioners and other representative men have commended very highly these three productions, and a few of them have actually gone better of their enterprise, have become sufficiently interested to make arrangements to pay Utah a visit, with a view to learning more of that wonderful dry system. Some turned a "perfect ones" from Italy, Russia, Portugal, among others, and Lord Vambery, French commissioner on agriculture, and Dr. Rice, Pol. Ekerson, Russia, professor in agriculture at the Royal Agricultural Academy at Bonn on the Rhine, Germany. A commissioner from Russia who lately visited the Utah pavilion was unusually interested in the "dry system" of irrigation and contemplates a visit to the Rocky mountains to see for himself.

Among the other exhibits from Utah may be mentioned the dairy products, which are well represented. There are also sixteen samples of Utah soil on exhibit, taken from different localities, and samples of water from five of the principal rivers in the Territory. Over twenty different kinds of grasses are shown, including the alfalfa, concerning which we hear in the Western States. The samples on exhibition of this to Utah most valuable grass has been commented by many the best on the Fair grounds; also the specimens of lawn grass and are very good, so much so that the Kentucky blue grass almost feels jealous at the thought that Utah can produce a better specimen of blue grass than the Kentucky state of which that lovely grass plant is a native.

There are five exhibits of forage plants from the Utah Agricultural college; there are also specimens of the sugar cane measuring sixteen feet in length. There were also four specimens of Utah potatoes, which were considered the best of any one on the grounds, but they decayed to such an extent that they had to be removed, and the new crop has not come in yet. The sugar beet is well represented in its different stages of growth, and the samples of sugar from the Utah Sugar Company's plant, at Lehi, received considerable attention; the latter exhibit secured a Fair medal; the Director-in-Chief awarded the Utah agricultural exhibit, leading men from Germany and other countries where the sugar industry is carried on have been very inquisitive as to how successful the sugar beet has proven in Utah.

Southern Utah or our southern Dixie is fairly represented in this department; among the exhibits from that portion of the Territory are sweet potatoes, mangel-wurzel (a species of red beet), carrots, turnips, pumpkins, walnuts, almonds, cotton, cotton seeds, etc.

The sheep and wool products are not forgotten. A large national flag made exclusively from Utah wool (Howes, Morris and Summerhays company exhibitors) attracts as much attention as any one article in the department; it is considered one of the novelties of the Agricultural building; an artificial stream made from wool and feathers, the property of Charles Chase Ing, is another object of attraction in the Utah section.

The exhibits of salt made by the simple process of evaporation also fine salts, manufactured from the waters of the Great Salt Lake occupies a central prominent place in the Utah department. Among the exhibitors are the Inland Salt company, the Jeremy Salt company, the Crystal Salt company, etc. The specimens include table, dairy, stock, bible salt, etc.

Samples of analyzed waters from Great Salt Lake, furnished by Dr. James E. Talmage, was a valuable addition to the collection of exhibits; that gentleman has also kindly furnished a photograph to greatly beautified form (the excellent force strongly of the scientist) great so plentiful and amazing to visitors, on the shores of the great Lake. The main receiving balance of the report possess perhaps in the fact that it is good to eat. What a pity this was not known in earlier days when the Utah pioneers were forced to subsist on thistle roots and sego roots. Perhaps these inclusive conditions of Utah's most productive would have been more palatable if they had been taken in connection with the brine shrimp, as a sort of dessert.

Utah's flour is well represented in exhibits furnished by Pres. Richmond of Utah Agricultural college.

There are also a number of photographic views illustrating the general plan of the villages in Utah, as they are surveyed into square blocks, with streets crossing each other at right angles.

The Utah Agricultural College has prepared some interesting and valuable statistics on the production and storage needs of Utah, which are being studied with care by a certain class at Worlds Fair visitors.

An oil painting by Prof. Elias showing the Utah school on a scale illuminated is something of special interest.

A case of stuffed native Utah birds, furnished by Browning Brothers of Ogden, rather from the Ogden museum and H. J. Faust & Son, and a great many other things too numerous to mention form a part of the exhibit.

Considering the comparative small amount of money expended, the Utah exhibit in the Agricultural building may be considered very fine. Mr. Pyper is of the opinion that the benefits which will accrue to Utah indirectly in the future from the exhibit, will more than justify the outlay of means attached to.

I will now try to give a complete list of those of the citizens of Utah who are exhibiting products in the department, especially those who, by their efforts, may be made of the showing who have acted very liberally toward making the exhibit a success: Utah Agricultural College, Charles Chase of Kaysville, David Calder of Nephi, John Tolland and John Carlisle of Mill Creek, Ogden tenantry, H. J. Faust & Son, John Mooney of Grantsville, W. F. Middleton of Ogden, George Barnett of Logan, John H. Barnes of Kaysville, Brigham Pope of Cache county, etc.

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