

WOMEN AS SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

THE DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS IN THE BOSTON WOMEN ELECTION CASE.

BOSTON, Feb. 20, 1874.

Whether or no a woman can legally hold office under the laws of Massachusetts has been a subject of vexed discussion for some years and it is pleasant to know that it has been summarily answered by the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court. Boston, it seems, elected three ladies to serve upon its School Board, (one of whom Mrs. Ann Adeline Badger, since drowned herself in Long Island Sound); and when these ladies made claim to their seats the remaining members of the board voted that they should be ousted. The question then went to the State Legislature and thence to the Supreme Court, which rendered the following decision this afternoon—

"The Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court respectfully submit the following answer to the question upon which their opinion was required by the order of the honorable House of Representatives of the 16th day of the present month. The question is stated in these words—

"Under the constitution of this commonwealth can a woman be a member of a school commission?"

"The question is limited to the effect of the constitution upon the capacity of a woman to hold this office, and involves no interpretation of statutes. If the constitution prevents a woman from being a member of the School Commission, it must by force of some express provision thereof or else by necessary implication, arising either from the nature of the office itself or from the law of Massachusetts, as existing when the constitution was adopted, and in the limit of which it must be read. The constitution contains nothing relative to school commissions. The office is created and regulated by statute, and the constitution confers upon the General Court full power and authority to name and settle annually or provide by fixed laws for naming and settling all civil officers within the commonwealth, the election and constitution of whom are not in the constitution otherwise provided for. The common law of England, which was our law upon the subject, permitted a woman to fill any local office of an administrative character, the duties attached to which were such that a woman was competent to perform them. The duties of a school commission relate exclusively to the education of children and youth in the town or city for which it is elected. They consist of the general charge and superintendence of the schools, including the employment of teachers, the selection of school books, and the regulation of the attendance of scholars and the preparation of school registers and returns, and they are in no respect of such a nature that they cannot be well and efficiently performed by women. The necessary conclusion is that there is nothing in the Constitution of the Commonwealth to prevent a woman from being a member of a school commission, and that the question proposed must be respectfully answered in the affirmative.

"JOHN WELLS,
"JAMES D. COLT,
"SETH AMES,
"MARCUS MORTON,
"WILLIAM C. ENDICOTT,
"CHARLES DEVENS, JR.,
"HORACE GRAY."

MARRIED.

In Salt Lake City, Feb. 16th, 1874, by Elder Joseph F. Smith, Mr. JOHN RICHES and Miss SARAH BUTLER GIBSON, both of Sugar House Ward.
Philadelphia papers, please copy.

DIED.

At Moroni, Feb. 10, of whooping cough, GEORGE, son of Aaron and Amy Hardy, aged two months and twelve days.
Millennial Star, please copy.

At Moroni, Feb. 22, of inflammation of the lungs and teething, HARRIET, daughter of John H. and Sarah Ann Stott, aged one year, seven months and sixteen days.
Mill. Star, please copy.

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STATISTICS CONCERNING THE TERRITORY OF UTAH, For the Years 1872 and 1873.

BY BENTHAM FABIAN.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, AREA, POPULATION, CLIMATE, SOIL, AGRICULTURE, ETC.

THE Territory extends from the 37th to the 42nd parallels of north latitude, and from the 109th to the 114th degree of longitude.

The area is about 65,000 square miles.

The population is variously estimated at from 100,000 to 130,000.

The climate is salubrious and healthy; intense cold and heat are rarely felt.

The summer season is dry, and rainfall of long continuance seldom occurs during the year. During the winter there is an abundance of snow, especially in the mountains; on some of the highest points of which it hardly ever melts.

The proportion of land susceptible of cultivation is small, the general character of the Territory being that of mountain and desert. Some tracts of land, apparently fine, rich soil, of superior quality, fail to produce crops, owing to the superabundance of alkali and other mineral substances, which encrust the surface of the earth; but successful experiments towards reclaiming such land have been made, and the results will eventually turn out profitable.

The land at the base of the mountains is formed of washings, and consists principally of gravel loam, and is well adapted to the growth of wheat and other cereals. Wheat is the great staple product of the Territory.

Vegetables grow to an astonishing size, and are of superior quality.

In the southern part of the Territory cotton is successfully cultivated, and madder, indigo figs, almonds and other tropical fruits are raised in that section.

The climate and soil are particularly adapted for the production of fruit; apples, pears, peaches, apricots, plums, currants, grapes and other small fruits are produced, not only in great abundance, but of the finest quality.

Owing, however, to the long drouths which prevail during the summer months, the agriculture of the country is carried on at a heavy expense, incurred by irrigation, the land having to be watered several times to produce wheat and barley, and oftener for Indian corn and roots.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

The mineral resources of Utah are extraordinary in their diversity and extent, and afford an inexhaustible field for enterprise worthy the attention of science and capital. Among them are the ores of all the principal metals, together with many of the rarer minerals.

Gold is found in several districts, both in the form of gold quartz, and in placer mines. It is also more or less associated with the argentiferous galena of the Territory.

Silver is found in the native state, but not in large quantity. In its various ores, however, it occurs almost all over the Territory, associated with other ores, such as those of copper, lead, antimony, arsenic, &c.

Lead is widely disseminated, being found in the form of argentiferous galena, and carbonate of lead innearly all the mining districts of the Territory.

Copper. Ores of copper, though hitherto not much sought after, are abundant throughout the Territory. Most of these ores contain silver in variable proportions, and some also carry gold.

Iron ores are very plentiful, and of excellent quality, covering a large portion of the Territory, among them are excellent hematites and magnetic iron; some of the former are peculiarly adapted for smelting silver ores, and others for the manufacture of iron.

Bismuth ore is found in the southern portion of the Territory, but not sufficiently rich to pay for reduction without previous concentration.

Cinnabar exists in some districts, but deposits of value have not yet been discovered.

Graphite, Black Lead, Native Sulphur, Iron Pyrites, Alum, Borax, Nitrate of Potash, Sal Ammoniac, Carbonate of Soda and Gypsum are disseminated all over the Territory.

Salt exists in enormous quantities, the Lake itself being an immense reservoir, from whence very large crystals can be had. Large bodies of Rock Salt exist in the southern portion of the Territory.

Coal of excellent quality abounds in various parts, both north and south, especially the latter, where the finest kinds of Bituminous are to be found.

Fire Clay and Sand Stone are plentiful in the neighborhood of Salt Lake City, also Clay for Pottery and Building Stone of every description, including Marble and Granite.

Of Clay, Earths and Sands, something more than a passing remark is due on the ground of a future revenue to the Territory. Kaolin's of the finest quality and most useful kinds abound. The decomposition of feldspathic rock has produced and is still producing valuable deposits of plastic material for use in the arts. There are also important sands that can be utilized for sand paper and glass. Of Ocherous deposits there are endless varieties and inexhaustible supplies not at present used, as for polishes, pigments, lapidary work, &c.

Of Volcanic productions there are ample remains, as witnessed by the Porphyry, Trachyte, Lava, Pumice and Obsidian in the Territory.

Visitors to Salt Lake City who are interested in mineralogy and metallurgy should not fail to examine the large number of specimens on exhibition at the Museum in that City, the peculiarities and adaptabilities of each of which are so ably explained by the intelligent and courteous superintendent, Professor Joseph L. Barfoot.

MINING DISTRICTS.

The principal mining districts are the following—

Little Cottonwood in the Wasatch range of mountains, distant 25 miles south-east of Salt Lake City.

Big Cottonwood also in the same range and adjoining the above named district.

Parley's Park in the same range, distant thirty miles from Salt Lake City.

American Fork, south-east of and adjoining Little Cottonwood.

Snake Creek adjoins American Fork and Little Cottonwood districts.

Bingham Canyon, on the eastern slope of the Oquirrh range of mountains, 25 miles south-west of Salt Lake City.

Rush Valley on the western slope of the same range, 40 miles south-west of Salt Lake City.

Ophir, on the same slope as the Rush Valley, is 55 miles from Salt Lake City.

Camp Floyd is also on the same slope, about six miles further South.

Pintic District is in Pintic Valley, about 75 miles South-west of Salt Lake City.

Ohio District, on the Sevier River, is 200 miles South of Salt Lake City.

Lincoln District, in Beaver County, 200 miles South-west of Salt Lake City.

Beaver Lake District, 250 miles South of Salt Lake City.

Star District, about 240 miles South of Salt Lake City.

Lucin District, about 190 miles North-west of Salt Lake City, in the Lucin Range, about six miles South of the Central Pacific Rail-

road, on the border line separating Utah from Nevada.

Clifton District is in the Goshute Mountains, Tooele County.

Mount Nebo District, about 80 miles South of Salt Lake City, and close to the projected line of the Utah Southern Railroad.

Mineral Point District, 18 miles from Brigham City, on the Utah Northern Railroad, celebrated for its rich deposits of superior qualities of iron ore.

AREA OF LAND CULTIVATED.

The following is the estimated quantity of land under cultivation during the years 1872 and 1873:

	1872.	1873.
Wheat.....acres.....	75,000	85,000
Barley.....".....	9,000	10,000
Oats.....".....	15,000	16,500
Indian Corn.....".....	12,000	13,000
Hay.....".....	90,000	120,000
Sorghum.....".....	7,000
Potatoes.....".....	8,500	10,000
Fruits, Vegetables, etc.,.....".....	10,000	10,000
	226,500	264,500

Increase in 1873, 17 per cent.

PROPERTY VALUE.

The relative values of assessable property in the Territory, according to the Territorial Auditor's Report was as follows:

Counties.	1872.	1873.
Salt Lake.....	\$ 7,694,908	\$ 9,960,956
Box Elder.....	1,485,556	1,549,008
Utah.....	1,317,664	1,423,692
Weber.....	1,118,140	1,411,744
Cache.....	808,060	909,156
Summit.....	704,112	706,576
Davis.....	691,948	692,088
Sanpete.....	580,236	656,728
Tooele.....	539,888	956,700
Washington.....	482,924	545,840
Morgan.....	392,316	461,172
Millard.....	374,512	462,368
Iron.....	336,324	377,772
Juab.....	330,000	440,732
Kane.....	225,052	293,344
Reaver.....	199,344	261,848
Wasatch.....	121,944	176,636
Sevier.....	88,568	144,668
Rich.....	49,256	80,000
Piute.....	29,808	37,320
	\$17,590,560	\$21,548,348

Increase in 1873, \$3,957,788, equal to 22½ per cent.

RAILROADS.

The undermentioned railroads were either partially or wholly constructed:

Year.	Name of Road.	Miles.	Cost.	Total Cost.
1872.	American Fork.....	22	\$20,000	\$140,000
	Utah Northern.....	40	12,000	480,000
1873.	".....	30	12,000	360,000
	Utah Southern.....	18	20,000	360,000
	Summit County.....	9	10,000	90,000
	Wasatch and Jordan Valley.....	12	12,000	144,000
	Bingham Canyon.....	20	16,000	340,000
	Salt Lake, Sevier Valley and Pioche, } grading, bridging and laying ties, }			25,000
	Total.....	151		\$2,219,000

PRODUCTIONS.

Ore, Bullion, Etc., 1872.

Ore.....Tons, 10,340 @ \$ 88.....	\$ 910,536
Base Bullion....." 5,533½ @ 240.00.....	1,328,040
Lead.....Lbs., 180,000 @ 05.....	9,000
Silver.....Ozs., 170,191 @ 1.18.....	200,333
Gold....." 5,556 @ 18.00.....	100,008
Total.....	\$2,547,916

The total quantity of ore produced was 26,940 tons, of which 10,340 tons were exported, and 16,600 tons made into base bullion.

Ore, Bullion, Etc., 1873.

Ore.....Tons, 12,381 @ \$100.00.....	\$1,238,100
Base Bullion....." 8,037½ @ 250.00.....	2,009,375
Lead.....Lbs., 5,332,099 @ 05.....	266,605
Silver.....Ozs., 730,066 @ 1.18.....	861,477
Gold....." 8,220 @ 18.00.....	147,940
Total.....	\$4,523,497

The total quantity of ore produced was 39,593 tons, of which 12,381 tons were exported, and 24,212 tons made into base bullion.

1873.....\$4,523,497
1872.....2,547,917

Increase in 1873, 77 per cent., \$1,975,580

The above increase is encouraging, and shows a steady progress in the development of the mineral resources of the Territory, notwithstanding untoward circumstances caused by unscrupulous adventurers placing mining property on domestic and foreign markets at fabulous prices, thereby temporarily paralyzing business, arousing suspicions in the minds of capitalists, and raising doubts as to the legitimate value of any and all mining property in Utah offered for sale.

The lesson learned will no doubt prove salutary, and owners of mining property will henceforth realize the necessity for actual work and opening up, with a view of showing real value, as an inducement for capital to come into the Territory for the legitimate purpose of actual development, and not the purchase of worthless prospect holes.

Among the most important items are Lead, Silver and Gold; the first having increased from \$9,000 to \$26,605, the second from \$200,332, to \$862,185, and the third from \$100,008 to \$147,940. This increase is due to the enterprise of the Germania Separating and Refining Works, an enterprise which commenced operations in the latter part of 1872 and consequently is only yet in its infancy. During the year 1873 that establishment separated and refined 1,670 tons of Base Bullion imported from Nevada, and 2,430 tons of the same article of Utah production. From the former was produced 200,400 oz. of silver and 5,610 oz. of gold; and from the latter 360,180 oz. of silver, and 1,100 oz. of Gold. These figures are valuable in a statistical point of view, as showing the great preponderance of gold contained in the ores of Nevada. In 1872 the product in gold from Bingham was nearly \$90,000, but in 1873 it fell off to about \$24,000; this may be taken as an indication of a giving out in the Placer mines at Bingham Canyon. The gold produced at the Germania works was valued at \$120,780.

It will be observed that the estimated values of ore and Base Bullion, have been increased from \$88 for the former in 1872, to \$100 in 1873, and from \$240 for the latter in 1872 to \$250 in 1873. This increase is caused by