

WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Population 1900.....4,612
Assessed valuation 1900.....\$733,378

St. George, Utah, Dec. 10.—Washington county, locally known as Utah's Dixie, is situated in the southwest corner of the State, being on the southern slope of the great basin, its elevation greatly varying from two to five thousand feet and having a series of climates not found in any other part of the State. A very great variety of crops are produced.

Our chief industries are agriculture, horticulture, stock and sheep raising and mining. To the farmer it presents a soil and climate for the production of wheat, barley, oats, corn and other cereals and the new flouring mills of Snow Brothers, situated at the town of Washington, are kept busy all the year round. Its forage crops are not equaled in any other part of the State. Alfalfa producing four or five crops in monthly succession and leaving the soil in fruitful condition for change to other crops. Vegetables of all kinds from early spring to late in the fall do extremely well.

The sugar beet and all other varieties can be grown in abundance.

HORTICULTURE.

Among our main resources are the great varieties of fruits, apricots, figs, pomegranates, peaches, plums, nectarines with many other varieties here find their natural home. Apples and pears do well in the cooler sections.



Photo by James J. Booth.

THE ST. GEORGE TEMPLE.

Almonds, English walnuts and other varieties of nuts can be raised in unlimited quantities, are easily cared for and shipped and not subject to the pests which prey upon dried fruits.

FINE DRIED FRUITS.

Washington county has already won a reputation for its dried fruit and it may justly be said here vine culture is not excelled in lusciousness of grapes in any other part of the world. Its volcanic foundation and the powerful reflection of the sun's rays from the adjacent hills and rocks makes it peculiarly adapted to this industry in the production of wine, raisins and the fresh grape for exportation.

RAISING OF COTTON.

The cotton plant flourishes in many localities. It was for the purpose of raising cotton that the pioneers were sent into this country. It is of superior quality and has become quite famous throughout the west. Large quantities of cotton bolls are exported from the Rio Virgin Cotton and Woolen Mills at Washington.

In the production of dye stuffs it has been proved that the indigo and madder can be raised to perfection. Indigenous plants—"canaligre"—ranks high in tanning of leather. This industry is in its infancy. A good plant is located in the capital city of the county, St. George, and has turned out a very fair quality of leather which is manufactured into boots and shoes and find a ready sale.

FORESTRY.

The pine and the fir flourish in the higher altitudes and in the lower valleys the cottonwood grows with such marvelous rapidity that with proper cultivation an acre of trees can be made to supply the fuel of an ordinary family. The ash, elm and many other hard and soft woods are found among our shade and ornamental trees in all the towns and villages of the county.

STOCK AND SHEEP.

Its ranges and climate for rapid increase and successful raising of horned stock are celebrated throughout the State and with the sheep industry its high mountain ranges in summer and lower pastures in winter makes it in normal seasons the ideal of the shepherd and stock raiser.

This is the natural home of the mulberry tree and the production of silk and its manufacture bids fair to become a great source of wealth. "Des-

eret," or the honey bee here, roams at will and gathers honey every month in the year from flowers and abundant supplies of sweet clover and will fill its 20-pound hive twice or three times during the season when the extractor is used. No full brood is ever found in this county.

IRRIGATION.

Situated within the arid region it becomes a necessity, for this purpose the waters of the Rio Virgin, Santa Clara, Ash creek and Leavick with other smaller streams and springs are used during the irrigation season, but, like many other counties, reserving winter water is of necessity the next step forward.

MINING.

By no means the least of our industries is the enterprise that pays our taxes, buys our postage stamps and puts the butter on our Dixie bread and I may say pays our grocery bills and supports the nine stores and mercantile institutions of St. George and many more in other parts of the county. This industry is, however, crippled for want of railroad connection. One of our mines, the Apex, which has paid many thousands of dollars, has to handle and shift its ore ten times before it gets through the smelter and is landed on the railway cars in bullion. There are many other very rich locations waiting for transportation. The Grand Gulch is now hauling its ore a hundred miles by team to the cars at Modena

TOOELE COUNTY.

Population, 1900.....7,381
Assessed valuation, 1900.....\$2,670,138

Tooele City, Dec. 10.—Tooele has been a prominent factor in the history of Utah in many ways. A quarter of a century ago when mining flourished on the right and on the left, it was the source of much business and political activity. Then for a time interest in mining waned, a fact that was accompanied by the migration of many people from the county. During the last few years, however, it has again forged to the front with the result that it is now enjoying a very rapid growth. According to the federal census of 1900, it had a population of 7,381; according to the same census of 1900, it has a population of 7,381. It will thus be seen that the number of inhabitants was practically doubled during that period. This record is only broken by one other county in the State—Utah—which has had an increase of a little more than one hundred per cent. for the same length of time.

TOOELE CITY.

Tooele City is the county seat. It is noted for its fine fruit and excellent school facilities. The latter will stand well abreast with those of any city of equal population in the State. The district school house is a large, pretentious and modern structure. The county court house is also an edifice that reflects credit upon the people. A great many persons find employment in sheep raising and in dry farming. As is well known Tooele county has one

of the greatest winter ranges in the State.

GRANTSVILLE.

Grantsville is situated in the same valley, about ten miles northwest and near the shore of the Great Salt Lake. The principal occupations of the people are farming and stock raising, and some of the wealthiest sheep owners of the county live here. It also has excellent school and other public buildings, and its people enjoy the reputation of sound and conservative business methods.

MERCUR.

Mercur, the great cyanide gold camp has been almost entirely responsible for the big increase in the population and wealth of the county during the last decade. It is here that the famous Mercur mine, Golden Gate, and numerous others have sprung into existence and turned out their streams of golden wealth into the hands and laps of their fortunate owners. It is a thorough business town and probably as peaceable and orderly a mining camp as was ever founded.

OTHER TOWNS.

Other towns in the county are beginning in the extreme south and coming northward Vernon, Clover, St. Johns, Ophir, Stockton, Lake View, Millville, E. T. and in the west Josepa and Inupah, the latter in the Deep Creek country. There are a few others, but these cover the most important ones.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

The mineral resources of the county are varied, and parts of it may be said to have veritable mountains of low grade ore as well as sections which carry the more precious metals in large and paying quantities.

RICH COUNTY.

Population.....1,948
Assessed valuation, 1900.....\$12,593

Rich county is renowned for its large livestock ranches and its great stretches of grazing and meadow lands. It is the extreme northeastern corner of the State and Randolph is the county seat. Other towns are Garden City, Laketown, Meadowville and Woodruff. The well known Bear River valley is principally located in this county and runs entirely through it from north to south. A portion of the Bear Lake is also within its boundaries. The remaining and larger half, however, is in Idaho. As already implied, stockraising is

the principal occupation of the people and the one that brings them most profit, although agriculture is also engaged in to a considerable extent. The county is perhaps the coldest in Utah, though not so cold as to prevent people from attending to their usual avocations.

Large quantities of hay are put up in this county during the summer season and fed to stock during the winter. This business when engaged in upon the wholesale plan and carefully followed has brought substantial returns to those who have taken it up. It is believed that this pursuit will be followed to a larger extent in the future than it has in the past and that attendant benefits will be increased accordingly.

BEAVER COUNTY.

Population, 1900.....2,613
Assessed valuation, 1900.....\$1,430,485

This county was first settled in February, 1856, by Simeon P. Houd, W. G. Nowers, James Low and others from Parowan.

Beaver City was the first settlement made on Beaver River, then only known as Beaver creek, and on the 8th of February, 1856, the Saints were organized into a branch of the Church, by Apostle Geo. A. Smith, with Simeon P. Houd as president. It was at first thought that the waters of the creek would only be sufficient to supply a few ranches, for stock and domestic purposes, but after the settlement of Beaver City, the waters increased to such an extent that three more settlements were made. Minersville was settled in 1859 and Greenville and Adamsville soon after.

AGRICULTURE.

The soils in this county are varied in their character. Away from the river bottom a sub-strata of gravel is found, which makes irrigation arduous, and difficult, as a great deal of water is necessary to get good results from the land, on the river bottom the soil is more alluvial, and produces an excellent quality of grain, and is susceptible of a high degree of cultivation, returning bounteous crops of wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. On the uplands lucern is raised to a considerable extent, as well as cereals, but the latter are limited in yield. With an extended reservoir system, Beaver County could be made to support a large population, but at present the tendency is for new locations for our growing population, as the irrigable land is limited.

MINING.

At one time mining was one of the leading industries of this county, and today the output from the various mines adds greatly to the general wealth of the people. The most notable of these is the Horn Silver, in the order of production, and gives employment to a large number of our citizens, and there are many other properties that will yield vast stores of wealth should the white metal ever be rehabilitated.

LUMBER.

In this line we have only a limited

supply, as the heavy demands made upon the lumber industry have made vast inroads in the once apparently inexhaustible supply in the Beaver mountains. We have only one small mill running at present.

EDUCATION.

It is to the credit of the people of Beaver county that at all times since its settlement they have had the best system of schools obtainable, and no care or expense has been spared to secure the best and most able instructors. All the people have interested themselves in this matter, and the enrollment in the schools has been exceptionally good.

We have now established near this city the Beaver branch of the Brigham Young Academy, with Prof. E. D. Partridge as principal, together with a first class corps of assistants. Here is an excellent opportunity to secure a liberal education, both of a religious and secular character, and in each of the towns in the county most excellent teachers have been secured, fully in line with the advanced ideas of our noble public school system, and grateful reports from parents are made as to their successful work. Mr. Charles Woolfenden, present county school superintendent, is an energetic officer, and doubtless will fulfill all the requirements of the office.

SHEEP AND CATTLE.

During ordinary seasons, when water is fairly plentiful sheep and stock do remarkably well on our ranges, and a large number of both are owned in the county. During the recent comparative drought, however, they have not been so profitable as formerly, still a fair revenue has been realized therefrom.

MANUFACTURERS.

The consequence of hard times has had a depressing effect upon this line, as the only large institution in the county, the Beaver woolen mills, has closed down indefinitely. We have a creamery in successful operation, and it is much appreciated. The Sulphur works at present are closed down, but they made a good run for several months, and have materially assisted in furnishing tax money for our own and other counties.

Socially and religiously the people will compare with the average in the State, under like conditions and are trying to live honest, truthful lives.

WASATCH COUNTY.

Population, 1900.....4,735
Assessed valuation, 1900.....\$1,200,174

Wasatch county is one of the most prosperous, population considered, of any in the State. The county seat is the city of Heber, a prosperous town near the west boundary line of the county into which the Rio Grande Western Railway recently made its advent by a branch road fourteen miles south from Park City, which is the nearest banking point to the town named. Heber City is quite an important and thriving business center about 72 miles by rail from Salt Lake. In addition to the dominant Church—the "Mormon"—the Methodist and Presbyterian, both have branches there. Good schools, a creamery, flour and saw mills, a num-

ber of stores, a hotel and a newspaper thrive there, and there are towns other than Heber, among them being Charleston and Wallburg. In this county, too, are the Utah Indian reservation and Strawberry valley.

The building of the Rio Grande branch into Wasatch county did a great deal, and will do much more, for Heber City and the surrounding section. Already it has stimulated trade and increased prosperity. In the days that are gone, cattle raising was followed to a large extent and is engaged in to no small degree now. But the sheep industry has displaced cattle raising in many parts of the county. Several creameries are in operation there and all are doing well as are the flour mills. The county has many enterprising citizens and a very good school system. In summer time it offers many inducements to the angler and hunter.

KANE COUNTY.

Population, 1900.....1,811
Assessed valuation, 1900.....\$424,972

The population of Kane county is a little less than 2,000, while the assessed valuation falls under half a million dollars. Nevertheless there is much valuable property in this one of the extreme southern tier of Utah's counties. This is particularly true regarding live stock interests, which at one time flourished to a considerable degree but which had suffered during the last few years, and account of the drought which has pre-

valued with many damaging results in that portion of the State.

Kanab is the county seat and principal town. It is located very close to the line which divides Utah and Arizona. The county has in it a number of other small towns, while ranches are scattered pretty well over its area. Rugged cliffs, rough canyons and a number of plateaus and not a few streams of water are characteristic of its general surface. The Colorado River crosses one corner of the county—the extreme southeast corner. It comes out of San Juan on its way to the ocean and presents some striking scenery.

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CARBON COUNTY.

Population, 1900.....5,604
Assessed valuation, 1900.....\$1,463,556

Carbon county though not as old as some of its neighbors is nevertheless a growing and important section of the State. Its population is now over 5,000 and its assessed valuation some where near a million and a half. It is settled by a thrifty and persevering people, who in 1894 were dismembered from Emery county by legislative enactment.

Primarily it is an agricultural and stock growing section though mining has commenced to flourish as well. The range land of Carbon county is very good and cattle and sheep as a result find luxurious pasturage thereon. It is estimated that no less than 250,000 head of sheep are shorn in Carbon county annually. Some excellent horses have also been raised of late in Carbon county. The bee and honey industry has been commenced profitably and horticulture promises to be a successful occupation. Of the towns of Carbon county the most important are Price, Castlegate, Heiper, Scofield, Winter Quarters, Sunnyside and Wellington. The first named is the county seat, and is a town of considerable business. It is the outfitting and forwarding point for the greater part of the region round about. The business is much augmented from the fact that all government freight for Fort Du-

chesne and the various tribes of Indians on the Uncompahgre and Uintah reservations is handled from this station as well as the merchandise that goes into the county.

The population of Price is close around the thousand mark with a constant upward tendency. The school facilities of the town are good and the officers of the place are progressive. The railroad center of the county is Heiper which is about seven miles west of Price. It is a bustling little business town. As is well known Carbon is the county that turns out a great proportion of the coal produced by Utah, the Pleasant Valley Coal company's properties being situated at Castlegate, Winter Quarters and Scofield. The latter has a population almost entirely mining in its character and estimated at 700. It is located on a branch of the Rio Grande Western of which it is the terminus. In the northwestern part of the county, forty miles by rail from Price and sixty-two miles from Springville, the nearest banking point. It was at this place where the terrible coal explosion which killed 200 people occurred in May last.

Independent of coal the county has many varied mineral resources, including gold, silver, copper, nickel and zinc. It is not likely that Carbon will be given careful attention by prospectors in the near future.