

turbanned, the blue in his garments proclaiming him a said, or descendant of the prophet—the prophet, I may remark in passing, has a score of such in every Persian village. He holds aloft the royal ensign of the empire of the Sun and Lion, bearing the name of the Shah and his own below it in letters of gold. Following him march the naashkesh, or “carriers of the dead,” each at the head of a long string of mules laden with the remains intrusted to them. The animals are led by charvaders, muleteers, and each bears two bodies, one slung on either side where the paniers would ordinarily be. The corpses, when intact, are carried in hermetically closed cases, but comparatively few of these are to be found, as a rule, among these defunct pilgrims. The expense would be too great. So the pious Persian who desires to give effect to the last wish of his departed parents, waits until nothing of their remains is left but the skeleton, which is then swathed in bandages, mummy fashion, and handed over to the naashkesh to be taken to the gate of paradise, which every good Shute firmly believes is at the exact spot where the sainted Hussein is buried in Kerbela. Far the greater number of the mules comprised in our caravan are laden with such bandaged bones and swathed skeletons slung on each side, the outlines showing distinctly through the wrappings as they swing to and fro with the measured pacing of the animals.

UTAH, ITS RESOURCES AND OUTLOOK

[From Bradstreet's, Nov. 3.]

Sir:—The assurance of the early admission of Utah into the Union as the forty-fifth star in the constellation of states naturally tends to arouse an interest in that Territory and a desire to know more of its resources and people.

The first permanent settlement here was made in 1847. The Territory then was a part of Mexico, but was ceded to the United States in 1848, in connection with California, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico. The territorial form of government was adopted in 1850.

Utah's area is 84,970 square miles, land area 52,601,600 acres, and its water area 1,779,200 acres. By comparison it is nearly as large as Great Britain, and contains 16,000 square miles, or 10,240,000 acres more than the six New England states combined.

In this vast domain are contained resources sufficient in variety and extent to equip and maintain an empire. The census of 1890 gave Utah a population of 207,905. At the present time conservative estimates, based on semi-official figures, give a total in excess of 240,000. The assessed value of real and personal property and improvements in the Territory in 1893 was \$203,393,463.

The industries of the Territory may be classified as follows with respect to their importance: 1. Mining; 2. Agriculture; 3. Sheep and wool; 4. Manufacturing; 5. Live stock.

In its production of mineral wealth Utah has long occupied a prominent place among the states and territories of the Union. The export value of the mineral product of Utah for 1893 was

\$7,926,601. Computing gold and silver at their mint valuation and the other metals at their value at the seaboard, the value of the product would be increased to \$12,832,074. Silver stands first, the output at actual value being over \$5,233,000. Lead stands second, gold third and copper fourth. Other minerals are found in large quantities, but as yet have not been produced to any great extent, which is partially due to the difficulty encountered in placing the product on the outside market, and the lack of manufacturing industries within the confines of the Territory to consume it. This is notably the case with respect to iron.

In one county an iron belt fifteen miles long by an average of three in width culminates in a mountain rising to a height of 1,500 feet above the level of the valley. This great deposit is estimated to be 90 per cent pure iron, and computed to contain 50,000,000 tons of pure iron ore, this, too, in the midst of rich and apparently inexhaustible coal deposits, but a long distance from any railroad. This vast treasure lies practically untouched.

Extensive beds of coal exist in various parts of the Territory, and the output in 1893 was 436,400 tons, the principal part of this being from mines controlled by the Rio Grande Western Railroad company. The remainder of the production was for local consumption.

Sulphur outrivaling in extent the deposits and in quality the mines of Sicily is found in the south, and gypsum, from which plaster of paris is made, exists in large deposits, and is being utilized on a steadily increasing scale. Salt is produced in two forms, as rock salt from mines and by evaporation from the waters of the Great Salt Lake, which contain in solution about 20 per cent pure salt. This deposit is without doubt the largest in the world. Asphaltum is found in large quantities, the deposits being confined principally to two counties. The beds are extensive and the product is held superior to any other in the world. Among other minerals found are asbestos, graphite, selenite and mica. Clay deposits exist in nearly every portion of the Territory, and are utilized in various ways, ranging from the manufacture of pottery to that of brick.

Bismuth, soda, niter and alum are also produced in smaller quantities, and mineral springs are located in various different places, the principal ones used for medicinal and bathing purposes, being at Salt Lake and Ogden. Building and ornamental stone is found in vast deposits, and include marble and onyx of great variety and beauty. Slate for roofing and lithographic stone are among the more recent discoveries.

In every one of the twenty-seven counties comprising the territory agriculture, horticulture, manufacturing, stock and sheep raising are carried on by the people. The climate and character of the soil made it necessary for the first settlers to raise their crops by irrigation. This, however, was rendered easy by the proximity of the watersheds. Mountain ranges trending from north to south traverse the Territory, and from these myriads of rivers and smaller streams find their way through rocky canyons to the slopes and valleys, where the water is

utilized by the farmers. The necessity of irrigation has proved a boon to the people, as small farms are made the rule, and these are brought to the highest state of development and productiveness. Many farms from ten to twenty acres are capable of supporting large families, and do so. Small villages join and succeed one another as valley after valley is traversed, and these villages are usually composed of a group of small farms; on each side of these the crops, are, as a rule, diversified, and consist of a few acres of grain, a few in orchards, and the balance in vegetables and alfalfa. The average yield of wheat to the acre is from twenty-five to thirty-five bushels.

The average yield of oats is from 40 to 50 bushels to the acre, of corn 20 to 25 bushels, of barley 40 to 45 bushels, of rye 25 to 30 bushels, while the production of potatoes ranges all the way from 100 to 250 bushels to the acre. Alfalfa grows very freely, and from two to three and sometimes four crops are harvested in one season. Almost every known variety of fruit is raised—apples, peaches, plums, pears, quinces, prunes, nectarines, and all varieties of grapes common to the eastern states or to California. All the smaller berries and, in the extreme south, pomegranates, figs, oranges and lemons grow readily. The isolation of that section, on account of its long distance from the nearest railroad, renders production for exportation impracticable.

Many kinds of nuts, including the peanut and walnut, are cultivated successfully, and the raising of cotton in the southern counties is a growing industry. What promises to be one of the most important industries of Utah is the cultivation of the silkworm. The mulberry tree flourishes in all sections of the Territory, and it has been demonstrated that Utah is most happily adapted to the cultivation of the worm and production of silk. The sheep industry is also one of prominence, and it is estimated that over \$4,000,000 are invested in it. The estimated annual wool clip is about 14,500,000 pounds, while the sales of mutton probably average from \$600,000 to \$700,000 annually.

In manufacturing the Territory is fast attaining a position of prominence. It is a fact that upon this much of the material prosperity of a community depends, and as this principle has become more fully understood, an effort has been made to become self-supporting.

Considerable flour manufactured from native wheat is exported; cotton and woolen mills are in successful operation at various points, and woolen cloths, blankets, dress goods and hosiery, manufactured in Utah from Utah wool, are of such quality as to insure open markets not only in Utah but throughout the entire intermountain region and the Pacific coast states. The manufacture of boots and shoes, overalls, clothing and many articles of lesser importance is being carried on, although not to the extent of that of woolen products.

The Territory contains one beet-sugar factory that has been in operation since 1891. Last year the factory produced nearly 4,000,000 pounds of refined sugar, and this year's yield is estimated at 6,000,000 pounds. Large smelting plants for the treat