TIMES AT NEPHI.

Money is Scarce, But People are Comfortable.—Schoolhouse Building Delayed.

John Cowan, assessor and collector of Juab county, came up from Nephi yesterday, and in the evening proceeded northward on a trip to the Snake river country, Idaho. He is not hearing for the Snake river placers, but for the fertile valley of the Snake river where he has relatives and friends whom he is desirous of visiting. Mr. Cowan reports that, while business is about as dull as it can get and to moving at all in Nephi, owing in great part to the crash in the wool market, yet the people there are not suffering for lack of food, clothing or shelter. They have good homes and have plenty to eat and wear, as most of them are farmers and raise their own necessities of life. They are, however, very short of money, as people are in other parts, to private letters, and if this condition were to continue long, the comforts and conveniences to which they have been accustomed in flush times would be difficult to obtain. They are confident that an improvement in financial matters is not far off.

The money stringency has had an effect on public improvements to such an extent as to stop, for the present at least, three school houses which the people had intended to erect. The district bonds for the purpose had been sold, at least $15,000 bid, and an offer of $1500 forfeit has been deposited by the purchasers. This was not accepted, as the school board did not think it necessary. The hard times came on and the bond purchasers could not raise the money. They have not been able to raise it yet, and as the prospect is that Nephi will wait until next year at the earliest before the proposed school buildings will be constructed.

Mr. Cowan speaks in terms of praise of Nephi and the surrounding country, and the people who live there. He thinks that in silver hard of flush times they will hold their own in enterprise and prosperity with other parts of the Territory.

SHEEP.

How They Are Bought Dorset, Shropshire and Persian Fat Tailed.

The Fat Horned Dorset sheep brought to the United States some imported in 1885. Since then they have become very popular in Idaho. The breed is primarily for mutton, like all British sheep, but wonderfully also for a good quality of soft, silky, medium length wool. The Horned Dorset is perhaps the most prolific sheep on record. One breeder says he had a Horned Dorset ewe that gave him eleven lambs in two years—three sets of triplets and one pair of twins. The ewes reach an average weight of a little over 100 pounds.

The greatest value of the Horned Dorset is perhaps in raising lambs for early

HORNED DORSET RAM AND EWE.

market. Dorset ewes are bred for fall and early winter lambs more easily than others. When 3 months old the lambs weigh often 100 pounds. The Horned Dorset ram is said to exceed in prepotency that of any other breed, and with good care the ewes may often be bred twice a year. The Dorset is pink faced, and both ewes and rams have horns. For this reason it is a good breed for dog infested regions.

Our second illustration shows a state fair prize ram of the favorite Shropshire breed.

The Shropshire is one of the favorite "Downs" breeds of England that has now been so thoroughly Americanized that it

SHROPSHIRE PRIZE RAM.

is found in every state in the Union. All the Down sheep have Southdown blood in them, but the Shropshire wool is longer and coarser than that of the Southdowns.

Finally we come to the most remarkable breed of the sheep kind on this side the Atlantic. The picture shows a buck of the breed called sheep of Pekin. It is the breed of which Hon. Truman Ingle, United States minister to Persia, sent fifteen specimens to the agricultural department at Washington. These sheep were a source of song, Daniel Webster wool, which weighs six to seven pounds, of a grayish brown color.

PERSIAN FAT TAILED RAM.

But the point about the Persian sheep is its tail, and you can call the animal the Persian Broad Tailed or Fat Tailed, just as you choose, for this appendage of the unhappy creature is both broad and fat. What person of evolution ever produced such a monstrosity, or conceived, but just under the tail base of this sheep there is a cushion deposit of fat of a pronounced round and appetizing form. The real tail, about the size of that of the ordinary sheep, wags beneath above it. It constitutes at least one-tenth the weight of the sheep when the animal is thin, and when it is fat the awful tail weighs as much as one-third of the whole dressed carcass.

Sometimes it reaches a weight of fifty pounds. When it is very heavy the owner fastens a small wheel arrangement impossible to find fault for there and it is, for a sort of harness to the dragging load. Thus the Persian Broad Tail finds its own tail behind it on a cart. Unhappy Persian Broad Tail.

On the whole, we doubt whether these sheep will ever become a staple mutton breed for the United States, in spite of the fact that the chunk of fat under the tail looks like heaven when it is cooked with just the right care and attention to cleanliness.

Those Dogging Dorsets.

The Ridgway correspondence are chiding the Dorset sheep to be dogged, and after it this is so. It surely is not true, and, what is more, the man who is advertising Dorset is in a position to know. At the same time the Dorsets are well supplied with brains, and there is no evidence that they know how to use them, which is very true. They are extremely gregarious, and only do they fight among themselves, but they are ready to give the shepherd a lively point if provoked. As a consequence they are quite ready to go for a dog, and are much more able than other breeds to defend themselves from attack. Especially is the ram of an old breed, even with horns for his side, and they are by no means disposed, as the sheep will find to his sorrow who meddle with one of these advertisers and provoke a combat to protect his sheep from the cure.—J. B. Woodward.

Report on Cattle Diseases.

The annual Report on Diseases of Cattle and Cattle Feeding," to which reference was recently made, has just been issued by the department of agriculture. It has been prepared on the same plan as the "Report on Diseases of the Horse," which was so much good demand. Time contributing to the new volume are Professor Law, Dr. A. J. Murray, Dr. William Herbert Lowe, the late Dr. V. T. Atkinson, the late Dr. William Dickson, Dr. M. R. Trumbower, Dr. Theobald Smith and Dr. Salmon.

To the veterinary portion of this report is added an article on "The Feeding and Management of Cattle," by Professor W. A. Henry, which Dr. Salmon thus characterizes in his letter of transmittal: "The time ought to be regarded as the clearest and most concise presentation of this subject which has ever been published, while it is probably the only article of the kind in which the results of the latest scientific researches have been recorded."

Copies of this report may be obtained on application to Secretary J. M. Rusk, Washington. In view of the interesting demand for the report, here, immediately, now, and we will apply for the one here published.

Nebraska makes a fine showing of lettuce seed. It is estimated that there are now 400,000 acres under irrigation in the state and new enterprises are in contemplation for irrigating a much larger area next year.

The department of agriculture reports that in 1892 we had 43,400,111 horses, as against 14,036,750 in 1890, 7,214,699 mules in 1892 as against 3,266,522 in 1890.

The general government has at last taken measures to save the remaining giant trees of California—the majestic sequoias.

The Massachusetts state board of agriculture last year sold 201,000 cabbage-head forest, representing a total of 4,525 acres, for $74,150, an average of $16.40 per acre.

The plague of field mice in Scotland continues in spite of heroic efforts to abate the infestation.

The New York state forest commission has decided to purchase, at the rate of $1.25 per acre, about 4,000 acres of land in Essex county as an addition to the state park, and will sell 4,000 acres thereabouts which are outside the park boundaries.

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