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REPORT
OF
THE GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, SANTA FÉ, N. MEX.,
September 23, 1879.

SIR: I beg leave to submit the following summary in reply to your request of the 28th August, which reached me but a few days ago. The incompleteness of the paper will be obvious; that, however, is unavoidable, on account of the singular and lamentable want of reliable data such as is to be found in the States.

THE RESOURCES OF NEW MEXICO.

There are three interests in New Mexico worthy consideration: the mineral, the grazing or pastoral, and the agricultural; and they may be said to constitute the resources of the Territory, as manufacturing is confined almost exclusively to jewelry, of which very exquisite work in filagree is produced in Santa Fe, mostly from gold and silver native to the Territory.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture in New Mexico is yet in its primitive condition. The wooden plow of the Mexican fathers holds preference with the majority of farmers. Development is barely sufficient to serve anticipation. Corn, wheat, oats, barley, and the table vegetables generally are raised with a view to the home market, which is quite limited. Corn is produced best in the valleys along the banks of streams. I have seen wheat and oat fields six and seven thousand feet above the sea level as rich as any in Illinois and Minnesota. It is not possible to state even approximately the area of such productions. All irrigable lands, wherever they may be in the Territory, belong to the productive or farming class. The depth of the soil is something wonderful. With rains as in the Mississippi Valley, the results of intelligent labor would astonish the world; as it is, no one thinks of land for cultivation except it be irrigable. In this sense water is king.

THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

The river Rio Grande gives name to the lowlands along its shores, which, running north and south nearly four hundred miles, have an average width of five miles. The soil is light, warm, sandy, and surpassingly rich. Putting the soil, river, and climate together, the Rio Grande Valley is more nearly a duplication of the region of the Nile than any other of which I have knowledge.

Not more than one-tenth of the soil is actually occupied. A considerable portion of it is unfortunately covered by grants claimed or confirmed. Fruits are favorite articles of production. Peaches, pears, apricots, apples, grapes, succeed admirably, though, in most instances, and notably with exception of the grape, the varieties are the poorest. Indeed, the word variety can scarcely be applied to them. The grape is free from disease, and affords wines which are in growing demand abroad. With skilled labor, and capital to enable manufacturers to carry their wine a sufficient time, no portion of the country, not excepting California, will surpass this valley in this line of production.

In all instances, and whatever the crop, the dependence of the farmer is upon the river, which, when irrigation is thoroughly systematized, will be found furnishing an ample supply of water. Iron piping will then take the place of the open acequias, and the area of planting be vastly increased.

The wonder is that more attention has not been given this part of the country by people East seeking investments in landed property. One gentleman I have heard of, near Mesilla, in Doña Ana County, who clears annually quite \$10,000 from the fruit products of twenty acres. Paying vineyards are also to be found at Bernalillo and Albuquerque.

THE PECOS RIVER VALLEY.

This valley, deriving its name from the river Pecos, is not so thickly settled as its rival of the Rio Grande. The lands there are almost entirely occupied for grazing purposes. A good supply of water is obtainable from the Pecos River and its tributaries; and every inch to which it can be carried will respond richly to the plow. Its advantage is in the absence of land grants; and, like the Rio Grande, it is blessed with a climate most healthful and delightful.

THE MESILLA VALLEY.

The beautiful region bearing this name should have a special mention by itself; but, to economize space, I have thought best to treat it as a part of the Rio Grande Valley. Agriculturally considered, it is the same.

CATTLE AND SHEEP GRAZING.

Off the Pecos and Rio Grande rivers there are vast tracts of table lands, called "mesas," which are to be distinguished from the mountains and valleys. They are too high for irrigation, yet they yield grasses of the richest kind for subsistence of cattle and sheep—grasses that cure themselves in the standing stalk.

The variety of these mesa tops, permitting, as on the mountain sides, the growth only of grass and cedar and piñon trees—the latter invaluable for shelter of animals, particularly in winter—will forever limit their use to grazing. The ranges they offer cannot be excelled for that purpose; adding them to the ranges on the mountain sides, and the vastness of accommodations for feeding cattle, sheep, and horses can be appreciated. The inexpensiveness of the mode is well understood.

The old dispute as to which is most profitable, cattle-raising or sheep-raising, is yet unsettled, each having very intelligent and practical adherents.

That New Mexico has not her proper place in the meat and wool markets of the United States may be set down to causes now very soon

to disappear. They are, first, difficulties with Indians; second, the inferior quality of the stock, no attention whatever having been given by owners to importation of blooded animals; third, other localities, claiming original shipments, have been largely credited with the products due this Territory.

I regret not having statistics to enable me to give the quantity of wool produced or the number of cattle and sheep in ownership. The results in either case would be astonishing to those who know little or nothing about New Mexico—who are in the habit of regarding it as chiefly desirable on account of its climate. The increase of both sheep and cattle is constant, and the improvement of breeds is becoming more and more noticeable.

THE MINERALS OF NEW MEXICO.

Notwithstanding the adverse judgment of Lieutenant Wheeler, in his very able report for 1876, I am of opinion that New Mexico will come quite up with her neighbors in the yield of precious metals. A variety of causes have heretofore contributed to prevent her thorough exploration for such wealth. Both Mexicans and Indians are indifferent to discoveries in this line; in fact, the latter yet make it a capital offense to show a prospector anything of the kind. A Pueblo might be induced to part with his eye-teeth; no inducement could prevail upon him to take a white man to a mine; and in the hands of these people the golden keys have been held in tight grips ever since the expulsion of the Spaniards. Hence the ignorance prevalent with respect to the mineral riches of the Territory and the heretofore utter failure of attempts at their development. It is absurd to say that an arbitrary geographical line marks a silver or a gold limit. With productive mining districts on the south, west, and north, and with geological formations identically the same, the best of the scientists will be hard put to to give a reason why New Mexico is barren and Chihuahua, Arizona, and Colorado are rich beyond computation in gold, silver, copper, and galena. And now every day is settling the question. The genuine "prospector" is here, and come to stay. He is in the mountains everywhere. Bugbear stories do not stop him, neither do land grants, rattlesnakes, bears, nor painted Indians. He has discovered and adopted the "burns" as a friend, comrade, and servant. The consequence is new finds every day in out-of-the-way places. All mining history is divisible into two parts—the era of prospecting and the era of production. In New Mexico we have just entered upon the former; five years will bring us to the latter. What can be had cheap to-day will then cost a fortune. Men seeking mining investments are welcome to the hint. There are more traces and signs of ancient mining in New Mexico than in either Colorado or Arizona.

Already enough is known to warrant assertion that the Territory is well stored with gold, silver, iron, copper, lead, zinc, mica, gypsum, coal, marble, precious stones, and stone of every variety for building.

COAL.

Croppings of coal are quite general. Development, such as it is, shows it rich and inexhaustible in Socorro and Colfax Counties, and on the Galisteo River, in the vicinity of the Cerillos mines. The coal area of the Maxwell land grant (Colfax County) simply surpasses belief. Its product is bituminous, while that in Socorro and in the Galisteo region

is both bituminous and anthracite, both of excellent quality. Cannel coal is also found in the Territory.

IRON.

No attention is being paid to this mineral. It shows itself more or less in every mountain range, and waits its time.

COPPER.

Like iron, copper is receiving no attention. It is to be had in paying quantities in Grant, Socorro, Rio Arriba, and Taos Counties, in the Sandia, San Mateo, and Socorro Mountains, and even in the Santa Fé Range. In many instances it carries a percentage of silver and gold.

LEAD.

The supply is inexhaustible. In a number of districts it is the vehicle for the carriage of silver.

MICA.

The region north of Santa Fé abounds in mica, of which several leads have been opened without success, not for want of quality in the product or quantity, but skill in manipulating it. Sheets perfectly transparent are taken out 15 by 20 inches.

GYPSUM.

This article is so common in New Mexico that it is hardly a merchantable commodity. It lies in great hills. Between Fort Stanton and Mesilla there is a branch of it thirty miles long and six in width. It presents itself in connected tumuli twenty-five and thirty feet in height, and is granulated like fine sand. In Tecolote and in the Tejara region it is of the consistency of soft marble, which it greatly resembles in appearance.

MARBLE.

I have seen marble, in out-cropping, white and finely crystallized as the best imported article of Italy. No attention has been given the commodity.

SILVER.

The silver-bearing localities of New Mexico are too numerous to be mentioned in a paper of this character. The metal is to be found in nearly every considerable mountain range in the Territory. The best known districts at this time are the Bremen mines, near Silver City; the Shakespeare mines, in Grant County; the Sandia district, in Bernalillo County; the Socorro district, in Socorro County; the Cerillos, twenty-two miles southwest of Santa Fé. The San Juan country, in the north part of the Territory, and the Nogal, Capitan, Sierras Blancas, and Iccarilla Mountains, in Lincoln County, are all attracting a great deal of attention.

GOLD.

Gold presents itself in New Mexico in all forms, and is taken out from placer and quartz veins. Few people are aware of the number of "dig-

gings" now in operation in the Territory. It may not be amiss to mention a few of them:

The Moreno mines are on Ute Creek, Colfax County. One gentleman carries water to his claims near Elizabethtown by ditch and flumes forty-two miles.

At Pinos Altos extensive work is going on with good returns. In this district, in fact, gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, and plumbago are all obtainable.

The old placeres are situated twenty-six miles from Santa Fé, southwest.

The new placeres are ten miles south of the old placeres. In both these districts the drawback is want of water.

Silver City, in the Mesilla Valley, is the most flourishing of our mining localities. The product is both gold and silver.

The Animas Peak district, in Doña Ana County, is a recent discovery of rising reputation.

The Iccarilla gulches, in Lincoln County, are very rich, wanting only an abundance of water to take rank with the best producing placeres in California. The same may be said of the gold gulches in the Nogal Mountains, in the same county.

Speaking generally, gold is found in the region east of the Rio Grande for quite two hundred miles north and south of Bernalillo. Southward from the Galisteo River the Sandia Mountain range continues over two hundred miles; and while its peaks are sown with leads of silver, copper, and lead, gold dust is reported in all its gulches; in many of them it is reported in paying quantities.

ZINC.

This metal is found, together with gold and silver, in the country bordering on the San Juan River.

CLAYS.

Kaolin and fine clay are abundant.

SPRINGS, MINERAL AND HOT.

Probably no part of the world is as bounteously supplied with healing water as New Mexico. They are found by Fernandez, in Taos County; at Las Vegas, San Miguel County; at Ojo Caliente, in Rio Arriba County; near Jemez, in Bernalillo County; near Fort McRae, Socorro County; Fort Selden, Doña Ana County; and at Mimbres, in Grant County. Those at Jemez are probably unexcelled in the world. At Las Vegas elaborate preparations are in progress for the care and entertainment of guests and invalids. Any and all these springs are equal in curative qualities, if not superior, to those in Arkansas. They have certainly the attraction of an unsurpassed climate.

In this connection mention may be made of the soda springs, of which there are several. One, east of Isleta eighteen or twenty miles, is particularly worthy of notice as yielding seltzer quite equal to the best imported article.

POPULATION.

It is impossible to give the number of people resident in the Territory. The census of 1870 is reliable as far as it goes, but it was necessarily

imperfect. In many parts the canvassers were supposed to be unfriendly conspirators against the inhabitants, Indian and Mexican, and were avoided or purposely misinformed.

Taking the tabulation of 1870 and adding estimated increase, the population at this date will approximate as follows:

Taos County.....	13,025	Valencia County.....	10,035
Colfax County.....	4,290	Lincoln County.....	4,450
Mora County.....	11,475	Socorro County.....	6,220
Rio Arriba County.....	12,000	Grant County.....	7,200
Bernalillo County.....	19,595	Doña Ana County.....	7,430
Sante Fé County.....	13,355		
San Miguel County.....	16,175	Total.....	125,250

Many well-informed persons place the population at 150,000, of which the proportion of Indians is set down:

Pueblo or Town Indians.....	9,000
Wild Indians.....	14,500

The emigration following the railroad (Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fé, called from Las Vegas the New Mexico and Southern Pacific) is astonishing. Of this increase far the larger part is American.

SCHOOLS.

The lands set apart for public schools in New Mexico are in very liberal quantity; nothing, however, has been done to make them available.

In 1871 the legislature passed an act establishing a common-school system, for the support of which there were set apart not only the poll-tax and a quarter of all other taxes, but a certain surplus in the various county treasuries. Four years afterwards eight of the twelve counties reported:

Schools.....	138
Pupils in attendance.....	5,151
Teachers (male and female).....	47
Wages of teachers per month, \$16 to \$40.	

Education is chiefly in the Spanish language. In Grant and Colfax Counties the English is the prevailing tongue.

In addition to the above there are twenty-six private and parochial schools, in the greater portion of which the common and higher branches are taught. In some instances German and French, and the classics and music, have place in the course of instruction.

INSTITUTIONS, CHARITABLE, ETC.

The Territory is lamentably wanting in benevolent institutions, being without asylums of any kind.

The Sisters of Charity have a hospital for the sick at Santa Fé. Their new building of brick is in process of construction; when it is completed, they will be in good condition to yet further illustrate the devotion which has made them welcome everywhere in the world.

PENITENTIARY AND COUNTY PRISONS.

Neither is there a penitentiary in New Mexico. The legislature having authorized a contract for the purpose, hard-labor convicts undergo their sentences in the Nebraska State prison. A consequence is that in too many instances juries are content with imprisonment in the county

jails, of which I do not believe there is one in the Territory strong enough to hold an expert jail-breaker. Another consequence is the greater part of those undergoing such sentences are allowed their freedom, and are to be met every day at large on the streets without guard or attendance. Herein is the true accounting for the difficulty found in the struggle with crime in New Mexico.

In this connection, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the unfinished building begun some years ago as a penitentiary in Santa Fé. Its walls are up and the foundation for the outer wall is laid. I recommend an examination by a competent person with a view to ascertaining how much it will cost to make it serviceable. Congress cannot do a better thing now than make the appropriation required for that purpose.

TERRITORIAL ASSEMBLY.

Sessions of the legislature are biennial. They begin the first Monday of January and may continue forty days, the period limited by act of Congress.

There are two branches, a council and house of representatives, of which the former has thirteen members and the latter twenty-six members. The districts for representation are defined by legislative enactment.

QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS.

The Territorial statute upon this subject follows the Congressional:

SEC. 19. Every white male citizen of the United States, over twenty-one years of age, who shall have resided in the Territory one year, and in the county in which he offers to vote for three months, shall be entitled to vote and be elected to public office in any election provided for in this act, unless in the cases hereinafter specified.

SEC. 21. No person prevented by the organic law of the Territory, no officer or soldier of the United States Army, and no person included in the term "camp followers" of the United States Army, shall be entitled to vote or hold public office in this Territory.

CLIMATE.

On this subject I prefer to present you certain figures and observations furnished me by Mr. M. Frost, observer Signal Corps, U. S. Army, in charge of the New Mexican division.

Here are Mr. Frost's reports, in the first place, for three of his stations:

1.—Santa Fé station.

SANTA FÉ, N. MEX., September 26, 1879.

Station established November 20, 1871; variation 13° 40' east; latitude 35° 41', longitude 106° 10'; elevation 6,844 feet.

Year.	Mean barometer.	Mean thermometer.	Total rainfall.
1872.....	29.834	49.90	9.57
1873.....	29.813	51.10	9.73
1874.....	29.756	48.99	19.83
1875.....	29.753	48.60	7.58
1876.....	29.796	48.10	15.07
1877.....	29.809	40.30	13.15
1878.....	29.799	47.60	19.55
1879.....	29.831	53.05	6.45

Santa Fé station—Continued.

Year.	Prevailing wind.	Maximum thermometer.	Minimum thermometer.	Total miles of wind.	Number of days of precipitation.
1872.....	North.....	41,449	62
1873.....	North.....	57,043	78
1874.....	East.....	80.0	Zero.	61,460	97
1875.....	Southwest.....	90.0	2.0	70,752	76
1876.....	Southwest.....	88.0	1.0	67,814	109
1877.....	Southwest.....	90.5	2.0	53,172	109
1878.....	North.....	97.0	2.0	53,353	113
1879.....	East.....	93.0	3.0	34,251

Date to September 1, 1879.

M. FROST.

Observer, Signal Corps, U. S. A.

2. *La Mesilla, N. Mex., year ending June 30, 1879.*

Station established June 30, 1879. Latitude 32° 17', longitude 106° 10'.

Mean barometer, 30.229 inches; mean thermometer, 60.330; total rainfall, 6.52 inches; maximum thermometer, 107°; minimum thermometer, 5°.

3. *Silver City, N. Mex., year ending June 30, 1879.*

Station established June 30, 1879. Latitude 32° 46', longitude 108° 10'.

Mean barometer, 30.366 inches; mean temperature, 56°; total rainfall, 22.98 inches; maximum temperature, 96°; minimum temperature, 11°.

Mr. Frost then proceeds to say:

Comparing meteorological condition of New Mexico with same portions of the United States of same latitude, New Mexico is found to possess a more equable climate; comparatively very few wind storms; a cool, clear, and bracing atmosphere. The rainfall in portions of the Territory is sufficient to raise crops without irrigation. The eastern and southern portions of the Territory need irrigation. Ozone is plentiful. Electrical storms are frequent during June, July, and August. Snow falls abundantly in northern portion and on ranges of mountains, but the thermometer rarely falls below zero, and then only for one or two days in a year.

The central portion of the Territory, as part of San Miguel County, Santa Fé, Rio Arriba, Valencia, Bernalillo Counties, and part of Socorro, possess what might be considered the finest and healthiest climate in the United States. Taos, Colfax, Mora, and portions of San Miguel County are higher and colder. Portions of Socorro, Lincoln, Doña Ana, and Grant Counties are lower and warmer.

To the remarks of Mr. Frost I venture to add, as the result of special inquiry, that the prevailing diseases of New Mexico are rheumatism and catarrh; at the same time consumption is almost unknown. Certainly the lowest death rate from tubercular disease in America is in New Mexico.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your friend and servant,

LEW. WALLACE,

Governor New Mexico.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior.