

PART 7: APPENDIX

JAMES REID ARTICLE 2

Deseret Evening News¹
Monday, February 13, 1899

Abundance of Land, Water, Timber And Coal.
Northeastern Utah Offers Grand Opportunities
For The Industrious Home-Seeker

Lucerne Valley, Uintah Co.,
Utah February 7, 1899

To the Editor:

There are a great many people throughout Utah who are unacquainted with the resources of this remote corner of the State. There is a vague idea in the minds of many that northeastern Utah is still the home of the toughs and outlaws and Indians, which would make life a burden to those who are peacefully inclined. This condition is a thing of the past, however. Today it is different from what it was twenty years ago. A very interesting story could be told of the daring deeds done in this part of our State, by the early settlers.

On the south of us are the Uintah mountains, which are covered with timber and grass. The mountain range lies between this and Ashley valley, being about forty miles from here to Vernal, according to the map. The nearest railroad shipping point that we have here is Green River city, Wyoming, a distance of about forty miles, where we have a good market for all our produce, the highest prices in the West. Lucerne valley is about 2 by 10 miles in size. There is an abundance of cedar wood on the hills near by. A man can easily haul two loads a day; house logs and poles are plentiful about fifteen miles distant, and the roads are good.

We are making a canal here from Henry's Fork, which will cover over two thousand acres of land in the east end of the valley. It is intended to have the canal completed by the first of June. The soil is rich and very productive and the climate is good. We have raised crops here and know what the land will produce. Stock winters out well here, and looks well now. Snow does not lie long in the valley as a rule. There is plenty of land here yet to be taken up. It requires no grubbing, as it is covered with sage and other small brush. Water can be bought on easy terms from the Lucerne Land & Water company.

We have a small town started here and a school opened for our children. The school population of this district is about fifty.

There is plenty of coal near, and also limestone in abundance cropping out here and there from the sides of the mountains, which will eventually be used by the settlers of this region. Green River skirts the east end of the valley; Sheep creek runs down to the Green river on the south of the valley. From this stream the Lucerne Land & Water Co. made their canal to this valley. On the northeast is Henry's Fork this is also a large stream. This place is destined to be the garden spot of Uintah county.

JAMES REID

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