

feed the stock. Wild cattle are found in the valleys and among the hills, which have never received any attention or care. Stock-raisers are turning their attention of late to this country and find it very remunerative. The range is not confined to the valley alone, the foot-hills and even the mountain sides produce the bunch-grass in profusion. Wherever sage-brush grows rank on the hill-sides, bunch-grass thrives equally well.

**Osino**—is 11.8 miles down the valley from Peko—a signal station at the head of Osino Canyon, where the valley suddenly ends.

At this point the northern range of the mountains sweeps down to the river bank, which now assumes a tortuous course—seeming to double back on itself in places—completely bewildering the traveler. Across the river the high peaks of the opposite chain rise clear and bold from the valley, contrasting strongly with the black, broken masses of shattered mountains among which we are winding in and out, seemingly in an endless labyrinth. Now we wind round a high point, the rail lying close to the river's bank, and next we cross a little valley with the water washing against the opposite bluffs, half a mile away. A dense mass of willow covers the bottom lands through which the river wanders. On around another rocky point and we are in a wider portion of the canyon, with an occasional strip of meadow land in view, when suddenly we emerge into a beautiful valley, across which we speed, the road curving around to the right, and 8.8 miles from the last station we arrive at

**Elko**—The county seat of Elko county; population about 1,200. Elko is a regular eating station for all trains from the East and West. The town formerly consisted of wood and canvas houses—now the latter class is rapidly being replaced by something more substantial. During the last few years the town has improved materially. The State University, which cost \$30,000, is located here, just to the northward of the town. At this station—and almost every one to the westward—can be seen representatives of the Shoshone or Piute Indians, who come around the cars to beg. Any person who wishes to tell a big "whopper" would say, they are clean, neatly dressed, "child-like and bland," and perfumed with the choicest attar of roses, but an old plainsman would reverse the

saying in terms more expressive than elegant.

Near the town some WARM SPRINGS are attracting attention. The medicinal qualities of the water are highly spoken of. A hack plies between the hotel and the springs, making regular trips for the accommodation of visitors.

The rich silver mining district of Cope is about 80 miles due north of Elko, near the head waters of the North Fork of the Humboldt, bordering on the Owyhee country. Some very rich mines have been discovered and several quartz mills erected, in that district, but the more recent discoveries are in Tuscarora district about 50 miles north, and are said to be very rich.

Stages leave Elko daily for Mountain City—north, in Cope district—80 miles distant, and all intermediate towns and camps. Stages also run to Railroad district—south 25 miles, and to Eureka district, 100 miles; also a weekly line to the South Fork of the Humboldt and Huntington valleys. Large quantities of freight arrive at, and are re-shipped from this station on wagons, for the various mining districts to the north and south.

Another important business that has sprung up at Elko, within the last few years, is cattle-raising. Elko county contains more cattle than any other two counties in the State, and Elko ships more cattle than any four stations on the road, being amply provided with all the facilities—roomy yards, shutes, etc., for a business that is rapidly increasing, and is destined, before many years, to *far* exceed all others in the State.

This section is well watered by rapid mountain streams, and the country abounds in game of all kinds—a hunter's paradise. The valley of the Humboldt, for twenty miles above and below Elko, cannot be ranked as among the best of its bottom-lands, though it is susceptible of cultivation to a considerable degree. But a narrow strip is meadow, the remainder being higher, gravelly land, covered with sage-brush and bunch-grass. Without irrigation it is useless for agricultural purposes.

Passing down from Elko—the valley dotted with the hamlets of the rancher for about nine miles—we come opposite the South Fork of the Humboldt. This stream rises about 100 miles to the southeast. It canyons through Ruby Mountains, and then follows down the eastern side of one of the numerous ranges, which,