

numbers of sheep and careless methods of herding had done much injury to the forest lands, and the matter is now controlled by permit, no stock being allowed to graze in the reserves except by special authority from the General Land Office. Last year 843 permits for 1,806,722 sheep were granted on twenty reservations, and 5,822 permits to graze 610,091 cattle and horses in 48 reserves.

A peculiar feature of the administration of the reserves is that the survey work is carried out by the Geological Survey, the control of the lands is in the General Land Office, while the forest experts are in the Bureau of Forestry. The latter Bureau can assist in the management of the reserves only as called on by the Land Office. Consolidation of the administration is therefore urged, and a resolution supporting it was passed by the Forest Congress. This has since been carried into effect by Congress.

The administration by the Federal Government of forest lands which have not been included in reservations has never been placed on any logical or sound basis. In 1831 Congress made it a felony to cut or remove timber from public lands without due permission, but homesteaders had the right to use the timber on their land for domestic purposes, and miners had the same right for individual necessities. Timber dealers who trespassed were required, if detected, to pay stumpage or the timber was seized. In 1878 came the much-quoted Timber and Stone Act, by which timber land unfit for cultivation or land valuable for stone only, in California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington, might be sold to citizens at \$2.50 per acre, but not more than 160 acres to one individual or company. It was also provided that timber or mineral lands might be taken for domestic purposes by residents in Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Dakota, Idaho or Montana. The Homestead Act provides for a free grant of 160 acres after five years' residence, but this may be commuted at the end of six months on proof of residence and cultivation and the land purchased at the legal rate. There being no direct method for the lumberman to obtain the timber the two acts mentioned were used for this purpose, and of necessity resulted in fraudulent methods, the employees of the lumber firms and others being used as dummies.