

encountered was the unwillingness on the part of the inhabitants of New Mexico to present their titles, partly owing to timidity arising from ignorance, and partly to a feeling of security through long tenure; and when, in 1862, a law was passed, requiring that the claimants should pay all expenses of investigation and survey, presentment temporarily ceased. Down to 1862-3 there had been examined forty-eight claims, including all classes, and thirty-eight had been approved by congress, of which seventeen were Indian pueblo claims, containing 1,092,266 acres. As matters were allowed to drift along under this unsatisfactory system, it is not strange that fraud should have been attempted. After 1874 it began to be discovered that many spurious claims had passed investigation and been approved. No less than twenty-three had been reëxamined and rejected, and further scrutiny will probably expose further deceptions of a similar nature. The cause of all this trouble was the negligence of the government to confirm and survey the claims of land-owners as speedily as possible, in accordance with the treaty of 1848. The titles which were valid with prompt attention might have been settled by 1864, before immigration had begun and fraudulent practices were introduced.

Of late the industrial development of New Mexico has been largely in the direction of stock-raising and horticulture. Until 1880 few cattle were raised, and those of inferior grade. In 1890 vast herds of superior breeds were depastured, with shipments of beef cattle for the spring of that year of 150,000 head. Fruit-trees of many varieties have been planted, and thus far with satisfactory results both as to quantity and quality of yield, the almost perpetual sunshine of this region imparting a richness of flavor that is not excelled even by the products of California orchards.