

appropriation be expended in building cheap but comfortable houses for such as would occupy them and settle upon the land.

#### THE RESERVATION

is about 300 miles long and extends from the Yellowstone River on the north to Wyoming Territory on the south, and covers an area which aggregates something over 10,000,000 acres, most of which is rough, rugged, and mountainous, although along the Yellowstone River and the streams flowing into it from the south there is some farming-land, but it is limited, and requires irrigation. The broken country from the valley to the mountains is covered with as fine, rich and nutritious bunch-grass as can be found on the globe, and our agency herd of about 1,000 cattle wintered the entire season on this food without other care than the herder to look after them. The numerous streams which flow from the mountain furnish an abundant supply of pure, fresh, cold water at all seasons of the year; the snows are comparatively light, which the strong winds carry off from the hill-sides, so that stock can always graze there; the streams are all lined with a heavy, dense growth of aspen, cottonwood, and willow which furnish shelter during storms, so that the country seems in every respect peculiarly adapted to pastoral pursuits. Notwithstanding the many adverse criticisms I believe the location of the

#### AGENCY

to be the best that could have been selected. It is located on a bench near the Rose Bud Creek, and about 15 miles distant from the Yellowstone. A ditch, tapping the former about a mile above the agency buildings, conveys a stream of pure, cold water, through the stockade, corral, and slaughter house. The snow-fall is much lighter here than upon the Yellowstone, or upon either side of us; the scenery is grand, and the location not only healthy but exceedingly pleasant, with a good wagon road out in almost any direction. There is an excellent farm and garden adjacent to the agency.