

are good prospects for the coming year.

Our farms are about the best in the county, and we anticipate yet that Millard County will come to the front. All who have passed through our settlements will admit that we have one of the finest valleys in the Territory and few localities can compete with us in the choice fruit raised here.

The greatest drawback has been scarcity of water, but our County Court has recently taken steps to remedy this. Machinery for sinking artesian wells has been ordered for the County, at a cost of nearly \$3000, and it is expected that in about a month hence work will be commenced in this direction.

We feel deeply grateful to the County officials for having taken action in this regard, and trust that their laudable efforts will be crowned with success.

We commend also their enterprising spirit in bringing railroad matters before the attention of the people residing on the east side of the valley. A meeting was held here a few evenings ago on this subject; Mr. W. H. Stott was elected chairman and B. Goddard, secretary. The meeting was addressed by Judge Viele and County Attorney J. S. Giles, who had been appointed by the County Court to lay the subject of petitioning the Utah, Nevada & California Railway Co. to run their line through this section of our valley. Similar meetings are taking place all over the county, and we trust the people will unitedly offer inducements for the road to come this way.

Our ward at present is in a good condition, and now that the holidays are over we expect our associations to do good work among the young folk. PHOENIX.

MEADOW, Millard County, Utah, Jan. 11th, 1890.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

### The Total Registration.

Mr. Clute has finished the registry list of the Second Precinct, and the five precinct lists have been filed with the city recorder. The totals are as follow:

First Precinct.....	1328
Second.....	2790
Third.....	1202
Fourth.....	875
Fifth.....	1861
Total.....	7916

### Action on Idaho's Admission Delayed.

The Senate committee on territories has decided to recommend the passage of bills to make the State of Wyoming and to organize a territorial form of government for Oklahoma. The committee decided that inasmuch as in the case now pending before the Supreme Court involving the constitutionality of such a test oath as is required by the constitution adopted by the people of Idaho, affecting the Mormons, the bill for the admission of

Idaho as a State should not be acted upon definitely until the Supreme Court rules upon the question.

### Fell Thirty Feet.

On Saturday, January 18, Brother Robert H. Ford, who has been for some time employed on the Temple Block, and who was formerly in charge of the Deseret Museum, met with a sad accident, which will probably result fatally. He was engaged in nailing canvas inside of the upper tier of circular windows in the Temple and had placed a board to stand on. The end of the board was not far enough on the ledge, and when he reached up it gave way. He fell about twelve feet and struck a timber, from which he passed to the floor, eighteen feet further. He struck on his right side, and the injuries which can be determined from an outward examination are to the right hip and shoulder. His right collar bone is broken. There are, however, internal injuries. He has been unconscious from the time of the accident, except once today, when he partially aroused and recognized one of the persons at his bedside. He is at the Deseret Hospital receiving attention, though no hopes are given of his recovery.

### A Lonely Prisoner.

A singular incident was related January 17th by a gentleman who came down on the train from Cache. A deputy United States marshal was on board the Utah & Northern passenger, having in his custody a "Mormon" charged with an infraction of the Edmunds law. At Logan the officer left the train and placed himself on the exterior of a considerable amount of indifferent whisky. His appetite for stimulation seemed to grow on that upon which it fed; consequently he dropped off at several smaller stations to add to his internal stock of liquid confusion. At one of these side stoppages he failed to come to time. The result was that the train went on without him and the man charged with unlawful cohabitation went on his way without the company of his custodian. In this lonely condition he reached Ogden. At last accounts the prisoner had not succeeded in finding the officer. He was in that sad plight when our informant left the Junction City for Salt Lake.

### The Blockade in Cache.

Logan is practically cut off from the world outside. There has been no train from the south since Friday. One from the north came in on Saturday and tried to go out on Sunday morning. A snow plow with three engines was sent ahead to the divide on the south side of the valley. It would proceed a mile or two, then the three engines came back hitched on to the train, and helped to pull it up to where the plow had stopped; This made an array of five engines pulling as many cars up the divide. When within two or three miles of Collinston, the pressure of snow on the plow, and the force with which it was struck, threw the plow from the track, breaking it up. See-

ing the first engine going also, the engineer jumped, but the fireman remained at his post. The engine turned upside down, smashing the cab to pieces, with the fireman underneath. It was expected that he was crushed and mangled to death, but he presently crawled out of a hole just big enough to let him through. He was not much hurt.

The train came back here, and late in the afternoon started for Pocatello, intending, if it got through, to put the passengers on the Short Line and then via Granger to Ogden. All but about half a dozen of the passengers undertook the trip, which is certainly hazardous and as certain of delay as remaining here.

A large force of men is at work shoveling on the Divide, where the snow is three to six feet deep—and the train may go through tomorrow.

The wagon roads are also filled up in every direction. To add to the discomfort of the situation, a coal famine prevails, and there is no immediate prospect of relief.

A report just received says that the northern train is now stuck in the snow between Oxford and Battle Creek, 25 miles north.

### Trying to Disfranchise Mormons.

The following is a despatch from Washington, dated January 13th. Stewart, of Vermont, today introduced in the House a bill declaring no Mormon eligible to vote at any election or to hold any civil office in the Territories of the United States, or to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, or to settle upon any public lands. Voters are required to make oath they do not belong to the Mormon church, as preliminary to exercising the right of suffrage.

The Senate committee on Territories this afternoon listened to statements of representatives of the Mormon church, declarative of the teachings of the church in support of their argument that the constitution adopted by the people of Idaho for a new State should not be accepted by Congress. Bishop Budge, of the Mormon church in Idaho, said he had always been taught to obey the laws of the land and in forty-two years' experience with the Mormons he never knew any teachings to the contrary. The Mormons, he said, were taught to believe in the divine inspiration of the Constitution of the United States, and thus believing, he said the Mormons had a higher reverence for it than other citizens. The practice of polygamy was a thing of the past.

On the subject of blood atonement, Budge said there was no such principle held or taught by the Mormon Church.

The delegate then presented the declaration of the officials of the Church sent out from Salt Lake City, December 12th, 1889, of the teachings and doctrines of the Church.

Governor Shoup of Idaho said the expenses of a State government for Idaho will necessitate an increase in the tax rate from four mills to five and three-quarter mills.

Ex-Governor Stevenson said if