

Correspondence.

Work on the Temple—Severe Storm—Christmas Eve.

ST. GEORGE, Dec. 28, 1873.

Editor Deseret News.

Since my last President Young and party have arrived in good health and spirits, after a fatiguing journey, especially the latter part of it, having encountered snow from three to four feet between Kanab and Helix. We are all pleased to know that our labors on the public works are appreciated and that the party accomplished so far, which is very encouraging to all concerned. There have also arrived from the northern settlements several of our brethren, who are divided into different companies, some of whom are laboring at the quarry, in connection with the party here; others at the Temple; the balance repairing and turning the road on which the rock is being hauled. All our brethren are taking hold of these works with a vim and determination to put forward that which is assigned them, realizing the importance of the work they are engaged in. While many of our northern brethren have found homes in the families of the Saints, others have been organized into companies and have been sent where one or more of their number act as cooks for the several parties. On Sundays there is endeavor to make our visitors comfortable and feel at home amongst us and are using every exertion to instruct, amuse and edify them while here. It is expected that it will yet take about two hundred cords of black rock to complete that portion of the walls designated by the President previous to commencing the rearing of the walls with sand rock, which will greatly facilitate the progress of the work, as they are much easier quarried and handled.

Our St. George Library Association give a lecture every Wednesday evening in the basement of the Tabernacle, which is generally well attended by the citizens. Bro. A. M. Musser delivered a very interesting lecture last Wednesday evening, on the manners and customs of the Hindus in India, and related many incidents of his own experience while on a mission in that country. On Sundays there are schools held in the several wards.

At 1 p. m. a general meeting is held in the basement of the Tabernacle, in the several meetings are held in the school houses of the four wards of our city, all of which are well attended and instructive discourses are delivered by the visiting brethren and home laborers.

It is feared that the late severe storms will prove destructive to many of the cattle and horses belonging to the several settlements situated on and near the rim of the basin, as the snow has fallen the heaviest on these ranges and computed to be from four to six feet deep.

Christmas with us has passed off very quietly and peacefully, no rowdiness or drunkenness on our streets, but all the happy home-selves as becomes Latter-day Saints. Generally the health of the people is good. Weather now pleasant and invigorating, keen frosts at night. Still outdoor labor can be attended to very comfortably.

THIS.

Christmas Time—Weather—Schools—Improvements.

ZARAHIELA, Malad Valley, Dec. 28th, 1873.

Editor Deseret News.

Christmas passed with the usual programme of fun—sleigh-riding, dancing, etc., spreading a season of gladness and joy. The happy home and cheerful friends of participants, and relieving them for a time of the cares and anxieties of the perplexing realities of every day life. Old Santa Claus, in his annual round, left a goodly number of presents for the children, while the older ones shouted in their friendly merriment, "Christmas gift," to the response of which many a prize and old-timed joke awakened a joy and gladness which are the quintessence of life's fruition. It is with the highest degree of satisfaction that I am permitted to say that last night's celebration attended our sports. Taking it all in all we had a very merry Christmas and we only hope many happy returns.

The weather in our northern localities is very cold, freezing Bear and Malad rivers so as to bear up loads. The snow on an average is about eight inches deep, which has been lying about a month. A train on the Utah Northern was blocked in full view of our town, but it was soon moved and the railway resumed regular running. Stock are doing very well, only for the cold weather; the depth of snow would be of but little disadvantage to them.

I am gratified to speak complementarily of the schools in the county where I have been teaching. Their slow but palpable advancement shows the growing interest of the masses in the great cause of education.

In this connection I will not omit speaking of our small but interesting village. It is about five years since the first settlement of this town, and since that time has been organized and recorded in the name of Zarahiela. The town has assumed the name of the district, which was formerly known as Square Town. Steps have been taken to build a brick schoolhouse, which will be accomplished as soon as possible. It is hoped that it is a little energy and "elbow grease" and we will have a neat spacious building. We have at present a day and Sabbath school, which reflects credit upon the citizens, as the result of a noble ambition.

W. W. F.

The White Pine News has been shown very rich samples of ore from the Indian mine, situated in Shoshone District, about one hundred and fifty miles from Hamilton, which assays up into the thousands. The ledge is represented as extending a distance of a mile and a half, showing rich cropping all the way. An incline has been sunk at one point to the depth of forty-five feet, all the way in ore. Shoshone District was discovered some years ago, and many locations made there, but its great distance from communication has retarded its development. It is now being developed like many other valuable properties, almost unknown.

John Lewis, a cripple well known in Truckee, says the *Register* of Dec. 27, was incorrectly headed at Wadsworth on Christmas Eve by Jack Hamilton. The difficulty occurred in a saloon over a game of cards. Lewis was brought to Truckee yesterday. He has a trifling gash or stab in the left shoulder, which is feared will result fatally. Hamilton is an old sport, and said to be a desperate character. He has been lodged in jail.

They are going to have a regular old fashioned New Year's party at San Juan, Cal. All the young people in the neighborhood have been invited.

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