PUSHING PAROWAN.

Large Co-operative Mercantile Business—Building of Canalers Rail—Planing Mill and Shoemaking.

PAROWAN, Iron County, Sept. 15th, 1897.—The grand old silent sentinels, the colossal trees of Parowan growing in the center of the four streets that surround the public square are the great attraction to the stranger visitor here. Their massive trunks and great foliage naturally have imposed the mind with the idea that the settlement of this area antedated the arrival of the Pioneers of Utah; but upon inquiring we find they were planted about forty-three years ago. The effect wall surrounded them, making some exactly rectangular from the figure the new court house, within the wall is still in existence at the northwest corner.

What change these trees have witnessed since in their early youth their leaves first whispered to the aborigines their gratitude to their planters, or shivered and trembled in fear, as the early settlers nailed the first logs in the wall, over the alarm that the Indians had attacked the homesteads and driven off the stock. How different the scene now! The walls that surrounded these grand old trees have disappeared, all but the fragments mentioned, and although on the west and north sides of the square the houses are built close to one another, escaping the regular order of thoroughfares that allowed the Indians to pass in those early days, the town now extends out and over an area of a mile square, with fine residences on every hand. This present season several fine brick dwelling houses are in course of erection.

Notwithstanding Parowan has met with reverses of late, nothing daunted her citizens are forging ahead. During the winter of 1895 they lost about forty per cent of their stock, and probably to seventy per cent of their cattle, and there was hardly a total failure of their crops but it was so much the Bishop considered as being a close grain year. Parowan all things considered, than anything the people had met before. To add to their trials, their grist mill, an old fashioned water mill, was burnt this last spring, but the stockholders have determined to replace it with a substantial up-to-date roller mill, and work has already commenced for the improvement of the race.

The co-operative system exists here, and the superintendent, Wm. H. Hardy, has the entire time fully occupied, in looking after the details of their large co-operative business. Besides the work on the new roller mill, he has the specialties, cabinet and carpenter shops, houses and lots and also the partnerships, also the tannery, all under his superintendence. William Pulsipher, the tanner, when I found driving a few lots of sole leather at the co-op store, very courteously conducted me through the tannery, which has a capacity of twelve hundred sides per year. He never tires of singing the praises of the canalgre root. Said he: "Among tanners it has come to stay and is the only material worth while using. It softens and pampers the craft in the first attempt to handling it, but there is another mysterious about it in the least." He showed me a couple of wagon hoods which some Dixie people had brought from St. George where it grows abundantly in a wild state, for which he pays thirty-five dollars per to delivered at the tannery. Every that handled in the tannery has been pleased in its use, but now it was getting thoroughly understood. Most City shipped about two thousand tons of canalgre last year, most of which went to Germany, and the town of Deming saw about twenty thousand tons per year in their manufacture of canalgre extract, which is sold to all the markets of the United States. All of which proves Mr. Pritchard to be correct in his statement that it has come to stay. In appearance the plant resembles the coarse, growing sour dock, and the root is somewhat like a sweetpotato or overlarge dahalia bulb—it is sometimes called wild yam, as it bears a good resemblance to that root when dried, and is used by the Indians in southern Utah as a food also. Mr. Pritchard showed me a hide skin upon which he is going to try his skill. It was taken from a bear killed last year in this neighborhood by Alex Mathison Jr. The bear measured 11 feet from tip to tip of paws and was supposed to weigh near upon 1,500 pounds.

The cabinet and carpenter's shop is fitted up with planing mill and other improved machinery for aiding the workmen in this line. Being now very fine clear lumber in the shops, I enquired if it was Oregon pine, and was informed that it was Parowan pine, and further that the Parowan pine was of so fine a quality that it had been used in the construction of the world-renowned Tabernacle organ of Salt Lake City.

The shoe shop, which turns out a serviceable article, has only four hands now employed, but after the harvest and fall work is over, it will run the usual quota of eight hands. The business shops are noted for the make of collars.

George Taylor, Alex Orton, Newel S. Whitney & Company, have erected a fine brick open house, sixty by forty feet in the clear, with sixty by twenty feet in the door. The building is not entirely finished, but so far completed they have performed a ball given within its walls for some time.

Judge Blackett's session of court that Monday was a brief affair. The criminal docket was clear, and the probate business was so light that the judge adjourned the term at noon and the same afternoon took horse for Beaver. An old custom used to prevail on some parts of England on such occasions, when no criminals were to be tried and no cases for the jury, witnesses would present him with a glass of white sherry. It is told how the Judge would, on the occasion of his gait, as a the condition existed at St. George.

Like the judge, your morning agent did not find much to be done here, as your people are all busy with their affairs. Politics is losing nearly after the interest of the "Grand" and keeps adding new subscribers to the sal list of the place.

Davis Stake Conference.

The quarterly conference of the Davis Stake convened at Farmington on Saturday and Sunday, September 11 and 12, 1897. It was held under a large bowery. The Stake presidency, all of the members of the High Council, all of the Bishops of the twelve wards, and a large number of home teachers were present the two days of conference. Of the general authorities President Wilford Woodruff, Apostles Lorenzo Snow and Francis M. Lyman were present. President Woodruff was the principal speaker at the afternoon session of Saturday and Sunday and Apostle Lyman on Sunday morning.

On Saturday, at 10 a.m., after the opening exercises, President John W. Hess gave a report of the Stake. He said the Stake presidency had visited all the organizations and associations were doing well, especially the Sunday schools, the Relief Society organization was well. A great interest in this work was shown by the superintendents and teachers throughout the Stake. President Hess said he could not give a very favorable report of the Stake Tithing Office, there was a great lack of this law of the Priesthood that was very serious, and he was sorry that a taking was being taken with them so far and position them, and if that was necessary he drop them from their persons.

Elder R. H. Roberts then addressed the congregation, stating briefly of the importance some feel in not with the Saints in Parowan, that years ago and the additional testimony that he had received that he was in the Church of Christ. He referred to the Young Men's Mutual Improvement association, and said that it was for the parents and Priesthood to labor for them.

The High Council convened directly after the close of the morning session and Stockholm Thomas of Farmington was sustained President of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement association, Thomas Thomas one of behind a High Priest, and was ordained President of the Stake in place of the Davis Stake, W. Riggs Young President, Elder William D. Lay was sustained as Superintendent of Sunday Schools in the Stake, Elder Thomas Thomas was sustained as Superintendent of Young Men's Mutual Improvement association, Elder Thomas Thomas was sustained as Superintendent of Sunday Schools in Farmington, Elder Thomas Thomas was sustained as Superintendent of Young Men's Mutual Improvement association in Farmington