

City line was kept open pretty well, but on that evening the train stuck in a snow bank a few miles out of Park City, and the passengers walked into the town. The train finally got through, however, and at 2 o'clock yesterday morning started on its return. After a great many delays, caused by the filling of cuts, it reached Ogden last night. There some of the passengers bound for Salt Lake awaited the night train on the Utah Central division. But this had to be abandoned, and they came down on the R. G. W. this morning. The Park City line is now reported as closed up.

January 17, the Utah Central got one train to Ogden and back from this city. Yesterday afternoon a freight started out, but was stopped just north of the Hot Springs, "stuck in the snow." A freight from the north got in the same locality, and stayed there. A passenger started down from Ogden last night, but could not get past the freights, and this morning was seen at Farmington, backing up to Ogden "for a new start."

The cause of this trouble was the heavy drifting of snow between the Hot Springs and Woods Cross. From the hills above it was brought down by the wind in immense quantities and laid in windrows over a strip of about two and one-half miles of country. By this means a long section of railway track was buried, and it was impossible for the locomotives to force their way through. The R. G. W. was in the same fix except that they had a snowplow on hand, and cleared their track. Today the Utah Central had a large force of men at work shoveling snow, and opened up the line. The regular trains will leave at 4 and 6 p. m.

The southbound train left at 9 o'clock this morning, instead of 7:20. The causes that led up to this were that yesterday afternoon's southbound passenger was blockaded in the cut at the point of the mountain. It got through in the night and the passenger due here from the south at 6:50 last night arrived about 7 this morning.

The unfortunate part of this proceeding is that if the Utah Central division had had the snow-plow constructed here on hand the delays would have amounted to but little. This plow does marvelous work in a snow-bank, and on Thursday it opened the point of the mountain south. The Salt Lake & Western division was completely blockaded, being covered up almost its entire length. Yesterday morning the snow plow was sent down there, and worked its way through successfully. On the return trip, however, the obstacles encountered delayed the train, and the locomotives ran out of water, effectually "killing" them; so the plow must remain out there till it can be reached and hauled in.

The reports from the Union Pacific also show that it is with the greatest difficulty a few trains can be brought through, and then with no regard to schedule time. The Utah & Northern is in a little worse condition, and the Central Pacific is

completely blockaded. The R. G. W. gets its passenger trains through at great effort, all being reported "behind time." The narrow gauge up Parley's canyon cannot get over into the Park at all.

Altogether the snowfall has made a strong combine against the railroads, and it has required the most careful management to keep them in anything like shape. There is one special feature in favor of the local lines, and that is the comparative freedom from accidents at a time when everything tends to render them probable. If the present weather continues a few days, however, all danger of a serious blockade will be past for the present at least.

IN BIGHAM COUNTY.

Probably some of your numerous readers would like to hear how we spent Christmas and New Year's holidays here, also as to our prospects as a settlement.

On Christmas morning, under the auspices of the Sunday School, we assembled as usual at 10:30 in our meeting house, which was filled to overflowing. Superintendent W. D. Williams called the meeting to order. Prayer was offered by Brother Jas. Gardiner. The choir rendered some excellent selections. A short address was given by Bishop Donaldson, subject — "Why do we celebrate Christmas?" Next came a duet by Sisters James and Anderson, and a comic reading by Superintendent W. D. Williams. This was followed by a duet by Thomas Elliott and wife, "No, sir, no," and was amusingly rendered. A humorous dialogue by Misses Riggan and Donaldson pleased greatly. The choir next gave a pretty selection of music. The distribution of candies, etc., to the Sunday scholars was the succeeding feature. The choir afterwards sang: "Praise to our Redeeming Lord." Benediction by First Assistant George W. Smith.

The children's dance took place at two o'clock; and teachers and parents met together for a dance at 7 p. m. It was a big success.

New Year's day was spent in visiting and feasting, and there was also a dance. A more enjoyable time was probably never spent in Teton.

Our prospects for the future are brighter than ever before. Many who have visited this place would have liked to locate here if they had known that the Canyon Creek canal would ever come out. They may now be glad to know that the canal is fully half cut, and twelve feet wide on the bottom. It is generally pronounced a great success and a most substantial piece of work. As soon as the weather will permit we shall continue our labors, as we mean business. We have another canal known as Slideways. That is also increased now to twelve feet on the bottom, and is far advanced toward completion. These canals are flowing at their utmost capacity. They will cover a large scope of country, and offer great inducements to those

who have homes to make and families to care for.

A word to those who have no home: If you cannot find one here, with the facilities which we can offer, you will not anywhere.

We are quarrying rock for a new meeting-house; and have also two other improvements under contemplation toward the building up of our settlement, which I will say more about in a future communication.

Last time I wrote you we had only thirty-five families; now there are fifty-five, with a prospect of a rapid increase in our thriving settlement.

The weather is now very cold, with plenty of snow. It is extremely hard on cattle.

R. McK.
TETON, Bingham County, Idaho,
January 3, 1890.

STAR VALLEY FRAGMENTS.

Perhaps some of your readers would like to hear from the north-east as to how we are getting along. We have been kept quite busy till a few days ago "breaking the roads." We have about two feet of the "beautiful" here. The weather has continued very mild the last few days. This morning, however, was the coldest time experienced this winter. The snow has settled almost as fast as it fell.

The people are looking for a good hay crop next season. Hay is scarce. Some persons are offering \$12 to \$15 per ton for it. Stock on the range have been suffering.

The health of the people, as a rule, is good. There have been many cases of scarlet fever. One family lost three children in the course of ten days; but the disease has about gone through now.

We have been enjoying ourselves during the holidays.

Our new meeting house is so far completed that we are now able to use it, thanks to the liberal donations forthcoming. It cost the sum of \$2298, which we are glad to know is all paid up, with a little cash yet in hand. We formally opened the new building on December 23rd, and a public entertainment was given for the whole of the residents in the valley.

We have a good day school here, taught by Heber A. Holbrook, of Bountiful, Davis County. Auburn contains 178 souls.

Our mail has been a little irregular of late, on account of the snow in the mountains, the roads having been blockaded, but the mail contractors are doing their best under the circumstances.

JOSEPH REED.
AUBURN, Star Valley, Uintah Co., Wyo., January 7, 1890.

MILLARD COUNTY AFFAIRS.

A few notes from our little town may prove interesting to your many readers.

Lack of water during the past summer caused our crops to be small, but the "beautiful snow" has fallen in great abundance of late, and there