

# THE EVENING NEWS.

Friday, December 31, 1899.

## Correspondence.

TOOLEE CITY, Dec. 28, 1899.

**Editor Deseret News:**—Sir:—Music is the leading topic just now in this portion of the diocese of Bishop Rowberry. On Christmas Day the Toolee city brass band commenced its career as a public institution by parading the streets of the city, and serenading some of the most prominent citizens. The efforts of the gentlemen of the band created considerable pleasure, and called forth such marks of appreciation, common among the people on all festive occasions, and especially at Christmas. The band numbers about fifteen members; it has been organized about three months, and is under the leadership of Bro. Thomas Croft—a gentleman well qualified for the position, from many years' experience in the profession in Great Britain.

On Monday the members of the band paid a visit to Pine Cañon, a small settlement in the mountains north-east of Toolee City. After serenading the citizens, by whom they were treated in the most hospitable and civil manner, they finished their visit by furnishing music for a ball, or break-down, held in the school-house in the evening, to which all the settlers were invited.

While on the subject of music, I must not forget to tell you a rich joke, got off in Toolee City a few evenings since, it is much too good to be lost. A dancing party was being held in the Court House, for which the best musical talent in the city had been provided. One of the instrumentalists being the Bro. C. referred to above. A very appreciative lady present, probably unused to the sound of a cornet in a ball-room, remarked: "I wish that gentleman with the brass candlestick would stop his noise; he spoils all the other music!" Now a lady, possessing such high appreciative powers and so much natural taste, certainly ought to have a first-class musical education; she would no doubt be an ornament to the profession.

Business in Toolee City is very dull. The co-operative store, considering the times, is well supported, but the scarcity of a circulating medium is a great hindrance.

The new meeting house is in a fair way to completion. The carpenters will soon have put their finishing touches to the interior of the building, when the painters will commence; and in six or eight weeks from the present time it will most likely be ready for dedication, and the use of the public. It is a very substantial structure, being built entirely of rock. Its size, inside, is 56x38 feet; its height, 21 feet. At the east end is a gallery, in which the choir and from a hundred to a hundred and fifty people may be comfortably seated; at the west end is a good vestry and other apartments. The building committee is composed of Messrs. George Atkin and Edwin Broad, but the latter gentleman has had the erection of the building solely under his management. The cost of the structure, when completed, it is estimated, will not be less than \$16,000.

A few words more with regard to Pine Cañon, and I will close. The settlement was commenced about five years ago, and, at the present time, contains thirteen families. The president of the settlement, Bro. Robert Shields, is of the opinion that there is room for as many more. While in conversation he informed me that the water has increased very much since the settlement of the place was commenced, and that far more land than is needed by the present inhabitants might be brought under cultivation. The place, undoubtedly, possesses many advantages. Wood is very near and plentiful; the range for stock is also excellent, and the fertility of the soil is probably unsurpassed in the Territory. During the past season an average of forty-nine bushels of wheat to the acre was raised by Brother John Smith, residing there, some few acres yielding as high as seventy-seven bushels to the acre. Brother Shields' crops were about the same. Clay, of excellent quality for bricks, has been found there, and a few weeks since a kiln was burned, which are said, by an old brick-maker, to be of good quality and fully equal to any produced in other parts of the Territory. It is the design during the coming season to carry on brick manufacture extensively. It is doubtful whether, in any portion of Utah, prosperity and affluence can be more readily secured by industry than in this little settlement. At this season of the year, through being so closely hemmed in by the mountains, it presents a rather bleak appearance, but this is far more than counterbalanced by the cordiality of, and substantial evidences of prosperity among the settlers.

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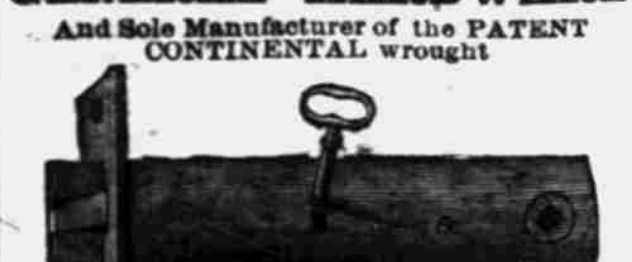
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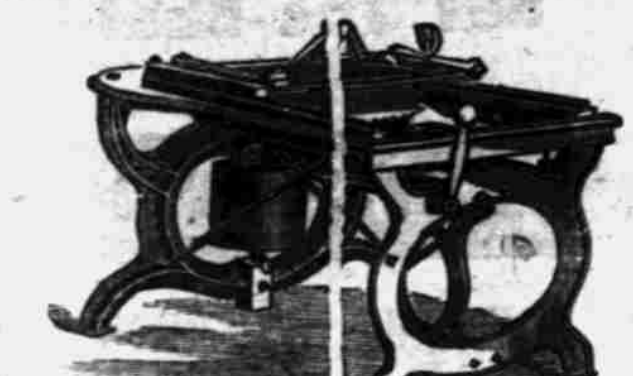
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