

The most the colonists had, was a little money, but a market was too far away. Everyone thought of previous Christmas times and wondered what could be done this time. Just two days before Christmas some young men came from the Bow Creek region with a number of wild turkeys which the colonists bought. The next day another party passed through the settlement and peddled some deer and antelope meat to them. Then by dividing, exchanging and planning, each family was able to prepare a holiday feast that baffled criticism, and that dinner was never forgotten by those pioneers.

Children as eager as usual for Santa Claus, were given little homemade gifts. Toys cut from the soft stone, rag dolls, and a little candy. One mother said that she gave three sticks of candy and four peanuts to each of her two little girls. It was a jolly time and everyone was happy.

There were many things that they did not have. But there was one thing, the basic thing; which was the most important of all other things, that they did have. It was the joy of the gift of the babe of Bethlehem, that came to be the light of a darkened and saddened world, that brought peace and happiness, that no one could have had, had not the Christ child come to earth (over) 1900 years before on Christmas Eve. Prayer service was held in the homes and that night was made vocal with songs of praise to the Redeemer. Christmas night Carolers sang; "Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly", "Joy to the World", "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem", and other songs of equal beauty. All sensed the Christ Spirit of the occasion. They realized that only happiness, love, deep gratitude, and a little sincere humility should be in the minds of hearts of God's people at this glorious season of the year.