

DOWN IN MEXICO.

COLONIA JUAREZ, Mexico,
Dec. 7, 1895.

Our party, consisting of Elders F. M. Lyman, Anthony Ivins, Ammon Tinney and I, drove the conveyance sixty miles to Dublin, the same day. Mexico has some strange, lonely country in its domain. Four miles out from Diaz is La Ascension, a Mexican, what shall I call it? Some call it a town, of 1,800 to 2,000 people. The streets are this way, that way, and several times the other way. The houses are much the same as the streets, muddy looking, low, flat and uninviting. Everything looks confused. We drove through the crooked streets. They were very narrow, but the land is grand, and millions of acres of it. The Casas Grandes runs close along, and through the valley. The whole broad valley is one of the best by far, that we have seen in Mexico. There is a large stream led by springs nearly one half of which is owned by the Mormon community. The soil is very good, and our community are building up and spreading out with every prospect of success. A church has been built, and some respectable dwellings. At twelve feet good water may be had, some wind mills are erected with success.

At 10:30 a. m., where we bailed our teams, some antelope were in sight, and a flock of quail came in view, we had driven about twenty miles. This being fast day we offered up our prayers and thanksgiving unto the Lord, and drove over dry, barren land, and bailed at the big bend of the Casas Grandes—the only water we have seen since before coming to the Mexican town. There has been plenty of grass all day on our way. We passed a Mexican town, Corralitas, and soon were met by a fresh team, which took most of us on to Dublin by dusk. We also passed an abandoned town, Barancas by name. Here it is where a sewing machine man was allured into a house to warm and rest when he was murdered. This occurred about one year ago. He was known to have some money, and it was for this he was killed.

Some lonely country was next passed, amongst the most lovely scenery. Today we passed some large clumps of the cactus in bloom; it looked delightful, breaking the monotony of the journey. All of us were pleased to meet warm-hearted friends to kindly receive us into their humble habitations. Amongst the foremost was Bishop Winslow Farr, formerly of Ogden City, Utah, also Doctor Lagooa, as the Mexicans call him; really George Lake. Around the old-fashioned fireplaces many reminiscences of the hardships, toils and labors were related. The Mormon people are proverbially a cheerful happy, persevering people, always trusting in the Lord for divine aid. I once heard the Prophet Joseph Smith, while passing through the Missouri mob-hugs, say, when he was told that the Missouri mobber would like to force us from the country, and cut off the world, and finally down to their kind of hell: "Well, if they do so we will turn the devil out and make a heaven of it for the destiny of Mormon-

ism is to bring this fallen planet back into its pristine glory, as it was in Eden's time." Isaiah 11th chapter was quoted, where the lion and the lamb should lie down together.

The unlimited faith in God, which is so tenaciously adhered to, has enabled this little band, together with all others of like integrity, to endure so many reverses and to have established Dublin and other colonies in Mexico, until now President Diaz courts the colonization of his dominion by Mormons. It is indeed very interesting to hear how many difficult scenes these colonists have endured to finally gain a footing that now is enjoyed. It seems as though the crust is broken, towns are established, farms opened, water seces, established, dams put in and preparations made to increase reservoirs—one prospective that we have visited which, if successful, will cover acres sufficient to make three lakes to receive the Casas Grandes in its times of overflow, reserving it for times when it runs nearly dry. Millions of acres of Mexican soil will thus be turned into acres of fruitfulness. One governor lost his official head by interfering with those persistent Mormons who, wherever they go, turn barren deserts into fruitful fields. President Diaz has learned to seek just such colonists as those who made Utah what it is now. The future of those once despised Mormons in Old Mexico on the south, the Dominion of Canada on the north, and in Arizona and Idaho, is being made all the better.

After visiting and holding a series of meetings with the people of Dublin, which number about 300 people or souls, we were taken in carriages over to Juarez, sixteen miles, passing through Casas Grandes—interpreted grand, large houses—but it looks to us like a large adobe yard. It is said that the population is about 2,000 inhabitants. What a beautiful tract of fertile land and fields they possess! The wooden plow will be substituted soon by the Mormon style. There is certainly a great work to be done here for the 11,000,000 of fallen humanity. We hold two days' meetings at this beautiful place of about 700 good people.

EDWARD STEVENSON.

A SPAT FROM MOAB.

MOAB, Grand Co., Utah,
Dec. 16, 1895.

I would like to have a little spat with you in regard to trade. Salt Lake is to Utah what Denver is to Colorado, a general depot, as the people get their supplies from there. Now, there has been a conspiracy there with the merchants here to compel the people here to trade with the merchants here. Bills have been sent from here to Salt Lake merchants and the answer comes back. "You can buy as cheap of so and so." Now, if your merchants knew what was for their good they would try and hold all the trade they can, as a good deal of the trade goes East. There is a party here that sends to St. Louis for his iron and wagon timber. He pays \$8.50 freight per hundred. The freight from Salt Lake is 85 cents to \$1. Could that not be furnished from Salt Lake where they get it in carload lots? They can buy cheaper than a man can that only buys a small lot at a time. It has be-

come the custom of all farmers that can, to buy their supplies at wholesale. If your city merchants try to compel our people to buy at retail stores they are going to lose a good deal of trade; they will have to sell as low as they can, as the country people trade at different places, and when they meet: "What did so and so cost you?" Where they can get things the cheapest, there is where they will trade. I know parties here who send to Chicago for a box of coffee.

Now in regard to fruit boxes. I am shipping fruit in boxes that came from Oregon to Grand Junction, Colorado. I paid \$29 freight from Grand Junction to Thompson on 500 boxes, after paying ten cents apiece for them there, and these are knocked-down boxes. It has become customary with railroads to charge all they can make a party pay; it is not, what can we haul it for? out, what can we make him pay? So with the express companies.

Respectfully,
O. W. WARNER.

WITH VOICE OF PRAISE!

The executive committee on Inauguration Day exercises for the State of Utah issued the following Mouday afternoon:

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 23, 1895.

The official announcement that the proclamation, admitting Utah into the Union, will be issued by the President on Saturday, the 4th day of January, 1896, is a source of great joy to all our people, irrespective of political affiliations or of religious creeds. We will soon enjoy the privileges and assume the grave responsibilities that attach to the power of self government. This result has been attained after years of probation and it is the culmination of hopes that were long deferred, the fruition of which is at last attained in the midst of a happy union of sentiment among our citizens.

We have entered upon an era of good will, and it should result in great national prosperity. Contention, strife and bitterness have been succeeded by peace, mutual confidence and respect. Disagreeing as a people honestly may upon questions of political policy, we are united in our loyalty to the great institutions of our common country, and are inspired by pardonable pride in the attainments of Utah in the past and her possibilities for the future.

The proclamation by President Cleveland, and the inauguration of our State officers, will mark an epoch in our political life, and it is proper that the event should be fittingly commemorated. With this thought in mind, the undersigned were designated by our citizens as an executive committee to take the proper steps for a fitting celebration of the event and an appropriate inauguration of the officers of the new State. We therefore respectfully suggest to the people of Utah:

That upon the receipt of the news of the issuance of the President's proclamation at our State capital, the National Guard of Utah fire an appropriate salute.

That thereupon, all the steam whistles be blown, that all the bells of the city be rung, the street car gongs be sounded, and other appropriate