

and the bitterest persecution, but in their hearts there is no ill-will, no hatred. They are kind to their friends and just to their enemies. Orthodox preachers are not particularly distinguished for their love of discussion. Mormons court argument, and the doors of their churches are open to all. They know well, that any religion that will not bear discussion, must be a trifle weak somewhere.

The religion of the Latter-day Saints is as broad as it is possible for any religion to be. The old idea of hell, believed in at one time, and still preached in thousands of our fashionable churches, has no place in their minds or hearts. We are all given a chance in the next world and are compelled to suffer only for our own sins—not for the transgression of Adam. This bold and humane belief, leaves its impress upon every member of their Church.

You can almost tell a Mormon by looking at him. The face is not long, pinched and expressionless. It is round and full. The man enjoys life. He is cheerful, good natured. A Mormon does not endeavor to impress you with his piety, by looking solemn. He is unaffected wherever met, and under all circumstances.

The Church of Latter-day Saints has nearly 1,700 missionaries in the field. These are composed largely of young men, and they are sent to every part of the world. They travel without "purse or scrip," their mission lasting from three to five years. Mormons are unquestionably making more real converts than any other religious people. This Church organization is well nigh perfect. Nothing even approaching it can be found elsewhere in the world. Everything moves with the regularity of clock-work and without friction. Yet in the Church there are no serfs, no slaves, statements to the contrary notwithstanding. The Church, as an organization, is a republic, each member having a voice in the election of its officials.

Mormons are progressive. They are quick to appreciate merit, and they believe the best the earth affords is none too good for them. Mormons love the truth and accept it wherever found. In short they are honest, good-hearted, cheerful, brave and contented men and women. Their morals are above reproach, and their financial successes have given them an excellent standing in the business world.

### COLONIA CHULCHUPE, MEXICO.

Colonia Chulchupe, May 12, 1898. This little settlement is just now stirred up by the disappearance of a prospector, who came here not long since from California and has been prospecting for mineral in the Guynopa country, about a day's journey southwest of here. On Tuesday morning, the 10th inst., he went out hunting, leaving his companions camped near this place, and has not been seen since. Yesterday some of our people went out to find him, but did not. They tracked him several miles until he entered Black canyon, and there lost all trace of him. Some of our boys say they found trails of two horsemen who had apparently followed him, but whether he has been killed or simply lost in the mountains we cannot yet tell. Today every available man and horse in the place have gone to find him if possible. This town being the last outfitting place for prospectors, such people continually go and come.

Last evening two parties of prospectors came in from the Guynopa mining fields who had been burnt out in camp May 8th, losing all but what they stood up in, except a very little flour and bacon. One party—Dotson's—lost about

1,000 cartridges, besides giant powder, in addition to all bedding, clothing, etc. The other party, led by Mr. Thorn, came from Colorado and had a large and valuable outfit, not only of provisions, clothing and other necessities, but a valuable assaying outfit and expensive surveying instruments, all of which were destroyed. Mr. Thorn came here in the interest of Colorado capitalists, prepared to purchase valuable claims. Very rich ore, assaying as high as \$4,000 a ton has been found only a few miles from here, on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains, but the average of the mines would not exceed probably \$1,000 or \$1,200 per ton—silver and gold.

Chu-l-chu-pe, the native name of this valley, if it may be so termed, is the extreme southerly settlement of the Mormons in Mexico, being about 65 or 70 miles southwest of Colonia Juarez. Longitude about 103 degrees west of Greenwich, latitude 29 degrees, 23 minutes, 30 seconds, and elevation, above the sea, of about 7,400 feet. This altitude is as indicated by a first class and very sensitive barometer, and is the instrument. As the pressure of the atmosphere is constantly changing, so does the reading of a barometer; but in becoming familiar with the proper correction to be made for various conditions of the atmosphere, we arrive at a very exact estimate of altitude. Before I leave here I expect to make at least fifty observations and will be able to give the altitudes correctly of this place, Colonia Garcia, 37 miles north, and of Colonia Pacheco, 8 miles north of Garcia.

Chulchupe is a very desirable place for settlement for those who wish to make homes, especially for those without much means.

No big wood piles for winter are needed, as a load of wood can be got any day in less than a mile distance. Cattle run out all winter on abundant grass. Land is fertile and cheap, being at present only \$5 a hectare (about 2½ acres) in United States money or about \$10 Mexican; town lots, about 1½ acres, \$10 Mexican money. No irrigation is required for farm crops, rain falling in abundance during the summer. Corn, potatoes, garden vegetables, etc., yield well, especially cabbage, rutabagas, beets and similar vegetables; and oats are phenomenal, whole fields standing high as a tall man's head and shoulders, and heavily headed. I think such fruit as apples, pears, plums, strawberries, blackberries, etc., will do extremely well, missing the early frosts which sometimes kill the fruit in the lower valleys. The climate is much like that of northern Utah, except that the low latitude, 29 degrees, 27 minutes, obviates the cold of the north, while the high altitude makes the weather in summer not nearly so warm as in Salt Lake City.

The Chulchupe purchase consists of a tract 5,000 meters square (something over nine square miles) the title for which was lately obtained in the City of Mexico by President A. W. Ivins, and is now being subdivided by your correspondent. After many years' experience as a pioneer I can conscientiously recommend this as a very desirable place for men who are willing, as pioneers, to put up with the disadvantages incident to a new country, but which are nothing, compared with those of southern Utah or Bear Lake. But all who think of changing a home should first examine for themselves the place to which they think of going, as what suits one person may not suit another.

J. H. MARTINEAU.

At Butte, Mont., Mollie Everett has commenced suit against her husband, John Everett, alias Tigh, asking for the annulment of the marriage on the grounds of bigamy.

### WEST PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

Roscoe, Washington county, Pa.

April 15, 1898.

The usual spring conference of the West Pennsylvania conference, Eastern States mission, was held April 9th and 10th, 1898, with Elder A. P. Kesler in attendance. There were also present Joshua Selley, president of conference, and Elders D. P. Thomas, Henry Larsen, Walter P. Rich, John A. Bevan Jr., L. S. Harris, John E. Isgreen, Heber E. Farr, Walter E. Heller, James C. Hacking, Walter N. Draper, John H. Davis, Samuel D. Winter, Amasa Belnap, James B. Woolsey, Harry M. Rich and Marcus Taggart.

Our first day's service was held in the school house at Troytown, Fayette county, Pa., which is located on the east side of the Monongahela river, about forty miles south of Pittsburgh. Our Saturday meeting was well attended by Saints, mostly, quite a delegation coming from the New England, Allegheny county, Pa., branch, headed by Elder George Barnes, the presiding Elder, who is known by all the Elders who have labored in this section of the country for the last fifteen years. During the three meetings all the Elders were given an opportunity to speak. All expressed themselves as being much pleased with their labors, and highly favored of the Lord. During the services several excellent solos were rendered by Elder Samuel D. Winter. Elder Kesler also delivered a very interesting discourse.

Our services on the 10th, (Sunday) were held at Coal Centre, Washington county, Pa., which is three miles south from Troytown, and on the west side of the river. Three splendid meetings were held, the attendance being very good, with perfect order throughout.

Elders Joshua Selley, Harry M. Rich, John H. Davis and Amasa Belnap occupied the time during the morning services, which began at 10 a. m. At 2 p. m. another meeting was held, which was addressed first by Elder D. P. Thomas, after which Elder Samuel D. Winter sang the hymn O My Father, with splendid effect. Elder Kesler occupied the remainder of the time, speaking upon the distinguishing characteristics of the Latter-day Saints, and their harmony with the Bible.

At 7 p. m. the last public meeting of the conference was held. Quite a large congregation was in attendance. The time was occupied by Elder James C. Hacking, local Elder Geo. Barnes and Elder Kesler. During the services Elder Samuel D. Winter sang the hymn "Lift up your heads, ye scattered Saints."

Our Priesthood meeting was held on Monday at 10 a. m., in the Troytown school house, where several hours were spent in hearing reports from all the Elders, after which Elder Kesler addressed them for a considerable length of time as to their duties.

The announcing of appointments concluded the business of the conference.

Elders James B. Woolsey was honorably released to return home. Saints and many kind friends used every endeavor to make the stay of the Elders and visiting Saints pleasant. Their kindness will be ever remembered.

Saints and friends at home who have friends or relatives living in any of the counties named below in fact any of the counties west of the Susquehanna river, are asked to communicate with any of the Elders. Letters of introduction seem to be the best means to use.

Following are the names and addresses of the Elders:

Joshua Selley and Walter N. Draper, Emporium, Cameron Co., Pa.

D. P. Thomas and John A. Bevan, Meadville, Crawford Co., Pa.