

NOTES BY THE WAY.

At Grand Junction, I noticed on every side, well-kept orchards of young trees, and am informed that the trees are all of extra nursery stock. It is striking to contrast these orchards with those of Utah. If Utah fruit growers do not plant young trees soon, the supply for its markets will be shipped from the valleys close around here.

Passing along the Rio Grande Western, one sees many places where the winding track of the narrow gauge road has been straightened when the standard gauge was laid. How gratifying to man, could he, like the rail-roader, go over life's track and straighten it, making it better as he goes.

The building just passed is large and stately, but windows are broken out here and there, and the capital spent in its erection is, to a great extent, wasted. The towns of Colorado look worse for wear than the towns of Utah do; because the towns of Colorado were not put up to wear. Here, as in Kansas, the buildings, fences, ditches, of the small holdings were not substantially built; many of the large buildings are. Capitalists must learn that the best surrounding for a business location is a population that has come to stay.

An intelligent gentleman, of medium height, rode in on today's train across the Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad. It was Antonio Joseph, formerly delegate to Congress, from New Mexico. He is now proprietor of the warm springs at Ojo Caliente, in the northern part of New Mexico, and a member of the next territorial legislature. New Mexico has suffered from legislative muddles a great deal. The legislature to meet here in a few days will probably be no exception. There are six Republicans and six Democrats in the council, and twelve from each party in the assembly, and it will be hard to agree on terms for an organization. The last legislature spent all of its time on election contests or quarrels, and this session may be as bad.

I have just talked with Amado Clavez, the territorial superintendent of public instruction. He says that it was pitiful to see the sacrifices made by many of the poor to pay the high taxes of the territory. "What would statehood do for New Mexico?"

Mr. Clavez is a Mexican, but he speaks English with fluency. Speaking of education in New Mexico, he has hopes of the territorial system being bettered from this on. The Mexican influence, which has been against the expenditure of money for this purpose, is fast undergoing a change.

Governor Thornton has been in Mexico for some time; the object being the betterment of his health. Being now nearly well, he will be home to look after matters while the legislature is in session.

Several I heard talking were discussing the probability of the legislature's making appropriation for rebuilding the capitol. New Mexico had a good capitol building, but it was burned five years ago, and the territorial offices have been in the old governor's palace since. This palace was built when Spain owned New Mexico.

Santa Fe is a quiet, never-changing town, with many good residences and little business.

As I slept late, the town was all stir-

ring before I awoke. And it is a stirring town, too. With its seven thousand people there seems to be more expressmen employed here than in Salt Lake City with its fifty thousand.

Albuquerque is quite a modern town, but the old mixes with the new in strange combinations. At one view can be seen on the street, a modern dray, an old-style Mexican wagon drawn by a burro (a jack) and a Spanish pony, a carriage drawn by a pair of sleek blacks, a horse street car, two Indians, three Mexicans and two stylish American ladies.

Albuquerque has been over estimated too. A hotel as large as the Knutsford, with an erection date of 1884, stands idle. Such a hotel would accommodate the hotel trade of Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Vegas combined.

I went over to old Albuquerque today—walked most of the way and paid ten cents fare for the remainder. You pay higher for most everything here than you do in Utah. We were charged two dollars for room without breakfast or supper.

Old Albuquerque was one of the first towns settled in the southwest, but was unimportant. In the early eighties it was selected as a junction for the Santa Fe with the Southern Pacific and Atlanta and Pacific railroads. Its growth for a few years was phenomenal and it was the "queen city of the southwest." While it has held its own pretty well since, the proud title is now the property of Phoenix, Arizona. Yet, Albuquerque is a good business town, and next to Socorro, the county seat of Socorro county, will be among the first towns of New Mexico to grow, if the prosperous times expected come.

While I will take up the subject for fuller consideration in a future letter, it isn't the want of free silver that has brought on the hard times here as much as the want of more rain. The territories of Arizona and New Mexico need abundant rain and free silver to flourish, but they need abundant rain the most; and if the precipitation for a few summers to come is plentiful as it now is, there will be lots of range for the cattle and sheep of over-stocked ranges in neighboring states.

GEORGE H. CROSBY, JR.

NORTHERN INDIANA CONFERENCE.

ANGOLA, Indiana, December 23, 1896.

I left my home at Murray, Utah, early in June and was appointed to labor at Metz, Stenben County, Indiana with Brother J. H. Stout of Rockville, Utah.

We arrived at Metz about the middle of June. We soon made ourselves at home with the kind and benevolent family of Mr. Caleb Rakestraw; his wife and daughter are members of the church. Soon after our arrival, we commenced our labors and we soon learned that mountains of prejudice had been formed by the "undying stories" and vile publications; but not paying any attention to the daily gossip, we worked steadily along in our weak way doing as much good as possible.

We were called to attend conference at Crumstown, Indiana, on October 17th and 18th, where we met other Elders who had been energetically working in the spreading of truth. It is really a feast for the Elders to meet at conference and enjoy each others' love, company and good spirit.

I was next assigned to labor with Brother J. L. Ellertson of Mona, Utah, in the same field as before with Angola as headquarters. We arrived here with an empty pocket and made our way to the finest hotel in town and upon presenting our cause and business to the proprietor were made welcome guests.

From here, without purse or scrip, we commenced our labors. We worked unceasingly for about a month distributing literature and presenting our cause, but to gain access to houses, for worshiping purposes was impossible. The prejudice was so strong that had we not been penniless, trusting in God, no doubt many times we would have gone hungry or purchased our food; but a merciful Father will not permit His servants to suffer if they will but allow Him to provide for them; for He has promised to open the way for His servants and has done so in our case.

U. G. MILLER,
J. L. ELLERTSON.

NEWS OF ST. JOHN.

ST. JOHN, January 1st, 1897.

St. John, Kansas, is still the scene of lively interest in Gospel matters. A good work is being done here. On Friday nights our Elders conduct a Mutual Improvement association, composed of both sexes, where at least one hundred participate. Our exercises are taken from our Mutual Improvement manual. At present we are handling the subjects of the Gospel, the New Testament subjects, Church history and civil government. In our program for tonight, the Hon. T. W. Mosley, of the firm of Mosley and Dixon, attorneys, is to handle the last named subject. St. John's stationery store keeper, Mr. Lamoreux, is editor of our "Golden Sunset" monthly journal, to be read tonight, and we anticipate an able paper.

Our Sunday school, with an average of forty, is what might be called a success in every particular, and our Sunday evening meetings entertain and instruct from twenty-five to one hundred. I wish to say, this constitutes the best element of the community.

Our choir, directed by Elder Samuel Kirkman, far exceeds anything else in this place, and even the surrounding country. At 12 o'clock last night various church bells, including ours tolled forth and announced the glad New Year.

ANDREW KIMBALL.

A new swindle is being "worked" among the farming classes in Oregon and Northern California. Swindler No. 1 calls upon a farmer with a patent wagon tongue and informs him that he is on his way home, having made a good thing out of it and has only one county to sell. He tells the farmer he can have it for \$100, and if he wants it to write to him. In a few days swindler No. 2 comes along. He has heard the farmer has the right of the county for the patent wagon tongue, and, as he made a good thing out of it in Pennsylvania, he wants to buy the right of the county and offers the farmer \$250 and pays \$10 to bind the bargain. The farmer writes No. 1 and sends him his note for \$100. He never hears of either of the men again, but his note comes up for collection in a neighboring town, and he is out \$90.