

CORRESPONDENCE.

Written for this Paper.

THE MEXICAN MISSION.

COLONIA JUAREZ, Mex'co,

June 29, 1895.

The Saints in Colonia Juarez had a joyful time June 1st, on the anniversary of the natal day of the late President Brigham Young. The celebration was gotten up under the auspices of the Juarez brass band and the Primary association. In the afternoon the children had a happy time, and in the evening the Saints had a very enjoyable gathering in honor of the event; excellent music, an oration by Elder John C. Harper, happy reminiscences, dances and a general social time.

Another very happy event, in our monthly record, was an affectionate family gathering at the farm of Brother Miles P. Romney; some forty-seven souls, of his family and a few friends, sat down to tables which groaned under the weight of the viands which covered them. The turkeys, chickens, fruit, vegetables, &c., which graced the table, were raised on the farm. After an enjoyable repast the young folks amused themselves in games and outdoor sports; the visitors inspected the farm, and it was a lovely sight to see about twenty acres of golden grain just ready for the reaper, waving in the breeze. In the evening there was an excellent program of speeches, songs, essays and recitations, which were well rendered. The triumph of correct principles and a well spent life was clearly demonstrated in the appropriate remarks made on the occasion. The songs, essays and recitations were rendered by members of the family. Elder Miles A. Romney, who has lately returned from a mission to the British Isles, was master of ceremonies. He made a very feeling address of appreciation, speaking in behalf of the children, of their parents, and the happiness enjoyed at this family reunion. It was one of those gatherings never to be forgotten, so peaceful and happy.

There has been a series of ward conferences held in this mission the last month. On the 8th, 9th and 10th a ward conference was held at Colonia Pacheco, Elder Jesse N. Smith Jr. presiding. The visitors were Elders George Tensdale and Henry Eyring, of the mission presidency, Patriarch W. R. R. Stowell, and Elder George W. Sevey, Bishop of Juarez ward. Patriarch Henry Lunt, who lives here, also took part in the services.

On Saturday and Sunday, the 15th and 16th, a ward conference was held at Colonia Dublin, Elder Frederick G. Williams presiding. The speakers were Elders George Tensdale, Henry Eyring, W. R. R. Stowell, Herman Pratt, E. F. Turley, Samuel J. Robinson, George Lake, F. G. Williams, Jos. B. Carlow and Jos. W. Wright. In consequence of Elder A. B. Cull, superintendent of the Dublin Sunday school, having gone on a mission to the British Isles, there was a reorganization. Samuel J. Robinson was chosen superintendent, Harry M.

Payne and Joseph S. Cordon as his assistants.

On Tuesday, the 18th of June, a party of twenty-two, men, women and children, in six conveyances, left Colonia Juarez, Chihuahua, to visit Colonia Oaxaca, Sonora. They reached there on the fourth day out, Friday, the 21st, and were warmly received by the Saints in that colony. A three days' ward conference was held there. The Saints have built a creditable school house \$2x36, where they held conference. The visitors were Elders George Tensdale, Henry Eyring, W. R. R. Stowell, George W. Sevey and Isaac Turley. Bishop Franklin Scott presided. Elder John Conrad Naegle was ordained a patriarch.

Sisters Mary B. Eyring, Cynthia J. Stowell, Mary L. Tensdale and Sarah Claydon of the mission presidency of the Relief societies, Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement and Primary associations visited the ward organization and gave excellent instructions. At all the conferences the Bishop generally gave encouraging reports. The worst feature was a disposition in some, weak in faith, to move to an imaginary better place. The subjects treated upon at the conferences were, necessity of unity, becoming self-sustaining, honoring the laws of the country and learning its language, the value of sustaining correct principles by being exemplary, paying our debts, keeping the Word of Wisdom, living within our means, serving God and keeping His commandments, being true and faithful to our covenants. An excellent spirit was manifested and the Saints much encouraged.

The last month has been a remarkable one in the history of this mission. The colony in Sonora have labored under many difficulties but they are coming out all right. It is the healthiest colony in the mission. The land is excellent, producing wonderfully. All they want is a little more help of the right kind of colonists.

UN HERMANO.

HOW THE HEARD THE GOSPEL.

TULLAHOMA, Coffee Co.,

Tenn., July 6th, 1895.

Hoping this will help some other persons who have been tossed about by every wind of doctrine as we have been, we desire to tell how we became Latter-day Saints, or Mormons. It was by two Elders passing through this county who were laboring in another county. They left a little book with my neighbor, who gave me the privilege of reading it. The name of the book was the Voice of Warning. I was what is called a Campbellite, or member of the Christian order. Not many days passed after the book was read when my wife, feeling she was being led in the darkness of creeds, went to the Lord in secret prayer, remembering in succession. The third day her prayer was answered. She prayed that the right light would be sent, that she might walk in it. Late that afternoon she saw two gentlemen coming to the house and felt

in her heart they were the messengers who were bringing the good tidings, although she had never seen them before. She did not wait for the rap but said "Praise the Lord and hastened to open the door. They were seeking shelter for the night. After being turned away by some of my neighbors, they were led by the Lord to my house. My mother was a Methodist, and could hardly hear the name of Mormon spoken in her presence, she had heard so many falsehoods about them. But when she heard the truth she accepted it with great pleasure; also my wife and I accepted the Gospel, also two of my neighbors. Elders Henry Bmedley and Henry A. Grover baptized and confirmed us into the fold. We give God the praise. Our Campbellite minister called on us while the Elders were with us. He told the Elders he had no power from on high to baptize; so as he had baptized me I thought I had better be baptized by one having authority.

FRED H. HAMMOND,

MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

TELLER, Colo.,

July 7th, 1895.

Thinking perhaps a few lines from me would be interesting to some of the readers of your valuable paper (especially those I have been associated with in the missionary field) I pen the following: The Gospel was brought to me in W. Va. I was baptized by Elder Guy C. Wilson, Dec. 24th, 1887; emigrated to Manassa, Colo., May, 1889. Having been called to go on a mission I took my departure from Manassa, Colo., Nov. 1st, 1892. On arriving at the office at Chattanooga, Tenn., I found Elder Geo. A. Smith in charge. He treated me with courtesy, gave me instructions and sent me to the North Carolina conference.

While laboring in that conference I enjoyed my labors very much. I traveled with several different companions, assisted in opening up some new fields and succeeded in making many friends for the cause of truth. Of course we had many trials and some persecution, but the people generally were very kind and hospitable and willing to listen to what we had to proclaim to them; and we could realize (according to prophecies) that the hearts of the people were truly being softened towards the servants of God. I had the privilege while in that conference of baptizing six persons and blessing three children.

I was released January 10th, 1895, and after visiting Saints and friends in the southern part of Virginia, I took train February 7th and arrived at my old home in West Virginia, February 9th. There was a time of refreshing on meeting with father, mother, brothers and sisters after an absence of six years.

I remained there about two months visiting relatives and friends, and found there was a great change in the feelings of the people towards Mormonism since I left that part. Prejudice had given way to reason and better judgment, to some extent at least. While there I held four meetings, baptized one person and blessed two children. I felt that I was a very