

Statistical Report of the Bannock Stake, April, 1890.

WARDS.	BISHOPS.	OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND CHILDREN.											Families.
		Patriarchs.	Seventies.	High Priests.	Elders.	Priests.	Teachers.	Deacons.	Members.	Total Officers and Members.	Children Under Eight Years.	Total of Souls.	
Aine	M. W. Pratt									200	100	300	60
Basalt	A. O. Ingelstrom		5	1	9		2	2	116	135	42	177	20
Brighton	Reuben Hiatt		3	4	11	5	5		50	81	52	133	23
Burton	Geo. U. Smith			6	7	2		10	45	70	28	98	18
Eagle Rock	James Thomas		5	3	12	2		6	50	78	26	104	24
Iona	James E. Steele		7	4	14	2	12	5	81	123	46	174	30
Louisville	Richard F. Jardine		9	4	21	1	2	15	266	208	126	334	61
La Belle	W. F. Walker		2	3	13	5	3	7	69	102	49	151	27
Lyman	S. A. Wilcox		3	9	18	6	7	14	90	147	70	217	36
Menan	W. M. Stephens		6	4	18	1	19	90	138	50	188	40	
Parker	W. M. Parker		7	4	8	6	2	17	60	104	74	178	27
Rexburg 1st	Thos. E. Ricks, jr.		11	19	28	1	4	19	127	209	120	329	50
Rexburg 2nd	Casper Steiner		1	3	5	17		12	69	107	65	172	29
Rexburg 3rd	Timothy J. Winter			3	18	1	2	5	79	108	88	191	36
Rigby	Geo. A. Cordon		4	5	9	3	8	3	36	63	87	100	22
Salem	Geo. H. B. Harris		6	6	25	8	2	14	89	150	78	228	46
Taylor	Wm. Priest			1	3			5	21	32	15	47	6
Teton	John Donaldson			5	6	18	3	5	10	83	71	201	44
Wilford	Geo. Davis		1	14	10	32	8	1	15	201	282	483	80
Willow Creek	Alphonso B. Simmons			3	2	1	1	2	35	54	37	91	19
		2	94	101	290	55	51	183	1647	2523	1338	3861	688

River, where they stayed for some time getting out timber preparatory to building and fencing. On the 11th of March President Preston and Bishop Ricks returned to the spot where Rexburg now stands and selected it as a townsite and gave it that name in honor of Bishop Ricks, whose family name was formerly Rex, he being of German descent.

May 30, 1883, the first statistical report of the Bannock Ward showed a total membership of 369 souls.

At the first Priesthood meeting held at the residence of F. C. Gunnell at Rexburg, June 30, 1883, it was decided to divide the ward into precincts and select precinct officers and petition the selectmen of the county to effect precinct organizations, and that 160 acres of land should be secured for missionary purposes in each of the various branches. James Myler, A. L. Ellsworth, Andrew S. Anderson and James Eckersell were appointed home missionaries. Robert L. Bybee was appointed general superintendent of the Sunday Schools of the Ward, Edmund Paul superintendent of the Y. M. M. I. A. and Susannah R. Poole superintendent of Y. L. M. I. A.

As parts of the Ward there were at that time seven organized branches, namely:

Parker with Wyman M. Parker as presiding Priest.

Cedar Buttes with John R. Poole as presiding Priest.

Louisville with Richard F. Jardine as presiding Priest.

Teton with John Donaldson as presiding Priest.

Lyman with Sydney Weeks as presiding Priest.

Eagle Rock with John D. Evans as presiding Priest.

Wilford with James Pincock as presiding Priest.

July 31, 1883, the second statistical report of the Bannock Ward showed the total membership to be 617.

Oct. 24, 1883, the first saw mill was established at Rexburg by William F. Rigby.

Oct. 27, 1883, the first ward conference was held at Rexburg, President William B. Preston presiding. On this occasion the first ward Relief Society was organized, with Sophia Nelson as president. By this time nine settlements had been commenced, and

six townsites laid off, namely, Menan (Cedar Buttes), Rexburg, Louisville, Wilford, Parker and Lyman.

Jan. 31, 1884, the statistical report showed 815 souls in the ward.

Jan. 26 and 27, 1884, the second Bannock Ward conference was held at Rexburg. By this time Louisville had built a meeting house, 16x24 feet, and Lyman had one in course of erection. Up to Jan. 1, 1884, \$279.59 had been donated by the people of Bannock Ward toward the building of the Logan Temple.

(To be continued.)

INFORMATION ABOUT MEXICO.

THE subject of "Mormon" colonization in Mexico has been treated on so extensively by the press of the country that it will probably be not out of place to refer to it again in these columns. That some of our people have taken up their abode in the Mexican republic is pretty well known. That more will probably join them may naturally be expected. But that there is any intention of vacating Utah for the benefit of persons who, if they had the courage and the power, would drive us from our possessions that they might enjoy the fruits of our labors, is a huge and ludicrous mistake.

Apropos of this subject, the New York *Globe* which usually contains an "interview on current questions with some person of prominence, has one with Mr. W. D. Johnson, Jr., who is well-informed as to the condition of those portions of Mexico where our people reside, and as that paper is reliable and does not descend to the usual tactics of the common "interviewer," we reproduce the account, which contains much valuable information. It is as follows:

Colonization in Mexico is attracting public attention just at present, and the work of the Mexican Colonization and Agricultural Company, which began six years ago, is assuming such a shape that

success in its enterprise is an assured fact. Situated in one of the prettiest spots of Mexico are the four colonies. The natural advantages of the place are many, affording, as they do, all the means for comfortable homes and snug fortunes.

W. Derby Johnson, Jr., who is personally in charge of one of the colonies, "Colonia Diaz" by name, has recently come from the South and talked freely with a representative of the *Globe* about the country.

"We have four colonies in Mexico," said Mr. Johnson. "The largest two are 'Colonia Diaz' and 'Colonia Juarez.' They are situated in northwestern Chihuahua. The former is named after President Diaz. The latter gets its name from Benito Juarez, the Washington of Mexico. Both are on the Casas Grandes River, the latter about seventy miles south of the former. The other settlements are Pacheco and Francisco. They are situated west and east of Juarez. The inhabitants number about 2000, and are principally Americans. It is an excellent agricultural country, and the grazing is the finest in the world. The facilities for raising fruit, we consider equal, if not better, than California, because the climate is more even. There is an abundance of water, native springs existing in such great volume on the plateau, that water force sufficient to operate mills now in existence, and other factories which may hereafter be established, is afforded.

"The valleys in which the colonies are situated are covered with a carpet of the finest indigenous grasses known in America, viz.: mesquite, curly mesquite, and black, red and white grama. On these grasses many thousands of cattle can be herded. The feed cannot be excelled, and if a superior breed of cattle were introduced the herds in this section would be superior in size and weight to any cattle known to the West. One very peculiar feature in cattle and sheep raising in this part of Mexico is the fact that the fattening process of the herds begins at the inception of the winter and continues until the rainy season, which usually occurs from June to September. At present, when search for fat cattle is made during the winter it is usually made on the eastern slope of the great Sierra Madre Range. The advantage of stock raising here is, that where further east, in the winter, the grasses have lost their strength and nutritiousness, the grasses of the Sierra Madre contain the most desirable fattening qualities. At this time of the year beef cattle on this range, although of inferior breed, will compare favorably with the corn-fed cattle of Kansas, Nebraska and other eastern sources of supply.

"In the mountains there is an abundance of timber, including pines, varying from two to four feet in diameter, walnut and several species of ash and oak peculiar to the climate. Thus building material is easily obtained.

"It is a living proof, which may be seen by any visitor today, that the Mormon settlements of Diaz and Juarez have demonstrated that, with the improved implements of agriculture and the persistent industry of the colonists, crops of corn and other small grains, fruits and vegetables, are beyond preconceived ideas of the native inhabitants. So that there is no question that with the gifts that nature has bestowed upon this country, hitherto unknown, the reward for labor is greater than in any other section of the continent.

"Should a system of dams and reservoirs be established on the Casas Grandes River, which is sure to follow the settlement of these valleys, there will be many thousands of acres of as fertile land as can be found on the continent brought into a state of the highest cultivation through the energy, skill and industry