THE MEXICAN COLONIES.

A Call to Arms.—Pleasant Surprise.—Prosperity and Peace.

Correspondence Deseret News.

COLONIA JUAREZ, Mexico, June 28, 1893.—For a long time past no correspondence has appeared in your columns from this part of the Lord's vineyard. We are living in a country where strife and contention are frequent. Though of a small nature it at times creates a little excitement. A short time ago news was received here through our president that a small band of revolutionists were secreted in the mountains close by—the number was estimated at eighty men equipped and well armed—and for the colonies to be on the alert. It caused our military organization to meet and drill and place pickets out every night so that we might not be taken by surprise. The boys who reported for duty numbered a company of fifty men, ready at short notice to be under arms for the defense of home and country. But I am pleased to state that all of the shots fired have been at targets, with a fair result of getting empty cartridges. Our company is drilling yet, under the able command of General M. P. Romney, and credit must be given him for the interest manifested in this movement.

A few days later we also received information through some prospectors that the noted Apache Indian named Kid was again in the mountain west of us, having a small band of warriors with him, it is presumed the same band who did the killing of the Thompson family last fall. The Indians attacked the prospectors early in the morning and fired on them, but the prospectors managed to get away by leaving behind them all of their camping outfit and six months' provisions, $300 in cash and some eight head of horses. A company of Mexican soldiers passed through here last week for the scene of disturbance, so as to ascertain the facts in the matter and report to the government.

Another excitement was created here on Monday the 19th, but of a more pleasant nature. Our martial band appeared in the evening with their sweet strains of music, and which asked what was up, we learned it was a surprise on our faithful fellow laborer and president, A. F. McDonald, he having just returned from Salt Lake City, where he attended the dedication of the Temple, and expects soon to leave again for the City of Mexico to labor in behalf of the colonies. Some of his friends took this opportunity to show their esteem and appreciation for some of the privation this venerable servant of God had passed through when he was traveling the mountains and suffered hunger, thirst and cold as so to find an abiding place for a driven and persecuted people. This he is still laboring for—exploring and giving reports of country suitable for the Latter-day Saints; and very little of his time is spent at home. Therefore the Saints called upon him with their baskets well prepared with the fruits of the earth. The program commenced with a few introductory remarks by Elder J. C. Peterson, who stated in behalf of the Saints their esteem of his past labor and their entire support in the future, so as to extend the colonies and build cities that may prove to be magnificent monuments to the Kingdom of God and for the elevation of the fallen race. Brother McDonald made a response and stated he indeed was taken by surprise at a time when he at least anticipated it; nevertheless, it was much appreciated on his part, showing as it did the good feeling of the Saints towards him. He also said he had worked in the Kingdom of God for over 40 years and was still pushing ahead for the benefit of his fellows that they may enjoy these same privileges that we do; he expected to see our colonies grow and increase, and he compared our pleasant surroundings with some in the northern country—our beautiful climate, our extreme facilities for fruit as producers of which we had made such a laudable commencement considering our short stay here. A very interesting program was carried out, and the Saints gathered on the occasion appreciated the enjoyable time spent together.

Our second crop of alfalfa is now gathered in and a great portion of the wheat is out. Our threshing machines are at full speed. This season four threshers will be at work, and will evidently be the means of bringing much wheat into the colonies. Our fruit crops will be light this season of apricots and peaches, but of strawberries and blackberries there has been a fair crop and grapes will be in abundance. Melons are commencing to show an appearance; in another week they will be plentiful. The first crop of potatoes gives a fair showing, oats and corn appear well, and the farmers anticipate a fair harvest. Our cannery expects to put up some 25,000 cans of fruit and tomatoes—a very fair showing for a new institution and in a place where reports say we are starving. Our industry is pushing ahead in producing leather for harness and shoes; Juarez is trying to be self-sustaining in such things as demand the ready cash; and by supporting our home industries we support ourselves. This is realized by the brethren and especially by our leaders such as Elder George Teasdale, who is ever on hand to encourage home manufactures of all kinds.

Our main street commences to put on quite a business appearance. Our girls are pushing townsmen, Brother J. C. Bentley, can now be seen offering for sale the old renowned Concord wagon and the McCormick machinery; surely the Consolidated Implement Co. have marked themselves with progress in pushing their goods into this far off country.

The colonies appear to be in a thriving condition, and we expect to learn the secret by example. Many whom we come in contact with admire us for the success we have attained in this mountain region—our orchards and fine dwellings, peaceable and orderly town. The industry and progress marked out by our leaders and followed up by the people, all tend to have an influence for good amongst the natives in the land. Some of these have come amongst us and ask for baptism, and invariably are very faithful. We employ persons in living our religion and holding our meetings undisturbed. All of the Church organizations are in good running order and our young people enjoy good society, for it can be truthfully said that no profanity exists here within our gates, nor persons for drinking, nor Sabbath breaking. Socially our young people are a credit to their parents and an honor to the Church to which they belong for giving such God-like principles by example.

SIERRA MADRE.

Who Will Do It?

Editor Deseret News:

Seeing that the silver question is the all-absorbing agitator now, why would not the making of a few thousand neatly designed silver badges be a paying thing? Will not some of our local jewelers get up a badge and put it on the market, and not wait for both the article and design to come from the East where they will demand gold in return for our silver and the labor which has produced the manufactured design? It will help settle the silver question by using up a little of pure white metal.

X.

SALT LAKE CITY, July 13, 1893.

Court Callings.

The following suits were filed in the Third District court after the NEWS had gone to press yesterday:

The Utah Loan & Building Association against Albert J. White et al. to recover $5,000 on a promissory note secured by mortgage.

Minnie T. Sanders, an action for divorce against her husband, George T. Sanders. The parties were married on May 14, 1877. Mrs. Sanders' father, who now resides at Lower Crossing, Utah, gave them $10,000 as a present to begin life with; but according to Mrs. Sanders' complaint her husband finally began to treat her cruelly, and she was forced to leave him. Sanders is a printer by trade, but his whereabouts are at present unknown. There is one child, and Mrs. Sanders asks the court to award her its custody.

George Price has filed an action against Sorenson & Nelson demanding damages in the sum of $1000, alleged to have been sustained by the malicious suing out of an attachment against him by the defendants. About a year ago the present defendants began attachment proceedings against Price to collect $108.30, and after judgment had been entered against him in a lower court he appealed to the Third district court, where the judgment of the lower court was affirmed a few days ago. He now claims that the suing out of the attachment was malicious.

Nettie E. Robb has commenced divorce proceedings against Richard H. Robb. The parties were married in 1872. Plaintiff alleges that the defendant has neglected to provide for her during the past eight years, and that he has also become addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors. She asks for the custody of two minor children.

Andrew J. Burt, ex-sheriff, has been appointed as a guard at the Utah penitentiary.

Joined in Wedlock.

Joseph A. Anderson and Christina Simpson a well-known young couple of the Sixth ward of this city, were united in marriage in the Salt Lake Temple today. The contracting parties have many friends who wish them a pleasant matrimonial voyage. A wedding reception will be tendered them at the residence of the bride's aunt tonight.

Press Club Excursion.

This is Press Club Day at Saltair and big crowds of people are going to the Lake to participate in the pleasures of the occasion. The program in part is as follows:

Swimming race (4 o'clock p. m.), nine entries—H. Lambert, T. S. Dwight, W. W. Goodwin, W. Rhodes, Walter Shearer, H. Van Nuis, Alfred Anderson, S. James and P. J. Duncan. W. C. B. Allen and A. C. Brown, judges.

Tub race (4:15 o'clock p. m.), five entries—L. Nash, H. S. Easton, W. T. Sawyer, George A. Jones and R. V. Tomes. H. Lambert and J. H. Lambert, judges.

Rowing race (5 o'clock p. m.), five entries—T. S. Dwight, A. C. Brown, J. H. Van Nuis, Alfred Anderson and A. C. Bean. Thos. Miller and J. E. Hansen, judges.

Metropolitan Quartette (8 p. m.)—Bennett, Conrad, Carlyle, Thomas.

M. Hobart Arnold, violin solo—"Polonaise de der Violinista" (Carolus Monnet).

John Robinson, baritone solo.

Distribution of prizes and drawing of grand prizes.

Dancing.

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