

way connections to the Mormon settlements in Chihuahua than Deming, New Mexico, 80 miles from Dublan, though the railway is graded for 75 miles, and tracking will probably begin next month. There must be 13 miles laid in Mexican territory before June 10th, to hold the grant, and as the English syndicate paid \$100,000 two months ago for it they will not be likely to permit it to be forfeited through further delay.

Mr. Johnson has helped to make three new settlements, at Johnson and Kanab, in Kane county, Utah, and this latest one in Mexico. He says there have been no greater hardships in forming the Mexican settlements than there were in starting those in Utah. Some of the Mexican colonists came from the northern valleys, and had not been used to the frontier hardships of southern Utah. The work of a new settlement therefore seemed to be a little more severe on them than on the others.

The Mormon settlements in Mexico are nicely laid out after the general design of those in Utah, the streets meeting the points of the compass. The width of the streets is six rods, while the blocks are fourteen rods square, and each containing four city lots, all on corners. There is an abundance of shade trees in the streets. The people get along well in their relations with each other and their Mexican neighbors, and under the direction of Elder George Teasdale, the progress and condition of the Saints is very satisfactory.

Mr. Johnson invites Utah people to pay the Chihuahua colonists a visit, and promises that they will be met at Deming if desired, and be made welcome. He advises, however, that visits in that section be avoided during the rainy season of July and August, and the early part of September, as the heavy downpour makes the roads heavy for traveling.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE CITY

The present fast pace City Council, or rather a few members of that notorious body of municipal wonders, are awakening to a full realization of a painful state of affairs that they are vainly endeavoring to indefinitely ward off. It is with reference to the condition of the city finances.

For more than a year past conservative business men have predicted that which it is now conceded must come before the present council serves out its term of office and retires again into that career in which its members were seldom seen or heard of and from which they were suddenly shot from a political catapult into public life.

At the outset of the year 1893, Councilman Bell, who is chairman of the committee on finance, prepared an estimate of expenses and revenues of the city for the present year, and after a great deal of labor and many warm words succeeded in having the schedule adopted. It showed that the total estimated receipts of the period named would be \$760,000; that the cash on hand at that time amounted to \$312,764.18, making a total of available funds of \$1,072,764.18. The expenditures for the year were figured at \$984,800.00, or in round figures about \$1,000,000.

This schedule was prepared primarily for the purpose of serving as a guide to the Council and heads of departments in their disposition of city funds and to act as a curb on their apparently inherent lavishness of money that does not belong to them.

It was also decided that all officials should make estimates of the needs of their departments and send in requisition for supplies and not buy them when, where and how they saw proper as they had been in the habit of doing previously.

Council resolutions are like the traditional pie crust—made to be broken—as from the very outset the expenses have been exceeding the estimates and some of the councilmen are getting seriously alarmed as to the consequences, though they fail signally to open their mouths or take any decisive action regarding the matter in the Council meetings.

Councilman Heiss said to a News reporter yesterday: "Something will have to be done soon. We will have to pull in our horns as we are going too fast. Our present policy is suicidal. I predicted to Treasurer Duke a year ago what is coming now. But I was laughed at and ignored. The money set apart for the year will, if our present course is continued much further, be gone before the last quarter commences. The businessmen of the city have got more burdens now than they can bear, and it won't do to tax them any more because they won't stand it."

Councilman Wantland is quoted by a brother-councilman as saying: "Oh, won't the next council give us hell when they come in and find we have left them nothing to work on."

"The fact is," said another municipal solon "our successors will do just as Wantland says and he might have added that the taxpayers will shower upon us a supplemental blessing of a similar character."

Councilman Karrick when he was informed what Mr. Heiss had said cast a dash of darker colors on this uninviting financial picture by saying, "Instead of the money being gone at the expiration of nine months it will all be exhausted in six months."

MISSIONARIES HELD UP.

BOKOSHA, I. T., April 21, 1893.—Brother R. M. Harper and myself had a peculiar experience yesterday with a bold highwayman who robbed us of our watches. We thought it would not be out of the way to write you a short account of the same.

April 20th, we left Mr. O. S. Walters (who lives at Nubbin Ridge) at 7 o'clock a. m. and traveled southwest, about two miles, when we met two young men on horseback, the one in the rear carrying a 44 Winchester rifle. We passed the time of day to them and walked on. After we had gone half a mile we were overtaken by the one who was on lead when we first met them, and who now had the gun, which was full cocked. As he rode up we noticed that the gun was pointing towards us. He asked us a few questions about some men whom he said that he had got separated from. By this time the other young man came in sight, and when he came up he also asked us a question or two, and

then turned around and started off, at the same time trying to persuade his companion to accompany him. But the latter did not heed him; he remained talking to us about fifteen minutes. He asked us the time, and Brother Harper, suspecting something, said to me, "You've got the correct time." So I looked and told him that it was twenty minutes to 8 o'clock. Brother H. remarked that we had better be going on. So we started off, but had only gone about one hundred yards when we heard the report of a gun, and on looking back we saw that a shot had been fired by the young man whom we had just left, and that he was just in the act of putting another cartridge in his gun. We kept on walking until we were nearly out of the woods, when suddenly we were again overtaken by the same young man, who followed very close behind our heels. We did not stop but kept on walking. Just after we got out of the woods, he fired another shot. We took no notice of it, but went on. We were now on what is known as Buck Creek prairie. After walking out about half a mile we decided to sit down a little while, thinking that we could get rid of our unwelcome company by so doing. But to our surprise as we drew away from the road he followed us. We sat down and I took out my pen and ink and commenced to write, Brother H. doing the same, while the young man remained on his horse for some time watching us very closely. Finally he dismounted and stood in front of us, keeping his gun pointed towards us with the hammer up. After a while he sat down, but he was very uneasy all the time and kept getting up. While sitting near Brother H. he leveled his gun and fired at the fence, which was about 100 yards away.

We stopped there until about noon, and then made preparations to go. Brother H. arose and said: "Well, I guess we will be going." The young man who had been standing up for some time now stepped back a couple of steps, and leveling his gun between us, said: "I hate to trouble you men, but I'll have to have those watches before you go." Brother H. said: "What do you mean?" Leveling the gun on Brother H.'s breast he said: "— you, I mean just what I say. Take that watch off and be in a hurry about it, too." By this time I had taken my watch off and dropped it on the ground as I was ordered to, and was just going to get up, when the robber leveled the gun on me. Brother H. instantly made a move to grab the gun, but wisely stopped as the gun was quickly leveled at his head, the ruffian saying, "Make another move and by — I'll fix you. I'll just give you half a minute longer to get that watch out." Brother H. then dropped his gold watch at his feet.

We were then ordered to pick up our grips and walk. After we had gone about fifty yards we were ordered to halt; to which we paid no attention. He then fired a shot, and told us to halt. We obeyed, and as he came up he said, "I believe you men have got some money." Brother H. said, "I have a dollar; you can have it if you want it." But he said, "No, I'll not take the last dollar a man has." At the