THE MORMONS OF MEXICO.

Brief Sketch of the Colonies of Diaz, Dublan and Juarez.

Editor Deseret News.

Since my last communication to the News was written I have visited the colonies of Diaz, Dublan and Juarez, met numerous old acquaintances I had not seen for many years and had a chance of learning something of the true condition of the Saints in that land, about which so many and such conflicting reports have been made. I was informed before going there that I would see the country in its worst aspect, as it was just "between hay and grass," the rainy season, which the thirsty soil and the impatient inhabitants who cultivate it without sufficient water to irrigate their crops, await with anxiety, not having set in. But I been a few weeks later, I would have found beautiful, waving grass, high enough to cut with a mowing machine, on plains that are parched and barren and in many places apparently almost as destitute of vegetation as Main Street, in Salt Lake City. To most of the crops appearing wilted and stunted I must except cotton, which I was assured that had I arrived after the showers commenced which are now daily expected, I would have been able to almost see them grow. As it was, I was impressed with the fact that Chihuahua was especially adapted for the development of cotton, which the Latter-day Saints generally are somewhat noted for possessing, buoyant hope, unconquerable faith, rugged perseverance and unflagging industry. That whereas all nature was made to take on an appearance of gladness and freshness during the rainy season, causing the drooping spirits of the tired granger and his associated teams to revive, the season of drouth, the scarcity of water with which to irrigate, the peculiarities of the soil with which the inexperienced novice is unfamiliar, the scarcity and costliness of good building material, the strange customs and language of the natives, the duties levied on imported goods which the new settlers who are not yet prepared to engage extensively in home manufacture find it so necessary to have, are all calculated to call forth the faith and patient perseverance which only true Saints can manifest, and which are capable of transforming the most forbidding wildernesses and barren deserts into fruitful fields and blooming gardens.

In the estimation of many of the saints who now inhabit that land, Chihuahua is quite as good a country as they can reasonably hope to be allowed to possess in peace, but no person need go there with the idea that he is going to find it possessed of very many material advantages over Utah.

Diaz, the first settlement I visited, has not made the advancement agriculturally that I expected it had. Many of the inhabitants are cultivating but little if any more than their gardens and some of them, owing to scarcity of water or the presence of mineral in the soil, do not promise very rich returns. In other instances, however, the trees, shrubs and vegetation generally gave evidence of the fact that with proper care and attention very valuable fruit trees or to appearance, shade outlines as to profit as well, might be gained in the line of gardening. Brother William W. Cluff, formerly of Kaysville, in Utah, is the most extensive farmer of the place, and when he informed me that he had near the river, about two miles east of the town, the best farm he ever owned I was satisfied, as his acquaintances in Utah will be also, that it must be an unusually good one. The results obtained by him would not be a fair criterion by which to judge of the quality of the soil generally, as he doubtless has some of the best land in the region and is one of the most thorough cultivators of the soil, but he assured me that he had raised on his farm the stalks of which stood eight feet high, and that Brother Wheelwright, formerly of Ogden, who is known to lower a long way above most of his fellows, could not reach the lowest ears on it while standing on tiptoe, was taken some time ago to see and shed by Brother Farr. I have no doubt that Diaz and the surrounding region will in time support a heavy population, but its resources are yet undeveloped, and it will require much labor and patient endurance to develop them.

Dublan, the next settlement of the Saints reached as one journeys towards the interior of Mexico, has one of the finest sites for a town I ever saw, but when one considers the absence of the essentials which would render it a desirable place to locate upon, he is apt to be reminded of the saying of the cynic who, on being told that a certain locality only lacked plenty of water and good society, remarked the since night be said of Hades. The uncertainty about securing a title to the land in this region, which in the opinion of some of the inhabitants is not likely to be enhanced by the making of valuable improvements thereon, before the title is obtained, and the water problem which has thus far not been practically solved, are serious barriers to the progress of the settlement, but nevertheless a considerable number of houses have already been built and a great many fields have been cultivated with more or less success. If the obstacles mentioned can be overcome this will become the most desirable place I have yet seen in Mexico to locate.

Juarez, the farthest settlement in the interior I visited, nestles in the bottom of a long narrow hollow, occupying less than a quarter of cultivated land, including town lots and fields, and is a veritable oasis in a surrounding desert. Whatever is to support it, however, is not quite clear to me. It is a nice place for gardens and the forty families who reside there as a rule have comfortable homes and attractive surroundings, but the peanuts, corn, fruit and garden truck generally which they produce, and for which the soil seems specially adapted, will not suffice to support the inhabitants. They must have some income from elsewhere or cease to want.

One of the brethren called my attention to the fact that the village might serve as an object lesson to the Mexican natives, who, as they viewed it from the surrounding hills and were entranced with its beauty, would be able to compare what the "Mormons" had here accomplished in a few years in making homes and redeeming the desert with their own equalit hallows. Some of the ideas which present themselves somewhat baby that they did during the lives of their successors for generations back, all of which is quite probable, and the moral effect may be beyond our powers to calculate, but the stern fact still stares me in the face that Juarez presents but meagre facilities for the support of its present inhabitants, agriculturally. I must not omit to mention that there is a pretty fair range surrounding the place, and that the business of stock-raising may in part offset the disadvantages which the limited supply of land presents. Manufacturing may in time also be engaged in to help out in this line; in fact, a tannery on a small scale has already been started. In this connection I may mention that a particular kind of root abounds in certain portions of Chihuahua and in the region of Deming, New Mexico, which possesses the tanning property to such a degree that it can profitably be exported from the last named place to England, where there is a strong demand for it. It is easily obtained and the use of this in the tannery at Juarez will doubtless help to make the business profitable.

At Juarez I was shown by Brother Sextus E. Johnson a mound on his premises in which considerable excavating has been done with a view to discovering relics of the early inhabitants. A door walls with pillasters, painted and smoked surfaces had been disinterred, from which it appeared that the rooms had generally if not invariably been very small, and many relics, stone mills, bottle axes, tools, skeletons, etc., had been discovered. A metal bell, very similar in shape to a modern sleigh bell, in a good state of preservation, had also been found some four or five feet beneath the surface. According to Brother Johnson's theory the mound might have been made by the ancients at different periods and built their houses upon the mound, so, after passing through a considerable layer of soil and gravel below the remains of the first houses reached in excavating, still other walls, skeletons and other relics were found, the "relics" there found being quite different in style and finish to those discovered under the surface. Extensive ancient ruins are also to be seen at Casas Grandes, from which the place takes its name; in fact, the same night be said of nearly all portions of Chihuahua. I attended from Brother J. H. Jones, formerly of Hinkston, in Utah, a very nice specimen of a south adobe which he had dug out of a mound at Dublan and saw numerous other relics discovered there and elsewhere.

Through the kindness of Brother Gallegos, who conveyed me from Diaz to Juarez, and return, I was enabled to pass the custom officers at Asuncion and Corralitos without any difficulty and had a very pleasant trip, after which I returned to Deming, stopping on the way with Brother Joseph James, formerly of Ogden, and journeyed thence by train and stage to the settlements on the Gila, of which I will have occasion to say hereafter.

G. C. L.

TRETCLEER, Graham Co., Arizona, July 19, 1891.

Shifting Figures.

In 1897 the nations of the Union spent altogether over $113,000,000 on the public schools. The same year the army and navy combined cost the generous government less than $54,000,000, that, though there some be kept in the week a considerable force at all times in active service on account of the Indians. The reader is to remember that the sum for public schools is spent by the states individually and not by the general government.

Now let us turn to some military and educational figures in the countries of Europe. Italy spends $90,000,000 a year for the army and $8,000,000 for education. Spain expends $100,000,000 for her army and navy and only $1,500,000 for the education of the coming Spanish citizens. The ordinary Spanish peasant who can read and write is the exception, Germany spends $100,000,000 a year for her army and $10,000,000 for schooling her children, though the Germans are popularly supposed to be the best educated people in civilization.

The military of Austro-Hungary ends $100,000,000 a year, while $6,250,000 is paid for education. France spends $120,000,000 annually on her army and $21,000,000 for schools.

To close, it may be remarked that the city of New York alone spends yearly over $4,000,000 on her public schools, as much as the whole Italian nation.

A man whose name is Keely announces that now for sure he has found an absolute cure for drunkenness and the opium habit. That may be, but his name is against him.

Among the new inventions that are expected to make great or beside change in telegraphy is the telegraph pen. The operator at one of the line moves a stylus, making letters in the air. The motion is transmitted along the wires by electric action and recommitted to a pen at the other end of the line. This pen writes upon a paper of itself the words traced in the air by the stylus at the other end. The message is thus ready to be sent off at once. Thirty words a minute have been written in this way.

What are we coming to? In New York a Dr Peyster of the De Peysters, a general at that, is sued by his wife for divorce on account of his cruel treatment of her, for all the world just as any common Tony, Paddy, Tom, Dick or Harry might have been arrested for giving the wrong person of his life a black eye. The third has not become accustomed from this shocking affair when one is immediately all worked up again by the announcement that a Schiefflin, Tattel yes, a Colonel Schiefflin too, has been called to account for misappropriation of money by a Kilmarnock, in Kilmarnock, Wales. These things happening among the 400 who assume to give the law of morals and manners to the rest of the United States, are too shocking for anything. Divorces among the 400! It cannot be that blue blood is red after all, can it?

It rumbled with red spirits give them a hot bath and before going to bed, invest them with the hoofs. In the morning always give the eye another good bathing, rubbing gently from the outer corners of the eyes. Much people unknowingly pass over the eye much washing use force, but they deserve and need great care.—Herald of Health.

SCOTT AT LUNDY'S LANE.

HIS BOLD TACTICS AND GENERALSHIP AND BRILLIANT FIGHTING.

The Battle Was Remarkable for the Many Daring Deeds of American Bravery, and Was for Scott Effective Terrible of the Nation's Gratitude.

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LUNDY'S LANE was an accident, and was fought with more glory than many a well planned battle. It was brought on by a skirmish, was fought with no plan of battle, and, though it yielded no with fruits of victory, was from the organization of its ranks to the last shadow fell on the Foam in the last of lovely evenings that rolled splendor upon the American arms. Brother's gave better action a remarkable number of men, and have remained substantial for half a century.

After the American forces had established themselves on Chippewa and in the vicinity of Fort Erie, the commander, Gen. James Brown, ordered the police of which was a strong force, to make a thorough reconnoitre of the country in order to prevent his opponent, Gen. Riall, from making a surprise attack upon the camp. Riall had the 25th of July as marked every of the movements of the British that he thus to suppose that such an attack was to be made, and, falling to the upper extremities of Lundy's Lake, which extended one of the lengthen of Niagara River to a mountain, he ordered the Queen's Rangers, the 100th Foot, Grange and Ticonder, and that, on the center on the detachment. The work was to be carried on by the Indians, and Riall's Brigade was in position in twenty minutes. He have commanded Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, of the 100th Foot, to carry and take possession of occupied ground. After a march of a mile or more the advance was met with resistance, caused by an ambuscade of Indians, and Gordon, with a force fully equal to his foe, in the face of overwhelmed by numbers, was forced to retreat. Gordon, in his report, stated that he had lost 40 men killed and wounded, and that he was obliged to send a message back to his chief for reinforcements which he had found. The Indians were opposed to the British, and, as he said, he felt a reasonable hope of being able to capture the American cannon, and then he proceeded to attack.

Instead of a necessity for one on army and unnecessarily opened the battle of Lundy's Lane, at Niagara, as it is now called, Riall was in a pretty well with a large force and, as he was, was to fall back upon his battle. He was a gallant and brave and many of their lives were lost. The prize was so an unknown array which the Lundy's Lake a highway between Niagara River and the head of Lake Ontario. Brown supposed had been half a mile that there was no side way of backing out on the part of the Americans. He had advanced in pursuit of the British, and, finding himself in a position after a hundred miles it would be a confusion of weakness and to be pushed, and, instead of retreating, he was would be as difficult to withdraw as the most of opposite numbers in a free field would be.

The enemy found with quantity and success and that accepted the challenge just as though the entire American army was at hand. The Indians quickly retreated on an entrance, with infantry to the right and left of it. Between the British left flank and the river there was a space left vacant, but in the moment of Scott's attack reinforcements for Riall were marching up to carry it. Fry never got there. Scott saw the opportunity and, in it, was in the moment that of evening and in defiance of the Twenty-fifth regiment, the May Tuesday in the 25th, and thrust through the lines that consisted of a small much the enemy's left flank and turn it. Jump stayed and across the opening of the line into Queenston road. It was finally Queenston road that supports were marching to Riall's assistance, and Jump's movements caused them to halt and change their direction. Meanwhile from ground the fighting caused the British from the left left hope to win the fight alone, but thought that he would have a chance to spend some time from the Brown in support to his message that the enemy was reported to be on his left.

Jump's movement was a brilliant success in every way. He lost all reinforcements from Riall that might have turned the tide against Scott. The Indians with a force superior to his own scattered out of those present on the Riall, and he captured Riall and several of his staff before Brown could be given in the British lines for the order of battle. The capture of the enemy's leader was a source of loth, perhaps, but it was offset to an implication of gentlemanly and daring such as was in the last battle of Riall's staff had been made, and with his staff was marched away from the battle in the direction of the quarter. As soon as the British lost their commander, and with the loss of the British left, the British left flank was turned, and the British were driven back upon the road to Niagara. Brown, who had been wounded, was carrying a party of people around the British left, and,