## DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1902.

## CIVIL STRIFE IN COLOMBIA. Brigham Young Academy South American Exploring Expedition Forced to Return.

Perilous Journey to Bogota, Colombia's Capital-Roadway in Frightful Condition-Panoramic Pen-Pleture of the Land of Zarahemia-Explorers Laid Up with Sickness-Arrival at Capital Closes Expedition's Career-Civil War Necessitates Its Return.

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the tale.

impracticable.

runs north.

Honda, a government out-look post had been established, and three men detailed

to watch Marin's movements, and sig-nal the town by means of different col-

ored flags. The flag had not been flying long until the rebel chief saw it, and

suspecting its purpose detailed some men to destroy the station. They did it

effectually by cutting the throats of

Near the suspension bridge were a

showed our passport, paid our toll and

We now followed up the east bank of

the river for a few miles, passing through the range of hills, and camping

about sundown at a ranch called Bode-gita. There were houses and ranches all along the road, but none had pas-

next morning brought us over another

range of hills and into a beautiful val-ley, distant from Honda about six miles. It opens into the valley of the

Magdalena a few miles above, for its

waters run south, and the larger river

drains it, we proceeded up a short can-yon and thence along the side of the principal cordillera. The roads were as-

FRIGHTFUL ROADWAY.

Not infrequently

one

most impassable in places.

Crossing the valley, and the river that

turage accommodations. Two he

The station was found to be

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those in charge. One escaped to

hundred soldiers acting as guards.

were permitted to go on in peace

Y last letter was from Honda, | hills, at a place within easy sight o Nov. 12. We waited a week longer for Marin, the liberal guerilla leader, to capture us and the town, that we might get a passport from him, but, though at times he was near, and several skirmishes

took place within a few miles of Honda, he did not attempt an attack. Finally we decided to go to Bogota, thence to Neiva and if possible come down the river to the places we degired to visit.

For a few days were were busy purchasing mules and preparing for the trip. Mr. Hallam, an American, gave us directions regarding the road, and cautioned us concerning the dangerous places, for in places the liberais had made goveral raids, and had taken mules and cattle. On Nov, 19 all was ready, and in the afternoon we bade our new friends good-bye and started on a trip we shall never forget. The last words of Mr. Hallam were that the liberals had stolen forty mules from a cer-tain place the night before, and for us sure and not stop there over night.

## JOURNEY TO CAPITAL.

Passing out of the city to the southeast we crossed a river, now very low, but a few days ago a raging torrent, and going along the foot of a range of hills for a quarter of a mile, came to the suspension bridge which spans the Magdalena.

This range of hills is about a thousand feet high, and is cut by the river near Honda, so that south it is on the west side, and north on the east. It continues north until it joins the main coast and ends with Mount Santa Mar-

On one of the peaks of this range of stumble and fall. In such a case he

ame to his assistance. One, loaded with high pack, was keeled completely over when he stepped down from a high step into a mudhole, and the poor beast awaited with heels in air for the driver to come. Another was thrust by the force of his heavy load head first into a mud hole, and before relief came was dead. And so the pack-trains went on. The mules sturibiling, splashing, failing, and giving out from exhaustion, failing, and giving out from exhaustion, the drivers hollooing, and swearing, and with whip or stick urging them on. The dried bones, the carcases, and the dying animals seen along the roads tell a sad tale of man's inhumanity to the dumb heavist in one short half day's thick dumb beasts.In one short half day's ride I counted eighteen dead or dying animals. The bodies are left where they fall, while the train passes on, and the subsequent passengers and travelors endure the smell until the buzzards done their duty and cleared the stench away.

Nature was beautiful. The moun-tain itself is picturesque, but the views one gets of the Magdalena and its valley, and the range of mountains beyond are simply grand. They are more, they are inspiring. We felt like shouting and perhaps would have done so but for the fear of calling up a band of guerillas. The windings of the river flowing in the windings of the fiver flowing in the distance without a sound or a ripple, could be traced for miles. The valley, further up than the town of Ambalema, could be plainly seen. Beyond were the plains of Mara-quita, and still further the high range of mentations control with the two of mountains, capped with the two peaks of Mount Tolima wearing their hoods of everlasting snow in deflance of the tropical sun that pours down year after year upon their heads,

LAND OF ZARAHEMLA.

And this beautiful valley, the plains, and mountains, are the Land of Zara-hemla. Like Moses, we are permitted at least to view the land, whether we ever enter it or not.

night, tired out ourselves, and with tired animals, we camped at a ranch called Guadualits, where we were pleased to find good pasturage, but sorry to learn that no food for us could be furnished. But we had a little along and the lady of the house, without our further asking, divided hers with us, so we did not suffer. No one keeps much on hand now for fear of the guerillas. We were given a clean room to sleep in, and as we were more guerillas. tired than hungry, we soon had our cots down, thankful for a place to

To their steepness we added mud from one to two feet deep, and where 19931 The next morning early we were on there was not mud, there were rocks and boulders. At one time in their his-tory they had been paved, but the heavy rains and much travel had the road again. We still had three miles of climbing, and over worse roads if posible, than those of the day before. They are the worst roads, if not the washed the paving stones loose and they lie with the patucal rocks strewn worst places, we have traveled over; and yet this is the main road to the thickly along the road, for the mules to stumble and fall over. There were capital of the republic, and the one over which all the freight to and from many trains of pack mules both going and coming, all loaded to their utmost city of a hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, besides a half dozen oth-ers of less size, must be carried on the rapacity and growning and grunting as they came cautiously down the steep backs of beasts of burden. Several attempts have been made to build a railwould way, but none to succeed.

At nine we were on the summit, and while we stopped to rest and look around felt we were repaid for our toll in the beauty of the scenes pre-The Magdalena and its beautisented. ful valley, with the snow peaks of Tolima beyond were still in view, and In the clear morning air look more beautiful than ever, and beyond and below us was another beautiful valley, with the little town of Guaduas in the center.

The valley of Guaduas runs almost parallel with the Magdalena, and is about fifty miles long, by from one to three wide. But the sides of the mountains both east and west are cultivated, or form pasturage to their very summits thus making a width of mlies. Its soil is very fertile and in times of peace furnishes much in agricultural products. But the valley is noted for the size and beauty of its bamboos, in fact receives its name from this beautiful plant. The bamboos grow about fifty feet high, and from six to eight inches in diameter, arching at the top like an immense plume, and forming one of the most beautiful and useful plants in the re-

public We stopped for the night a little af-ter noon at the Hotel de Valle, where were furnished the best accommodations the town could afford, but our animals fared poorly in an overstocked pasture. We were all half sick with the chills and fever, which the high altitude and cold weather seemed to develop from the malaria in our systems. But the valley was warmer than the mountains had been, and in the morning we were better. About ten o'clock after a heavy climb

over roads but little better than the day before, we came to good pasturage where we camped for a couple of hours, permitting our horses to eat, and preparing breakfast for ourselves. We had not unsaddled before a dozen soldlers with arms lined up near us watching us very closely. I passed the time of day with the captain, but continued at my work of unpacking. The captain asked a few questions, then bursting out into a hearty laugh dismissed his men. We saw nothing to laugh at, so did not join, until the explanation came. He had come to arrest us on the report of an old woman water carrier, who had taken word to camp that we were after her, and had nearly caught her. At this we all laughed, after which we proceeded with the help of the captain and his men to make a fire with wet wood.

After a two hours' rest and a good breakfast we were on the road again, and before we reached the summit of the mountain we passed several en-campments of soldiers, in all about two hundred men. They were in little im-provised shantles built out of bamboo, and thatched with a large leaf resem-bling that of the plantain. To the head officer we had to show our passports. From the summit we looked down into another beautiful valley, smaller somewhat than Guaduas, but like it dotted with farms and farm houses to the very summit of the next mountain. These summits range from five thou-



"For five years I suffered with bron-chitis. A few weeks ago I began to take Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and only two bottles entirely cured me." Daniel B. Lipps, Alta, W. Va.

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sand to seven thousand feet high. 'Two hours' descent and ascent brought us to the next summit, from which we could see the town of Villeta, nestling peacefully at the bottom, not suspecting that in a few days a flerce struggle between the two contending forces in arms would take place in her very streets. Beyond the town arose gradually the highest of the cordilleras, beyond which or rather on top of beyond which, or rather on top of which, were the plateau and city of Bogota. As far now as the eye could see to the north and to the south were

range after range of mountains. It was A MOST INSPIRING VIEW and would have been enjoyed by us, but

the chills were on us and we thought more of finding a place to camp than of anything else. Half way down the mountain we found pasturage and obtained a room to camp in, so rolled in for the night, sick and tired.

The next day by sun up we were on the road again, on a very steep and very bad road. It was with difficulty that our pack mules carried their bur dens down, while we had to accommo date our riding mules by walking. noon we passed Vill+ta, storpping only noon we passed Vill ita, storpping only long enough to get lanch, as there was no feed for our animals. The town was full of soldiers, and guards were placed at the entrance and exit. One would hardly think the enemy would have any show, but a few days later a bat-tle was fought in the main street, and hetween forty and fits men killed between forty and fifty men killed. Both sides claimed a victory.

This valley is rich in sugarcane, there being more than a dozen small plantations. One near the town is of consid-erable size, and grinds two hundred acres of cane yearly. Brown sugar called panela, and molasses are made Brown sugar, latter for the manufacture of a drink called guarapo, much used in this part of the country. It is simply water sweetened with molasses, seasoned a little with different herbs and allowed | sulted had the same advice and cau.

Traveling now became very laborious, and with difficulty we made eight or ten miles per day. By the time we reached Agualorga, a cold, damp, foggy town near the summit, I could go no further. We were here eight days. An old na-tive doctor, claiming to be of the homeopathic school, came to visit me, and made a diagnosis of my case by asking a few questions of my companions. In a couple or hours he returned with a pint bottle of medicine, which tasted like salt and water. It helped me, however. My aliment was billiousness, complicated with chilis and fever. Neither of my companions were much better off than I, so far as the chills were concerned; but after a week's rest we were concerned; but after a week a rest we were able to go on, and the next day reached Facatateva, the first rail-road station on the line run-ning to Bogota. Here we ning found found pasturage for our animals and on the following day, Dec. 5, reached the capital, for the present the end of our journey. We had been fifteen days making a journey that is often made in three.

Our first concern after arriving at Bogota was to see the American minister and some of the government officers in relation to the possibility of continuing our journey. If we could make Neiva and Popayan, we felt cer-tain of being able to continue, and perhaps once at Nelva we could get guides to come with us at least part way down the river through the Tolima valley.

EXPEDITION FORCED TO RETURN.

But our hopes were all blasted during the first conversation with Minister Hart. He was well posted both as to the liberals and the government troops and assured us that at present the trip would be impossible. "Your mules are sure to be stolen, by one Your side or the other, and your lives would be in great danger." He had several animals stolen and once, not more than two weeks before, had been fired at by

a drunken soldier and narrowly es-caped with his life. The soldier was punished but that would not have saved his life if he had been hit. On our road to Neiva, he said, in a little town, a day's journey from Bogota, there would soon be a battle, as the liberals had captured the town some time ago, and the government was goto retake it. Both sides ing sending forces. Bands of guerillas in-fested the country from here to the Ecualor line, and no kind of a pass-port would aid us, as many of them were bent only on robbing and mur-He assured us that during time of

peace no country was safer to the traveler than this, but now bloodshed and thieving are rampant, and ybody has the war spirit, one is safe, not even foreigner. The Colombian minisverybody No one the ter of war also advised us not to trav-el for his "government was unable at present to give us the necessary protection." As all with whom we con-

Bogota, Colombia, Dec. 13, 1901. BENJAMIN CLUFF, JR. ABSOLUTE SECURITY, Cenuine Carter's Little Liver Pills. Must Bear Signature of Meut Good See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below Very small and as easy to take as sugar. CARTER'S FOR HEADACHE. TTLE FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER.

tion, we finally decided that it would be wisdom for the expedition to take

be wisdom for the expedition to take a furlough for a year, or until peace is established in Colombia, when we could return, and with safety, so far

as our fellow man is concerned, con-tinue our explorations and studies. The vote on this question was unani-mous. We felt that we had done all

that could be done to continue our work, and that we would not be justi-

fied in rushing unnecessarily into dan-

ger, when it is only a matter of time and the danger will be passed. Today

we leave Bogota and turn our faces towards home.

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