

qua, by George Dunden, a justice of the peace.

I became acquainted with the doctrine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and was baptized into the Church by Elder Wm. Coray in Fox river on the 18th day of February, 1844. I attended the general semi-annual conference at Nauvoo, Illinois, in April, 1844. My name was presented to the conference on the 7th day of April by Joseph Smith the Prophet, and by unanimous vote of said conference I was sustained and was ordained by direction of the Prophet under the hands of Joseph Young an Elder in the Church and the senior president of all the quorums of the Seventy. I was ordained in the Thirteenth quorum of Seventy and appointed and sustained to take a mission. After returning home to Fox River, Van Buren county, Iowa, and preparing myself and affairs to take a mission, I went to Nauvoo and reported myself to the Prophet Joseph Smith ready for a mission about the first of June.

The Prophet told me he had a great mission for me to perform to go into the wilderness in the mountains with him, to look for and prepare a place for the Latter-day Saints, for he said that our enemies would not let us live at Nauvoo in peace, but we would have to flee to the mountains in the wilderness for safety. He said he said he wanted a fine black horse which I rode to Montrose, and I made him a present of the animal. He said for me to return home and prepare and keep myself and horses in readiness to go to the mountains in Mexico with him to find a location for the Saints.

Joseph crossed the Mississippi river several times with the purpose of going into the wilderness, as it was termed, while I was waiting with great anxiety for his arrival, as I had fresh horses to get him out into the Indian country away from his false and treacherous enemies, but each time he had to turn back.

At length on the 28th of June I heard of his death, that he was murdered the day before—on the 27th—by a ruthless mob. I went back to Nauvoo and stopped at Wm. Jordan's and Hancock's near Montrose. I was told by them of how Joseph had come over the river but had been persuaded by false friend to go back and give himself up to what he knew was nothing but a murderous mob. The last time the Prophet started back he said he felt like a lamb going to the slaughter. I got over to Nauvoo just as his funeral was closing.

In the fall of the year of 1844 I moved my family to Nauvoo and lived there until the latter part of the winter of 1846, when it was agreed that the Saints should journey into the wilderness. I crossed the Mississippi river on the ice after a great many had started. I went on ahead of the first company to Fox river near Richardson point, where I had formerly lived, and obtained a large quantity of grain for the camp. Among the number was my brother, R. P. Stewart. He gave the company 1,000 bushels of corn. When the company arrived there they made a stop for several weeks to make better preparation for the journey and send back teams to Nauvoo to help others

to come on, as it was agreed at Nauvoo that every one should help the bring every Latter-day Saint out from Nauvoo, to come to the wilderness, to the place where the Prophet said they should come, when it could be found.

In the year 1846 the greater portion of the Saints came to the Missouri river and stopped at several locations, some at Kanessville, Mosquito creek, and some at Keg creek, and at other places. I stopped at Keg creek, the Rushville branch.

Early in the year 1847 arrangements were commenced to prepare for a Pioneer trip to continue our journey to seek the place the Prophet had said we should find in the mountains.

I presided over the Rushville branch, and fitted out a wagon and team with provisions, seed and farm implements for the Pioneer trip, and my brother, B. F. Stewart, volunteered to go with the Pioneers and drive the team. When our team arrived at Winter Quarters President Young reported that our outfit was the first reported ready with everything in complete order for the trip.

NO LOAFERS THERE.

COLONIA JUAREZ, Mexico,
May 4, 1897.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the people of this place are enjoying a time of general prosperity. Every one seems busy, and a visitor will see no loafers lounging about street corners or saloons—by the way there is not a saloon in town, nor would one be tolerated—and everything betokens peace and prosperity.

Goldbugs in the United States may ridicule the fifty-cent Mexican dollar, but the solid fact remains that it buys today just as much as it ever did, and the poor classes suffer no loss of its depreciation, or what is the same thing—the appreciation of the gold dollar.

This increased value of gold, which has produced such disastrous results in the United States, is bringing about exactly the opposite condition of things in Mexico—a time of general prosperity in all branches of business. Before silver was demonetized Mexico imported nearly everything needed in the country, a great proportion of which came from the United States; but when Mexicans went to Deming or El Paso and found that their dollar would purchase only fifty cents' worth of goods, they naturally became disgusted. The consequence has been that all branches of home industry and manufactures have been wonderfully stimulated all through the republic.

Speaking from a subject point of view, we Mexicans hope the United States government may continue its foolish policy until Mexico shall be far enough advanced in home manufacture to be entirely independent of all outsiders, and instead of being only an importer will become an exporter to a large extent.

Many men and teams of the Juarez Stake are at work on the railroad, which is rapidly nearing us from El Paso, and which I am reliably informed will reach Dublin, eighteen miles from this place, by May 29th next. The road is already graded to that place and the cars will soon be there, as tracklaying is being pushed

with vigor. We can soon be able to go to Salt Lake City by rail and avoid the present tedious five days' journey from Juarez to Deming by wagon route.

This beautiful little village has many good and tasteful brick dwellings, some of which would be a credit to Salt Lake City, and others are constantly added. An addition to our present large academy building is now under way, which will require about 150,000 brick.

Much of the early fruit was killed by frost, but there will still be a considerable quantity of apples, pears, plums, prunes, cherries and grapes, also some late peaches. There is a good cash market for all the butter, cheese, eggs and poultry we can produce, also for horses and cattle, which have become famous in all northern Mexico, until now it is commonly said by Mexicans: "If you want to buy good horses and cows, go to the Mormon settlements, they have the best."

I find the latitude of Colonia Juarez is 30 deg. 15 min. 30 sec., as shown by careful observations by solar transit, with longitude (approximately) 108 deg. west from Greenwich. The altitude is about 5,300 feet, but the exact elevation must be determined by an average of numerous barometric observations, as the pressure of the atmosphere is continually changing. This elevation—a mile above sea level—altogether with its distance south gives a very delightful climate, with bright sunny days and cool nights. Pacheco, Cave valley, Garcia and Mariano, all situated near the summit of the majestic Sierra Madres, are several thousand feet higher. Of them at another time.

JAMES H. MARTINEAU.

IDAHO WEATHER.

The weather of the week ending Monday, May 10th was all that could be desired for farming operations and growth of vegetation, except for a frost on the 8th which, in places, did some damage to lucern and other vegetation where far enough advanced to be affected; with this exception the weather was warm and pleasant with an abundance of sunshine; drying winds were reported generally and evaporation has proceeded at a lively rate. In some localities the soil has dried too rapidly and rain is needed, but, as a rule, the ground is in excellent condition for working. Plowing and seeding are well advanced and reaping completion; farmers are now turning their attention to garden planting, and at the end of the present week nearly all crops will be in the ground. Wheat and oats are in excellent condition and growing rapidly; garden stuff is coming up apparently almost as soon as planted; alfalfa is growing well, although damaged in some places by the frost of the 8th; many trees have leafed out during the week, and nearly all fruit trees are in blossom; streams in many localities are above the danger line.

D. P. MCCALLUM,
Section Director.

Harbormaster Edward M. Rutledge died at his home in Eureka, Cal., Thursday, after a short illness.