

The Mormons have yielded obedience to the laws. If they are not sincere the nation will soon know it and they alone will be sufferers from their duplicity. Until they do show a spirit of rebellion and a disposition to destroy the government, they are entitled to and should receive all the consideration and protection bestowed upon any other sect based upon the Bible. This is all I have ever claimed. It is all I desire to claim. Soon or late it will win.

Your reporter calls me an "atheist." I believe in and advocate the Rights of Man; therefore, I believe in God. He who by word or deed endeavors to weaken, withhold or destroy the Rights of Man is the Atheist, no matter how he may cover himself with professions of love of God. Respectfully,

CHARLES ELLIS.

A VOICE FROM MEXICO.

Editor Deseret News:

The enclosed obituary notice from the *Mexican Financier* of the 19th inst. brings the sad news to our colonies of the demise of General Pacheco, minister of colonization, a patriot, a great man, and a true friend of our people. In the fall of 1884 and spring of 1885, when the Edmunds raid was first felt in Arizona and New Mexico, a number of families moved south, hoping to find a place of refuge in Chihuahua. They camped near the Casas Grandes river, living in tents and wagons. They appeared like a military encampment on the plain. The attention of the State officials was attracted to them. About the 6th of April an order was issued by the acting governor, addressed to the "Jefe" of the Canton, requiring that the people immediately leave the State, demanding also to know the reason for their presence on the frontier. This word was carried by W. W. Roundy to A. F. Macdonald at Corralitos, twenty-five miles below Casas Grandes. After conferring with the "Jefe" at the latter place, he decided we must leave the State in fifteen days, as his orders would not admit of extending the time, but thought it would be best for us to go to Chihuahua City, and see the acting Governor (General Feuro). We decided to do so, on returning to Corralitos. Apostle George Teasdale had just arrived there. He in company with Brother Macdonald went to Chihuahua City and employed Mr. Jose M. Gandera to assist us. By him we were introduced to the governor. After we made our statement he seemed determined that we leave the State, but finally agreed to entertain a written statement or petition, setting forth the reasons for our coming into the country. This was made. In the interval Apostles Brigham Young and Moses Thatcher visited the capital and were well received. In January, 1886, in company with Brother Heleman Pratt, we called to see Minister Pacheco at his mansion, and were received by him with much kindness and familiarity, he being alone and free from business cares at the time. He was inclined to have us tarry and chat with him on our views and methods. In company with Elder H. Eyring, while we were at the capital on business, December, 1887, he was then confined to his bed chamber,

receiving many callers and dispatching business. We were duly received and our request answered. I well remember his remark on our first visit, in which he said, "I have your document sent from Chichuhua; it is an excellent State paper, and as long as you abide by the principles and sentiments therein, we shall stand by you." A second order soon came from the governor to the effect that we must leave the State as soon as our crops were gathered. On receiving this we sent it to Apostle E. Snow, then at the Capital. It was shown to Minister Pacheco, who felt grieved, and requested the brethren who represented it to address him direct on the matter, and enclose a copy of the order, and he would see to it. The result was that the acting governor was removed, and another appointed in his stead, as General Pacheco was the governor elect. Thus in his action he proved his good will to us in our exiled condition.

On the 14th of last January, in company with Mr. L. F. Maillefert, Mexican Consul at Deming, N. M., having business with the general at the capital, he set a day to meet us, as he had business to arrange on his estate, in the State of Vera Cruz. As he did not return we telegraphed to him, and he suggested that we meet him there on the 29th of January. We took train at 6:30 a.m. and reached Cordoba in the evening, and met the general at the railroad station. He was waiting for his family and a large company of friends, who were coming by special train, and soon after arrived. He conversed with us. At the railroad down to his ranch, constructed under his patronage, cars were in readiness, and he invited us to go with him. Editor E. E. Shepherd, from Toronto, Canada, and lady, also a Mr. Lynch, from Iowa, went with the party. We were carried down the White River in the night and could not see the scenery, reaching "Metzorongo" estate about 9 p. m. We were entertained at a hotel building, which had been recently erected, the entire materials having been brought from the United States. The general had also an electric light plant, sugar manufactory, also machinery for preparing the ramie silk plant. On the 30th a Mr. H. Finch (a German, speaking good English) from Cordoba, being in the party, escorted us over a part of the plantation and forest where roads had been made. We saw the nurseries for the ramie plant. During the day a party of men were sent out to cut the tropical under-growth in the forest, the members of the family and party going by train to the nearest point. The general invited Consul Maillefert and myself to go with him on horseback to see his sugar plantation. Horses were provided, but the general rode a mule. I was surprised to see the vim and energy with which he led the way and kept ahead in traveling. His right leg was in a stirrup and the stump of the left leg strapped to the saddle. He guided the rein of his animal with the left hand, the right arm being gone above the elbow. We rode a few miles to the point in the forest where he wished his friends and family to see a very large tree, all of which views were taken. On the way he explained the superior kind of sugar cane he had planted, bringing it on

to his plantation with pack mules, before there was a road. It appeared there must have been between two and three hundred men employed on the various works, and all was activity. On the evening of the 30th he arranged for his guests that were to return to Cordoba and the capital, that they take beds in the Pullman car on the side track, instead of at the hotel, as the train would leave about 4:30 a.m. and they need not be disturbed.

The same kind and thoughtful consideration seemed ever present with him in his attentiveness to the welfare of those around him. In the expression of his eye and quick comprehension of every detail, or surrounding condition, he reminded me of President Brigham Young. On the morning of the 31st of January we viewed the grand scenery up the White River, seeing fields of bananas and pine apples, etc., till we reached Cordoba; thence by the Mexican railroad to the beautifully located city of Orizaba, in view of the volcanic mountain of that name, past the magnificent marble quarries and factories on the route to the pretty Indian town of "Matrara," where oranges and other fruits are offered for sale. From the valley we began to rise, following the curves and passing through several tunnels and cuts to a height of several thousand feet.

At Cordoba we were requested to ride with the general in his car, as up to this time not a word had been said about the business for which we had come. After we had passed through the mountains toward the capital, he called Mr. M. and myself, and on the way all the points necessary to be understood and the terms for contract of colonization were talked over and noted down by his secretary. They were afterwards completed at the capital. His great liberality, kindness and unpretentious manner won the good feelings of all. We felt the acquaintance then formed, the pleasant conditions under which we traveled, and friendship extended to a worker and representative of the "Mormon" people in Mexico from that true friend of his country was an example which might be profitably imitated by pure-proud and intolerant Christian professors in other lands, and that we should never forget it, but cherish his memory and noble example.

I trust he may have worthy successors, that the President of this republic and his advisers may continue to prosper, and our colonies prove a blessing in this land.

We have had pleasant rains and the effects of the past dry summer will pass away.

Yours respectfully,

A. F. MACDONALD.

COLONIA JUARETZ, Chihuahua, Mexico, September 30, 1891.

Levi M. Bates of New York, while out boat riding with his son on Saturday last was drowned. His life was insured for \$130,000. It was found that within the past 11 weeks he had applied for \$80,000 more insurance. The companies are now investigating whether he had a premonition of death, or suicided to cheat them.