PROGRESS OF MEXICAN COLONIES

Address Delivered at the Seventy-Fourth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacie, Salt Lake City, on Monday, April 4, 1904, by

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Remarkable Progress Made by Latter-day Saints in Deseret Land -Multiplied Evidences of the Divinity of "Mormonism."

{...... (President of Juarez Stake.) 1 esteem it a great privilege and blessing, my brethren and sisters, to have the opportunity of meeting with Conference upon this seventyjourth anniversary of the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latday Saints. Looking backward, and implating the history of the Latter-day Saluts from the organization of the Church until today, I rejoice with you that the "marvelous work and wonwhich was inaugurated with the der. Which the Gospel in the dispen-restoration of the Gospel in the dispen-sation in which we live, has been so remarkably developed, under God's provi-dence and blessing. The fact of our being here, the great extension of this all this done by a people it taler porter ty, who went there without resources, depending solely upon the assistance of God and their own efforts, are all witnesses to us that the of Zion, are all witnesses to us that the same to His people. Contemplating a made to His people. Contemplating as made to His people. Contemplating these things, I know of no example ple, His provident hand, His mercy and dness, have been more directly manifest than in His hand-dealings with ablished in the Republic of Mexico. We are not in a desirable country, as men inderstand country to be desirable. Mexico is a land of barren, treeless rastes, a land of dry rivers, of rugged, rable mountains-a desert land, there is one occupied by the Saints continent. Notwithstanding

there (they now number thirty-seven) hundred souls) have accomplished a most remarkable work. We have had no pecuniary assistance at all from the government in which we live. They have never constructed a rod of road or built a bridge. Notwithstanding this fact, however, hundreds of miles of wagon road have been constructed and many bridges have been built; eight prosperous colonies have been estab-lished, orchards are loaded with fruit; gardens are filled with flowers; comfortable and in many instances, almost luxurious homes have been built-and all this done by a people in their poverthat in the providence of God He had a mission for them to perform there. Time has passed, conditions have developed, and today we see the wisdom of the Almighty in placing a few of His people away off in that southern country, where the Gespel can be introduced to this remnant of the house of Israel. The people have established as good a hat the few Latter-day Saints who are | school system as exists in the Church, I in his mouth, and I have never seen a g......

ernment. It has all been done by the free-will offerings of the Latter-day Saints. We have as good a stake academy, so far as our courses extend, as largely by the voluntary contributions of the people. Since I was installed by President Lyman as President of the Juarez Stake of Zion, eight years ago. ed seventy five per cent. During the same period the tithes of the people have increased three hundred and twenty-five per cent. Our relations with ly satisfactory. We keep entirely out of politics; we mind our own business, and are left in peace—thank heaven for that! We cannot offer homes to our brethren and sisters, notwithstanding a government whose president, whose ministry, whose army, and whose navy (so far as they have one) were made up of people who were direct descendants of Father Lehl; and they believed cannot offer inducements of a financial character; but I do believe that the morlack of this world's goods which we so much feel. During the eight years I the name of Deity profaned by a Latter-day Saint, I have never seen a

ence of liquor. There may have been solated cases, but they have never come this boastingly, for there are many reorms that we can yet make to advan. | fore the world, and it is stronger, betcomplish. God alone has the credit or it, since we have depended entirely

As I came to Conference this morn-

ng two men sat on the seat immedi-

tely behind me in the street car. One

of them was an old man and a member

of the Church of Christ. was a younger man, whose accent clearly indicated his foreign birth, and features showed him to be a native of northern Europe. He was man, I detected in a moment, of more than ordinary intelligence. Speaking to the old gentleman, he said: What ing to do with it. Thank Gol I found this difference." "Why! you cannot be very well acquainted with the history and doctrines of our Church." "Oh yes, I am, I know all about it; I have been here for twelve years." I thought which we teach, where under heaven would you find a religion from God. our eternal Father? And my mind resociated with the establishment of this work. At that time how little the world knew of God; how little they the Prophet Joseph himself concern ing the great plan of redemption when he prayed to God the eternal Father to give him light, and then came that remarkable vision.

form of man. What a revelation to

by the Apostles, the Holy Ghost came o the world, which testifies to you and o me that the record which Joseph the Prophet bore concerning the ap-pearance of God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ, is true. The conferring of the Aaronic Priesthood by John the Baptist restored the Gospel of repentance; and, thank heaven, he told us that Priesthood should never be takfrom the earth again-an assurance that has not been given to any other people that has ever lived, Have not we seen that promise vindi-cated up to the present time? The God Himself revealed His own personality and the personality of His Son, the Reedeemer of the world! And with Church is fifty thousand times stronger than it was seventy-four years ago, as to membership. Is it fifty thousand times stronger in faith? Yes, I say the closing of that vision there stood upon the earth another witness for God is; for we understand the gospel dter. By application we have learn-

mighty peoples who have occupied the

American continent are known, And more than that, it gave us the Gospel

of Christ in its simplicity and purity, as He Himself taught it to the Nephite nation. Then came John the Baptist restoring the Aaronic Priesthood; then Peter, James and John, restoring the Melchisedek Priesthood. How consistent, how orderly it all is—the time, the

place, the messengers, the message! Do you believe for a moment that Jo-seph Smith had wisdom to devise such

to numbers. There are not so many falling away. Consequently, I say the testimony; but that testimony, corrob-orated by the written word of God in faith of the people has increased pro-portionately with membership. And this work will continue to grow stronger and stronger and greater and great-er until it does what God has said it ter evidence of the personality of our Father in heaven, and that Christ, His Son, lives and speaks to the inhabitants would do-regenerates this earth; teaches men a better life; makes them of the earth, than a negative assertion by all the world who simply doubt bemore moral, more honest, more virtu-ous, more God-fearing, more patriotic, and more capable of administering gov-Moroni with the record contained in the Book of Mormon, lifting the veil from and more capable of agministering government, whether it be civil or ecclesiastical, in justice among men and in righteousness before God. That is what the gospel is going to de.

Why is the world afraid of it? What is there in it to fear? Is it treason to say that we believe in God? That we believe this nation of ours (for which we thank Him!) exists under His divine protection and executed that He off this great continent of ours, and giv-ing to us the key by which the mystertrai America and Northern South America (many of which I have seen myself) may be unlocked, and by which the hand-dealings of God with the

vine protection and care, and that He has established it and maintained it? God inspired Washington and the patriot fathers of this country and helped them fight their battles in the revolu tion. He sent Lafayette, Rochambeau and De Kalb to assist them. He and be half to hands of the Federal army in the war of the rebellion, because the integrity of the union was to be maintained. He has preserved and lifted the people of this land above all nations, that they may be a light unto the world, an arbiter of nations, and an example of justice and righte-cusness to all. And He will maintain them in that just as long as they fear and believe in Him. Is it treason to say that men owe allegiance to God, and that governments are some lightness. a plan and introduce it under such cir-cumstances? This man in the street car said that Joseph Smith and Brig-ham Young have a terrible debt to pay for leading these thousands of people into delusion and entangling them in the meshes of this net they have thrown around them. Through the res-toration of the Melchisedek Priesthood and that governments owe allegiand to God? Does it show lack of patrio ism to say to this great nation of ours that this is a land choice above all other lands, and that the inevitable de ce has gone forth from God, and hangs over this nation today just as it has over every nation that ever occupied the American continent, that the people, or nation, which occupies this land, must serve God and ac-knowledge Him? We say that, and we want the world to understand it, as we do every doctrine of this gospel, There is nothing covered about it welcome investigation. Every iple, every doctrine, the organization of the Church, the union of the people testify to you that this is the work of God; that it is inspired of God today was. God help us to keep our cov- I canyon. enants with Him, and to wait patiently

Jesus Christ. Amen

W. H. Harrison, Cleveland, Miss., writes, Aug. 15, 1902; "I want to say a word of praise for Ballard's Snow Lina-ment. I stepped on a nail, which caus-ed the cords in my leg to contract and an abscess to rise in my knee, and the doctor told me that I would have a stiff leg, so one day I went to J. F. Lord's drug store who is now in Denver, Colo.) He recommended a bottle of Snow Linament; I got a 10c size, and it cured my leg. It is the best lin iment in the world.

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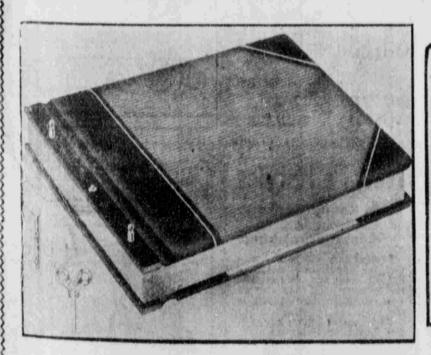
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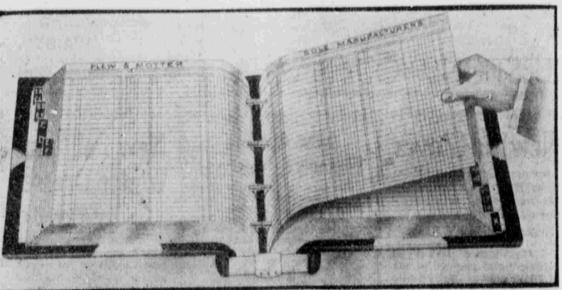
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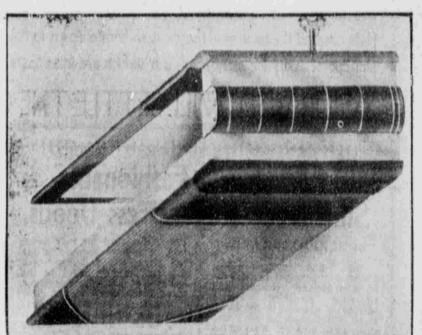
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