

and to witness the spirit and feeling that prevailed among the people, and the beauty of our locality, they decided to make a future home among us; so they are here in earnest and have gone to work on Canyon Creek canal, which will be very near if not quite finished this year. They say there are more to come; we say, come along, there is room for many more, and welcome.

We also had a school election the same afternoon, which passed off quietly and satisfactorily.

On Saturday, the 8th, we will hold another election for the bonding of our county.

We have had very cold weather up to date, and our crops are not looking so well, I believe, as they have done other seasons. But they are now beginning to look very favorable, which fills us with bright hopes yet for the future.

To add to the many societies, we have our brass band (which we are proud of) whose members conduct themselves on all occasions with the utmost sobriety. They are under the able leadership of Mr. Larsen of Rexburg. This last winter they have made great improvement, practicing twice weekly, which enabled them to be ready for any engagement that may be offered them and to give satisfaction.

The health of the people is good. Everybody says we have the healthiest locality in the Snake River country, which statement I think the doctors will bear out. Your paper is always welcome, and we feel "just as happy as a big sunflower." SPIDER.

SAINTS IN MEXICO.

COLONIA JUAREZ, Mexico,
May 26, 1895.

This last month has been a very interesting one to the Saints of this mission. On May day the inhabitants of this colony had a most enjoyable time. The outing was gotten up under the auspices of the Juarez Sabbath school. Brother Dennison E. Harris, superintendent, was the chairman of the committee of arrangements.

At sunrise the town was serenaded by our excellent brass band, under the able leadership of Brother J. J. Walser. At 8 o'clock in the morning there was a gathering of the Saints, who came from all parts of this colony in carriages and wagons filled with men, women and children dressed in gala attire. The air was filled with music and the fragrance of flowers. A procession was formed of vehicles headed by the brass band. Next came the queen of the May and her maids of honor followed by the citizens. It was a long procession. Every one seemed interested and happy. About three miles south of the settlement by the Piedras Verdes river, is a fine grove of trees. Here a stand had been erected for the occasion and the congregation formed in front. An excellent, interesting program followed, of speeches, music, recitations and singing. The band and choir did good service. The crowning of the queen by her maids of honor and their singing was very enjoyable. Picnic and games followed, and music by the band. In the evening a social party crowned the amusements of the day.

Another enjoyable occasion was the return of one of our missionaries from England, Elder Miles A. Romney, son of Elder Miles P. Romney, who had been away a little over two years and had been honorably released from a very interesting and successful mission. His return was a source of joy to all his friends, by whom he is much respected. A most enjoyable time was held at the reception given in honor of his return.

At Colonia Diaz they have had a ward conference that lasted three days, which was much enjoyed by all. Meetings were well attended and an excellent spirit prevailed. Elders George Teasdale and Henry Eyring, of the presidency of the mission and Patriarch W. R. R. Stowell, were in attendance. UN HERMANO.

FOR REAL HOME SEEKERS.

DOWNEY, Idaho, May 30, 1895.

Dear Sir:—I am led to ask you for a small amount of space for the purpose of laying before your readers some information that may result in much good to many of them and perhaps be more or less interesting to all. If no others should care to read this, I should like the heading to attract the eye of the home seeker, for to such it is more particularly addressed and for their benefit it is written.

The place from which this is written commands a view of what is known as Marsh valley, in the southern part of Banuock county, Idaho. The valley derives its name of "Marsh" from the wide luxuriant meadow, in some places marshy, which runs its entire length from McCammon on the north to Oxford on the south. This scope of country and its bordering mountains and canyons has been for many years the paradise of cattlemen; the fertile plains and hills on each side growing luxuriant grass for summer range and the extensive meadows yielding heavy crops of hay for winter feeding.

Until quite recently this tract of land has been a portion of the Fort Hall reservation and could not be improved with safety, as the few settlers were occupying the land on sufferance and were obliged to be content with their herds, not venturing to improve much in building and agriculture. The barren appearance of the agricultural portions of the valley cannot therefore be attributed to poor soil or rigorous climate but only to the reason cited. Through the efforts of the early settlers they have been recently cut off from the reservation and the influx of more people gives promise of an early change in the general appearance of the country.

The only drawback has been the lack of water. Other facilities for making comfortable homes nature has furnished in abundance—a temperate climate, rich soil, timber in easy reach, plenty of cheap lumber, railroad facilities at their doors, proximity to general Church headquarters—but all these advantages could not compensate the homeseeker for streams of water, and he has pushed on into other places where nature seemed to be kinder in this one respect at least.

As it to prove that Providence often leaves its choicest blessings hidden and that to the one who dare look ahead

and have faith in its final justice there will always be a reward, it has been demonstrated beyond a doubt that water in quantities amply sufficient can be conveyed upon these lands. A preliminary flow has been run by a competent engineer from the Portneuf which carries high enough to cover at least 50,000 acres, the greater part of which is still unclaimed and only awaits the skill and labor of men to transform into one of the choicest places in the southern part of the state.

As to the canal—the task of constructing is by no means an easy one, but in comparison to other enterprises begun and completed by the pioneers of the West, it is far from being discouraging. The greater part of the distance is through soil which can be moved by scrapers, and conservative men of experience after careful investigation, place the cost at not over three dollars per acre. Even if it were double this amount it would be cheap in comparison to the ditches made by capitalists who in some cases ask eight dollars as a "bonus" to begin on.

The first steps have been taken to form a company which will soon be in operation, when work will immediately commence. It is intended to model the bylaws after those of other companies in successful operation; the main object to be sought will be to place the stock within the reach of the laborer poor in money but rich in willing strength.

Here, then, is one of those best of opportunities where men by benefiting others may help themselves. Here is an enterprise begun which should take up and carry on to success and prosperity many who are idle for the want of opportunity—not from choice. You need the land to make your home; we need your help. Let us meet in this worthy common cause and success is assured.

While the excitement of new acquisition is upon men they sometimes overlook the difficulties in the way and move without forethought and proper caution, and to such a word is necessary. The labors in building a new home under circumstances such as will attend this, require that no one should undertake it who has not some provision made for his sustenance until his work will receive remuneration. In my opinion it would be folly to subject a family to the chances of hardship depending solely upon what can be made from the land or occasional opportunities of working for neighbors. There is, however, the chance of a lifetime for men who in selling out have a little means to carry them, or for young, vigorous men who can leave home if necessary for a "grab stake."

We occupy one of the gates between Idaho and Utah, and while settlers from Utah may feel that they are leaving its advantages and surroundings, they will come to a hospitable state glad of their aid—they will come to one of the most advanced Stakes and be within reach of one of the finest academies in Zion. To reach home will not require a month's earnings and investigation will demonstrate to you that we have all the advantages mentioned and no more of the disadvantages than may be expected of that fall to the lot of other people.