# "MORMONS" IN MEXICO.

## Review of the Trials Endured in the Early Settlement.

### PRESENT PROSPERITY AND PROSPECTS.

### A Complete Map of the Colony Drafted Especially for the "Deseret News."

When the history of the first two years of the settlement of the "Mormon" people in Mexico shall be written, it will form one of the most interesting leaves in the annals of hardship and patient endurance.

Up to the close of the year 1885, the efforts of the First Presidency of the Church to establish settlements in this country had been directed to the lands occupied by the Yaqui Indians in the State of Sonora, but after the return of the expedition headed by Apostle Brigham Young late in that year, the idea was given up, and their attention was turned to the northwestern portion of the State of Chihuahua. Accordingly, C. F. McDonald and Christopher Layton, in pursuance of instructions from President John Taylor, started on the New Year's day of 1886 by rail from El. David Arizona, to look out a settling place in this locality. Upon reaching San Jose, a small station on the Mexican Central railroad, about eighty miles south of El Paso, Texas, they found it in advance of them here John W. Campbell, Joseph Rogers, John Loving and Peter McBride, some of them with canvas hauling sail. A trip of inspection was made from there to Corralitos, Ascension and Janos, and a favorable report forwarded to President Taylor. Exploration continuing, the old Mormon town of Casas Grandes and the Corralitos basin, where Pacheco is now located, were visited, and a farm of three hundred acres was rented at Corral los and a crop put in.

Meanwhile, a committee of five, consisting of Apostle Moses Thatcher, A. F. McDonald, Lot Smith, Jesse N. Smith and Christopher Layton had been appointed to purchase lands in Mexico, and words were conveyed to those who wished to make homes in this country that the way was open, and the movement began.

The first of a series of troubles reaching over two years, commenced on the 7th day of April, 1885, while the immigration was at its height, about six weeks after the first arrival in the country. There were at the time in probably three hundred and fifty souls in camps scattered up and down the Casas Grandes River. Two parties had been turned near the present site of Diaz, one about a mile directly south of the present location of the town under the direction of Lot and Jesse N. Smith, and another, presided over by Parson Williams, in the shade of the trees on the banks of the river three miles to the east, numbering in all about thirty-five families. These were located at Corralitos probably twelve or fifteen families. About the same number had rented farms on the west bank of Casas Grandes river five miles north of the old Mexican town of Casas Grandes, while four or five families had crops growing in the fields just south of town. All were waiting for land to be purchased upon which they might move, additional companies were arriving every day, and anticipation ran high at the prospects of the happy homes the oil and sky promised them, when notice was received from the Governor of the State for every one of them to leave the country at once. The Jefe Politico of Casas Grandes had been instructed by the Governor to carry the order as the colonists and to enforce it.

The Mexicans as well as the "Mormons" rose up in protest against the action and the Jefe Politico was persuaded to give a respite of fifteen days. Petitions were thereupon drawn up and signed by both parties and forwarded to the Governor, as also to the President of the republic. Confident in their right to protection, those of the "Mormons" who had gardens growing went on attending to them as if nothing had happened. So vigorous were the efforts of the petitioners that orders were received from President Porfirio Diaz on the last day of the fifteen for the Governor to allow the "Mormons" to remain at least until their crops were gathered. But prejudice, for some reason in his determination that the "Mormons" must go, the Governor, before the time had expired, was removed from office.

In the camps, meantime, numbers were arriving almost every day, locating with one or another of these already established, and by the fifties, religious and otherwise, imposed at the several places of gathering. The people came together each morning at the usual call for the singing of a hymn, the assembly knelt in prayer, before pursuing the avocations of the day. Many had united with inside of the Mexican settlement, and were kind to their crops, while some occupied their time in freighting and other team work for the people, many of whom received participants in exchange to supply the wants of their new neighbors.

One of the interesting experiences of the colonists was to note the change their coming made in the ways of the natives. When the immigrants first arrived, they found the agricultural people working under great disadvantages. For a hoe, two sticks were provided, one for a beam and another answered the purpose of both handle and share, the share only of the handle reaching to take the surface of the ground. To the further end of the beam was attached a rawhide rope which was tied from there to a rough stick fastened with thongs to the horns of the cattle, serving as a yoke. Commonly eight or ten of these contrivances would be occupied in a field of about ten acres, that area being the limit one man could expect to turn. In this respect and in many other noticeable improvements were brought about in the ways of the Mexican people.

After the settlement of the question as to their right to remain in Mexico, the people for a time were considerably relieved, but their trouble had just commenced. Only those who have watched and hoped and waited can know the anxiety with which these pioneers looked for the announcement that the anticipated purchase of land had been finally concluded. Indeed, as it is said to their surprise, the announcement was made almost every week, and as often contradicted. Many had left their former homes with little property, and now found themselves in a new country where a laboring man could earn but fifty or seventy-five cents a day and all other means of support, except manual labor, exhausted. And so passed the entire summer of 1885. Many became discouraged and turned back. It was, in fact, in June of 1886, before any permanent settlement was made. A purchase had by this time, however, been made, and a corporation was afterward formed under the laws of the State of Colorado, with the name of the Mexican Agricultural and Colonization Company, organized for the purpose of holding title to the land purchased and to conduct the business of colonization in Mexico.

With the sanction of the executive of the nation, A. F. McDonald, on Feb. 25, 1886, at the City of Mexico, bargained with Sr. Pacheco Genaro del Campo for 50,000 acres of land where Diaz is now situated, some 9,000 acres at the present site of Juarez, and about 60,000 acres, consisting in great part of timber land, in the mountains at Pacheco. As soon as the surveys had been made, the tents and wagons that had all this time in most cases served the colonists for homes, were removed to the chosen sites of Juarez and Diaz, and the work of redeeming the desert commenced.

Under the regulations of the Mexican Colonization and Agricultural Company, the towns were laid out in blocks of twenty-one rods square, and on the outer edge of the parted town farming lots were surveyed, varying from 8 to 20 acres, and subsidiaries were permitted to choose on the pleased, whether a lot or a block in town or a farming lot, or both. For

MORMON SETTLEMENTS IN MEXICO WITH THE ROADS, RIVERS, SPRINGS, TOWNS AND RUINS, AND THE LINE OF THE RAILWAY NOW BEING CONSTRUCTED.

social and political reasons it has been thought best by the corporation not to divest themselves of the title to the land in favor of any of the colonists, but rather to give them a practically perpetual lease on what they wish to make use of, and to avoid having the title pass from the company by prescription, a nominal rental of fifty or seventy-five cents per acre is charged for each lot. If a colonist wishes at any time to leave, he may sell his lease, or, if he transgresses the rules of the company, he may be obliged to leave the premises, after receiving a fair price, to be determined upon by arbitration, for his improvements. A number of the settlers at Diaz have seen dissatisfaction at not being able to obtain titles to their homes, but it is believed that a majority of the colonists prefer the present arrangement to any other. There is, however, plenty of land near any of the settlements to which a clear title may be secured by the purchasing and living in the settlement of Dublan, the title to all the land will, it is asserted, be held by the individual settlers, as will also be the case at the proposed settlements on the Rio Grande that north of Diaz, and at Palomas. In fact, it is expected that all the land owned by Hon. John W. Young, comprising nearly three million of acres, will be disposed of by his agent, Wm. Henry Johnson, Jr., at regular sale to settlers. Furthermore, the colonists moving home on the lands at present owned by Hon. John W. Young, will receive privileges from the Mexican government in the way of land and customs duty. But to accomplish the object in view, and, in doing so, to bring the corporation under the laws of the hacienda of Mexico, the Mexican Colonization and Agricultural company relinquished the directorate of the general council, and, by this transaction, also effected therein, have the right to pass upon the moral status of all settlers.

[illegible] there about [illegible] participated in [illegible] themselves, this region [illegible] a great in [illegible] settlers to make homes in [illegible] tory.

Since their arrival [illegible] Diaz and Juarez [illegible] progress, and time [illegible] added Parsons, surveyed [illegible] Dublan, laid out for settlement [illegible] by George M. Brown. As a idea of the rapidity with which Mexico is being settled by the Mormons may be gained from the fact that though the other colonies have received considerable accessions of new comers, the population of Dublan, nearly all of whom have arrived in the last eight months, will now number about three hundred and seventy-five souls.

It is expected that the settlement of Palomas, which has been laid out for some time, will be made the supply point for all the Mormon settlements in Mexico, and the grades on the Mexican Northern Pacific Railway as well. The manufacture of this point of shoes and boots and of leather is also in contemplation.

The prospects are that in ten years from now the colony or its descendants in 1893 will have grown to be a prosperous commonwealth, in the enjoyment of all the blessings the soil and gold of liberty bestow.

However, one may combine it, Mexico is interesting country. Whether the trade be the people or the government, there is something about it altogether unique.

Though Mexico has not accorded an enviable position in the central opinion of the United States since the war of [illegible] the [illegible] Mexican [illegible] ment [illegible] for the building [illegible] from [illegible] Railway, passing [illegible] the eastern side of [illegible] the City of Mexico, another to the International and Interoceanic Railway, crossing the isthmus of Tehuantepec, a distance of one hundred and forty miles, from ocean to ocean, and a third was obtained by General Grant, for the Mexican Southern, from Pueblo to Ometusco, a distance of a continuation of the Mexican Central along the middle country to the south. The road next in order was that from the capital to Acapulco, on the Pacific, to Vera Cruz, on the Atlantic, through the capital, and is known as the Interoceanic. From Pueblo to Orizaba, to Guaymas on the western seaboard, the Interoceanic Railway gives easy access to the Pacific ocean on the northwest, while the Mexican Central Railway covers the coast on the Atlantic side, from the northeast to Alvarado, south of Vera Cruz. In order to complete a grand national system, or network of railways, crossing the country at convenient distances from ocean to ocean, east and west, and with lines running parallel with the Mexican coast on either side, one in the middle of the country, and one on each side at either edge of the table land, it is only necessary to complete the line along the western edge of the plateau; and this is the work now being done by Hon. John W. Young. The new road commences at Deming, N. Mexico, and passes along the western edge of the Mexican table land for six hundred miles, when it descends to the Pacific Coast at Topolobampo Bay, thence paralleling the coast to Guaymas.

Each of these roads receives a considerable subsidy from the government, but, when the road for utilizing the Mexican Northern Pacific Railway was entered into, the executive declared that no more railroads should be subsidized in the Republic. The entire Mexican railway system was completed. There are other railways being built in Mexico, but only those mentioned, in the foregoing account are subsidized by the government.

Another thing of which Mexicans are quite as proud as of their railway building, is the peaceful manner in which the government has met and overcome the influence of the Catholic Church. By a number of movements covering the years from 1857 to 1875, a truly praiseworthy evolution was carried forward in the Republic in this respect under the leadership in great part of Benito Pablo Juarez, a full blooded Indian.

At the commencement of the movement for independence under the present constitution, the Catholic church was the established religion of Mexico as of Spain, and the ecclesiastical tribunals exercised the right of interference with the administration of justice. The landed property of the church amounted to about one-half of all the real estate in Mexico, and the country was fairly "enthralled in debt and darkness."

Under the sanction of the United States, President Juarez was enabled, in 1857, to carry into effect an act abolishing the church tribunals, and confiscating the land of the church to the service of the State. But the better movement was not accomplished without incurring the displeasure of England, Spain and France, whose armies were at once put in action to maintain the rights of their citizens, involved in her civil war, the patron of the United States could not induce the withdrawal of the French troops, but England and Spain received a settlement, and called off their forces. It turned out that the repression of the wrongs of his subjects, was only a pretext under which Napoleon III. sought to establish in Mexico a hereditary monarchical government under a Roman Catholic emperor. Archduke Maximilian of Austria accepted the crown, but was defeated and shot in 1867, by the Republican party under Juarez. With the exception of slight internal disturbances during the years succeeding the execution of Maximilian, the civil authority has been supreme in Mexico, and Catholicism and military aims have been relegated to the background.

But along with the readiness to bemoan action, there rises in the Mexican character a childlike simplicity and a promptness to resort to expedients, not at all resenting to the well-wishes of the Republic. All this, however, to the extreme wonderfulness, one cannot but see that the institutions of Mexico do not rest for stability on a "paper" constitution, but the finding of her struggles for independence, and the heroic efforts to hold the State apart from the church, show their foundations to be laid deep down in the hearts of the people. What we see here being simply indicates the present status of a people in the process of a studied evolution from savagery to civilization. At the rate of progress made in the last fifteen years, Mexico will place Mexico with her friendly relations with the United States, her enlarged intelligence, and the susceptibility of her people to improvement, in the front rank of the great powers of the earth. The natural resources of Mexico are to be the wealth to lend, silver and gold, while her increasing production in coffee, cocoa, sugar, tobacco and cotton, and her unsurpassed resources of climate, can not be supplied to our own country in quantities at all approaching our needs. There is, however, room for ground to sight, and one by another judge from the fruitless efforts of 1885, as well as from the vagabonds now so long pending, that God does not see the greatest need to her commerce in economy. But to whatever turn the multitudinous considerations may tend, this one fact is clear, Mexico is a "rising country."

J. A. WILSON.

LAS PALOMAS, Mexico, via Deming, New Mexico, 1891.

MRS. GRAHAM'S
Cucumber Blossom Flower Cream
Face Bleach
MRS. GRAHAM'S
Face Bleach

LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court, in and for Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah.

In the Matter of the Estate of Nathan Mallitz E. Mann, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT [illegible]

E. K. ALLEN
Clerk of the Probate Court.
By C. S. Crawford, Deputy Clerk.

LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court in and for Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah.

In the matter of the estate of Lydia M. Cook, deceased.

[illegible]

MARGARET J. CAREY, THE ADMINISTRATRIX [illegible]

E. K. ALLEN
Clerk.

ASSESSMENT NOTICE.

Lucky Bill Mining Company. Location of mining claim situated in Parley's Park, Cottonwood Mining District, Salt Lake County, Utah.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AT a meeting of the Board of Trustees held on the 4th day of August, 1891, at Salt Lake City, Utah, an assessment of [illegible] per share was levied upon the capital stock of the Lucky Bill Mining Company, payable to the Secretary, at the office of the company, Room 10, Commercial Block, Salt Lake City, Utah. Any stock upon which this assessment shall remain unpaid on the 5th day of September, 1891, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before, will be sold on the 5th day of October, 1891, at the office of the Secretary, Room 10, Commercial Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, to pay the delinquent assessment, together with costs of advertising and expenses of sale.

LUCKY BILL MINING COMPANY,
W. J. SCOTT, Secretary.
Room 10, Commercial Block, Salt Lake City, Utah.

SUMMONS.

In the District Court in and for the Third Judicial District, in and for Tooele County, Territory of Utah.

Cyrus Dwight Fickett,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Jesse J. Hale, Defendant.

The People of the Territory of Utah send Greeting:

To Jesse J. Hale, Defendant:

YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED TO APPEAR in an action brought against you by the above named plaintiff, in the District Court of the Third Judicial District of the Territory of Utah, and to answer the complaint filed therein within ten days after the service on you of this summons, if served within this county, and within twenty days if served out of this county, but if served by publication, within forty days from the date of the first publication of this summons, or judgment will be taken against you by default, according to the prayer of said complaint.

The said action is brought to have plaintiff's marriage with defendant dissolved, on the following grounds: Habitual and habitual intoxication, and habitual and habitual and habitual cruelty, that at each marriage, commencing about the month of [illegible] and continuing down to the present time, and for the reasons of such cruelty, the defendant is now living separate and apart from the plaintiff, and has been for the space of three years last past, and plaintiff has been and is now a resident of the Territory of Utah for the space of three years next before the commencement of this action, and for the reasons of such cruelty the