

insulting and slandering us; and went to all kinds of trouble to learn all that we did and the names of those who visited us in order that she might notify the priests. It so happened one night, upon returning from the church, that she had scarcely entered her house, where she lived alone, when suddenly she fell dead at the foot of her bed before she had time to take off her wraps, and in this spot was found next morning. It is considered the greatest misfortune that can befall a Catholic to die suddenly without being able to receive the last rites of the church. Her sudden death was widely commented upon throughout the city by those who knew her opposition to us, and many said it was a visitation from God because of the lies and bitterness which she had heaped upon us.

For some time after our arrival a neighboring family visited us and became quite intimate, until one evening, when the opportunity presented itself, we confessed to them who we were and what our mission was. The gentleman himself, being an intelligent man and member of the Supreme Court of the district, expressed his approval and encouraged conversation on the topics of the Gospel. But the mother and her grown-up daughter were not so favorably disposed to us.

A few days later these two women visited my wife, when she was alone in the house, and urged her to forsake this new religion and thus take care of her life, as a certain fanatical woman in the city had expressed her desire and determination to challenge my wife to defend her religion in a duel with revolvers and thus they would decide which church was true and which was false. Mrs Saravia replied that being a Christian, she was not versed in this matter of duels and revolvers, and had no intention of trying to defend her religion with any other arms than the

Bible; and that her answer to the challenge was that she loved the women of Potosi and would pray for the conversion of her enemy.

In spite of continual opposition on the part of the clergy and the more fanatical women, we have continued to publish abroad the Gospel message. Four times during the year we have been compelled by the owners to move from one house to another, owing to the intrigues of the Catholic authorities; but in spite of these frequent interruptions I have succeeded in gathering the interested ones to my house at least once each week, in order to expound to them the doctrines of our religion. The attendance varies considerably. The chief defect of my countrymen is their sad lack of reliability; of fifty who promise only twenty-five will appear, and of twenty-five only ten. Sometimes only two have been present, but with these two we have celebrated our worship.

Among those who have shown what seems to be real interest are about fifty young men and four women. Several students are interested. Among these the most promising is a young student of law who was formerly the editor of the local Catholic paper. Many of these young men visit me from time to time and I also visit them in their homes. All of them have given me their names and addresses, which I keep preserved in my note-book.

It is encouraging to know that to-day all the more intelligent and liberal classes of Potosi recognize me as the Protestant Missionary and are now convinced that our propaganda is both uplifting and moral, so that now none of these refuse the literature which I distribute, but rather are anxious to secure it. I entertain the hope that in time a strong and vigorous church may be established in this place.