to attend to before returning to Juarez but of course the folks will come home with Prest. Ivins.

Like you I wish we knew just what our future programme will be so we would ~~h~~ know what to do about fixing up and it is more than likely I will know when I return to Ciudad Juarez as I look for a letter from the Presidentcy at that place.

I was very sorry that the rain spoiled the alabastine and it is too bad Bro. Romney can not fix the roof and chimney satisfactory.

If he has not yet had it painted I wish you would ask him to attend to it and have enough coats of good thick paint put on zafter all the holes are sodered up) to keep it from leaking.

Ask Brother Romney if the smoking of the chimney is not caused by the flue having been filled up with mud when the men were finishing the chimney and it is possible that so much has dropped into the stove that it will not draw until you clean the stove out underneath.

Write me at once to Ciudad Juarez and send whatever mail there is for me. It is quite interesting to labor among these natives for awhile but I fancy it would be most difficult for me to learn to relish their food.

I hope you will have sufficient rain to start the grass and make things fresh and beautifull.

Be carefull of yourself and the children and don t try to do much else. May God bless you and keep you well, with love,

Affectionately,
Ivan

P.S. I hope when I come home I will feel well and natural and not be so cross and disagreeable as I was before. My voice has been good all the time down here and I feel well and natural.

[Letter 84: Avery to Owen]

[*no letterhead, handwritten*]

Colonia Juarez
May 30, 1904.

Dear Ivan÷

As you requested I write and send your mail. Your letter came to late Saturday to send your mail that day.

The children are well and we talk to them about Papa and Mama.

Why should I keep it longer, I will have to tell you. Who else should know? I am suffering, I have been tried and why? It is all I can stand now, Elder Duffin has been in, he said he knew I was feeling bad and came to talk to me. I thank the Lord that he came.[46]