

1883 by Gilbert, has been undertaken to warn the people of what he considered an impending danger. A shrinkage of the Lake still continues. Most of the tributary streams are lessened or not wholly stopped before they reach the Lake through irrigation processes. The Lake is already one of the most concentrated natural brines known. It is noted for its high percentage of common salt, and of sodium sulphate; the latter is mirabilite, is deposited whenever the water sinks below a certain critical temperature not far from the freezing point of fresh water. An analysis made by Dr. Gale over forty years ago showed the water to contain 22.282 per cent by weight of solid matter. Subsequent to that time, however, the volume of the Lake increased. In 1880-81 Gilbert placed the total salinity of the water at 15 per cent; in 1869 Allen found about the same proportion. Analyses made by Dr. Tammage, quoted by Gilbert in his later reports, showed that the water contained in December, 1885, 16.71 per cent; in August, 1889, 19.55 per cent; in September, 1892, the water showed 22 per cent. From present knowledge concerning the history of the large lake, Director Powell has made the following summary from the report of the labors of Gilbert and his associates: "First, the waters were low, occupying, as Great Salt Lake now does, only a limited portion of the bottom of the basin. Then they gradually rose and spread, forming an inland sea nearly equal to Lake Huron in extent, with a maximum depth of one thousand feet. Then the waters fell and the lake not merely dwindled in size, but absolutely disappeared, leaving a plain even more desolate than the Great Salt Lake Desert of today. Then they again rose, surpassing even their height, and eventually overflowing the basin at its northern edge, sending a tributary stream to the Columbia river; and, last, there was a second recession, and the water shrunk away, until now only Great Salt Lake and two smaller lakes remain."

The fauna and flora of this shrunken remnant of an ancient inland sea must be of special interest. The following species of animals have been found in the brine and some of them were exhibited at the lecture. First, the brine shrimp (*artemia fertilis*); second, the larvae and pupae of the gnats *ephedra gracilis*; third, the larvae of a long legged fly, tipula, and fourth, a species of corixa. The vegetable life of the Lake is varied and interesting, but thus far it has been but little investigated.

Prof. Marshall's address was postponed till next meeting, May 4th.

## BLESSED AND SYMPATHETIC VISIT.

SPRING CITY, April 22, 1895.

Will you please give space in your valuable paper to notice a very pleasing incident that occurred here yesterday?

The Stake presidency held a ward conference at which valuable instructions were given, and the general and local authorities were sustained without a dissenting vote. After the meeting closed, the presidency of the Stake and the Bishopric, with other Elders of the place, repaired to the house of Brother John Larson, who has been

sick for a month past—the old body (71 years old) refusing to perform its proper functions and he was becoming much enfeebled. He was administered to and blessings were sealed upon his head, which he informed me this morning had been fully realized, and for which he praised God. Just as the ordinance had been performed the choir, led by Brother Durant, of Salt Lake City, followed by a host of others made their appearance and sang for the afflicted brother. After the brethren had departed, Brother Larson, who is a dear lover of meetings, proposed that we resolve ourselves into a meeting in front of his house, so the choir sang "O, My Father," and a number of the brethren spoke in high terms of the esteem in which Brother Larson is held in the hearts of the Saints and asked the blessing of God upon the faithful brother, which made him truly feel that he had received a refreshing from the Lord.

Respectfully,  
REDRICK N. ALLRED.

## UTAH AT ANN ARBOR.

ANN ARBOR, Mich.,  
April 16th, 1895.

If you can find room for the following, your readers, I think, will find it interesting. From the *Washtenaw Evening Times*:

"The music for the occasion (Easter Sunday) was furnished by a choir of mixed voices accompanied by an orchestra of sixteen pieces, including harp and organ, under the direction of Mr. J. J. McClellan. The mass sung was composed by Mr. McClellan and reflects credit upon him as a composer, as the mass is without doubt the grandest ever sung in this city."

The *Ann Arbor Courier*, speaking of Bro. McClellan's mass, as it was to give, says: "The singers and instrumentalists, under the personal direction of the composer, were enabled to portray the feelings and photograph the thoughts with telling effect. It was a beautiful picture. Painters have

covered the mightiest canvases, orchestras have rolled their grandest symphonies, and choirs have raised the most sublime oratorios; sculptors have cut richest marble and composers have engraved their inspired writings upon the heart, and following in the pathway of musical genius, like former illustrious composers who have left an engraving upon our hearts, Mr. McClellan has left an impression upon the souls of his hearers. He was truly inspired. \* \* \*

The mass went far beyond expectations. It is the result of deep study combined with the genius which Mr. McClellan possesses. He has succeeded in producing a work of superior excellence; it will vie favorably with the works of some of our best composers. It displays peculiar tact in bringing out the sublime, the beautiful, the plaintive, in fact all the qualities of composition that tend to move an audience. If it was his purpose to arouse the congregation yesterday, then he accomplished his aim. Scores of compliments and congratulations have poured in on every side. St. Thomas's church is to be congratulated on having such an accomplished musical director, and the School of Music should be proud of such an able scholar. This surely

speaks well for the teaching qualities of his instructors."

Of the Utah people attending the university, Brother McClellan is perhaps the most modest and unassuming. He is as humble as a child, and is a faithful Latter-day Saint. In July, 1891, he began his studies in East Saginaw, Michigan, under Prof. A. W. Platte, with whom he studied a year and a half, at which time he came to the university school of music, where he has been a student under Professors Stanley and Schmall as well as the eminent pianist, Professor Jonas.

When our great concert was given by the Choral society and a select orchestra of some sixty pieces, our Utah boy in his modest but masterly way played the accompaniments on the large Columbian organ which is now located in university hall. During the recent illness of Prof. Stanley, Brother McClellan has had charge of the music at vesper services and has conducted the classes in harmony.

Besides taking his regular work at the school Brother McClellan has given some private lessons on the piano, has played in one of Ann Arbor's best orchestras and is now about to be chosen for its leader; he has taken the place of absent professors in a great many cases, and each day at Mr. Lamson's rehearsals he plays accompaniments for that renowned vocalist. He has also had charge of the choir and orchestra at the St. Thomas church. He has grown in popularity as a conductor ever since he accepted his position, and Easter Sunday, when the choir, accompanied by an orchestra of sixteen pieces, rendered a mass of Mr. McClellan's own composition, his popularity reached a magnificent climax. Compliments and praises come to him on every hand. He is not yet twenty-one years of age, but if but a boy in years, in ability and manhood he is a man. The choir and orchestra are proud of him, he is their conductor; the School of Music is proud of him, he is one of its students, and Utah should be doubly proud of him, he is her own boy. Brother McClellan has been honored with an invitation to teach in the School of Music next year, and it is not unlikely that he will accept it.

Our spring vacation began last Friday and will last until next Tuesday, ten days. So many students have gone home that Ann Arbor seems almost deserted. An effort is being made to have all the old leaves raked off the campus before college opens. Notwithstanding the fact that work is heavy at present, the seniors find some time to rejoice together now that the last spring time of their college life has come. They will "swing out" in their caps and gowns at "vespers," the first Thursday after college opens. Prof. Stanley is preparing some special music for the occasion.

The number of Utah students at the university this year is smaller than it has been before for several years. There are but two in the law department, while last year there were ten, and the year before there were twenty-one. During the past year perhaps more has been done to remove the prejudice which existed against the Latter-day Saints than has ever been done before.