

of the Brigham Young academy, were held Wednesday at the Brigham Young academy. President Lorenzo Snow and numerous other orators were in attendance. The class exercises were very interesting and indicated great ability and care on the part of the students. The following are the graduates from the commercial department: Wm. Gardner, Warren Johnson, D. B. Colton, Jacob Gubler and A. B. Anderson. There are no graduates from the academic department this year.

The exercises of the normal class were held last evening and the program was ably carried out. The following are the graduates from the normal department: Vilate Elliot, Jennie Brimball, A. B. Anderson, Frank Cutler, May Bell Thurman, E. K. Fillerup, Obae R. Fillerup, Vio Sorensen, E. H. Holt, Gomer Richards, May Ashworth, B. S. Hinkley, A. B. Christensen, Joseph L. Horne, Alice Reynolds and L. E. Eggertsen.

Thursday there was a larger attendance at the academy than at any time during the week. The commencement oration was delivered by Elder Brigham Young, of the Council of the Apostles, and degrees were conferred upon the graduating students.

PLEASANT GREEN, May 22, 1895.

Two prominent weddings were solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple today. The contracting parties are Daniel Hammer Robison, principal of the district schools here, and Miss Hannah Neilsen; and Swen L. Swenson, partner and superintendent of Thorne Bros. & Co.'s store here, and son of Bishop K. Swenson, to Miss Susie Brown, daughter of Bishop John Brown. Both couples are worthy and highly respected young people and the best wishes of the community go out for their future happiness. Mr. Robison is the son of the late Lewis Robison, so well and favorably known throughout Utah.

Ernest Smith, son of Joseph Smith, accidentally broke his arm today by falling from a scaffold. The lad is being treated by Dr. R. M. Rodgers.

Mrs. Heber Clark presented her husband with a son yesterday, the first boy in the family. All progressing nicely.

Howard R. Driggs was the recipient of a handsome dressing case by his students at the close of school. The young man is quite popular with his pupils.

Arrangements have been made by the committee to hold the reunion for the old folks of Salt Lake county at this place. The date has not been given. D.

Hop. Charles W. Irish, chief of the irrigation division of the department of agriculture, is in Utah on a tour of irrigation inspection, having been detailed to that important work by Secretary Morton. Friday morning Mr. and Mrs. Irish, and Territorial Secretary Richards and Mrs. F. S. Richards, made a pleasant call on the NEWS. On the subject of irrigation Mr. Irish stated that he regarded Utah as the model for the system and its operation. Referring to the large percentage of water lost here by percolation he expressed surprise that petroleum was not made available to stop

the loss. The method he suggests is the mixing of boiled petroleum and gravel, forming a sort of cement, which he says is impervious to water, and would be a much cheaper lining for ditches than cement such as is used now in southern California.

Mr. Irish is gathering specimens of irrigation crops, statistics relating thereto, and to the use of water, etc.; also samples of different soils to be analyzed at Washington with a view to determining the benefits that arise from the use of surface water and the rotation of crops. He will proceed south on Monday, going to Milford before returning, and will stop at various places en route for the purpose of acquiring information. Then he will go north. The information gathered here is expected to be of material benefit to the farmers of Kansas and Nebraska. Mr. Irish is pleased with the small farm system here and the methods of controlling the distribution of irrigation water.

John Benson, one of the two men sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in the penitentiary for the murder of Dr. Elliott at Grantsville, and for whose pardon a largely and influentially signed petition is about to be presented to Governor West, Tuesday afternoon, between 3 and 4 o'clock, underwent a critical operation in the penitentiary.

The convict had been ailing only a short time when serious symptoms began to develop, plainly indicating that appendicitis had made alarm; inroads upon his system. The operation was performed by the regular hospital surgeon, Dr. Witcher, assisted by Drs. Baldwin, Niles and Root. Though successful from a surgical standpoint, it has left the prisoner in an extremely low state.

The news of Benson's condition was telegraphed to his mother at Grantsville, and she has visited the patient.

McBrice, who was connected with Benson in the murder of Dr. Elliott, has been permitted to remain at the bedside of his former associate and brother-in-law.

Upon inquiry at the marshal's office this afternoon it was learned that Benson passed a restful night and that his condition at latest accounts was encouraging. It is impossible, however, for the doctors just yet to say what turn the case will take.

The Salt Lake county bureau of statistics has completed its labors and the census returns of all the precincts of the county exclusive of the city show a population of 20,106, as follows:

Big Cottonwood	1,000
Bingham	1,313
Bluff Dale	258
Brighton	148
Butler	475
Draper	537
East Mill Creek	404
Farmers	1,605
Fort Herriman	278
Granger	606
Granite	189
Hunter	339
Little Cottonwood	8
Mill Creek	2,008
Mountain Dell	168
North Jordan	805
North Point	93
Pleasant Green	305
Pleasant View	384
Riverton	636
Sandy	1,195
Silver	33
South Cottonwood	2,510
South Jordan	521
Sugar House	1,412
Union	700

West Jordan	1,561
Penitentiary	181
Total	20,106
Population of Salt Lake City	47,980

Total population of entire Salt Lake county 68,086

These 20,106 residents of the county precincts comprise 6,828 parents, 2,467 unmarried persons and 11,802 children. Of the total population 20,016 are whites, 33 are negroes and 57 are natives of China. The native born number 14,769 and the foreign born, 5,339.

MERCUR, Utah, May 22, 1895.—Surveyors are at work locating a ditch from Opbir to convey water to this camp. The distance is twelve miles. A pipe will be laid two feet and a half deep; the water will be pumped to the divide. Men will be set at work on the job next week. This camp is rapidly forging ahead and when this service is completed the town will make increased strides.

The "Golden Gate" mine is developing and a large force of men will soon be put on erecting buildings and making other improvements.

The Salt Lake and Mercur railway has not started passenger traffic to date, but expects to on the 1st of June.

Several other properties about the camp are developing and proving satisfactory to the owners.

Family men complain of the course the Mercur company pursue, exacting 25 cents per day when they board at home.

Some petty thieves have been getting in their work at Cedar Fort. Mrs. Cook, who has been staying with her daughter, Mrs. Seth Rigby, at Farmers ward, the last winter, came home on Saturday to find her home had been robbed of a lot of provisions during her absence. Mr. John Driagale's house was visited a short time ago and a lot of meat, a sack of sugar and some other articles were stolen. The parties who committed these depredations are supposed to be the same fellows that "held up" the sheriff of Box Elder county lately near Corinne, as they have been in and about Cedar valley during the winter. D.

Death came suddenly and unexpectedly to Joseph G. Davis, the well known Salt Lake stock broker, Monday afternoon about 4 o'clock, while he was sitting at a luncheon table in a business men's private club room in the Emporium building, chatting with a party of friends.

For some time past Davis was afflicted with severe rheumatic troubles which occasionally affected the heart. It was one of these spells that brought his earthly career to such a sudden close. Just a few minutes before the end came he went upstairs with Leadore Morris and together they sat down to the table around which a number of gentlemen had already gathered. Davis appeared to be in an unusually merry mood and was in the midst of the relation of an anecdote when he turned ghastly pale and ceased speaking. His lower jaw dropped as did also his arms, and a glance convinced his friends that he was in the embrace of death. They, however, immediately summoned the family physician, Dr. McLean, but all efforts at resuscitation were futile. Coroner Offenbach was notified, but