

religious thought and sentiment of the young minds under their care and guidance, and to develop this further in the right direction. For that work the best intellectual qualities and careful preparation are equally necessary for success. And as the possibilities of enlisting these in the service of the great cause are placed within the reach of every school, the work will in the course of time, by the aid of the Divine Spirit, accomplish its great object.

The hope of any people is centered in the growing generation. If moral principles, regard for truth and justice, loyalty to God and to the country are to be perpetuated, these things must be instilled into the minds of the young at the earliest possible date and by such means as are suited to their undeveloped minds and faculties. The work of Sunday school teachers is eminently the work of a sower. Some of the good seed may fall by the wayside or upon stony places or among thorns, but most of it will fall in good soil, for the mind of the child, pessimists to the contrary notwithstanding, is essentially good. The results of the work may not be visible at once, but a time will come when the faithful labor of the teachers will be amply rewarded by an abundant harvest, for some of it will bring forth a hundredfold, and future generations will be blessed as a result of the labors of a humble Sunday school teacher. This is a work which can never be in vain.

It is a notable fact that every one who has taken a more prominent part in the affairs of the Kingdom of God on earth has been led in this direction in his early youth. We might refer to Moses, to Samuel, to David, to Nephi, to John the Baptist, to Luther, to Joseph Smith and a host of others, all of whom were trained in the fear of the Lord as children and afterwards accomplished great things for the cause of the Lord. The fact is well worth consideration, for it shows the vast importance of the work in which our brethren and sisters are engaged when they give their services as Sunday school teachers to the children of the Saints.

#### UNIVERSITY CHANGES.

The generosity of the Salt Lake Literary and Scientific association of this city in coming to the aid of the University of Utah at this particular crisis, will be gratifying to every friend of education in the Territory. By the terms of the agreement now formally entered into between the officers of the association and the regents of the University, the former turn over to the latter the splendid apparatus now in the association's handsome building, as part of the endowment of a permanent chair or professorship in the University. The latter institution, it is further understood, shall have the use, during two years, of the laboratories, class-rooms, etc., in the new building referred to. The chair or professorship which the association thus elects to endow is that of geology and mineralogy, and for the first incumbent of this chair, it names Dr. James E. Talmage, who at yesterday's meeting of the board of regents of the

University was not only confirmed in the position, but was elected president of the University.

In all of this, the News sees nothing but mutual advantage and profit to the two parties to the compact, and a long stride forward in the amalgamation of our higher educational interests. It cannot fail to result in good; and though the parsimony of the Legislature seemed in the outset calculated to deal the University a killing blow, and even now has made necessary the reduction of expenses and the dropping of professors whose services under other circumstances it might have been desirable to retain, yet it has evoked a patriotism and a union in support of the one pioneer institution of learning that prosperity would perhaps have been much slower to arouse.

As to the personnel of the faculty as at present constituted, the News takes this occasion sincerely to congratulate Dr. Talmage on the honor conferred through his elevation to the presidency, and the University on securing so valuable and accomplished an educator to stand at its head. But we cannot refrain from expressing in this connection a high regard for the motives and conduct of Professor Kingsbury, who with rare magnanimity and unselfishness put away his chances of preferment by laboring to effect the other changes in and benefits to the University above mentioned. All the way through he has thought of the institution first and himself last; and the honor conferred upon him in naming him vice-president by acclamation was as graceful as it was deserved.

That which now seems to us to give promise of the brightest and greatest success for the University is the admirable harmony and union that prevail. In all the negotiations leading to the result above outlined, there has been neither jealousy nor impugning of motives. Everything has been frank, candid, honorable and patriotic. We believe the University has seen the last of its dark days, and will now enter upon a career of unbroken prosperity.

#### SHARP, THE MOBOCRAT, DEAD.

A telegram from Carthage, Illinois, brings the news that on the night of Monday, April 9, Thomas Coke Sharp, editor and proprietor of the *Carthage Gazette*, died at his home at that place, from paralysis, from which he had suffered the past three years. The deceased was the son of a noted Methodist minister, Rev. Solomon Sharp, of Philadelphia, and was in the 76th year of his age at the time of his demise. He was a native of New York, having been born at Mt. Holly, September 25, 1818. He came west and settled in Quincy, Illinois, and engaged in the practice of law. Shortly afterward, in the summer of 1840, he moved to Warsaw, Hancock county. He became associated in business with James Gamble, and together they purchased from Daniel N. White the *Western World*, of which Sharp became editor. A year later the name of the paper was changed to the *Warsaw Signal*, and for a number of years it was the only paper published

in Hancock county outside of Nauvoo. In later years Mr. Sharp became the editor of the *Carthage Gazette*.

The chief interest of the people of Utah in Thomas C. Sharp arises from the fact that they and others have had to regard him as one of the murderers of the Prophet Joseph and the Patriarch Hyrum Smith, at Carthage jail, June 27th, 1844. Perhaps the last Utah man to visit and converse with him was Sheriff Gilbert Beinap, of Ogden, who returned from the East a week ago. He stated at the time that Sharp was an invalid, and his mind impaired. He was non-communicative on the subject of the assassination, particularly the part he played in it, but Sheriff Beinap believes that at the time of his visit Sharp would have told all he remembered if his wife would have allowed it, but this she would not do.

When Sharp came into Hancock county there was some anti-Mormon agitation and he entered into it with ardor. He was ambitious for political preferment and was wholly unscrupulous in measures to gain his ends. He published in his paper the most infamous falsehoods against the Latter-day Saints. All through those troublous times the columns of the *Signal* were replete with vicious articles inciting and urging violence toward the Mormon people. Thomas C. Sharp had murder in his heart then and later availed himself of the opportunity to imbue his hands in the blood of innocence. He was denounced by the sheriff of the county as "a villain of the worst dye."

In connection with his associates he was instrumental in inflaming public prejudice to the extent that meetings were held, the first of them at Warsaw, in which resolutions were passed declaring that in the opinion of those participating the time had arrived when the Mormons, "as a body, should be driven from the surrounding settlements into Nauvoo; that the Prophet and his miscreant adherents should then be demanded at their hands, and if not surrendered a war of extermination should be waged to their entire destruction." Sharp was an ardent advocate of the murderous policy.

This situation was known at the time, as may be seen by the following from the diary of the Prophet Joseph, though the people did not realize the full import of the ominous proceedings. The Prophet says, under date of June, 18, 1844:

About 2 p. m. the Legion was drawn up in the street close by the mansion. I stood in full uniform on the top of the frame of a building. Judge Phelps read the Warsaw *Signal* extra of the 17th, wherein the "old citizens" were called upon to assist the mob in exterminating the leaders of the Saints and driving away the people.

Thomas C. Sharp was one of the attorneys engaged as prosecuting counsel when the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum were placed under arrest. Knowing that they were innocent of any crime, and that if the case proceeded to trial acquittal must follow, he joined with others in carrying out the mobocratic design. He was a leader in the murderous conspiracy, and conducted the negotiations by which it was arranged that the mob should get possession