

## THE DESERET NEWS.

ELIAS SMITH.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday.....February 22, 1860.

## THE UNION ACADEMY.

ON THE EAST SIDE OF Union Square, G. S. L. City, will be ready for the ADMISSION of SCHOLARS on the 9th of April next.

This Academy will be under the general supervision of Professor ORSON PRATT, and will commence with Messrs. ORSON PRATT, jun., and JAMES COBB as Teachers, to whose aid other teachers will be added whenever the number of scholars may render it requisite.

No tuition will be charged to those who study Algebra, Surveying, or other higher branches of Mathematics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Mineralogy, Geology, and Modern Languages, which, with whatever else may be taught, it is expected will be taught and learned in a thoroughly practical manner, for which instruments, chemicals, &c., will be furnished.

It is also designed, as rapidly as practicable, to provide, to some extent, tools used in the different mechanical departments, and give the students an opportunity to learn their use, and at the same time develop and preserve their physical energies.

Those who wish to attend the Union Academy will please to give notice thereof immediately, for the scholars to each teacher will be limited to the number he can properly take charge of and instruct.

BRIGHAM YOUNG, Sen.

## Indians.

For several weeks scores of natives or children of the forest have been strolling about the city and begging from house to house, for which perhaps there is no remedy. No particular complaints have been made about their stealing, further than the using of fences and fencing materials, wood and other things for making camp fires whenever they need such things or can get them handily.

The tax thus imposed upon the citizens is very onerous, and it has been so, more or less, from the beginning of their settlement in these valleys, and there is not much probability under present arrangements that things in that respect will be any better in the future.

The Indian Superintendencies and Agencies as generally managed and conducted, are nothing but a humbug. They have been particularly so in this Territory for some time past, and were it not for the indefatigable exertions of Gov. Cumming—who for a long time—in addition to his own duties as Chief Executive of the Territory, has had to attend to the duties of the Secretary, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Indian Agents, etc., in their absence, things in the Indian Department would be in a bad state indeed.

Much has been said and written concerning the condition of the Indians in this Territory. Some have asserted and many affect to believe that before the Saints came here, the red men were comparatively better off than they are now; that the whites have killed and driven off the game so that there is nothing left for them to subsist on, and that the poor Indian has suffered in divers ways from the intrusion of the Mormon people on their former hunting grounds and fisheries.

The truth is, there was not much if any more game here then than there is now. The people who sought refuge here from persecution did not betake themselves to hunting for a living, but to tilling the soil and turning the waste and desolate places into fruitful fields. They of course killed many wolves, and now and then a grizzly, a deer and an antelope, but not to the injury of the aborigines. With them the pioneers divided what they brought with them for their own subsistence, and from that day to this the natives have, to a great extent, been fed and clothed by the people in the different settlements, the majority of whom have continually sought to do them good, and to elevate them, if possible, in the scale of being, but not with as much success in many cases as they desired.

What the immediate future of the red men in this country will be is a question not so very easy of solution. Most of them persistently cling to their former habits and customs, and it requires a vast amount of patience to get along with them peaceably, and in all probability it will be a long time, especially under existing federal arrangements, before any material change in their condition will be effected.

So long as they are compelled by hunger, in consequence of their habitual idleness, to beg their subsistence, and are permitted to do so without reserve or restraint, there are very few of them who can or will be induced to till the soil or to labor in any way for their own support, and till some change is effected in that respect, or some other means devised or provided for their subsistence, particularly in

the winter season, they will have to be fed, as they now are, or starve.

To indulge them in begging is peculiarly calculated to encourage them in their idle and loathsome habits, but how to prevent it under existing circumstances is a question for consideration, which but few can satisfactorily answer. It would be unhumane to deny them bread when they ask for it and say they are hungry, and at the same time it countenances their idleness to a great extent and does not confer upon them any lasting benefit, by teaching them a lesson of self-reliance and independence, and until they imbibe those principles in some degree, it will be impossible to improve their condition very materially.

However, patience must have its perfect work in relation to the Indians, and until some scheme is devised for their amelioration more salutary than that which is now being pursued towards them, they must not be permitted to die of starvation.

## Digging Wells.

There are more wells being dug in Great Salt Lake City this winter than heretofore, indicating that those who are having them dug, prefer clean, wholesome water to such filthy stuff as was running through some parts of the city last summer and fall, and had to be used for drinking and culinary purposes.

The water flowing into the city from the mountains is excellent at all seasons of the year, excepting when the streams are swollen by heavy rains and the melting snows, but in the summer season, although it is cool in the morning, in consequence of its being divided and subdivided and made to run in almost every direction for the purposes of irrigation, it becomes so heated by the sun, before mid-day, and so filthy before it gets half way through the city, that it is unpalatable, unwholesome, and unfit for most purposes for which it is generally used.

The digging of wells in locations where they have to be sunk to a great depth is attended with much expense, but when once dug and properly fitted up, they are a last ing improvement and add much to the comforts of life, especially where good water cannot otherwise be obtained. Those residing in such locations, who disrelish warm, unwholesome water, should lose no time in providing themselves with good wells, particularly such as appreciate comforts and blessings obtained by their own exertions.

If there were wells enough to supply the inhabitants with water for general use, there would be no necessity for having streams running through the streets during the winter. The mountain streams could be turned off into convenient channels, and thereby obviate the inconvenience of having water run in little sects, which soon become obstructed after the season of frost sets in, and thereafter till the return of spring, the streets are more or less filled with water and ice, as they have been this winter, often rendering them impassable to pedestrians and unsafe for carriages.

Fault-finding is no part of our profession. We have occasionally called the attention of the city authorities to evils that existed and may do so again when necessary, but at the same time we are well aware of the difficulties attending those matters, and that it was measurably impossible for them to do, or have things done otherwise, or as they wished. For instance, they could not have inhibited the water from running in the numerous ditches during the winter, as was proposed by some last fall, without depriving many of the citizens of that indispensable article, and there was no alternative but to let it run wherever the people wanted it.

If there had been a sufficiency of wells or other fountains, the waters of City creek, and of the other streams flowing into the city might have been turned into channels at the commencement of the cold weather, and thus passed off to the Jordan without discommoding any one and much to the benefit of the streets and to the satisfaction of those who have an aversion to wading in water or sliding on ice, whenever they have occasion to pass through them.

As soon as the citizens generally, who are now entirely dependent on the mountain streams for water, in the winter time, will provide themselves with good wells, the inconveniences that result from the waters of those creeks being taken out and permitted to run in small ditches in the winter, can be avoided by proper action on the part of those having "jurisdiction," and it would not be amiss to have

the people notified in time to prepare for it, that "winter irrigation" will be dispensed hereafter within the limits of the corporation.

## The Festive Season.

During the last eight weeks, or since the commencement of the Christmas Holidays, social parties have been held in most of the principal halls in the city one or more evenings each week, and if there are any of the good citizens who have not more or less participated in the festivities and amusements of the season we do not know who they are.

After the opening of the Social Hall on the evening of the 7th, a series of parties were held there, occurring about every other evening till the 17th, when it was closed again and is to be fitted up, as we understand, for a lecture room, and used for that purpose for a time to come.

As, at the first, so at the last party that was held there, we were present and participated in the festivities of the occasion till they ended, which, "according to the best of our knowledge and belief," was not till about daylight in the morning; thus carrying out a principle we ever wish to follow, that of being present, whenever circumstances do not inhibit, and assist or take part in the finishing up of every good work in which we have any participation, and humbly trust that we may never be engaged in any other.

As the festive season is nearly at an end for the time being, those who have in a goodly degree participated in the amusements and festivities of the winter, will now, of course, if they have neglected their respective occupations to enjoy themselves in the song and the dance, betake themselves again to their several employments, with renewed energy and vigor, and if they obey the injunction "whatever thou doest do with thy might" as literally in their daily labors as they have in their amusements, it will most certainly be well with them temporally hereafter.

The recreations of the Saints, during the winter, have been conducted with the greatest decorum. No drunkenness, no profanity, or other indecent conduct has been witnessed in or about the places of amusement with one or two slight exceptions, indicating a more refined and elevated state of society than exists in these days in the cities of the Gentiles.

**THE WESTERN MAIL.**—On Thursday last the arrival of the mail from California was announced, but on sending to the Post Office for letters and papers, there were no letters and only one California paper, directed to the News, and that was a small concern called the *Daily Appeal*, dated Jan. 21st, published at Marysville. There were also two or three eastern papers that had been sent by the Isthmus and been two or three months on the way.

Can the Placerville editor, who was so well posted up in relation to Brady's contract about the time that the mail arrangements between this city and that place became disarranged and who has occasionally had some things to say about the matter since, inform the public of the cause of the irregularity of the mails from that direction, and why the mail bags are filled with "emptiness" on their arrival here?

**MUDDY.**—The streets have been decidedly muddy for several days and no doubt they will continue to be in that condition, in the lower parts of the city, for some time to come, especially if there is much stormy weather, which is often the case during the spring months.

If it was not for the ice that accumulated during the cold weather in many of the streets they would soon be quite passable in the higher locations, but until that is dissolved by the warm rays of the sun, those on promenade in the streets will either have to walk on ice or in the mud, more or less; and from present appearances, as it is not very warm, it will be some days and perhaps weeks, before the ice and mud will entirely disappear even in the upper part of the city.

**FUEL.**—Since the signs of spring have been more favorable, and the mountains have been more easy of access, a considerable amount of wood has been brought into the city, of which we have received a share, but not enough to last all hands till summer.

However we believe there will be no lack, and the prospects of there being a sufficiency of fuel to supply the demand for it, till the cold weather is over, is decidedly better than it was a few weeks ago.

## The Union Academy.

The attention of all interested is solicited to the notice of the opening of The Union Academy on the 9th of April next, in the large and commodious building situated in the Seventeenth Ward, opposite Union Square.

The founder of the Institution, President Brigham Young, thereby furnishes to the world another proof of his philanthropy and of the good will he has for those over whom he presides and exercises, as alleged, so much control.

If those having a desire to acquire a thorough knowledge of the branches of science to be taught in this much needed Institution do not avail themselves of the opportunity thus offered, they should never complain of their inability to obtain a competent knowledge of science to enable them to teach others successfully.

We have much to say in relation to this subject, but have not time nor room now.

## TABERNACLE.

On Sunday, Feb. 19, 11 a. m., the meeting was opened as usual, with singing by the choir, and music by the organist.

Bishop Hunter and council, and President D. Fullmer administered the sacrament.

President Joseph Young addressed the congregation from the following text: "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."—[Hebrews, chap. 11, v. 13-16. Reasoned on the revelation of the gospel with its gifts and graces, and said that the foundation of our faith and hope is precisely the same as that which they anciently clinged to; that he could not tell all that God had manifested to him, but he could give sufficient to make them understand how he felt in relation to the things of God. Argued that evidences go to show that it is natural for all mankind to bow to, and worship some being whom they believe to be superior in intelligence, and greater in power than themselves, in proof of which he referred to the customs and worship of the heathen nations. Spoke of the nature of the evidences that we have in favor of the truths revealed in the gospel of Christ, and contended that the principles of faith, and the nature of testimony were the same in all ages of the world, whenever and wherever they were found; remarked that if the Latter Day Saints do not abuse the light of the Holy Spirit they will not have any condemnation; that man, by the light of the truth, and following the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, can overcome his own spirit and fallen nature, and walk in the way of righteousness and truth. Philosophers and poets, he observed, have the praises of the world, their fame is handed down from generation to generation, they become renowned and are celebrated for their discoveries and learning, but where is the man that has overcome his passions? He that has done this has more to boast of than Alexander the Great, Julius Cæsar, Hannibal or Napoleon Bonaparte. It is not the men of blood, nor men of war, but those that have overcome by the Spirit of the living God, that shall rule over kingdoms, and sit upon thrones to govern and control in the presence of God. Described in a pathetic manner the sufferings and atonement of Jesus Christ, his perfect life, his examples of holiness, patience and peace making; his mediation and love, as our advocate with the Father.

Elder John Taylor bore testimony to the truth, and made some encouraging remarks on man, viewed as an eternal being.

Benediction by W. W. Phelps.

**NEW POST OFFICES.**—The Postmaster General has established two new Post Offices in this Territory; viz., at Fountain Green in the county of San Pete, George W. Johnson, Post Master, and at Summit, Iron county, Seth Johnson, Post Master.

The establishment of an office at Summit will be of no benefit to the people in that vicinity until there is a mail carried on that part of Route 12801, lying between Fillmore city and Cedar, a distance of about one hundred and twenty five miles.