

educational facilities and to bring the advantages of higher education to the homes of all. Five school-houses with modern equipments and the best of teachers are to be found in great numbers in all parts of the State. In music, literature, art and in the various professions the young people of Utah are making rapid strides. Each year hundreds are graduating from the leading colleges and universities of America while some are pursuing their studies in the finest universities of Europe. The Mormon leaders as well as the people are strong advocates of higher education and scholastic attainments. They encourage music, painting and the finer arts, as well as a system of education which will equip young men and women for the professions, trades and callings so essential in a progressive and stable community. The people are patriotic, believing in the Constitution as an inspired document and that this republican government is the greatest the world has ever seen. They are industrious, sober, virtuous and hospitable. They are deluged and believe literally in the Scriptures. They believe in a personal God, who is the creator of the heavens and the earth, and also in Jesus Christ and His atonement. They believe that the Holy Ghost is a spirit and part of the trinity. They believe in the immortality of the soul and the resurrection from the dead; in the doctrine of rewards and punishment; and immortality and eternal happiness for those who have been faithful to the truth. They are almost universalists in their faith, in that they believe that all men, with rare exceptions, will be saved and receive according to their merits, glory and power hereafter. They believe in the pre-existence of man as a distinct individuality and that mortality and the lessons which it teaches are essential to future exaltation. They believe in baptism in water, in the necessity of prophecy, and in continued revelation for the guidance of the Church. They do not tolerate tyranny or interference with another's religious faith. The Church is organized, having a President, Twelve Apostles and various organizations, consisting of Elders, Priests, Teachers, etc. Frequently conventions are called, at which the various ecclesiastical officers are elected and all serve without compensation. The humblest is often called to officiate in ecclesiastical positions. Hundreds of missionaries are annually sent to the various nations to preach, but serve without any compensation.

The character of the men these people have sent to Washington has been quite a factor in removing the cloud that obstructed a clearer view of the motives of the Mormon people. The writer has taken pains to bring out these facts and is happy to say that among all, thinking men of every creed, and especially those conversant with the history of the people of Utah, there exists a true Christian spirit and recognition of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

SNOWFLAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The regular quarterly conference of the Snowflake Stake was held in Snowflake ward, commencing at 2 p. m. Sunday, May 30, 1897, and ending

at 4 p. m. Monday, May 31st. One meeting was held on Sunday and two on Monday, besides a Priesthood meeting held on Sunday evening.

The Stake presidency were all in attendance; and the other Stake organizations, as well as the wards were all well represented. A few visitors from the St. John's Stake were also present.

We enjoyed beautiful weather and an excellent spirit prevailed. The speakers dwelt largely upon the first principles of the Gospel, and the use of liquor by Church members in this Stake while very limited was severely censured.

The general and Stake authorities were sustained by unanimous vote.

The Bishop's reports indicated a fairly contented and prosperous condition in the various wards.

Arrangements were made to extend the Home Missionary Service to some of our adjacent non-Mormon towns.

L. M. SAVAGE,
Clerk of Conference.

ALBERTA STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Alberta Stake of Zion convened Sunday and Monday, May 23 and 24, 1897.

There were present the Stake presidency, High Council, Bishops and representatives of the various wards, and a large attendance of Saints.

After the opening exercises President Card called upon the Bishops of the various wards, who gave a favorable report generally of the condition of the Saints throughout the Stake.

Elder Ness Hansen, who had been laboring in the Manitoba mission, gave a report of his labors in the region about Souris and Brandon, and testified of the blessings of the Lord upon the Elders in their efforts to spread the Gospel in that land.

A letter was read from Elders Merkley and May, who are in Winnipeg, Manitoba, striving to make an opening there, but on account of ignorance and prejudice, have so far met with comparatively little success, but are full of faith and hope for the future.

The different quorums and associations were then reported by their representatives, showing an increase in numbers, and a satisfactory condition generally, the members being alive to their duties, and making laudable progress in their efforts to obtain a knowledge of the principles of the Gospel.

The general and local authorities of the Church were then presented, and sustained by unanimous vote of the congregation.

Elder S. Williams of the Stake presidency then addressed the Saints upon the necessity of being continually guided by the Spirit of the Lord, and not allowing the business affairs of every-day life to detract their minds from things of the kingdom; also spoke of the importance of keeping sacred the obligations we owe to the Lord in keeping the law of tithing, and to each other in the business affairs of life, and called attention to the counsels of the servants of the Lord in regard to abstaining from an excess of meats and other things calculated to defile and destroy the body.

Elder John A. Woolf of the Stake presidency followed, testifying that the Spirit of the Lord had been in our

midst during our conference, counselled the Saints to unite in pleading with the Lord to send the gentle rains upon the land, that success may attend our labors, instructed the Elders to avoid making comparisons, when speaking to the Saints, and preach the pure principles of the Gospel; impressed upon the mothers the need of training their children in the ways of the Lord.

Elder O. O. Card counselled the Saints to support the home industries, comply with the laws of the land in keeping their fields clear of noxious weeds, and in regard to their surroundings at home; spoke of the necessity of steps being taken to assist our missionaries who were travelling abroad; exhorted the Saints to keep sacred the Sabbath, and to give special heed to the training of their children, to comply strictly with the laws of tithing, that the land might be sanctified unto them; he also referred to the change of sentiment towards the Saints by those not of our faith.

The exercises during the conference were enlivened by the sweet singing of our efficient choir under the leadership of Elder Andrew Archibald.

The weather being pleasant, added to the enjoyment of the occasion.

SYLVESTER LOW,
Stake Clerk.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH.

Rah, rah, rah, Utah! was the cry at the Theater on June 9 that failed to bring down the house as it deserved. But there was plenty of interest shown in the fair wearers of dainty white dresses and the less fair wearers of ordinary white shirt fronts. The stage was a perfect fairyland of fragrant blossoms and Titania herself laughed in every note of Mr. Weihe's sweet music.

At 10:30, the hour for beginning, the house was filled. The lower part having been reserved for friends of the graduates was comfortably occupied; the two balconies were packed. After music by the orchestra, the Rev. Mr. Lockwood offered prayer.

The exercises were unusually enjoyable, Miss Poll's essay, The More Perfect Education, and Mr. Bennion's oration and valedictory, The State as a Promoter, being all that could be desired. In a brief address Mrs. Emma McVicker congratulated the graduates on their success and urged them to preserve high ideals and instill into the pupils a love of the beautiful and a strong love of country.

Certificates of graduation were then bestowed by Prof. Kingsbury upon fifty-two graduates, six of whom took out degrees. Mr. R. L. McGhie and Miss Grace Helges become B. A., Messrs. Milton Bennion, Alvin Borgquist and Leon Watters B. S., and Mrs. Lydia Snow Pierce is henceforth bachelor of letters. The remaining students were graduated from the third and fourth years' normal course and received certificates to teach.

Governor Wells should have given an address, but it was impossible for him to be present, so after the benediction by the Reverend Mr. Arnold, those in the audience crowded upon the stage with many wishes of good will and hearty handshakes to their young favorites whose school days have ended so happily.