

There are 24 counties in the Territory, in which there are 344 school districts, and in these districts there are 460 public schools.

There are 841 teachers and assistants, and of these 40 are non-Mormons.

The school population (between the ages of six and eighteen years) is 54,943, of which 47,371 are Mormon and 7,582 non-Mormon.

The number of scholars enrolled is 32,988, of which 30,721 are Mormon and 2,267 non-Mormon: (Com. Report, pp. 9, 10.)

#### HOW SCHOOLS ARE MAINTAINED.

These schools are supported as follows:

By a Territorial tax of 3 mills on the dollar for payment of teachers. Trustees are elected by the taxpayers in each district, and these trustees are authorized to levy and collect an additional tax of one-fourth of 1 per cent. for general school purposes; and by a vote of a majority of the tax-payers in any district a further tax, up to 2 per cent., may be assessed and collected for school purposes. (Com. Report, pp. 2, 34.)

The value of district school property is \$542,755.21. (*Ibid.*, p. 12.)

The amount paid for school teachers and appliances for schools for the year ending June 30, 1888, was \$293,085. (*Ibid.*, p. 15.)

The text books used in these schools are as follows: Bancroft's Readers; Harrington's Graded Speller; Appleton's Elementary and Higher Geographies; Spencerian Copy Books; Michael's System of Penmanship for fourth reader and higher grades of pupils; Krusi's Drawing Series; Pathfinder Series of Physiologies, consisting of No. 1, Child's Health Primer; No. 2, Hygiene for young people; and No. 3, Steele's Hygienic Physiology; Grammars: Barnes' Short Studies in English; Reed and Kellogg's Higher Lessons in English; Barnes' Primary History of the United States; Stephens' Music Readers; Harper's Arithmetics.

#### UNIVERSITY.

In addition to the foregoing there is the University of Deseret, which is in part supported by Territorial funds. It is open to all, and 40 students yearly are admitted upon condition that they become teachers in the district schools. (*Ibid.*, p. 24.)

All of the above-mentioned schools are non-sectarian; no denominational tenets are taught. (*Ibid.*, p. 6.)

#### DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Of these the Mormons have..... 4  
Other denominations..... 85

In the Mormon schools the scholars enrolled are 620 Mormons and 10 non-Mormons.

In the other denominations the scholars enrolled are 2,277 Mormons and 3,773 non-Mormons. (*Ibid.*, p. 13.)

It is very apparent from the statistics above given that the provisions for education are worthy of the highest commendation, and the results prove their value.

These results briefly stated are as follows, taken from the report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the year 1881:

The average duration of schools in Utah in a year is 140 days. Only twelve States and one Territory and the District of Columbia have a higher average, viz:

	Days.
Connecticut.....	180
Delaware.....	153
Illinois.....	149
Iowa.....	148
Massachusetts.....	178
Michigan.....	154
New Jersey.....	190
New York.....	178
Ohio.....	155
Pennsylvania.....	146
Rhode Island.....	186
Wisconsin.....	175
District of Columbia.....	190
Idaho.....	150

#### ILLITERACY.

The fruits of this school system are shown in the fact that the percentage of illiteracy is lower than the average of the country; and there are thirteen of the States and Territories that show a lower percentage of persons who cannot read.

Connecticut and Utah have the same; namely, 3.37.

Leaving out of view persons of color, the following table from the last census report gives the comparison of illiteracy in Utah as compared with the aggregate of the States and other Territories:

Age and nationality who cannot write.	Utah. Per cent.	U.S. Per cent.
Native whites, 10 years and over	5.9	8.7
Foreign " " " " " "	11.8	12.6
Whites, 14 to 14 years.....	10.7	11.9
Whites, 15 to 21 " " " "	4.9	7.2
Whites, 21 years and over.....	8.9	9.4

It can not be, and is not, disputed that the educational facilities in Utah are of a high order of excellence, and the effect is shown in the statistics above presented.

#### CHURCHES.

Of churches other than Mormon there are 65 in the Territory, holding church property of the value of \$540,000, and having 108 ministers. These are Catholic, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Baptists, etc.

#### THE MORAL STATUS OF THE PEOPLE OF UTAH.

The population of the Territory may be classified, generally, as follows:

Mormons.....	170,000
Non-Mormons.....	40,000

It is universally conceded that no locality equally populated with Utah is freer from the vices that afflict communities than this Territory.

It is singularly free from saloons, houses of prostitution, and the like, and it is undisputed that the people generally are moral, industrious and law-abiding. While this is true as to this population as an entirety, it is especially true as to the Mormon portion of it. Their characteristics in these respects are indicated by the following:

Governor West, in his report to the Secretary of the Interior for 1888, says:

"I shall not arraign the Mormon people as wanting in comparison with other people in religious devotion, virtue, honesty, sobriety, industry, and the graces and qualities that adorn, beautify, and bless life."

Dr. Miller, editor of the Omaha Herald, says:

"To the lasting honor of the Mormon people and system be it said that for twenty-five years such machines of moral infamy as whisky shops, harlots, fasts, and all the attendant forms of vice and iniquity were totally unknown in Utah."

Bishop Spaulding, in the Forum for March, 1887, says:

"The Mormons are sober, industrious and thrifty."

Mrs. Emily Pitt Stevens, editor Pioneer, a woman's journal, writes:

"Utah is the wisest and best governed of any large section of people in the United States. In Great Salt Lake City there is less of rowdiness, drunkenness, gambling, idleness, theft, conspiracy against the peace of society, and crime generally than there is in any other city of the same population in the country, if not on the globe."

The testimony of Bayard Taylor, the illustrious traveler and author, is:

"The Mormons as a people are the most temperate of Americans. They are chaste, laborious, and generally cheerful."

Governor Stevenson, of Idaho, in his report to the Secretary of the Interior for 1888, says:

"Paris (Bear Lake County) has a population of about 1500, all Mormons, and there is not a saloon or gambling house, or any other place, where intoxicating liquor is sold, and this, I am told, the case in all the towns in Idaho where these people have exclusive control."

The Governor of Arizona bears similar testimony, and it appears that the moral character of the Mormons is good wherever they reside.

#### THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TERRITORY.

That the affairs of this Territory have been well managed in the past is sufficiently evidenced by the fact that there is no Territorial indebtedness except \$150,000, which was created about a year ago under an act of the legislature for public institutions.

The legislature had appropriated \$125,000 for an insane asylum, \$75,000 for a reform school, \$25,000 for a capitol building, \$20,000 for an exhibition building, \$85,000 for the university building, \$20,000 for a deaf-mute asylum, \$25,000 for an agricultural college, and the debt of \$150,000 in 5 per cent. bonds was created to meet balances due on these appropriations.

There has been no case of official embezzlement or malfeasance in office during the twenty-nine years of Territorial government.

From what has now been stated it is apparent that all the conditions exist in Utah, in a marked degree, necessary to entitle the people of that Territory to have a State government, and it is equally apparent that, by reason of her geographical