

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH.

There was a magnificent gathering in the banqueting-hall of the University of Utah last evening, which was prettily adorned with bunting, etc., the National colors occupying a prominent place. Fully 300 graduates and others were present, and the banquet was a most recherche affair. The tables, six in number, were arranged with remarkable taste, and laden with good things. The floral decorations were greatly admired.

Prof. Weihe's orchestra rendered a capital selection of music during the feast, and Prof. Krouse presided at the pianoforte.

Mr. J. L. Rawlins made an excellent toastmaster, and was very happy in the discharge of his duties in that capacity.

President W. M. Stewart of the Alumni Association was the first speaker. He gave a most hearty welcome to the graduates, and spoke of the good influences of the graduates of times gone by. He next paid warm compliments to Chancellor Harkness and Governor Thomas, both of whom had taken so to heart the interests of the University. The speaker also complimented the early regents who had advanced money out of their own pockets when the appropriation bill failed in the Legislature, as well as to the former professors and alumni. He also called attention to the fact that the alumni of other institutions supported their alma mater, and said the graduates of the University of Utah should also support vigorously their own institution. President Stewart concluded his remarks with a eulogistic reference to President J. R. Park.

Chief Justice Zane was introduced as a citizen without reproach, and a judge whose ermine was spotless as the snow. The chief justice spoke to the toast "The Relation of the State to Higher Education," and pointed out that the schoolhouse and university do more to protect society than criminal courts, policemen and the penitentiary. The great object of education is to fit the rising generation for the duties of life. A great nation must possess intelligence in a high degree; she must possess moral power, and this is attained by education in the colleges and universities, as well as common schools. These universities are the light of the world. It is said that the world is governed by public opinion, and it is essential that this public opinion should be enlightened by higher education.

The toast of "Literature" was responded to by Professor Howard. He spoke of its importance because it called out the spiritual side of a man and brought him into relations with objects. Literature incited to noble action. Adverting to the condition man would be in without the poetical side of life, he said if man had no literature he would be but little above the animals of the field. Literature prevents man from pursuing too much any one line of thought and action, and developed and broadened his being. It is not so much the pure scientist who teaches the people the truth in his researches as it is the poet.

Professor Kingsbury made the speech of the evening. To the toast of "Our Alma Mater" he said—I high-

ly appreciate the honor conferred upon me to respond. I esteem it a great privilege to have the opportunity this evening to address my remarks to my fellow students, to professors under whom I have been a student, to my fellow professors and to the students with whom my close relationship is just being severed.

As far back as 1850, on the 28th of February, the legislature of the provisional government of the territory established the University of Deseret. The following November, under the charge of Dr. Cyrus Collins, the university was ready to receive students for the first time. Nothing, however, of importance was accomplished until March 8, 1869, when the university, with Dr. John R. Park as president, was organized as an institution for classical, scientific and normal instruction.

In 1884 the university was given definite power to confer degrees and issue diplomas. Although the university at the time Dr. Park was appointed president was placed on a basis above its previous condition, it was yet in its infancy. There was, nevertheless, some good work done for the young men of Utah, many of whom are prominent citizens and hold responsible positions today. After the acquisition to its faculty of Professor Toronto, Howard and Paul and their associates the university partook more of a collegiate character than ever before. Besides others, the university then offered a fair scientific course. Most of the work done in this course was equal to that accomplished in more pretentious institutions. Students from the University of Deseret make creditable records in institutions in the east. For instance, in graduating in the scientific course here they were able to pass up on more than half of a four years' course in philosophy in the University of Michigan, one of the leading universities of our country, and furthermore, it is stated on good authority that our students entered this institution with as much credit as students from most other universities. Other instances could be related as evidence that the University of Deseret in the past has done and was capable of doing some good work.

That this much be said I have considered it due to those who have struggled hard in the past to promote the welfare of our Alma Mater.

It is very true that the number of students in the collegiate department was but few, still those few had opportunities given them equal to those offered to students in a number of universities in other places of the United States. Through the incessant work and untiring industry of these professors the university was put upon a good, solid footing. One among the important things instituted by these men was that of the alumni association of the university, the organization of which is due more than to any one person to our friend and fellow graduate professor now, Dr. Orson Howard. Since the organization of the alumni association the university has taken upon itself a new life, it has fortified itself with a new power, it has been launched upon the ocean of perpetuity. Through this

association the power which is to see the perpetuation of our territorial institution of learning, the University of Utah, is to become the beacon light which shall guide the affairs of state in our commonwealth. The university has now passed into the hands of new professors with better times and fairer prospects. There are many young men and young ladies throughout the length and breadth of our Territory who can testify to the good and efficient work done by the retired staff of professors. It is to be hoped that the same testimony in the future can be offered for the present staff. Time alone can be the true and exact test of the ability and character of these men.

Now, it may be said, but yet it is true, that in the main the good and the bad together of the past fall into oblivion. Time honoreth no man; no deeds except those which by chance become the important few. The humble man makes sacrifice after sacrifice; the bad is committed a thousand times. All these may be thrice repeated, ten million times, but yet not an echo is heard, not a sound resounded as a memento of these forgotten deeds.

In this connection might well be asked, who knows? Who ever thinks? Where is an iota recorded of the sacrifices of health, of time, of brains made for the University, for the people of the Territory, by one of the most fertile minds within this inter-mountain region? The unassuming attitude of this person, his unpretentious life, leaves his work unknown, his ability and capabilities unappreciated, except by a very few who know him nearly as well as he knows himself. Usually men with one half the intellect, fertility of brains of our friend and capable professor are estimated intellectually at twice as much as Professor Joseph B. Toronto. The university of the past with the exception of a few important events connected with it will sink into total oblivion. It is therefore to the future we must direct our attention. With the future the University of Deseret becomes by name the University of Utah, and it is to be guided by some power, be managed and continued by some unseen hand. I perceive if this guiding power, this unseen hand be unwise, unjust, unfair, an oblivion for our institution. But if it be wise, just and fair, I perceive the University to rise in importance and to become an indispensable factor in future Utah. But why doubt for a moment as to the hands into which it will fall? The alumni will cherish with too kindly feelings their alma mater to submit or a moment to any indignity being heaped upon it. The university belongs to the Territory; to the whole people of the Territory and their sons and daughters educated within its walls, being best acquainted with its conditions and the conditions of the territory, will know best regarding its needs and how far the territory is capable of providing for those needs.

It is to be hoped that the alumni will allow no president, no professor, no instructor to remain within its walls who has not the interests of the whole people at heart, whose sympathies cannot extend to all classes, and whose mind is not broad enough to leave unnoticed trifling affairs and feel that his people is the whole people. It is to be hoped that the alumni will require