



ELIAS SMITH.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday.....March 7, 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.

IMPROVEMENT AND PROGRESSION.

Within the last eight or ten days, we have been in the receipt of communications from friends, and have seen and conversed with gentlemen residing in the northern, southern and other portions of the Territory, and all confirmed the reports that have been previously made relative to the spirit of improvement, temporally and spiritually, that is being made manifest among the people in nearly if not every county, city, village and settlement, which is most cheering to every lover and advocate of advancement and progression in all things that tend to increase the wealth, happiness, prosperity and intelligence of the people who, in poverty, have sought refuge in these secluded valleys from the ruthless hand of oppression and religious intolerance, which had followed them in other lands where they had dwelt or sojourned previous to their coming here, until their substance was principally wasted away.

The motive power that impels men to action, who have been raised and tutored in such schools as most of the citizens of Utah have been educated in, is not so easily subdued nor overcome by the force and operation of adverse circumstances. It may become somewhat inactive at times when the pressure upon it is great, but as soon as the obstacle is passed or surmounted, it moves again with accelerated velocity, and it gives us pleasure to announce, truthfully to all whom it may concern, that the spirit of improvement and progression that has ever actuated the principal part of those who came here because they could not live elsewhere in peace, but which for "good and sufficient reasons" has seemingly been slumbering for a short time past is again being awakened, and if we are not mistaken in the signs of the times, it will take a much wider range than heretofore, and be more effectual and salutary in its operations.

In this city, where the effects of that peculiar kind of civilization that best suits a majority of that portion of mankind, by common consent, denominated Gentiles, and also a large portion of the Christian world, judging from their words and actions, has been the most severely felt, there has comparatively been but little building or other improvements going on during the last three years. There were a few houses built and some additions made, considerable fencing done; fruit, shade and ornamental trees set out, and sundry other improvements made last summer and fall, President Young, as ever, taking the lead in those matters, and setting examples for others to follow; but the want of building materials, —rock, adobies, lumber, nails, glass, etc., deterred many from building and improving who would have done so, if those things had been more plenty and easy of procurement.

The prospect in that respect is now more favorable. Lumber will be plentiful. Nails will be made here in large quantities, sufficient to supply the demand. President Kimball's

oil mill will be in operation early in the season, and in all probability there will be nothing wanting to enable those who wish to build or otherwise to improve, beautify or adorn their dwellings, habitations or possessions to any extent they may desire. And inasmuch as there is most decidedly a reaction taking place relative to those important matters, we confidently anticipate that before the close of this memorable year, Great Salt Lake City will present a far more thrifty, beautiful and pleasing appearance than it does now.

The disposition that is being every where manifested to make improvements of all kinds is truly commendable. Not only the building of houses, the erection of mills, the extension of settlements, the opening and fencing of new farms and fields, the establishment of tanneries and other useful establishments, for the promotion of domestic manufactures, the raising of sheep, and the production of whatever can be grown or raised in the Territory, is receiving marked attention, but the importation of such machinery as cannot at present be made here, which has hitherto been too much neglected, is not overlooked by those having the means to invest in its purchase and introduction, and without which the resources of the Territory cannot be fully developed, nor that social independence obtained so essential to every community.

There are but few counties, cities or towns in this part of Utah, where arrangements are not being made to import some kind of machinery necessary for the convenience of the people in the manufacture of those things which are indispensable, and if not produced at home will have to be brought from some other country at a ruinous expense.

How it is in the southern part of the Territory in relation to the providing of the necessary machinery for the manufacture of the cotton grown there, we are not informed, but in the absence of the requisite machinery for spinning it at least, the producing of that essential article in sufficient quantities to supply the demand, will be an uphill business, and will not be attended with many beneficial results.

There is another subject to which we with pleasure allude, and that is the impetus which has, to a goodly degree been given to the subject of education, and the mental culture of the rising generation throughout the Territory, within the last six months. Better schools have been provided and more attention has been given to that important subject by all classes, both old and young, than ever before since we have been in the Territory. If the intentions and resolutions of the Chancellor and Regents of the University are carried out and the provisions made by the Legislature are strictly complied with, the great work which has been begun will continue to progress till the schools and institutions of barren Deseret will not be inferior to those of any State in the Union, and in point of general intelligence and scientific attainments, the people and especially the youth will be second to none.

It only requires proper exertion, on the part of those who wish to accomplish any particular object that will enhance their wealth or happiness, or increase their usefulness among their fellow-beings, with the blessings of the Almighty upon their labors, to obtain what they desire, and it is confidently expected that the Saints will not be behind in any good work that will elevate them in the scale of intelligence, or add to their comfort and prosperity while they sojourn on the earth.

SUPERINTENDENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS.—The Chancellor and Board of Regents of the University recently appointed Professor Albert Carrington, Superintendent of Common Schools for the Territory.

A better selection could not have been made, and, if his efforts to effect a change for the better in the common school arrangements throughout the Territory, are seconded by the people, his labors will be crowned with success.

THE EASTERN MAIL.—The Mail from St. Joseph arrived on Monday, about eleven o'clock, by which, however, we received but very few of our exchanges, and we should be glad to know what has become of at least one half of the papers that we should have received since last November.

—F. J. Ottarson, for several years city editor of the New York Tribune, has connected himself with the editorial department of the New York Despatch.

Public Lectures.

Capt. Gibson delivered two interesting lectures in the course of last week to large audiences, on his favorite subject, the Asiatic Islands, or the Indian Archipelago—the first in the Social Hall, on Tuesday evening, and the other in the Tabernacle, on Saturday evening.

His description of some of the principal islands in that group, and of the manners and customs of the various nations or tribes inhabiting them, was quite interesting and somewhat amusing.

He is to deliver another lecture in the Tabernacle this evening.

Professor O. Pratt, sen., delivered a lecture in the Social Hall on Thursday evening last on the Laws of Motion. The Hall was filled to its utmost capacity, and all in attendance were highly pleased with the lucid manner in which he illustrated and explained every principle upon which he discoursed.

On Monday evening at the Tabernacle, he lectured on the nature and philosophy of Light and Sound, and the velocity with which they traveled or were transmitted, etc. The lecture was highly interesting, but owing to the unfavorableness of the weather, it being stormy, there were not as many in attendance as there would have been if the evening had been pleasant.

The Professor will deliver another lecture on Friday evening next, at the same place—the Social Hall not being large enough to accommodate those who desire to attend, and will continue to lecture on scientific subjects, once or twice each week for some time to come, as we are informed, if the people so desire, and that they do is abundantly evidenced by the numbers that attend each lecture and the expressions of interest manifested in those matters by those in quest of knowledge.

There are other scientific gentlemen in this city and vicinity, who if they would let their light shine occasionally could impart much valuable instruction to their friends and to community, either by lecturing or otherwise with material benefit to themselves, and there is nothing wanting but to make the effort.

Appointments.

Mr. Robert L. Campbell, of this city, was, by the County Court, of Great Salt Lake County, appointed Superintendent of Common Schools for said County, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., in accordance with the law passed at the last session of the Legislature, which office he will hold, if he complies with the provisions of the statute, till the general election on the first Monday in August next, when his successor is to be elected.

From the interest Mr. Campbell has ever manifested in relation to the subject of education, he will no doubt efficiently perform the duties required and thereby secure his nomination and election as his successor in office.

Messrs. Isaac Bowman, Isaac Groo, and G. W. Mousley, were also appointed a Board of examination to determine the qualifications of school teachers in this county; and no instructor should be employed excepting those who by the examiners are considered competent to teach the branches of science usually studied in those primary institutions.

PROSPECTS OF SPRING.—The signs of spring are more favorable than they were five or six weeks ago, and if winter does not come to a close in the course of another week, it certainly will by the lapse of time, before long.

During the past week the weather has been very changeable, clear and cloudy with a little snow and rain occasionally. There has been two or three warm days, which materially decreased the amount of snow and ice, tho' there is enough left yet. The Jordan range is mostly covered with a white mantle, and the ice in many places is too plenty in the streets.

It has been more windy within a few days than at any time during the winter, for since the commencement of cold weather last fall, the wind has blown less than in any winter during the last ten years.

On Sunday morning, flocks of wild geese were flying northward, which to the Yankees is a sure sign of spring, but for an hour or more on Monday evening, while it was snowing and blowing from the north-west, there was one at least, who thought that the winter had not ended.

THE LATEST NEWS.

By the Eastern Mail which arrived on Monday, we received New York and other Eastern dates to the 11th of February. The news does not appear to be very important.

The most interesting matter that has been before Congress was the Post Office deficiency bill, which passed the House on the 6th and was taken up in the Senate on the 7th of February and several amendments made to it. The bill as it came from the House was as follows:

Be it enacted, &c., That the sum of \$4,296,009.26 be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of supplying the deficiency in the revenues, and defraying the expenses of the Post Office Department for the year ending June 30, 1859.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That toward the support of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1860, the sum of \$4,000,000, payable out of any money arising from the revenue of the Post Office Department, is hereby appropriated; and the further sum of \$2,400,000 is hereby appropriated, payable out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.—Said sums to be expended in conformity, with the provisions of the act approved the 2d day of July, 1836, in the payment exclusively to the compensation of Postmasters, the Clerks in the Offices and Mail Departments, Special Agents, and for the transportation of the Mails.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, to commence one month after the expiration of the quarter in which the service was rendered and to the date of the approval of this act, shall be paid on all sums found due to contractors for carrying the mails, and that a sum sufficient to pay the same be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the service of temporary clerks in expediting the payment of the creditors of the Post Office.

The first amendment made was to make provisions for wrapping paper, mail paper, &c.

The second amendment was to the third section, providing that interest should only be paid to contractors themselves, and be in full of all claim for damages, and providing that no interest is to be allowed on the last quarter.

The third amendment provided for the abolishment of the franking privilege after the first of May, but that all persons now entitled to the privilege are exempted from the prepayment of postage.

A further amendment was made on the 8th requiring that the Post Office blanks shall be printed by contract and by the lowest bidder. The Senate then adjourned without disposing of the bill.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass., introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the extent of the power and patronage of the President of the United States, in the power of removal and appointment to office, and report the number of offices of trust and profit under the control of the President, excluding the Army and Navy, but including such as are under the control of the Heads of Departments, and the amount paid to those appointed to such offices; also, further to inquire whether any power and patronage are exerted to influence the legislation of Congress or any elections in the States or Territories, and whether any, and what, sums of money are paid or required to be paid by persons holding offices of trust and profit as contributions in support of elections, and to inquire whether the power and patronage are used by heads of Departments over subordinates, mechanics and contractors; and also, the allowance made to contractors of supplies and those employed to purchase Government sites, vessels, engines, &c., transportation of stores, &c., and report by bill or otherwise.

HOME-MADE CIGARS.—Mr. George D. Watt exhibited to us a few days since a box of cigars manufactured by him from tobacco, which he raised in this city last season. Not being a user nor an admirer of the "weed," we could judge of their quality only by their external appearance, which was superior to many of those imported called good by tobacco connoisseurs.

It has been thoroughly demonstrated that tobacco can be raised in nearly every settlement and valley in the Territory of excellent quality, and in sufficient quantities if growers would give their attention to it, to supply the demand; and inasmuch as many people will not, or cannot well refrain from using it in some shape, would it not be good policy to produce it here instead of importing it, at an annual cost of forty or fifty thousand dollars? That amount of money saved yearly would add materially to the circulating medium, and have a decided tendency to make money matters more easy.