

SEC. 14. The board of education, trustees or other persons having the management and control of any private school in this Territory may receive their proportion of the school funds provided for in this act, by electing or appointing a treasurer for their school and filing a written certificate of such appointment or election with the trustees of the school district in which such school is situated. Before receiving any funds, the said treasurer shall enter into bonds, payable to such school district, in double the amount of the probable distribution to be made to such school, to be determined by the trustees of such district, and conditional that he will safely keep such funds, and honestly disburse them in the payment of teachers for such school, upon the order of the board of education, trustees or other persons having the management and control of such school; and said bonds shall be approved by, and filed with the school trustees.

SEC. 22. The moneys accruing for the benefit of district schools, under the provisions of Section 1 of An Act to provide revenue for the Territory of Utah and the several counties thereof, approved February 22, 1878, shall be disbursed on orders drawn by the Commissioner of District Schools in favor of the Territorial sub-treasurer of each county, according to the school population thereof; and shall be paid to the trustees by the Territorial sub-treasurer on the orders of the county superintendents. And said moneys shall be used by the trustees in paying the teachers of district and private schools within their respective districts during the year following the one in which it was assessed and collected. No pupil shall derive any benefit from said moneys who is under the age of 6 years, nor over the age of 20 years. The treasurers of the respective counties, upon the receipt of the proportion of school moneys to which their counties are entitled shall hold the same subject to the orders of the Superintendent of district schools thereof; and such moneys shall not be used or disbursed for any other purpose than that for which they are paid in.

SEC. 27. That Section 1 of An Act providing revenue for the Territory of Utah and the several counties thereof, approved February 20, 1878, be and it is, amended by striking out the figures 1878 in the fifth line of said section, and substituting in lieu thereof, the figures 1888; and by striking out the words '8 mills on the dollar for the benefit of district schools,' in the seventh and eighth lines of said action, and substituting in lieu thereof the words '8 mills on the dollar for the benefit of district and private schools.'

This substitute, upon being returned to the lower house, was concurred in without protest or active opposition from any source, except the three so-called Gentile members of that body. The passage of the original bill in the lower house had been opposed by various members, chiefly on the ground of the in-

creased burdens of taxation it provided for the support of the public schools. By the terms of that bill it was provided a maximum of 4 mills on the dollar should be levied in addition to the existing Territorial tax of 3 mills; and was to be imposed as a county tax, the amount to be fixed each year by the County Court, within the maximum, at such estimated amount as would be adequate to supplement the Territorial tax, and provide a sufficient amount for the payment of teachers. The substitute, as it passed both houses, provided a general Territorial tax of 8 mills to be devoted to the support of district and private schools, in the proportions named in the sections above quoted.

The result of such a law secured private schools the benefit of public taxation enjoyed by the district schools themselves, and, at the same time, secured their entire freedom and exemption from all kinds of public control or supervision, and enabled the person or persons who might be in charge of any such private school to apply for and obtain their *pro rata* of the public funds.

This enactment met with the fate that it merited, and which was apparently not unlooked for by its friends—the executive veto. And thus ended all effort at amendment of the present inadequate legislation upon the subject of schools.

Previous to this time there had been established two or three schools in the Territory under the auspices and support of the Mormon denomination or sect; but since that time there has been evinced a greatly increased interest and advocacy amongst that class of the population to establish and maintain private or denominational schools; and the leaders and principal men of that Church are the active supporters of the scheme of establishing in each "Stake," as they are called, in the Territory, one or more private schools under the direction and charge of the church authorities. These "Stakes" generally correspond in territorial extent with the several counties in the Territory.

In the circular of such a school in Salt Lake City, denominated the "Salt Lake Stake Academy," for the year 1888-9, issued by its executive committee in July last, I find the following, which explains in some measure the attitude of the Mormon people upon the subject of public education at this time. I quote:

"The career of the Salt Lake Stake Academy during the two years of its active operation is now a matter of record, both in the archives of the institution, and in the hearts and memories of its patrons.

"It is, therefore, with pleasurable anticipation, and a firm reliance upon the continued and increased support of our people, that we issue the circular of the Academy for the third academic year.

"A change in the board has taken place since the close of the last school year, owing to the organization of the General Board of Education of the Church. This will be more fully understood from the following letter:

SALT LAKE CITY, June 8, 1888.

To the Presidency of Salt Lake Stake:

DEAR BRETHREN—A meeting of the General Board of Education was held today, and the subject of the educational interests of the Latter-day Saints was taken into consideration and discussed at some length.

It was decided that a Board of Education, consisting of not less than five, and not to exceed eight, in number, should be selected in each Stake, to take charge of and promote the interests of education in the Stake.

This communication is addressed to you to inform you of this action, and to have you select energetic men, who are friends of education, who understand the needs of the people, and who have influence with the Saints, to carry out any suggestions in this direction that may be deemed proper. In the decision which was made by our board, it was made the duty of these boards to take into consideration the formation of Church schools, and the best method of accomplishing this; and, after arriving at proper conclusions, to report them to the General Board. Communications of this character may be addressed to Elder George Reynolds, who is the Secretary of the Board. It was felt by the Board, that, to begin with, there should be one Stake Academy established in each Stake, as soon as practicable. We feel that the time has arrived when the proper education of our children should be taken in hand by us as a people.

Religious training is practically excluded from the district schools. The perusal of books that we value as divine records is forbidden. Our children, if left to the training they receive in these schools, will grow up entirely ignorant of these principles of salvation for which the Latter-day Saints have made so many sacrifices. To permit this condition of things to exist among us would be criminal.

The desire is universally expressed by all thinking people in the Church, that we should have schools where the Bible, the Book of Mormon and the Book of Doctrine and Covenants can be used as text books, and where the principles of our religion may form part of the teaching of the schools.

To effect this, it will be necessary that funds be collected. The Church will doubtless do its share, but it cannot carry the entire burden. The Saints must be appealed to. There