

a Museum of Natural History, and gave other sums, the whole aggregating \$25,000; in 1878 Colonel Thomas A. Scott, of Philadelphia, gave \$10,000, and in 1881 added \$50,000. There are many other donors that will take too much space to mention. The total invested endowment (treasurer's report, June, 1889) is \$606,439.39, yielding an annual income of \$35,148.62.

The University confers the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Doctor of Philosophy, Civil Engineer and Bachelor of Law. The students do not live in dormitories, but are scattered about among private families of the town. Each student is assigned to some member of the faculty as an adviser, to whom he may go for advice as to his studies, or on any other subject. A credit for fees, amounting to \$75 annually, is extended to such meritorious young men as are unable to pay the same, and their bond is taken, payable in from two to six years from the termination of their university course, without interest until due.

This system was inaugurated in 1865, and the fund arising from the payment of these "long credit" bonds now amounts to more than \$5500, which is kept separate, and known as the "aid fund," the interest arising therefrom being loaned to deserving young men to meet their ordinary expenses, to be repaid and re-invested in turn for the benefit of others. The assistance extended to young men under this system amounts about \$6000 a year. The students have free access to the library, containing 20,000 volumes, and to the reading room where the leading literary, scientific, secular and religious publications are kept on file. Athletic sports are encouraged in moderation. Football and baseball are indulged in, while a temporary gymnasium in Newcomb Hall affords indoor exercise. The North River close by affords excellent rowing, and the boat race is one of the attractive features of commencement week. There is a law school in connection with the university, and I notice that J. Randolph Tucker is professor. He is known to our people in connection with the Edmunds-Tucker infamy. The Alumni contains 4,000 names, among which there are many of the most distinguished men of their time; there being two justices of the United States Supreme Court, two Cabinet Ministers, thirteen United States Senators and nine Governors, besides congressmen, judges, officers, orators and ministers innumerable.

E. J. E.

LEXINGTON, Rockbridge County, Virginia, May 23, 1890.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Nearly all the city and several of the county schools were represented at the meeting of the Sunday School Union of this Stake, held in the Fourteenth Ward assembly hall on June 2nd, Superintendent J. C. Cutler presiding.

The singing exercises were excellently rendered on the occasion by the Fourteenth Ward school choir, under the direction of Brother Thomas Butler, and the opening prayer was offered by Elder J. H. Parry.

Elder J. M. Whittaker, instructor of the Fourteenth Ward primary class, conducted an interesting exercise with a portion of his class of boys and girls. The lesson consisted of one of their usual Sunday morning lessons on the life of the Savior. Although the lesson was not specially prepared for this meeting, the whole exercise was promptly and intelligently performed, evincing not only earnest work on the part of the teacher, but more than usual interest on the part of the children. Brother Whittaker explained that in creating an interest in the minds of the children, he had found the large charts, published by the Sunday School Union, of very great help. After making a few pointed and introductory remarks on the illustrated lesson, he said the children could readily answer nearly all questions that the lesson would naturally suggest.

Elder Francis MacDonald, Assistant Superintendent of the Big Cottonwood Sunday School, gave a short lecture illustrating the method by which he had been so successful in teaching the theological class over which he presided. He based his teachings on the idea that the young men of the theological class should be taught to understand the Gospel so thoroughly and familiarly as to be able to preach the same to the world. The "Preceptor" method had been followed with very good results. The principles of the Gospel and subjects suggested in its restoration were brought up in the class successively, and all the members were required to take part in the exercises of the class and aid in searching out passages of scripture bearing upon the subject presented before the class, and which would prove the position assumed by the Latter-day Saints. That the scriptures might become familiar to the members of the class the only book used was the Bible, and every one of the students took part in searching out and reading before the class the various passages suggested by the lesson of the day. The same class had taken up the Sunday School leaflets with very good results, always following the same general plan, and working with the same object in view.

Elder Thomas McIntyre led the congregation in singing "Glorious things of thee are spoken."

Supt. George M. Cannon, of the Fourteenth Ward Sabbath school, was the next speaker, and delivered an excellent address on the subject of "Order and Discipline." In the beginning of his subject the speaker referred to the training given the youth of Greece and Rome to prepare them for the duties that fell upon them at maturity. Order and discipline were the principal subjects inculcated in the minds of the youth, on the supposition that the best disciplined children became the

best citizens. The Catholics and many other churches made discipline a very important part of the education of their children. The necessity of discipline was recognized by all who had given the subject of progressive education any thought, as without discipline the purpose of teaching would be hindered and retarded. But an irksome discipline, made up of many and intricate rules, was productive of more harm than good. The fewer and more simple the rules made to govern the discipline of our schools the better would be the result; more good would be accomplished and better order would prevail.

Superintendent Cutler announced that the Fifteenth Ward school would furnish the singing and a part of the programme at the July meeting. The congregational pieces to be sung on the occasion are "Devotional Hymn" and "Let the Holy Spirit Guide."

Miss Lizzie Thomas and the choir admirably rendered a beautiful anthem, entitled "Praise ye the Lord," composed for the occasion by Prof. W. C. Clive, one of Utah's most promising young composers. The production is well worthy the praise bestowed upon it by those who heard it.

The benediction was pronounced by J. F. Alfred, of Spring City, and the meeting adjourned for one month. JOS. HYRUM PARRY, Sec'y.

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

The Pennsylvania conference was held at Porter's Falls, Wetzel Co., West Virginia, on the 24th and 25th day of May, 1890. There were present Charles W. Stayner, president of the Northern States Mission; of the traveling elders, Samuel H. M. Stewart, president of the Pennsylvania Conference, William R. Stevens, John A. West, Joseph Bartholomew, Hyrum Brown, Orrin H. Randall, J. W. D. Hunter and George Skinner. Owing to the unfavorable weather, our meetings were poorly attended.

Stirring addresses were given by the speakers. The kindness and hospitality of the people to the Elders are worthy of much commendation.

At the Priesthood meeting the Elders received some good instruction, concerning their labors, from Presidents Stayner and Stewart, and an honorable release was issued to President Saml. H. M. Stewart, William R. Stevens and John A. West, each having filled a mission of over two years.

Elders Alma Harris, Isaac J. Nedow, David Sudworth, and Joseph Waite arrived from Zion just too late to attend conference.

The Elders, having had a happy time together, are now bidding each other farewell, returning to their respective fields of labor.

Ever praying for the welfare of Zion,
WM. R. STEVENS,
Clerk of Conference.

METZ, Marion Co., West Virginia, May 30, 1890.