

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## BLUFF CITY NOT TO BE ABANDONED.

BLUFF CITY,  
San Juan Co., U. T.,  
Sept. 24th, 1884.

Editor Deseret News:

On account of the high water doing us so much damage this summer we had made up our minds to abandon this place and seek homes somewhere else, as we had labored faithfully for nearly five years and had just made a success in getting out the water when the flood swept our substance away in a very short time. But on second thought we concluded not to leave until we had advise from those who called us here.

President Joseph F. Smith, Apostle Erastus Snow and Elder John Morgan paid us a visit and held a two days' meeting, and the spirit of the Lord was poured out abundantly upon them, and although they could deeply sympathize with us for our losses and struggles to maintain ourselves they did not think it was wisdom to evacuate this place and lose one foothold we had gained. It was contrary to the genius of the gospel to go backwards, so they called on all those that could muster faith enough to remain and try it a little longer. A majority of the people responded, and are willing to labor where they can do the most good in building up the kingdom of God here. The Lord has His own way of building up His work, and He inspires His servants and they can see through and beyond all the difficulties. They could see good, comfortable homes and orchards, the hills adorned with cattle, and above all, the gospel spread among the Lamanites, and the lost tribes of Israel redeemed.

We held our Conference on the 20th and 21st of this month and had a good time, considering our circumstances.

CHARLES E. WALTON, Clerk.

## JOHN DEAN SWIFT HEARD FROM.

SALT LAKE CITY,  
October 1st, 1884.

Editor Deseret News:

Sir—Finding myself inquired for by acquaintances in old England, as stated in a letter from G. C. Lambert, I beg to report myself and family to friends at home firstly, and after the strong hint given, I hope to let acquaintances abroad know that we are well in health, and well satisfied with our mountain home and its surroundings, and I am thankful to God for the freedom and blessings we enjoy. In justice to myself I may perhaps be permitted to state that I have written some relations, and have since written to friends, but have not yet posted all the letters. I much regret this delay, but hope to profit by your advice. I have been busy all the time since arriving here, providing for family and attending to business in general, and building myself a home.

I trust there will be no further inquiry as to what the Elders have done with John Dean Swift after letters are forwarded as to my whereabouts.

Your brother in the Gospel.

JOHN DEAN SWIFT.

## COMMISSIONS ISSUED.

Commissions have been issued by Governor Murray to the following named persons elected August 4th:

## SUMMIT COUNTY.

Alma Eldredge, Probate Judge; O. F. Lyons, Prosecuting Attorney; Thos. Alston, County Clerk; E. M. Alston, Sheriff; John Boyden, Recorder; W. W. Cluff, Selectman; Thomas Ball, Justice of the Peace, Coalville; J. E. Bromley, Justice of the Peace, Echo; R. J. Redding, Justice of the Peace, Hoytsville; J. J. Buser, Justice of the Peace, Park City; Michael Tancy, Justice of the Peace, Park City; E. C. Morse, Constable, Echo; E. E. Thriott, Constable, Park City; Terrance Brogan, Constable, Park City.

## UINTAH COUNTY.

James H. Glines, Probate Judge; Phillip Stringham, County Clerk; R. Bodley, Selectman; A. S. Johnson, Treasurer; Martin Oaks, Coroner; Geo. A. Davis, Justice of the Peace, Ashley.

## CACHE COUNTY.

J. Z. Stewart, Probate Judge; J. F. Hammond, Prosecuting Attorney; W. W. Maughan, Clerk; L. R. Martineau, Assessor and Collector; Thos. Irvine, Coroner; C. C. Shaw, Justice of the Peace, Hyrum; A. J. Allison, Constable, Hyrum; W. C. Humphries, Constable, Millville.

## DAVIS COUNTY.

David Stoker, Probate Judge; J. Barton, Prosecuting Attorney; J. Barton, Clerk; J. H. Wilcox, Recorder; L. M. Grant, Selectman; J. H. Wilcox, Assessor and Collector.

## WASHINGTON COUNTY.

E. G. Woolley, Probate Judge; Samuel Judd, Sheriff; Jos. E. Bentley, Clerk; Moroni Shaw, Recorder; W. C. Till, Recorder, Washington County; R. H. Ashley, Selectman; Richard Bentley, Coroner; J. H. Crawford, Justice of the Peace, Whashington City; G. Hubler, Justice of the Peace, Santa

Clara; L. J. Slack, Constable, Toquer-ville; E. G. Defrees, Constable, St. George.

## HISTORICAL REVIEW OF THE DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

## INTERESTING SKETCH OF THE PROGRESS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The following paper was read before the meeting of the Union last night:

SALT LAKE CITY, U. T.,  
October 1st, 1884.

To the General Superintendency and Officers of the Deseret Sunday School Union:

DEAR BRETHREN—The organization, development, growth and success of the Deseret Sunday School Union form a most interesting chapter in the history of the great latter-day work.

On the 4th of November, 1867, a meeting of those interested in the Sunday Schools of the Saints was held at the Thirteenth Ward Assembly Hall, Salt Lake City, for the purpose of organizing a Sunday School Union. This was the first meeting held for that purpose. There not being so many present as was anticipated, the meeting adjourned until the 11th of that month at the same place. On this latter occasion there was a large attendance; amongst those present were Presidents Brigham Young and Daniel H. Wells, also Apostles George A. Smith, Wilford Woodruff, George Cannon and Brigham Young, jun. At this meeting the first steps were taken towards a permanent organization, and Elder Geo. Q. Cannon was elected President, with a Secretary and two Corresponding Secretaries. A committee of three were also appointed to examine and decide upon books suitable for use in our Sunday Schools. During the meeting, President Brigham Young spoke at considerable length, instructing those present on various points connected with the Sunday School movement, and the cause of education in general. He was followed by Elders George A. Smith and Geo. Q. Cannon. The latter stated that Elder David O. Calder had kindly volunteered to teach the tonic sol fa system of music to the Sunday School teachers, as soon as a sufficient number came forward to form a class, but no permanent results followed this gentleman's generous proposition.

It was not until 1872 that the Sunday School Union assumed a more compact and

## DEFINITE SHAPE.

At that time a committee, appointed at a meeting of Sunday School officers, and composed of Brothers Geo. Goddard, John Morgan and John B. Maiben waited upon Elder George Q. Cannon and invited his counsel and co-operation in bringing about a wider concert of action to give greater impetus and solidity to the efforts of the Union. The result of this visit was that from that time the efforts and labors of the Union assumed a more practical shape, and thereafter the monthly meetings of the teachers and superintendents were held in Salt Lake City with great regularity; at first in the City Hall, then in the 14th Ward Assembly Rooms, afterwards in the Council House, and latterly in the new Assembly Hall. These meetings have continued to grow in proportions and interest until at the present time they are amongst the most popular and the most largely attended of any of the assemblies of the people of Zion; and this worthy example set in the chief city of the Saints has been followed in several other districts throughout our Territory.

In reading the minutes of the early meetings of the Union, it is exceedingly interesting to note that the same subjects that are still considered amongst the most important were then canvassed with much vigor, and that the instructions given were, to a very great extent, the same, slightly differing according to altered circumstances, as those that it is still found necessary to inculcate. The subjects of punctuality, the grading of the schools, prizes, rewards, the necessity of readers adjusted to the use of the Sabbath School of the Saints, of a collection of hymns and songs composed by members of the Church, with suitable music; of a primary catechism, and the publication of other suitable works—all these and many other subjects that still have to be considered, are to be found amongst the teachings the general superintendency and others of the brethren from the time that these meetings were first held. These instructions have not been in vain. Not only has the Union increased in number, year by year, but in compactness also, and a greater uniformity has been reached in the methods of teaching and in the modes of conducting the schools. At first there was considerable diversity of operation in the various Sunday Schools situated in the various Stakes of Zion; but to-day through experience, better methods have been attained which secure greater uniformity and more satisfactory results. Class readers such as those obtaining in the day schools, and which were once so widely used in the Sunday Schools are now almost entirely excluded from the latter, and in their place we have the First and Second Readers published by the Union, the numbers of the Faith Promoting Series, the *Juvenile Instructor*, *Jakes Catechism*, etc., together

with the Bible, Book of Mormon, Book of Doctrine and Covenants, as the books almost universally used in our Sabbath schools.

The

## ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOLS

into the Union, for some time proceeded slowly in the more remote settlements, but in the more complete organization of the Stakes of Zion, which took place a short time previous to the death of President Brigham Young, was found the means by which the good influence of the Union could be extended to the most distant schools, through the presiding officers of those various Stakes, and Stake Superintendents of Sunday schools, are now almost invariably appointed when the organization of a Stake is perfected; so that, to-day, in every Stake of Zion, as there is a Stake President, there is also a Stake Superintendent of Sunday schools, subject to the local Presiding Priesthood, with assistant officers to look after and care for the Sunday school interests in that region.

In the year 1877 a

## NEW FEATURE

of much importance was introduced, by the direction of the First Presidency of the Church, into the services of the Sunday schools. We refer to the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the children attending them; which was directed should be done by the Bishops or by some member of the Priesthood of the ward appointed by him, and administered to all the children under 8 years old, and to all those above that age who had been baptized into the Church. The effects of this counsel, where carried out in the spirit of the instructions given, have been marked for good. A better understanding of the Divine mission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and of His atonement for the sins of the world has been given to our children, and they are constantly reminded by partaking of these emblems, together with suitable hymns sung, and instructions given by the teachers at these times, of the necessity of honoring their Savior, of reverencing His name, and obeying His laws.

Nor in our review of what the Union has accomplished must we forget the impetus it has given to the

## DEVELOPMENT OF MUSICAL TALENT

in the midst of the Saints. We feel satisfied, we can say without undue vanity that no single agency has done so much in this direction as has it, and the results are eminently satisfactory, showing that as a people, we have many among us whose compositions are worthy of high praise, with a constantly developing standard of excellence. The means adopted by the Union to accomplish this have been various. Amongst others, the constant inculcation of the necessity of good singing in the Sunday Schools, by the whole of the children and teachers; the establishment of the Deseret Sunday School Musical Union and the organization of the Union's Brass Band; the holding, for many years, commencing with 1874, of annual musical festivals in the Large Tabernacle in Salt Lake City; an example which has been followed in many of our larger settlements; the awarding of between \$200 and \$300 as prizes for the best original musical compositions and poetry; the issuance of scores of thousands of musical cards, and later of a Union Music Book, which has now reached a second edition, and the publication in the

## "JUVENILE INSTRUCTOR"

of hundreds of pieces of original music. Nor in this connection must we omit to refer to the value that the *Juvenile Instructor* has been in aiding in the great Sunday School work. Its advent in January, 1866, antedated the organization of the Union, and from its commencement it has been our constant friend and guide. The publication in its columns of catechisms on the Bible, Book of Mormon, Church History, etc., its musical pages, its editorial teachings, and many other of its features, have rendered it a necessity in our Sunday schools, whose influence can scarcely be overestimated, and whose loss would be regarded as a calamity by most Sunday school officers. Its value lies distinctly in the fact, that through its pages unity and harmony of action can be brought about throughout all our schools, and the instructions of the general officers can reach the remotest settlements where otherwise, through lack of personal visits, they would often be at a loss to keep step with the rest of the Union—a consummation most desirable, and now attained to a most commendable extent. It is true that some slight variations, arising from local peculiarities, must always exist, and which it would be very unwise to interfere with, but the general rules suggested by the Union have been almost universally adopted in our schools throughout the length and breadth of our settlements, and we believe with most gratifying results. Among these

## SUGGESTIONS

are: That the school should always be promptly opened at the time appointed; which, wherever practicable, should be 10 o'clock in the morning.

That the singing should be done by the whole school, and not by a selected choir of a few voices.

That the Sacrament should be administered every Sunday.

That the readers used should be the Scriptures and other works of the Church.

That primary or infant classes should be established, where the little ones can be taught orally by one or more of the most experienced teachers. Whenever possible this should be done in a room separate from the rest of the school.

That every school should be fully organized with a complete set of officers, and that every male officer and teacher should hold some portion of the holy Priesthood.

That when the school is dismissed the children should leave in order, class by class; and, when consistent, to the music of a slow march on the organ.

That teachers meetings should be held once a month, for the regulation of school matters and the instruction of the teachers.

That public reviews should be held at such stated intervals, as are considered most convenient and profitable by the officers of the schools.

That the Sunday School officers should always work in harmony with the local presiding Priesthood, and seek to carry out their counsel with diligence and good faith.

That continued efforts, through Sunday School visitors or otherwise, should be strenuously made to obtain the attendance at School of every child of sufficient age belonging to the Ward.

It would be ungenerous before we close this portion of our report not to refer to the immense amount of labor performed by the brethren and sisters of the

## VARIOUS COMMITTEES

connected with the getting up and carrying to a successful conclusion of our mammoth celebrations in the Large Tabernacle; the decoration on more than one occasion of this vast building with evergreens, flowers, etc., the formation of the very beautiful center piece that still adorns it and many other duties associated therewith were all labors of love, but which at the same time required much toil, unwearied patience and a large amount of time to execute. Nor were these alone, the executive, finance, musical, reception and other committees all had their hands full of pleasurable work and they performed it in a manner that met, as it deserved, with universal commendation and approval from the Latter-day Saints.

## STATISTICS.

We regret to say that our statistics for certain years are quite imperfect, and therefore somewhat confusing. It appears difficult for some of our officers to realize the value and interest that attaches to these matters. On account of the deficiency we have thought it best to give only some sample years, when the reports were most perfect, and for this purpose have selected 1872 (the first year that had a General Statistical Report was obtained) 1879, 1881-2-3.

Year.	Number of Schools.	No. of Schools not reported.	Total No. of Schools.	Teachers.	Total No. of Scholars.	Total No. of Scholars and Teachers.
1872	149	41	1,403	13,373	14,781	
1879	265	19	4,998	30,761	35,759	
1881	291	14	5,635	34,119	39,754	
1882	305	15	5,995	35,665	41,660	
1883	360	17	6,6-2	40,201	46,883	

It will be observed from the above that the rate of increase is growing with marked rapidity. In the two years ending 1881, the increase was, 26 schools, 637 teachers, 3,358 scholars, while the increase for the two following years (ending 1883) was, 69 schools, 1047 teachers, 7,129 scholars, or nearly as many as the total of teachers reported in 1872, and more than half the total of scholars for that year.

With regard to the ratio of teachers and scholars the above statistics show, approximately:

In 1872	— 1 Teacher to	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ Scholars.
1879	— 1 do	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
1881	— 1 do	6 1-20 "
1881	— 1 do	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
1883	— 1 do	6 1-60 "

Or we may say at the present time in round numbers one officer to every six scholars.

According to the rate of increase during the past few years, the Sunday Schools attendance should number more than 50,000 at the close of 1884.

## OFFICERS OF THE UNION.

First organization November 11, 1867. Geo. Q. Cannon, President; Ed. L. Sloan, Secretary; Geo. Goddard and Robert L. Cambell, Corresponding Secretaries; B. Young, Junr., A. Carlington and Geo. A. Smith, Committee on Books suitable for Sunday Schools.

## JULY, 1874.

George Q. Cannon, General Superintendent; George Goddard, Assistant General Superintendent; John B. Maiben, Secretary; Wm. McLachlan, Treasurer.

When Brother Maiben removed to Manti Brother McLachlan acted as Secretary *pro tem* for a few months, and in December, 1875, Brother Levi W. Richards permanently assumed the duties of that office.

When Elder Wm. McLachlan was called on a mission to New Zealand, Elder George Reynolds was appointed to succeed him as Treasurer.

The present officers of the Union are:

General Superintendent, George Q. Cannon; First Assistant Superintendent, George Goddard; Second Assistant Superintendent, John Morgan; Secretary, Levi W. Richards; Treas-

urer, George Reynolds; Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, John C. Cutler.

On September 18th, 1878, a Finance and a Publication Committee were appointed. They are:

## FINANCE COMMITTEE:

John C. Cutler, George H. Taylor and Thomas E. Taylor. Elder Samuel L. Evans, now deceased, was a member of this committee.

## PUBLICATION COMMITTEE:

George Reynolds, Levi W. Richards, Sister L. Greene Richards, Thomas C. Griggs and Abraham H. Cannon. Bro. George C. Lambert, previous to his departure as a missionary to Europe, was a member of this committee.

Sunday school missionaries at large — (Appointed Sept. 18, 1878) S. L. Evans (now deceased), Wm. Willes.

Deseret Sunday School Musical Union, organized Aug. 3, 1875; director C. J. Thomas.

The Musical Union was an organization of short duration, but under the auspices of Elders Chas. J. Thomas, Adam C. Smyth, Evan Stephens and others, numerous concerts have since been given in this city, and also in our various cities, that have been a success artistically, and financially an aid to the Union, or to the local schools or other organizations for whose benefit they were given.

## PUBLICATIONS.

5,000 copies First edition First Book.  
7,000 copies Second edition First Book.  
5,000 copies First edition Second Book.  
7,000 copies Second edition Second Book.  
5,000 each Nos. 1 and 2 music books.  
5,000 copies S. S. Union music, 1st edition.  
5,000 copies S. S. Union music, 2nd edition.  
15,000 assorted catechism cards.  
9,000 class registers.  
5,000 copies Joseph the Prophet, 1st edition.  
5,000 copies Joseph the Prophet, 2nd edition.

## JUVENILE INSTRUCTOR OFFICE.

115,000 Catechism cards.  
2,000 Dialogue and Recitations books.  
88,000 Books of Faith Promoting Series.  
10,000 Noble Women's Lives Series.  
34,000 Copies of miscellaneous publications.

The number of music cards published is not known, but we believe it to amount to more than 100,000.

There is yet another very agreeable incident in the record of the Union that must not be omitted. We refer to the collections taken up in the schools for the publication of *Jaques' "Catechism for Children"* in the

## HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

By reason of the generosity manifested by the schools at that time we were enabled to publish 2,000 copies of this work for the benefit of the children of the Sandwich Island Saints, to this we have added by their desire a large number of Sunday school report blanks in that language, and are happy to state that our fund is not yet entirely exhausted.

## IN CONCLUSION

we cannot but point with gratitude and pride to the results which, under Heaven's supreme blessing, the Union has already brought about, and to the bright and cheering prospects that illumine our future and bid us persevere in the good work. To say that it has been a potent instrument of religious culture, of social refinement, and moral worth, a factor in the development of God's purposes, a bond of union amongst His people, a source of strength to the Church, and an aid to the Priesthood would, we submit, not be claiming too much; and this position is all the more gratifying when we consider how vast has been the labor performed and how slight has been the cost in dollars and cents, to the community. The officers, committees, etc., have been veritable workers without purse and scrip, and the funds that have been needed have been almost entirely raised through concerts, jubilees, etc. We believe, though perhaps in our zeal we may err, that nowhere on the earth have as great results been achieved with so small or so few appeals to the pockets of the people; and we trust in future reports to be able to state that our publication department has become self-sustaining, or better still a source of income to the institution. For we have an ardent desire to increase the number and value of our literary productions, and so continue until the works published by the Union shall become a power in the land—a power for God and His truth, for righteousness, and for our children's salvation.

Respectfully submitted by your brethren,

GEO. REYNOLDS,  
LEVI W. RICHARDS.

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the Partnership heretofore existing between L. D. Bunce and A. M. Johnson, under the firm name of Bunce & Johnson is this day dissolved by mutual consent. The headquarters for the Little Joker Washing Machine and the ownership, will hereafter be with J. J. Snell & Co. and A. M. Johnson, under the Post Office, Salt Lake City.

L. D. BUNCE,  
A. M. JOHNSON.

Salt Lake City, August 29th, 1884. w4t