

action as a nightly illuminator and a daily propelling force, will be another source from which the historian will derive appropriate information.

The mineral products of Utah afford material for still another department of the history of the State. The vast extent and wonderful variety of these resources are the admiration of all investigators. At least eighty different kinds of mineral deposits have been discovered within Utah's boundaries. They include not only the precious metals and those essential to modern manufactures, but substances known to chemistry as of inestimable value. They are undoubtedly destined to attract the attention of the whole world, and to place this State in the very foremost rank of the mineral-bearing regions of the earth.

The evolution of architecture, as exhibited in the advancement from primitive log cabin to the stately mansion, and from the plain adobe structure with its small openings and little eaves, to the imposing edifices, public and private, erected and beautified with sandstone, granite, marble, onyx and other costly materials, obtained within our borders, must not be forgotten.

Nor must we omit the pleasing change that has taken place in the means of locomotion and inter-communication. The ox-teams and "schooners" or covered wagons, with which thousands of immigrants wended their way hither, more than a thousand miles across the plains and mountains, and which were the means of travel from place to place in this region, and even the mule teams which succeeded them, have disappeared. Even the fine horses bred in these valleys are now rarely used, except for pleasure-riding and short trips, and great railroad systems, bringing huge trains with living freight and masses of merchandise, have superseded them, built in large degree with Utah labor and capital. The electric telegraph at an early date was utilized here and lines built to various points, and now we are in connection with the vast network of lines that reach over continents and under the bed of oceans, opening for us intercourse with the world. The telephone also has been brought into use, placing us in the lead of many more populous portions of the Republic. The torch and the oil-lamp have faded out in the glare of the electric light, which now illuminates our streets, our public buildings, our comfortable homes, and almost dispenses with the use of gas, once prized as a great light. The story of these transformations and the benefits which have resulted therefrom to individuals, to families and to the State, cannot fail to add lustre to the pages of our history, and should be chronicled as marks of Utah's advancement and willingness to utilize the improvements of the age.

The opening and colonization of other valleys than that of the Great Salt Lake, the means by which they were settled and by which, though located at altitudes where it was supposed to be impossible to raise anything but mountain grasses, splendid farms and orchards and thriving towns and villages, with comfortable homes, school houses, churches, marts of commerce and other evidences of civilization have taken the place of barrenness and solitude, will also be found a worthy subject for the pen of the historian.

The history of the progress of education in Utah will date back to the very earliest days of the occupation of this part of the public domain, which was then Mexican territory. It will be seen that this has been commensurate with the growth of population, the increase of wealth and the access to those facilities obtainable from the best sources of supply. I need not particularize on this department, as it will no doubt be dwelt upon in greater detail and ability by others.

The department of religion will also necessarily engage the attention of laborers in historical work. The establishment of the various churches, the obstacles they have overcome, the property they have accumulated, the success they have achieved, both at home and abroad, and their general effects upon society and the upbuilding of the State, are some of the topics to be treated upon in this department.

Utah's literature must also be considered. This will include the publication of daily, semi-weekly, weekly and semi-monthly newspapers, also magazines, books, pamphlets, works in poetry and in prose, the establishment of publishing houses, the founding of literary societies, contributions from Utah's writers to the literature of other parts of the world, and the productions of literary genius and talent from various parts of the State, which through the modesty of the authors, or for other reasons, have not been given to the public.

The fine arts must come in for their share of attention. Among Utah's sons and daughters are artists of no mean abilities and attainments. Painters, sculptors, musicians, dramatists, actors, decorators, fashioners of dainty fabrics and embellishments, are numerous among them, and some have attained national and world-wide celebrity. Specimens of our sculptors' art occupy already not only places in our State Capital, but in the niches of fame abroad. Music sits enthroned in these mountain valleys, the sound thereof has gone abroad in mellifluous tones to the ends of the earth. The paintings of our home artists have appeared on the walls of the world's great galleries and of wealthy collectors who are connoisseurs in art. The fair sex excel in ceramics, the finest needle work and other artistic productions of skillful hands, and in various ways Utah exhibits talent worthy of record.

In the field of invention, the Patent Office at the seat of government will furnish evidence that Utah is not behind in the march of the human family.

The social customs, manners and morals of Utah will also engage the attention of this society. Our community is made up of people who have come from all the civilized nations and from some of the semi-barbarous tribes, while it has been surrounded by savages, the natives of the soil. The languages spoken by the residents of this State number at least twenty-five. The amalgamation of these varied elements of humanity into one harmonious social organism, is something worthy the attention of the student and the labor of the historian.

The political department of Utah's history is also of vast importance. From the time that the Pioneers established a local provisional government, which afterwards took the shape of the State of Deseret, seeking admission into the Great American Union, up through the conditions of territorial vassalage, the numerous efforts towards enlarged liberty, the repeated struggles and failures to effect this grand end, until at length the glorious boon of sovereign Statehood was obtained, and Utah gained her rights and privileges and was crowned with the glory of a free commonwealth, making the fortieth star in the National galaxy, points for the historian will be bristling with interest and ready to be recorded in the annals of our society.

The establishment of woman suffrage by the Territorial Assembly in 1870, its repeal by Congress, the incorporation of a provision in the State Constitution for equal political rights and privileges to both sexes, and its statutory enactment by the first State Legislature of Utah, after animated debates, are among those points that must not be neglected. The conflicts of parties, the works of our municipalities, our

county boards, our Territorial and State Legislatures, the doings of our federal and local officials, the relations of our people to the government of the United States, the loyalty maintained through all the complications, difficulties and misunderstandings of the past, and the great and beneficent change that has taken place in the feelings of our fellow-citizens towards us throughout the Union, will all contribute to make this portion of our history momentous and of immense worth.

Among the means of information available on all these topics are the files of Utah newspapers, magazines and other periodicals, the local libraries, the State, county and municipal records, the journals and diaries kept by persons familiar with current events, for their own benefit or pro bono publico. The Genealogical Society of Utah, of which I have the honor to be president, has a library containing valuable historic records, pedigrees and kindred works. The collections in museums, and the recollections of old inhabitants still sound in mind and active in intellect, the libraries and museums in other states having a similar purpose to that of ours will also no doubt furnish many things which will aid in the work that lies before us.

It is obvious that this work cannot be accomplished without expense. Money will be needed for the prosecution of the labors of this society, and that which will accrue from the initiation fees and dues of its members will not be adequate to the growing demand. I suggest, therefore, that means be adopted to obtain from our State Legislature an appropriation to aid in effecting the purpose we have in view, also to secure life-memberships, endowments and other voluntary contributions, that the society may not be crippled or retarded for lack of necessary funds.

I regard the organization of this society as the foundation for a superstructure which will be continuously added upon, as the years pass by, until an edifice will appear which will command the admiration of successive generations, which will be invaluable to our mountain State, which will rank among the foremost institutions of the kind in our beloved country, and which will aid materially in the education of our people and advance the welfare of mankind.

THE TRUE MISSION OF HISTORY.

Dr. Ellen B. Ferguson was the next speaker. The lady's theme was the true Mission of History. She said:

"Of all the departments of literature, history is not only the most ancient but the most important. To the student of today it is at once the record of human experience and the basis of human aspiration. Without it the lives of nations are but as passing shadows, and the achievements of mankind but the phantasma gloria of a dream. Herodotus, who lived B. C. 500 has been called the father of history, and is reputed to have said that 'History is philosophy teaching by example.' He wrote a charming tale of the civilized world of his time, and since his day the writing of history has been one of the most popular and prolific fields of literature. Succeeding ages have multiplied histories a thousand fold. Histories have been written of wars, political movements, religions, morals, learning, science, arts, philosophy and economics; but in all ages it has been the picturesque and dramatic aspects of human affairs that have monopolized the attention and enlisted the pen of the historian.

'Ancient histories are filled with the records of the splendor of mighty despots, the royal pomp of kings and queens, the triumphs of victorious generals, the tumults of political factions, or the successful intrigues of cunning diplomats. On the