COLLEGE CHAMPION.

Prof. Sanborn, of Logan, Again to the Rescue.

ANSWERS TO HIS OPPONENTS.

He Thinks Some of their Arguments and Methods are Unworthy.—What the College Has Accomplished.

Editor Deseret News:

My last article to your paper has drawn out four replies, either explanatory in character or an aggression upon the Agricultural College of Utah. I shall hasten to correct any error that I may have made in regard to President Kingsbury's position, and with pleasure when investigation demonstrates my error. The statement was based upon a letter I heard read by a member of the Assembly which called for an expression of his opinion in regard to union, and to the knowledge that he had sent other letters to parties in the Territory, and also to the assertion of a responsible citizen of Salt Lake City that he knew Dr. Kingsbury was publicly for union, privately for union at Salt Lake City. There seems to be so much misfortune within the University circles as to the position of each other in the matter and the attitude of the University on this question, as there is in no knowledge in the history of union colleges in other states. Prof. Montgomery of the University is out with an article advising union at Salt Lake City, or not at all; others to private have urged the same location, while the faculty over which Dr. Kingsbury presides frequently attacks the Agricultural College, indicating a desire to either ruin it or absorb it.

My statement that this institution could absorb the University, minus its preparatory and normal departments, with little extra cost, is not a demonstration that his statement that $50,000 could be saved by union, was correct, for the 81 regular college students claimed by the University could quite largely be absorbed by classes here, but of course not fully. In short, my statement is perfectly consistent.

The cavalier ease with which he flings away the experience of all other states and returns to the black assertion that union colleges (naming Wisconsin, whose professor of agriculture openly discussed separation, and Cornell, which is the agricultural college of New York) are more successful than separate colleges, surprises more than it impresses me.

Professor Marshall uses two columns in discussing questions that have not the remotest relation to union, evidently for the purpose of attack upon this institution. Let us rejoice with him at the capacity of the professors and the elevation of the studies of the University. It is several decades old, onts three years.

The University is in a city of well-organized high schools, from which it draws nearly half its students. Ours draws from the industrial classes and from a country sparsely settled, educated by schools but poorly organized. Before an intelligent audience this question needs no argument. We must begin at the point at which we find the common schools. Sagacious men can compare this essential of admittance in a sparsely settled Territory with those institutions of old and settled states. The fact is that many teachers of the common schools come here who cannot sparsely pass admission to our freshman year and cannot pass the closing examinations of the preparatory year. This is true of students who come from the great majority of our country schools. We are not where we want to be, nor where we are anxious to be, but where we must be and where we are doing the public the greatest good, and can defend with that public our position, as it is sended out of sympathy for the children of the Territory.

Furthermore, our admittance conditions is but about three-fourths of one year below that of Kansas, Iowa, Maine and other states having strong industrial colleges. By placing harder work upon the students we graduate them from the college course at just about the point they graduate them in the strong agricultural colleges of other states. We are watching carefully the public schools with the anxious hope and determination to elevate our standard as fast as possible, but are determined to do for the public the best work we can. Prof. Marshall objects because I class our technical agricultural work as one of the strongest courses in the country. He misinterprets the word technical which refers to agricultural instruction or technical work of the agricultural course. My claim is correct I believe. If not, Prof. Marshall is free to delight himself in disproving it. I will not object.

Another champion and probably of the faculty of the University, writes under the mask "Lark" with more less fairness and candor than that of Prof. Marshall's article and gives currency to untruths. He includes in the cost of the agricultural education of this institution the $15,000 given to research, a sum that the law forbids to be used for teaching and which must be applied for investigations in the direct interest of the farmers themselves. He also includes in the estimate the entire sums given for new buildings and apparatus, as though he expects an institution but three years old to do a broad work without buildings. Figures thus used, apparently used with the direct purpose of giving the public a false impression, are rarely used. Our number of students last year was 205. The number of the faculty was fifteen, five of whom were partly employed in the research department. The salaries actually paid for teaching was $1,462.00, or for 205 students $6.87 each, instead of $245.57 that "Lark" declares it cost to educate each student, only about one-fifth as much as he states, and one-third as much as he finds it cost to educate one at the University. Of course when a man writes thus unfairly it is of no use to follow him any farther, for I expect to extract nothing genuine from him or his figures. It is measuring of this sort that has been carried on for the last three years that is the basis of my objection to the attitude of the University towards the Agricultural college. In turn I have nothing to say against the capacity of the gentlemen at the University or with the standard of adjustment in the University, nor of the administration, except that its attitude of disregard for a sister institution is deeply to their discredit. They are paid to build up the educational system of Utah and not to use their energies in demolition, and I believe the taxpayers have a right to expect this of them.

I am aware that Dr. Kingsbury felt that I have attacked the University. My assertion that if they are anxious to save the funds of the state they can lay off the preparatory department and some other work that could be done in the high schools, was the statement of a genuine belief, and one that in my opinion should not cripple the University, should benefit the schools of Salt Lake City and be an economy to the Territory, because the high schools there will permit of it. I understand that the suggestion I made that a large number of students could get equally good or better instruction in the schools of Salt Lake City has been construed as an insult, not only to the faculty but to the students. No intent of the kind was in my mind. It was an expression of a belief that I have for some time, that teachers at colleges fitter to do the higher work are unable to do as good work for young students as those teachers trained for high school work, and my statement would apply to other institutions of learning as well as the University of Utah. So far as I know, in future states, the gentlemen of the University are capable gentlemen, and aside from their misguided movement, I have nothing but friendship for them.

Very respectfully,

J. W. SANBORN.

LOGAN, JANUARY 17, 1894.

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