EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The Utah University.—Brief History of Its Career.—The Museum.—Chemical and Philosophical Apparatus.—Library.—Military Department.—Schools of Morgan County.—Notes

The higher education seeks to draw men from all classes, from all pursuits of life, and men who are to return to all honorable and worthy callings, not alone in the great cities, but in all parts of the land. It is by the diffusion of the educated men, and by the diffusion through them of the truest and holiest advantages of education among the inhabitants of every town and hamlet, that a great school of learning does its highest work and justifies its claim to support by the whole people. It disseminates over the whole state men who are trained to be intelligent leaders of thought, to enlighten their neighbors on important affairs, to expose the fallacies of charlatans in politics, science and religion, to keep alive an interest in education, to discharge all the duties of citizenship, and, if need be, of public office. It thus keeps the whole body politic vigorous and healthy with the life-giving currents which it sends to the extremities, as well as with the strength which it sends to the heart. It is not true that it blesses only the men who receive its degrees. Through them it blesses all around them. Its graduates are often the medium of greater blessings to others than to themselves. Note the physician, who, trained to the highest professional skill in its halls, has ministered with unselfish devotion for a generation to the sick and the suffering. Has he, or have they been most blessed by his education? Take the lawyer, whose advice for years the poor have instinctively sought, whose opposition the criminal has dreaded, whose counsel the public have always desired in every emergency, has his power been only or chiefly a good fortune to himself?

In a large sense it is true that the advantages of the higher education cannot be selfishly monopolized by the recipient of it. It is truly enjoyed, it can hardly be used in any honorable way, without conferring benefits on others. One might as well talk of the sun monopolizing and enjoying alone the light generated in it, as talk of a scholar monopolizing the advantages of his education. The moment the sun shines, the wide universe around is bathed in its life-giving beams. Intellectual activity is necessarily luminous, outgoing, diffusive, reproductive. The graduates who go out from a university are not taking with them hidden treasures to enjoy in secret as the miser gloats in the sullenness of his garret over his gold, but rather precious seed which they will sow in every town and hamlet of this broad Territory, while the thousands about them will share with them the harvest of their sowing.

The rulers of every nation of Europe have cherished the great schools of learning as the choicest jewels in their crown. They have lavished wealth on them and endowed them so richly that at most of them the cost of instruction is little more than nominal, and peasants and princes are found on the same bench listening to the lectures of the great scholars in every science. If we may judge by the past, what work of may is more enduring or more beneficent than a strong university? In this Territory the early settlers began to lay the foundation of the present university before they had made homes for themselves.

The University of the State of Deseret was founded by an act of the Legislative assembly of, at that time, the Provisional government of the state, in 1850, about two and one half years subsequent to the settlement of this section, and act being ratified by the Legislative assembly of the Territory of Utah, October 4, 1851. The charter vested all authority relative to government, property and administration in a Chancellor and a Board of Twelve Regents, to be appointed by the governor, the term of office being two years, or until their successors should qualify. On March 15, 1850, occurred the first meeting of the Board of Regents, the presiding officer being Counselor Orson Spencer.

On the second Monday of November of the same year, the university was open for the admission of students, Dr. Cyrus Collins being in charge, but who was succeeded the same year by Professor Orson Spencer, A.M., and W. W. Phelps. The building then in use stood at the corner of Main and South Temple streets. The building next in use was the Deseret Hospital, which continued to be utilized until the present structure was erected.

By reason of the sparsely settled territory, and a lack of funds to maintain the enterprise, it remained in an indifferent condition until 1867, when it entered upon a new and prosperous era. Professor Albert Carrington, formerly of the editorial staff of the News, was elected chancellor, and associated with him on the Board of Regents were Brigham Young, Daniel H. Wells, John Taylor, Heber C. Kimball, Henry G. Boreman and D. O. Calder, in addition to the number of regents imposed by law. On the 15th of November, 1867, the Board of Regents met to consider "measures for the formation of classes to study the various sciences and departments of literature now being taught, or, relatively upon the situation of the territory, of education in the territory." The meeting was also attended by President Young, his counselors and some of the regents. April 4, and the important subject of education was fully discussed. The meeting decided to commence to open the normal department "on the commodious and convenient building known as the Council House." The philosophical apparatus was secured by Prof. O. Calder, who supplied the apparatus, and entered upon his duties. At the same time a royalty library of English literature was organized, President George A. Taylor being elected to the presidency of the institution in the normal and literary department, attorney was one who was to be collegiate. President Young being present, meeting assumed a fitting dignity, and opened with the opening prayer. The organization of theology was known as the "School of the Prophets," being a revival of the Kirtland organization of that name, with President Young at its head. This afterward became a separate institution, meeting being of first held in the City Hall, and in the upper room of the Tabernacle, in the Tenderloin. The commercial department enjoyed a return of prosperity under the direction of Professor Calder, and when in 1869 he applied for means for equipping the school with apparatus and other necessaries as a commercial school, his request was immediately granted.

In 1869, an appropriation of $10,000 was asked for by Chancellor Carrington and the Board of Regents, which sum was increased by a like amount at the next session of the Legislature, in 1870. The institution was known as a commercial college until 1876, when, under the direction of Dr. John H. Park, it became more distinctly a university, its scope being extended by the addition of scientific normal and classical instruction. Since that time its career has been commensurate with the progress of education, and the growth of the Territory. In 1884, a charter was assumed giving to the institution power to confer degrees and to issue diplomas, and in 1892 the Legislature created a new charter, changing the name to the University of Utah.

The present buildings were erected in 1881, but are inadequate to the needs of today. With the Congressional aid in the direction of the proposed new site, and a liberal appropriation of about $100,000, the university would enter upon a career of greater usefulness and prosperity. The east or main building is 110 x 151 feet, and four stories in height. The west building is 77 x 127 feet, with three stories. In the rear of the west building is the boiler house, from which steam for heating and lighting is supplied. The second story of this building is workshops for the industrial department. All buildings are substantially built, and are well lighted, and supplied with steam heat, gas, water and all necessary facilities.

The museum is situated on the second floor of the main building and consists of a well selected and varied collection of objects secured by appropriations of the faculty, of gifts from private individuals, and by legislative appropriation. In the animal kingdom are found: The Bengal tiger, Central American jaguar, Canada lynx, Mexican wolf, patrol, Duke of York Island howling monkey, of South America, horned owl, brant of grey, American magpie, blue winged teal, ruddy duck, mud hen, water snail, horned lark, pelican, barley, from Michigan; pine blacksnake, sleeping turtle, of Gunnison, Ute, Rocky Mountain sheep, California partridge, American bittern, white swan, of Spring Lake, Utah; Great Northern loon. In entomology and conchology is a superior display of shells from the Columbia river, Utah lake and California. The sub-kingdom archipelago is an interesting group, including the starfish from the Pacific, sea urchins, kingcrab, the lobster, scorpion shell, taken from the hull of a vessel in dry dock, San Francisco. In the sub-kingdom coelenterata, are the mushroom, brain, star, chimes and dead's hand corals, the glass rope sponge, from Japan, the "Venus flower basket" a sponge composed of finely-woven, slender, glassy fibers; a list of amphibians, a few of which have been mentioned, and to which may be added the five alligators, three cases of plaster casts and models of various animals. In woods are found, petrified, cedar, totara, red pine, honeysuckle, burr of oak oak from Spain; cactus wood from Mexico, mahogany, Indian ebony. Clay, green silver and black clay, Utah; lava Oregon lava, Er and jaw tooth from the Cascades; sandstone, marble, white, cherry and onyx, Utah; size cubic of about twenty-five species of American woods; the Mormon Temple, the various ore potash, feldspar from Frisco, arsenic, Arizona stone from Pike's Peak, Colo; arsenic from Arizona; Utah gypsum; Canada moss; manganese from Harts, bismuth; crystals of sulphur from Sicily; berys, topaz, crystals, pink tourmaline, California; emeralds from New Mexico; gahnite from Rockport, Ont; salt from the waters of the Great Salt Lake; galena from Idaho, Dry Run spar from New York; horn silver ore, Rochester, from Mayflower mine, Park City; native silver from Pioneer Valley; lead and silver from Bingham; cinnabar from Big Cottonwood; carbonate of copper, silicates of copper, talc from Snake River, Idaho; silver ore carrying copper, gray copper ore from Mingo works, Selby; Canada lead and Crested Butte zinc, Rock Springs, Pleasant Valley and Castle Gate coals. In paleontology specimens may be seen subject to the study, specimen from Camp Floyd marble, Utah; black quartz from Snake River, Idaho; Rio opal, Hungary, Europe; wood, a species of fossil; Lake Superior copper; specimen from Dover; in sand specimen, gold from South Carolina; Utah sand, quartz, apatite, talc and resin. In the mineralogy the different components and by-product of the Utah, in Bingham, Utah; silver, lead, copper, the silver, iron, red and black oxide of iron; in ancient organic, with a set of Rocky Mountain fossil fish; siliceous, from Alum Cave, Tennessee; specimen from Alum Cave, Tennessee; from Calumet, from the mine of the Nevada Mining and Power Co., showed galena, quartz, gypsum, quartz and calcite containing copper; from the Lucky Boy mine, Bingham, Utah; the Hardy smelting furnace at Bingham, Utah; in fuel, an old specimen of all the minerals and ore of Utah, the use and specimen which are the results of the Utah region.

Among the instruments in the museum only the microscope is a part of the museum, it is assumed in which was the Council House, the wood being used in erection of the present structure.

The different works are due to the Premium, the silk being secured and made by the ladies of Utah, in 1876, at Salt Lake City, in the Utah, in the Exposition, and over the stairway in the gallery leading to President Young's home, outside the library, using the "Ye Ancient Mariner take care of your Albatross." In the Utah Exposition, the Wool & Silk manufacturing, silk, velvet, velvet, velvet