

women for becoming wives and mothers. Quite a high proficiency in all the common branches is necessary before entering this department. Besides practical cooking and house keeping, care of the sick, and care of infants, the physiological and moral reasons why, are also taught.

The class numbers about forty members and is growing in popularity with the young ladies. Mrs. Susa Young Gates is the teacher.

Music being considered by many as a mere matter of ornament, and because it requires years of practice and expense before there can be any practical returns, is one of the last branches of education to be earnestly taken up in a new common-wealth. But music is no longer looked upon as a great unapproachable mystery, neither as a luxury, but as an essential element of culture.

Professor Anthony Lund, educated in Germany, with a corps of able teachers, is making music a pronounced feature of the Brigham Young Academy.

Among our young people a great deal of ability is found, and some talent. Ten young ladies are in their third year of vocal culture and are able to render Beethoven, Schillers and other classics creditably. Many students who have no special quality or compass of voice are doing excellent work in the line of instrumental music, are good critics and may become composers.

Professor Lund says he has three magnificent voices in training among the older pupils, and the large class of younger vocalists engaged in voice building and gaining flexibility, is full of promise of excelling in the divine art.

The eight courses in physics and chemistry offered the students of the Brigham Young Academy would do credit to a much older and better endowed institution than our own is at the present time.

Recently that department has removed to more suitable rooms, which are being fitted up with appliances of the very best kind for carrying on the work. New apparatus has been ordered and will be here in time for the beginning of the second semester. All that was in any way out of order is being put in good condition, and every effort is being made to have this department conducted in the systematic manner that is requisite for such a large institution.

There is perhaps no other department where every student fitted for it, has elected to take the next higher course during the coming semester. The class has always been well represented as to numbers, but this semester just closed especially so; there being about forty students. Most of these are young men, but there is a larger percentage of young ladies who will enter the classes for the next twenty weeks. All the work in the lower classes whether general, or analytical, whether theory, or experimental, is only calculated as a broad, solid foundation to the practical and essential work of the higher grades; just as we must first acquire the art of reading before fine points of literary excellence can be considered. The advanced classes will be given courses, which are the scientific basis, for those who intend to follow such pursuits as, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, pharmacy or manufacturing chemistry. These latter courses are intended to be very practical and are therefore largely laboratory work.

Besides this the able conductor of this department, Professor Stanley, finds time to deliver lectures once a week to the domestic economy class on such subjects as co-ordinate with the branches of home life to which that class are devoting themselves.

These languages are taught in all the grades above the fourth, and a specialty is made of speaking them. Nothing is attempted as to the grammatical construction, except that sentences are always given to them in good grammatical form. One of the special duties of the Brigham Young Academy is to prepare missionaries, and a speaking knowledge of these languages is deemed the most necessary after English, because so large a percentage of the people of the world speak them.

The little ones are not tied down to any one method, but the object, or natural, method prevails. They learn the alphabet, and reproduce their lessons from the primer and story books. Explanations are often made in English when the teacher thinks proper.

The higher classes are taking courses that will prepare the student to enter college, as it is a college requirement. English grammar is seldom understood until the student has studied one foreign language as a basis of comparison. To the scholar and scientist a reading knowledge of these languages is indispensable; and it is not uncommon to find a person capable of translating who can not converse.

Prof. Davis says that many of the students in both languages, and the various sections and classes, are making flattering progress. In the Academy proper there are in German seventy-eight students, divided into classes A, B and C. Class A is divided because of the numbers into section one and two, Mrs. Young teaching section two.

The French classes are B and C and have not so many students enrolled.

English rhetoric and oratory is one of the departments of the Academy; these classes are presided over by Prof. N. L. Nelsen, assisted by L. E. Egertson. The one first aim is to enable the student to speak English correctly, easily, fluently and eloquently. A great many people who pretend to be grammarians and, indeed, can write the language with tolerable accuracy, speak it atrociously. Grammar should be an ever present qualification, not a veneer. Three or four years are spent in oral work, as ninety five out of every one hundred persons do not compose in any other way. Another reason for laying so much stress on oral work is the patent fact that a perfect address is of immense advantage to any person in any walk of life. To be able to express a thought well is to intensify it, while crude expression dims it in the mind, till it eventually loses part of its significance. In the lower grades it is generally reported by teachers of other schools that the language studies are considered irksome, and especially by boys; but in the Brigham Young Academy there is a marked enthusiasm. The teachers ascribe this to the great degree of personal liberty allowed in the choice of subjects to speak and write about. It then becomes a matter of personal development rather than a chiseling out of character to a set model. The only stimulus applied is in the nature of contests before the assembled Academy, where the honor of being the best and

the publishing of the best written work in the Juvenile Instructor, DESERET NEWS and other home publications, is the reward.

Correspondence to newspapers has been encouraged, and with marked success. One thing has been thoroughly impressed and that is to always have the capacity of the audience for whom you write, before you, that the article may fit the publication as a glove fits the hand. It is all extremely practical, and the student taking this course finds himself able to use good English on all occasions in a manner perfectly suited to the occasion.

Under the able instruction of Miss Alice Reynolds, this important branch of education is making rapid progress. This study is not only an ornament but does as much perhaps to develop character and build up the moral nature as any study except theology. So potent is the influence of a good or bad book that thousands of people can trace the turning point of their career to this source. To philosophy it adds emotion; to the experience of one life the experience of a thousand; to the wisdom of today, the best brought forward from all the ages of the past. There is not enough attention bestowed upon the class of literature allowed within the sacred circle of home. Wrong conceptions of the truly noble, wrong ideals, false estimates of the relative importance of results are often created; and often are the young woefully led astray as to the results following certain lines of conduct.

Once the taste is cultivated and the judgment formed as to what is worth reading, and in the hands of that person is the golden key which unlocks the iron casket of the ages. This special form of education supplies companionship, makes the soul strong, prepares one for emergencies and disasters, for great heroisms and the best every-day lines; gives breadth to the understanding, justifies the judgment and breathes the very soul of living charity into every act of life.

In the department of mathematics all the grades are interested. Three professional teachers are constantly employed, besides several assistants. Realizing the value of a good foundation, classes in the eighth grade arithmetic are given every semester for those who wish to take the subject; and although no credit is given in the Academy proper for this work, these classes are among the largest. This shows that the student confronted by the exacting demands of the higher branches feels the need of a more comprehensive course than that given in the district schools. In these classes they are shown, not so much how figures are used as why they are used.

After reviewing briefly the how, students study quite thoroughly the deep and important facts which are too often overlooked, as hidden from their minds by the very figures that should reveal them. With this for a foundation, the students are thoroughly prepared for algebra and geometry and all succeeding work. During the last semester the following work has been done in the mathematical department: three large classes in practical arithmetic, one in commercial arithmetic, three sections of algebra "A" and two of geometry "A." These classes are mostly new students, and nearly all have signified their inten-