

where he says: "Foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham." Abraham understood the Gospel. Melchisedec understood the Gospel. He was a priest of the Most High God, it is said, and he received titles from Abraham. Jesus became a High Priest after the order of Melchisedec, although he belonged to the tribe of Judah, concerning which Paul says Moses had said nothing about priesthood.

Brethren and sisters, the world is progressing, in its own way. God will overrule and control all these things for good. I look upon this parliament to which I have alluded as likely to be productive of great good. It is a good thing for men to get together and compare their views. They are not so far apart as they imagine. If it will only have the effect to lessen our conceit—I speak now of our nation—I shall be very thankful. We are very conceited. We think that anything we don't know is not worth knowing. But there are other people in the world who do know a great deal, and some of their views about God and about the proper method of living are very correct. There was one man from Hindostan who preached from a Unitarian pulpit the Sunday we were there, and he told the congregation that he had come to preach to them the truths which Christ taught, which they professed to believe but which they did not practice. This kind of talk hurts self-love, and some of the newspapers had to take it up. But the Buddhists and the Shintovists and the believers in Confucius have a great many truths among them, and they are not so imperfect and heathenish as we have been in the habit of thinking of them to be. They show that they are capable of setting forth their own doctrines and of advocating them in a way that brings conviction to the minds at least of their own people. They do not believe in Jesus as the Savior of the world, though many of them do believe that he was a great man.

I rejoice exceedingly in our situation. We are a very imperfect people. We have much to learn. But, as I said, God has revealed some things to us, and we know they are true; and we can bring all the sciences of the world to that standard which God has given unto us. As I have told many of our young men when they have been going to college, how valuable it is to know that these doctrines of Darwin are incorrect, and that man has not come up from that low condition, through thousands or millions of years, to his present statue and reasoning faculties, etc. It is worth something to know that, to begin with, and not spend time over it. So it is with many things that are taught by scientific men. It gives the Latter-day Saints an advantage over every other people and our young men will make progress in science that will surprise the world because of this, having certain fixed principles of truth to commence with which God has revealed, and which they know are true. This is our condition as an entire people. There are cartloads of books being written from time to time to prove certain things that are not true. The Lord having revealed to us the truth, and having

His Spirit to enlighten us, by which we can go to Him and ask concerning matters about which we are ignorant, He will give us light and dispel darkness.

I am rejoiced to be with you this afternoon. I am thankful for the blessings that God has bestowed upon us. I trust that we shall profit by all that we are passing through. These lessons are intended to make us a better people, a more perfect people. Let us cultivate honesty and truthfulness and punctuality in all our dealings and in all our associations one with another and with the world. If we do this we shall continue to maintain the character that we have obtained; yes, and to increase in the estimation of the good everywhere. I pray God to bless you all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

The most important event of the week in educational circles was the formal opening, on Monday last, of the new Church University, in its splendid new laboratory building on First North street.

It is gratifying to know that the growth of the Church schools has been such as to demand the establishment, at so early a day, of a university to be a crowning feature of the whole Church school system.

The credit and honor of founding the university may justly be shared by the Latter-day Saints as a whole, inasmuch as the people, while convened in general conference, unanimously adopted a resolution which says: "Being sincerely desirous of fostering education in our midst, we, the members of the unincorporated body of religious worshippers known and designated as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, now in general conference assembled, on the 5th day of April, 1892, do respectfully request the presiding officers of our Church, for us, and in our behalf, to found upon such trusts, and to endow in such manner as they may deem wise and proper, an institution of learning of high grade to be commonly called by us the Church University." * * * We the Latter-day Saints hereby express our willingness and full determination to aid, to the full extent of our power, the authorities of our Church in building up said university." This pledge will always be a source of encouragement to the officers of the new school, and will help to confirm them in the belief which they now all seem to share, that a great institution has come into being.

In compliance with the request above expressed the authorities of the Church have founded and endowed the Church University; and it is expected that most of the funds for the building up of this institution will hereafter come from them, though individual bequests are earnestly solicited.

The family of the late President Brigham Young have, it is understood, generously donated land for the site of the university, amounting in value to fifty thousand dollars and upwards. Another bequest of handsome proportions, for the founding of a library, is contemplated by other parties. The Salt Lake Library and Scientific Association has already given material aid

to the university, and will affiliate with it in the future. A general interest, indeed, seems to have been awakened, and there is little doubt but that the university will grow rapidly and have a prosperous career. Certain it is the opening this week has been most propitious. Good sized classes both in chemistry and in natural philosophy (the only university studies to be undertaken this year) have been formed, and work in the lecture room and laboratory is fairly well begun.

A class in domestic science is also being conducted by the University faculty, for the Latter-day Salt College, which is largely attended by college students of both sexes.

The students who are so fortunate as to be enrolled have good reason to be pleased with their surroundings and prospects, for they have a beautiful and healthful building, unexcelled for convenience of arrangement, which is fully equipped with the very best modern apparatus; and, above all, they are receiving instruction which, in experimentation work especially, is of a pre-eminently high grade, and which is fully equal to that given in the best eastern colleges.

The fact that the University is practically free will be a great factor in its popularity.

THE SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOLS.

By an act of the Legislature of 1890 the free school system was established. This act provided for the election of a board of education by the voters of the city, the schools to be placed under the management of said board, whose duty it should be to provide such facilities as would give every person of school age a free education. The board was duly elected, consisting of two members from each of the five municipal wards of the city. The term of office is two years. The members of the first board of education were: Hiram Johnson, George W. Snow, H. T. Duke, Wm. Nelson, T. C. Armstrong Jr., W. J. Newman, J. N. Pike, P. L. Williams, R. W. Young, G. D. Pyper, L. U. Colbath, C. E. Mitchener, H. C. Lett.

The officers for the board for 1890-91 were: George M. Scott, president; Wm. Nelson, vice president; J. B. Moreton, clerk; J. B. Walden, treasurer.

One of the first duties devolving upon the board was the election of a superintendent, the choice falling upon Dr. J. F. Millsbaugh, the present incumbent. Under his recommendation, a corps of teachers was elected, the new system going into effect Sept. 15th, 1890.

Prior to this time there had been about thirty buildings in the city, used for school purposes. The stone building known as the Fourteenth school had been used for pupils of the grammar grade. Upon the opening of the year a high school was created in the above mentioned building, with E. M. Collins as principal. Nine pupils from the public and private schools of the city applied for admission, and were accordingly registered. The greatest number of schools in operation during the year was twenty-three; the total number of teachers employed one hundred and one; the total enrollment of pupils 6368, out of a school census of 6818; the number of school sittings was 2728.