

are very effective in arousing interest, and in impressing truth upon the mind. Attention is a habit, and should be cultivated as such. If the teacher can obtain the close attention of his pupils today, it will be much easier to get their attention the next time they meet, and the teacher cannot do better than continue to retain the attention of his pupils by every possible means, so that the habit may become fixed and permanent.

To be most effective in teaching a class, too much dependence upon and reference to the text book must be avoided. The teacher should become so familiar with the lesson that little or no reference need be made by him to the book. This will inspire confidence, and the instructor will have much better command of himself and of the class and attention will be given much more readily by the pupils.

Frequent questioning of the pupils, particularly of the backward ones, and recapitulation of the lessons, linking one lesson upon another in logical order, are great aids in fixing the attention and in aiding the memory to retain the lessons as presented by the teacher. Lessons should be frequently reviewed also, so that the teacher can see the progress made by the pupils, that he may not get beyond their capacity in the progress of the lesson. Thoroughness cannot be attained in any other manner. If the lesson is too much the children cannot grasp it, and they leave the school with wrong impressions and often much harm is done where good was intended, whereas, if the lesson had been thoroughly learned by the pupils progress would have been made, and unless the children feel that they are progressing in knowledge, there is little incentive to attention.

A very important qualification to successful teaching was earnest enthusiasm on the part of the instructor. If he be not interested in his lesson he need not expect his pupils to be, and without interest there would be no attention.

The earnest teacher should not only be vigilant in his class work, but always should be on the alert for new material for his work, as stories, anecdotes, incidents, objects, and the like, and weave them into his lesson as opportunity offered. In this manner the successful teacher always had something fresh for his class, and continued interest would be the result.

To the objection that it was difficult for most teachers to relate a story or incident, or use objects successfully before children, the speaker suggested the old maxim that "practice makes perfect," and related the incident of the man who had what was to him a very difficult subject to lecture upon. After preparing himself on the subject, in order to learn how to present it in a pleasing and attractive style, he would stop a friend on the street and tell him all about it, or as long as he could get him to listen, and then meet another and talked to him in the same way, and kept at it until he attained his object.

"Have courage, my boy, to say No," solo and chorus, was well rendered by Master Manassa Smith and juvenile choir.

Elder J. H. Parry was the next speaker. His subject was "Sunday

School Statistics." Referring to the annual report of the Sunday Schools of this stake for 1893, which showed a total enrollment of 11,626 pupils, the average attendance was but 6680, scarcely 60 per cent. of the enrollment. The enrollment did not include more than 75 per cent. of the Latter-day Saint children in the Stake. An average attendance of 60 per cent. on an enrollment of 75 per cent. showed that less than one-half (45 per cent.) of the Latter-day Saint children were in regular attendance at Sabbath School. The speaker urged that efforts be made to increase both the enrollment and the average attendance. The most effectual method he thought was to increase the efficiency of the schools themselves, and make them more interesting and attractive, as suggested in the timely remarks of the previous speaker. Unless this was done all efforts in other directions would end in failure. If these schools were made more attractive, in all the departments, very little other efforts need be made to increase the average attendance and enrollment. In support of this position, the speaker related a recent change made in a school where a new teacher was installed in the theological class. He was earnest, energetic, prepared interesting lessons, and put life and spirit into his work. From an average attendance of eight or ten pupils the class numbered in less than six weeks nearly eighty regular attendants.

Superintendent Griggs followed and urged the importance of making the schools more effective for good and bringing within their fold all the children, that all might be benefited and instructed in the principles of the Gospel.

The Fifth ward juvenile choir will furnish music at the next meeting again, as the inclement weather prevented many of the members from attending tonight.

Benediction was pronounced by Superintendent Clark, of the Fifth ward, and the meeting adjourned for one month. Jos. H. PARRY, Secretary.

### A FEARFUL ACCIDENT.

A dreadful catastrophe was averted Monday morning through the passenger train due at Ogden from the East at 1:30 a.m. being a few minutes late. Many frightful accidents have occurred from the same cause that prevented this one. It appears that an eastbound freight train with a helper engine was making its way up Weber canyon about 1 o'clock in the morning, and the engineers had received orders to run from the first switch, which is about eight or ten miles from Ogden, to the second, and there allowing the incoming passenger train to pass. This is what saved the passenger train, loaded down with an unusually heavy burden of humanity, from being dashed down the steep embankment at the worst turn of the Weber river.

Unknown to the men, a landslide had blocked the track in the neighborhood of Devil's Gate, and the freight train, on its way to the second switch, dashed into the debris. The first locomotive jumped the track, and broke loose from the second, while the next

instant it was precipitated down into the raging stream below. The engineer jumped from the engine and broke his leg.

Consternation reigned among the passengers on the train from the east when they learned how near they had been to destruction. They were then in the very jaws of death, and many ladies were thoroughly prostrated with the fright. The passenger train runs at a very high rate of speed after passing the second switch east of Ogden, and had it been on time that morning, it would have dashed into the landslide and been hurled into the rocks and river below. Few would have lived to tell the tale.

The passenger ran into an open switch and was delayed seven hours by the accident to the freight. The train is known as No. 1, is the fast mail and is due in Salt Lake at 3 a. m. On Saturday night the fast mail ran into a rock car near Hilliard, Wyo., and the engine and two mail cars were ditched. The engineer and fireman were both killed and the mail clerk injured. The names of the deceased are William Iethbridge, engineer, and O. H. George, fireman. No other damage was done so far as can be learned.

A News reporter succeeded in finding Superintendent Bancroft of the Union Pacific Monday afternoon and interviewed him in regard to the reported disaster in Weber canyon in the morning. He stated that a huge mass of rock fell from the cliff four hundred feet above the railroad track and demolished the roadbed for a distance of ninety feet. The rock rested on the track and weighed about twenty tons. A watchman was cognizant of the obstruction, which was located about one mile this side of Uintah, and went forward to flag the passenger train. The watchman, however, was not aware of there being a special freight going east, and went up the line on a lookout for the fast mail. The engineer and firemen on the leading locomotive of the freight jumped from the engine just as it was about to crash into the mass of rock, and the fireman, whose name is J. W. Beckerton, broke his right leg. The engineer escaped without serious injury. The locomotive is badly wrecked at the foot of the embankment.

The Fifteenth ward meeting house, situated on First South street west, was the scene of a fire at ten o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning, that would certainly have proven disastrous had it not been discovered in its incipency. The children of the ward were assembling for Sunday school at the time. One of the little ones noticed that the roof near the smoke flue was on fire and gave the alarm to older persons present. There is a fire alarm box nearby, and to this a messenger ran as quickly as possible. On arriving there, however, he found no key with which to turn in the alarm, nor was there any information as to where the key was. Several houses in the neighborhood were visited before it could be found. Finally it was secured and the west side department was called out, but before it reached the meeting house the fire had been extinguished by means of the hose kept on the ground. The loss will not exceed \$15.