

ELDER J. GOLDEN KIMBALL.

(Of the First Council of the Seventy.)

There is only a few minutes left, but we will presume upon your time as we have two duets that we desire to have sung. There isn't any part of our services more inspiring than the singing and at no time have I heard anything better than the music and singing during these services.

"Stay Thou with Me" was rendered as a duet by Myrtle W. Doelle and Joseph Kjar, preceded by the following remarks:

PROFESSOR EVAN STEPHENS.

I want to say a word in explanation of this duet. I was requested to put this piece on, through some of the brethren hearing it in one of our wards, last Sunday night. I want to say a word about it for fear you will misunderstand the object of it. You might take it to be a secular, or what is sometimes termed a "love" duet. The idea is this: I have been asked thousands of times, probably, by different people who have good voices and musical ability: "Brother Stephens, I have a gifted son, a gifted daughter, would you advise me to send them abroad to study?" "Would you advise me to take or send them away from home for study?" This piece has been written for an answer to that question. My answer is, "No." and this song, "Stay Thou with Me," is partly the answer. We have developed some splendid talent by sending it away, but as a rule, I think it is safe to say, if our young people have ties to cling to, in nine cases out of ten, it is better for them to "Stay thou with me: from

my side may it not lure thee." The subject in this duet is in that way really a reply. Do not go from home; and so "Brother Stephens has not put on some 'love' duets in conference." This one is a sermon in itself.

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(Of the First Council of Seventy.)

This is the first time in twenty-five years of missionary service that I have been honored to preside at a public meeting connected with the Semi-annual Conference of the Church, and I would like to preside with a good deal of dignity, and have tried to do so.

I am a little nervous when given an opportunity to speak, knowing that what I say will be taken down by a stenographer, and when my discourse is written in cold type, it doesn't read well or sound good to me, as it has but little spirit, and no feeling in it. I am now speaking of my discourses.

My most fervent desire is to speak of what I know and how I feel, but it's a great fight to be able to express your real feelings. I am looking ahead, and worrying about some things that are useless and a waste of energy. At times I am exercised about death and the hereafter, but as Charles Frohman phrased it, under spiritual enthusiasm, "Why fear death? it is the most beautiful adventure of life." I would like to die, if I can, without fear, in fact, die like a Roman.

My purpose is not to discourse on wonderful things, that I have achieved and experienced, but my wish and desire is to reach the hearts of men. I only wish I was better understood; but unless men are of my temperament and see

things as I see them, with a moving picture mind, they can not comprehend things in the way I do.

I may not stand blameless before God at the last day, but I am not afraid to meet my God and be judged by the Lord as to my desires, efforts and works. I understand the gospel of Jesus Christ well enough to know that God is perfect and deals out justice and mercy to his children; Jesus Christ is the door to the sheep-fold, and with all my many imperfections and weaknesses, if I am invited by the Master to come in at the door, all men who try to block my way will get run over and pushed aside.

I do not trust in man, but I honor and respect men who hold the Priesthood of God. I haven't given my life for this work, but have shown forth a willingness to place the little I have on the altar. I haven't been called, nor asked to do anything, that I have not responded. No appointment has been given me that I have not filled, in my way, and to the best of my ability.

I can do anything I am set apart to do, if I have the spirit of my appointment and am humble and prayerful.

I know the sick are healed through the laying on of hands, as well as any man in all Israel, as I have witnessed the healing of the sick. I know we have the spirit of prophecy, for I have tried it out, and it works all right, if you get the spirit of prophecy. This work is true. This is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but when you so testify it ought to be done by the spirit of prophecy and revelation.

As far as the Government of the United States is concerned, I feel

somewhat like General Pershing did when he offered to the Allied nations the army of the United States. We parents give to our country our sons just as gladly and freely to enter into this great struggle for justice and liberty for humanity.

If you can grasp my meaning you will know exactly how I feel towards the Church and the Priesthood. The Lord knows I love the Church, her people, and my Country, and I have no fear that the Lord cannot overrule and overturn nations and people, until they shall repent and serve him. The Lord has taken care of me, and I have learned to trust him, as he is a good Master, and he is full of mercy, justice, kindness and love.

I feel to say, "God save the people, not kings, but the people." If I had written that poetry, I would have said, "God save the people"—and to — with the kings, but as I didn't write it, will refrain from saying it.

Brethren and sisters, this work is true, for I have worked and labored in it until I know of its truth: I am now going to ask you a few questions: "Do you know of anything in all this beautiful world that is more important than human life?" You don't, do you? I will ask the same question in another way: "Do you know of anything in all this great universe that is dearer to the Father than a human soul?" You don't, do you? Of course, you don't, as the Lord said in the Doctrine and Covenants, "And if it so be that you should labor all your days in crying repentance unto this people, and bring save it be one soul unto me, how great will be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father."

To be saved in the kingdom of God is the greatest of all the gifts of God; for there is no gift greater than the gift of salvation. Then "soul hunting" is of far greater importance than spending one's life in money seeking, and the accumulation of wealth. I can see that the things of God must be made more interesting than the things of the world; that the things of God must be better advertised than the material things of the world.

I almost forgot the one thing I desired to say, and that is: God bless the choir, the singers and musicians. I know as well as I know anything that the Lord will bless Brother Evan Stephens; and as a servant of the Lord, I promise him he shall have the Holy Spirit to comfort and console him, and he shall not be lonely or desolate among this people. God bless all these sweet singers he is training. Little do you people know what it costs in time, effort, and study, to acquire the art to sing; if we as a people put forth a tithe of the effort they do to sing, in studying the word of God, we would be the most intelligent people in all the world. The Lord bless you. Amen.

After singing, by the combined choirs, "Grant us peace," President Rey L. Pratt pronounced the benediction.

SECOND MEETING OUT-DOORS.

A second outdoor meeting was held in front of the Bureau of Information Building, at 2 p. m., Elder Charles H. Hart, of the First Council of Seventy, presiding.

The music and singing were furnished by the Ensign Male Chorus.

The chorus and congregation sang: "Let Zion in her beauty rise."

Prayer was offered by Elder Wm. E. Evans.

The chorus and congregation sang: "Lo, the Gentile chain is broken."

ELDER LEWIS ANDERSON.

(President of South Sanpete Stake of Zion.)

My dear brethren, sisters, and friends, I do not know whether I shall be able to make you hear what I may have to say to this vast congregation gathered upon these grounds. I am very grateful to my heavenly Father for the blessings that we enjoy through his Holy Spirit, poured out in great abundance upon the Saints who have been gathered in this Conference. The blessings of our heavenly Father have come to the people in these valleys of the mountains. His gracious care has been over them. Prosperity has attended the efforts put forth by the people who have gathered from every land and clime, and God has been merciful unto them. He has granted unto them health and strength, the comforts of life.

My reflections have gone out to the time when I first saw this spot, in 1859. The first worship that I attended was in a little building that was located here in the southwest corner of this block, as I remember it. There were none of these elegant buildings erected at that time—the holy temple here, the tabernacle, and these other magnificent buildings of worship erected for the