

elements of that advancing education which insures ultimate exaltation beyond the stars.

HAIL TO THE CHOIR!

Mr. Stephens and his victorious choir last night drank to the full the delights of success. The cup was full to overflowing, and it came in the shape of a wholesome and wholesale testimonial from the citizens of Salt Lake without regard to class or creed.

There were about 2000 people assembled in the Tabernacle when the choir, the ladies in white and the gentlemen in black, all wearing the badges which had seen such honorable service, filed into their seats. Governor West was there to thank the singers in the name of the whole Territory; Mayor Baskin was there to tell them how proud the city was of their achievements; and C. W. Penrose was on hand to congratulate them in the name of the Tabernacle assembly.

A round of applause went up as the singers took their places, and it grew into a tumultuous roar as Conductor Stephens stepped upon the platform. When he had done bowing the choir opened the concert with the inspiring selection "Hosanna," and when the applause had subsided Hon. John F. Calne brought Governor West forward. The Governor, in a hearty and eloquent manner, then fired a salvo of compliments upon the modest Stephens, who stood trying to look at ease near the huge floral harp which had been presented him. The Governor spoke of the delight the Utah people in Chicago had felt when he announced that our choir had been accorded second place, and of the personal pride he felt in this work. He gave them the warmest praise, and gracefully concluded by saying what pride Utah felt in proclaiming to the world "These are my jewels."

Mayor Baskin followed and was equally complimentary and happy. Nothing, he declared, so marked the progress of a people as its poetry and music, and in showing to the world what Utah could do in music the choir had given an altogether new idea of the culture and intelligence which reigned here. Mr. Penrose took up the burden of compliments and said what pride the Tabernacle congregation felt in our singers when the governor and mayor thus echoed their praises. Mr. Penrose very thoughtfully paid a tribute to Mr. Stephens' predecessors, Conductor Smithers of olden days, and Professors Careless, Thomas, Griggs and Beeley, who, he said, had reared the column on which Mr. Stephens had placed the capstone. The mention of the other conductors' names was especially applauded. The speaker warmly praised the choir and encouraged it to push on to still further excellence. When Mr. Stephens turned to reply the applause was almost deafening. Time after time it rose and fell, and the conductor was kept standing fully a minute before it subsided sufficiently to allow him to be heard. He then briefly thanked the speakers and the audience, and said this welcome was pleasanter even than winning a prize. The appreciation of their friends would, he said, invite them to still higher achieve-

ments. Then the concert went on. For the most part the numbers were the same as those given on the road and in the contest, and were not new to the audience. The welcome royal was kept for Mr. Easton, who got a triple call, and each time the applause was deafening. It must have been a proud moment for the favorite tenor. He sang an operatic ballad, Annie Laurie, and the typical Mormon hymn, O, My Father, which met with so much favor on the tour. Mr. Weihe unfortunately was to ill to appear, or without doubt his reception would have been equally hearty. Mrs. Pugette, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Edwards and Mr. Eosign each got a warm welcome. Mr. Pyper, whose sweet voice had been so effectively heard in the Miserere, had remained in Chicago, and his place was taken by Mr. Ashworth, a capable tenor, but who was suffering too much from hoarseness to do his usual good work last evening. The ladies' chorus and the contest pieces went admirably, the great difficulty of petuous torrents, especially, in which the choir went just a little off the key in Chicago, being rounded up perfectly during the evening. Mr. Hull read a poem by H. W. Naisbitt on the return of the choir, and Mr. Peirce read the following resolutions:

During the exercises Mr. Pierce, a member of the choir, read the following resolutions:

The Salt Lake Tabernacle choir, on its return from the World's Fair—an event enjoyed by all, and which marked an epoch in the lives of many—desire to express their sincere and heartfelt thanks to the following persons and organizations:

First, to the Cyrodorion society of Chicago for kindly remembrance; and for the delegation they sent here to urge us to action and inspire us with new hope; also to the same society for the complimentary use of Festival hall for practice while in Chicago.

To Presidents Woodruff, Cannon and Smith for encouragement and promised financial aid, without which all effort would have been futile; also for their personal presence and moral support while journeying and at the contest.

To Governor West for sympathy and kindly words of cheer, at home and in Chicago.

To Mayor Baskin for commending us to the tender mercies of the different municipalities we visited; and to Mayor Anderson of St. Louis for his masterly speech of welcome in answer thereto.

To Presidents Hubbard, Benson and Conklin of the commercial bodies at home for bespeaking courtesies from like institutions abroad, and to Chairman Anson of the Merchants' Exchange, St. Louis, for words of welcome and a generous reception; also to Captain Brodski, of the same city, for a delightful excursion on the Mississippi, aboard the majestic steamer Paragon.

To Messrs. Barley and Bennett, of local railway fame, whose united efforts obtained a rate which made the trip possible. We are informed that Committeeman Spence should receive honorable mention in this connection.

To Meedames Salisbury and Richards, of the national territorial board, for substantial aid and generous gifts.

To the press at home and abroad for the many good things said of us.

To our friends who assembled at the depot to bid us God speed, and who sustained us by their faith and prayers while absent; also to our friends and sympathizers who accompanied us.

To the mayor and citizens of Evanston for first official recognition.

To H. A. John T. Calne, as spokesman for the choir.

To the brass band and good people of Rock Springs for midnight serenade en passant.

To Rev. Mr. Chattuck, of Denver, for a fraternal introduction and words of praise for our conductor, which made us feel at ease with our audience at the initial performance.

To Mayor Mercer and committee of Independence, Mo., for full compliment of courtesies and with regret that their arrangements could not be fully carried out owing to our previous engagement at Kansas City.

To the proprietor of the Midland hotel for exceptional hospitality.

To the managers of the International Sunday School convention at St. Louis, who so generously vacated Exposition hall in our favor.

To Director General Davis, of the World's Fair, for free passes and other courtesies.

To W. H. Foster for handsome walking stick presented to the commissioner general on behalf of the choir. This cane was made of souvenir wood taken from the Temple, was mounted with solid silver dug from Utah mines—as such it was highly appreciated by Mr. Davis.

To Bishop O. F. Whitney for presentation speech.

To the good natured audience at Omaha for the patience and forbearance it displayed in awaiting our untimely arrival.

To James Dwyer for floral harp.

To Dr. Benedict for professional services.

To the committee for complimentary dinner at Denver on our return.

To Prof. J. J. Daynes, with the soloists and accompanists who aided so materially in making our concerts the artistic successes they were voted to be.

To Prof. C. J. Thomas and the singers at home, not forgetting the assistant organist, for efficient service during our absence; also for the reception, which was prepared but marred by our early arrival.

To the general committee appointed by the First Presidency, to whom we owe the many pleasures and delightful experiences as well as comforts of the journey, and to H. G. Whitney, who represented them as traveling manager, we are indebted for self sacrifice and for kind and courteous treatment throughout.

To Prof. Evan Stephens:

We feel that this paper would be very incomplete and void of its object were we to pass by unnoticed our gifted conductor and inspirational leader, whose conception and interpretation of the contest numbers won for him encomiums and words of praise from the awarding judges. To his faithful labor and unremitting efforts is largely due the favorable impression created everywhere by this body.

When the call came there was little