

choristers and the singers had to be sanctified, before they could go in and receive of the presence and blessing of the glory of God. Do you think that all we need is to go to the temple, hear somebody offer prayer, a little singing, and perhaps administration of the Sacrament, and then go home?

When we dedicated the Temple at Mantá, there were many brethren and sisters that saw the presence of spiritual beings, which could only be discerned by the eyes of the inner man. The Prophets Joseph, Hyrum, Brigham, and various other Apostles that have gone, were seen; and not only so, but the ears of many of the faithful were touched and they heard the music of the heavenly choir that was there. Then what a happy thing, it would be if everybody went to that house, when it comes to be dedicated, so upright in their hearts before the Lord as to be pleasing in His sight!

Suppose everyone that went could go and say, I have paid my tithing, and have got my receipts from my Bishop in full; I have paid my offerings at the fast day, and have done this faithfully and fully, and I feel justified in the sight of God. Suppose they could say, I keep his Sabbath holy and do not profane his holy name. I have no feeling nor hardness in my heart toward any brother or sister in the Church, or any of God's creation. Suppose they could say that they had performed their duties satisfactorily and acceptably, and they had been to the temple and attended to the ordinances for all of their dead which they had been able to do up to the present time, and intended to do all the rest just as fast as providence would permit. Suppose they could say, I have paid means in to help build this house, and it is my house with the rest; it is the house of our God, which we have come up unto to worship, and have a right here. Suppose that the house could be filled with persons that were justified before God in this way, do you think it could help bringing down the cloud of glory? Do you think that Joseph, or Hyrum, or Brigham, or those ancient ones, back perhaps to Noah or Adam, could refrain from coming to see us? They are only waiting for us to get so that they can come that near to us. And how shall we go to work and sanctify ourselves so that they can get into our presence, that we can see them, and hear them, and know them? This temple is going to be the most glorious of these temples that have been built. The thing is for you and me to be ready to go into it, and in that way that we shall be entitled to every blessing that other brethren and sisters shall be; and from today to sanctify ourselves before the Lord in the doing of the things which He requires, and in that way render ourselves worthy to go there and obtain the blessings that He has in store for the faithful.

When I contemplate this work, I know not where to stop. To think that for nearly two thousand years there has not been a temple of the Lord on this land, that people could worship and labor in, and now here in the short period from 1877 to 1898—about sixteen years—we have four temples that we can work in for the living and for the dead! There is nobody in Utah

now, but is without excuse. All can get to one temple or another, to attend to their marriage ceremonies and their work for the dead. When sick and bowed down in sorrow, or when affliction overtakes them and they do not know how to throw it off, they can go to the temple and be washed, anointed and blessed. In this way many have been healed from long-standing sickness; the blind have received their sight, the deaf have been made to hear. The blessings of the Lord are there in the temple, waiting for needing Israel to come up and get them. Who is there, if he knew there was a message waiting for him in the office at Ogden or Salt Lake, would not start off before breakfast to get it? Do you not know that the temples are full of telegrams from the heavenly world for you, if you will only go there and apply for them? The blessings of heaven are treasured up there, and these temples are the great repositories of eternal life, glory, honor and immortality, waiting for the children of God to come up and bring their offerings of broken hearts and contrite spirits, and draw upon those treasures.

My brethren and sisters, I love the work of the temples, and I want you to love it, and learn to walk in the precepts and laws of God that are revealed therein. Take your children with you while they are young. It will do them good. It will fill them with ideas great and excellent. They will learn to study it, to think of it, and to live by it. It will help them in their growth and faith; whatever pursuit they may follow they will learn to do whatever they do, in the name of the Lord, then He will bless them, and make them a blessing to His people. This is the way all of us ought to do. We ought to draw near to the Lord in the days of our youth, "while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when we shall say, I have no pleasure in them."

Now I pray you, my brethren and sisters, turn your hearts to this subject and find the sweets, the blessing and the glory there are in it, and let it sanctify our spirits unto daily duty, unto faithful performance of covenants made with the Lord and each other, that we may hallow the Lord God in our hearts, live as His children, and be prepared to come into His presence; or if occasion should require, in sorrow, affliction or distress overtake, we make go to the House of the Lord and find a panacea that can be found nowhere else for the ills of mortal life.

May the Lord bless and prosper you in all good things, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

EXCELSIOR.

At the Students' Society March 10th, Dr. Karl G. Maeser delivered a highly instructive lecture which was listened to with wrapt attention. His subject was "Excelsior," which was a word his father gave him, he said, when he was a boy, and told him to take it for his motto.

Previous to the lecture, however, Brother Ezra Robinson recited Antony's Speech at the funeral of Julius Caesar, and was warmly applauded at the close.

Miss Glendolin Lewis favored the audience with a musical selection which was much appreciated.

Dr. Maeser continued his address by saying that the word excelsior as a motto to him meant in the highest sense, truth, virtue, honor, integrity, power, skill, knowledge and intelligence, and to attain to these things in their purity and fullness should be our aim and object. We may not completely arrive at the desired end in this world, but we can progress and continue in that line hereafter, in an onward march to perfection. He mentioned these things, he said, because he wished to encourage the young people standing as they were, many of them, upon the threshold of life and responsibility, to strive for the good and beautiful and all that goes to make up a perfect, well spent successful life. He wished to impress upon the minds of all the importance of doing everything well. Never be a scrub. What is a scrub? One that counts for nothing because he cannot be depended on, whose course is downward and not upward. He knows not what the word excelsior means. You will find him on the street smoking, or in the saloon drinking, carousing and wasting away his life, and in places generally where only scrubs loiter and congregate, and such are they who usually break the Sabbath and esteem lightly holy and sacred things. Do not be a scrub; avoid reading trashy novels and literature. Never spend your time in spinning filthy yarns and stories, this is what scrubs do.

The lecturer said he might go on mentioning many things of this nature but the subject was not a pleasant one to contemplate. He would turn to the opposite again. Be a master workman in whatever you do. Never be content to take the rear rank in what vocation you have chosen, forge ahead and leave inferiority behind you. No matter whether you are a farmer, a mechanic, or a professional man, or whatever you are—all proper pursuits are necessary in the great household of humanity. Do not be a scrub in your line of work. You cannot afford to be. Become a pattern in whatever you are, be you a husband or a wife, a father or a mother, son or daughter, sister or brother, citizen—in any capacity you may be called to act. Be the best.

What a glorious work of an educational and eternal character we are engaged in in these latter days! What opportunities you have, young people that are born and raised here among the advantages that surround us! Here the speaker enumerated the many advantages for advancement and development to be obtained in the various improvement associations, Sunday schools, day schools, Church schools, etc. The young people and others that could were advised to make the best of these opportunities. If they allowed privileges that they could make use of to slip by carelessly and unheeded, sooner or later in their lives they would regret it. These wasted opportunities would become coals of fire on their heads and their deep burrs in old age would cause much pain and suffering. Make the most of every chance that you have.

The speaker remembered chances he