

her commerce in the wars of the past, and she appreciates that we could ruin it today. She has Canada, almost unprotected, lying along our northern borders. One thousand men could destroy the usefulness, for the time, of the Canadian Pacific railroad, and it is not an improbability in case of war that Canada would not become ours. England's policy is, and always has been, to a large extent a pocket-book policy. She has vast interests in the United States, and the issues must be very important before she would risk a war with us."

"Is not the west more patriotic than the east?"

"I think it is," replied Senator Thurston. "The cities of the east have enormous property interests, and they are apt to discuss whether a thing will pay rather than as to whether it is patriotic. I believe that if foreign gunboats lay outside of Boston or New York, there would be quite a number of business men who would be willing to contribute a sum to induce them to leave rather than to have a bombardment. I don't mean to say that the west is not anxious for business—that it does not love money. But I do believe that our people are more patriotic. We would fight first and take care of the business later on."

At this point Mrs. Senator Thurston entered, and the conversation again became personal. Mrs. Thurston is closely associated with the Senator in his work. The two have spent hardly an evening apart since they were married, one Christmas day now twenty-three years ago. She goes with him during his political campaigns and she was present at seventy-two out of the seventy-four political meetings at which he spoke last fall. Mrs. Thurston also came from Vermont. Her name was Martha L. Poland, and she is a niece of Senator Luke P. Poland, who was so long known as the father of the House of Representatives. Mrs. Thurston knows more about the Senator than any other person on earth, and it was in his presence that I asked her to tell me something as to what kind of a man Senator Thurston was. She replied:

"He is a very curious combination. One of his faults is that he trusts people too much. He believes that all the world is honest, whereas, as we very well know, a good part of it is not."

"Is the Senator a hard worker?" I asked.

"Yes," replied Mrs. Thurston; "he works very hard along his own lines; but he is lazy along others. One secret of his strength is that he knows how to get others to do his work for him. The old theory was that a man should never let others do what he can do himself. Senator Thurston never does anything he can get any one else to do—that is, when he knows that the other man can do it as well as himself."

"Yes," interrupted the Senator; "that's true. Had I not done so I could never have accomplished my work. I don't believe in a man doing what others can do just as well, if there are other things which he can do a little bit better."

"But how does the Senator do his work?" said I, directing my question at Mrs. Thurston. "Can he do it without worry? Can he leave his work at the office?"

"Yes, he can," was Mrs. Thurston's reply. He comes home tired, but always gets interested in the children,

and when he goes to bed he sleeps like a baby."

"How about that, Senator?" said I, turning to Mr. Thurston. "Were you always so? Is freedom from worry a natural or an acquired trait?"

"It is acquired," replied Senator Thurston. "I got it from a story—a very old story, which almost everyone has heard."

"Tell it again," said I.

"Well, it related to a man who was troubled with insomnia. The slightest noise disturbed him. One night he heard a man walking over head in the room above in his stocking feet. Pat-pat, pat-pat, the steps went over the floor hour after hour. Pat-pat, midnight came. Pat-pat, it was one o'clock. And so it went on to two and three. At last the man could stand it no longer. He slipped out, went up and knocked at the door of the room above. It was opened by a pale-faced man, who seemed almost distracted with worry or grief. The sleepless man said, 'My friend you must be in an awful trouble.'"

"I am," was the reply.

"What is the matter?"

"Why, sir, I have a note for \$5,000 which is due tomorrow, and I haven't a cent with which to pay it. My God! My God! What shall I do?"

"Oh, is that all? Is that the reason why you are walking the floor? Why, sir, you are a fool. Why don't you let the other man walk the floor?"

"Well," concluded the Senator, "I decided then to let the other man walk the floor, as far as I was concerned. It is a better policy and much more comfortable. The result is that I get my sleep, and I am never troubled with worry, except during a murder trial. I can't sleep then. I have had fourteen such trials, and though I have cleared each of the men whom I have defended sooner or later, I have worried exceedingly over them. I do not like to try such cases, and I have made a resolution that I never will defend a man accused of murder again if I can possibly help it."

*Frank G. Carpenter*

#### SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference and monthly Priesthood meeting of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion opened at the Assembly Hall at 10 a. m. today. There were present of the Council of the Apostles, Elders Heber J. Grant and John W. Taylor; of the First Council of Seventies, Elder Seymour B. Young; Patriarch John Smith; of the Stake presidency, Elders Angus M. Cannon, Joseph E. Taylor and C. W. Penrose; two Patriarchs, eight High Councilors, six home missionaries, ten presidents of Seventies, Elders Elias Morris, George B. Wallace and William C. Dunbar, the presidency of the High Priests' quorum, presiding officers from all the wards of the Stake with the exception of Mountain Dell, Big Cottonwood, Union, Bluff Dale, Riverton, Herriman, North Jordan, Hunter and Pleasant Green. The First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-third quorums of Elders were properly represented. Members of the Lesser Priesthood were present from

the First, Ninth, Tenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twentieth, Sugar House, Mill Creek, Farmers and Big Cottonwood wards. The Sunday schools, Y. M. and Y. L. M. I. A. and Primary associations and the Relief Societies were represented by their Stake officers.

The choir and congregation sang:

Redeemer of Israel, our only delight,  
On whom for a blessing we call.

Prayer was offered by Elder Seymour B. Young.

Singing, choir and congregation,  
The Spirit of God like a fire is burning.

The ordination of fifteen young men to the office of Elder was endorsed, on their promise to magnify their calling.

Elder John W. Taylor felt that although business customs prevented attendance of young men at Saturday Priesthood meetings, no such excuse could be offered for absence from quorum meetings. Free thought and free speech were referred to as a necessary heritage of the Latter-day Saints. The association of the young people with those not of their faith rendered it imperative that parents and church officers do all in their power to prevent defection from the Church ranks. The social power was likely to prove stronger than Church influence. Proof of this was referred to in the small attendance at the conference and in the great number of marriages of Latter-day Saints to those not of their faith. Referring to popular superstitions prevalent in the community, he classed them all as evil, and recommended that instead of seeking familiar spirits, the Saints should seek after the Priesthood and its blessings through the proper channels. Men and women "unequally yoked together" would never fill their mission properly, for the reason that the "spirit of the Gospel would be more or less quenched by close association with unbelievers. Therefore, the very earliest of such associations should be the signal for prompt and efficient action on the part of parents and those in authority.

Referring to various influences of a religious character intended to lead the young people astray, the speaker gave proof that all and more than the blessings promised by these can be found in the Gospel of Christ. The duty of men to clothe, feed and educate their children, was strongly emphasized, and neglect in this regard characterized as cowardly and contrary to the will of God. Carelessness in training children in the ways of God and keeping them from ignorance and neglect of the principles of the Gospel, was strongly deprecated, for the evils so prevalent among the people could be overcome only by care and vigilance in the training of children, who are the strength of Zion. The speaker closed with a denunciation of the tendency of the people to criticize unjustly the labors and character of prominent Elders and other authorities of the Church, and an exhortation to careful preparation for the coming of Christ.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn:

Our God, we raise to thee  
Thanks for thy blessings free  
We here enjoy.

Benediction by Patriarch John Smith.