

Original Poetry.

Editor Deseret Evening News:

Some two years after the issue of my first volume of Poetry, I prepared the second volume for the Press—the manuscript was forwarded to Liverpool for publication and was lost. A short time since, in looking over a parcel of promiscuous papers, I found a copy of the dedication stanzas which I send you for the D. E. News, if you think it worthy of place.

E. R. SNOW.

DEDICATION:

To Brigham Young, President over the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Servant of God, most honor'd—most belov'd:
By Him appointed and of Him approv'd:
Prophet and Seer—you stand as Moses stood
Between the people and the living God.

All human wisdom and all human skill
Could never qualify you thus, to fill
The place you occupy; nor could you bear
Through human aid, the weight of duties there.

The world was cloth'd in deep impervious
Like death's dark shadows mantling o'er the tomb:

A clerical influence truth and falsehood blended,
And over Christendom its cords extended.

The heav'ns were closed—no angel-form ap-
pear'd—

No heav'nly visions, human optics cheer'd;
From God, His children so estrang'd had grown
His voice, for centuries had not been known.

At length He spoke: Who? Father? Yes, He
spoke

To Joseph Smith, and the long silence broke—
Announc'd to him the work that must be done,
And thus the Dispensation was begun.

Call'd singly to confront the world in youth,
Joseph was firm and valiant in the truth—
The tide of sin and unbelief, withstood,
And seal'd his testimony with his blood.

With God's own spirit—with His wisdom rife,
He chang'd the current of the stream of life—
Placed a bold veto on its ebbing tide,
And caus'd the ship of life to upward ride.

Joseph was slain: His mantle fell on you—
Th' eternal Spirit rested on you too;
Diffusing light and knowledge round about—
'Tis in you like a fountain flowing out.

Above all pow'rs upon the earth, you have
The keys to govern and the keys to save—
To save from folly, ign'rance and distress,
And lead mankind to God and happiness.

Happy that I'm permitted so to do,
I dedicate this Volume unto you:
With one desire previously in my heart,
That unto others' good it may be blest.

If, o'er the world of sentimental night,
It should diffuse one ray of living light,
And in pure hearts a thirst for truth beget,
My ardent wishes will be amply met.

With trust in God, I pray it may impart
Light to the mind and comfort to the heart;
And, like "the widow's mite," an off'ring prove,
Approv'd by you—approv'd by those above.

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D. O. CALDER.

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