

MOSES THATCHER'S ADDRESS.

Following is the address of Hon. Moses Thatcher, delivered today, at the "commencement exercises" of the University of Utah:

To the Graduates of the University of Utah:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends—Through invitation of your distinguished committee of arrangements for this University commencement day, I have the honor to address you. The honor is esteemed all the more highly, being, as I am, an admirer of advanced and thorough scholastic training, in the line of higher education.

Through your own efforts, directed by proficient instructors and aided by the advantages of which you are heir in this great, progressive and free country, your names are now inscribed on the roll of honor—the scroll of the University of Utah. Hereafter, the path you tread should grow brighter and brighter until the perfect day. And while you may expect flowers to arise up behind you, rather than be strewn before you, yet the fields in which you may become eminent and useful, appear to me limitless.

Within the scope of truth, embracing the immutable laws of God, shall we not find the beginning and end, if there be an end, of all true education?

Universities can confer degrees upon you and affix to your names honorable titles. A proper ambition for distinction is commendable, and work may be said to embrace goals, which carves niches, high on the column of human glory; but we should not forget that modesty and humility are more potent for good than ambition and pride.

The development of the intellect alone is insufficient. The training of the head and the guiding of the hand, without the cultivation of the heart, are dangerous.

Intellectual giants and moral dwarfs should never be yoked.

The primal motives inspiring the actions of men seem not numerous. A desire that children may gain fame is too frequently the only inspiring motive, prompting parents to educate their children; and yet the history of the past clearly indicates that garlands of glory have been made for those who have killed, rather than for those who have saved, men.

When, upon occasion, the attention of Napoleon was called to the fearful destruction of his regiments, that awful cyclone of war, replied without emotion, "you cannot make an omelette without breaking a few eggs." From that moment we may date his fall, and his haughty pride ended in exile and death.

How different the life and mission of the lowly Nazarine. "You have seen those that have appeared the embodiment of goodness, in whose presence was a magical, irresistible attraction. Have they not seemed to you like an oasis in the desert, green and fertile spots in the barren waste? You have sighed to be like them—as good and beautiful." You can be if only you make the necessary effort; you can adorn your soul with such grace, and make your life so attractive, that you can carry with you wherever you go, an indescribable charm. Shall we not, therefore, prize highly every opportu-

ity for doing good; and are not good deeds unfading jewels, with which we may adorn our souls? Let no act of ours cast remorseful shadows around us.

We really live only as we grow nobler and better; only as the heart advances and cherishes that which is pure and good do we move on towards the peace and repose of ultimate victory. Fix your standard high and bow not to the prejudices, whims and fashions of others. Make truth your motto and the path of duty the path of pleasure.

Temptations may assail, pride and vanity may allure you, but to each turn a deaf ear. Loath the very appearance of iniquity and turn not into forbidden ways. You are now just forming character. Model it, as fair as you may, after Him who, white-robed, stood upon Olivet and spake as man had never spoken before. Weave carefully into the fabric, goodness, chastity, nobility, humility, purity, ever scorning a mean, unjust or ungenerous act. Avoid the influence of the weak and the wicked; banish hatred, utter no word of guile, do no act of deceit; so shall you gain the victory over yourselves, darkness, death and the grave. Seek earnestly to gain the confidence and love of those who know you best, then shall you receive the commendations of those afar off. Be like the drifted snow on the mountain top; standing forth spotless, chaste monuments of God's noblest work, pure and holy, with hopes unscorched by the hot breath of lust, and cheeks unfurrowed by crime.

Were I acquainted with each of you intimately, I think I might thereby clearly indicate who have been your teachers, for intuitively, you have learned from them, inflection, gesture, method and mode. The flash of the eye, the smile of the lip, a shrug of the shoulders, a gesture of commendation, each has made impressions upon the tablets of memory. As you go forth as teachers, do not therefore forget that your influence among children shall be as you may will it—potent for good or evil. Learn to live for others, and the good that you can do. Make no blot, mar no page, for the souls of children are as white paper in the hands of the instructor. "He who exercises control by means of his virtues, may be compared to the north polar star, which keeps its place and all stars turn toward it," so hath declared the great Chinese philosopher, Confucius. We cannot fail to recognize in that sentence, so beautifully expressed, the prominence given, 2,000 years ago, to virtuous acts. How clean cut, clear and profound, is that far-reaching thought, thus spontaneously paying the highest tribute to virtue, which has been, is, and forever must be the true foundation for just rule! Virtue—"the star"—towards which all others turn, as in their eternal round, they flash or pale, while the central one remains in its place never changing, never dimming.

Clouds may for a time veil it, even as insincerity obscures merit, but beyond and above clouds and deceit, too high for their reach, the fixed star, like untarnished virtue, shines on while countless ages roll by. Insincerity begotten in unrectified hearts may for a long time, with false pretenses

and specious promises, link together a chain of circumstances which, combined, cast shadows upon honest endeavor and to the discredit of virtue even as wondering meteors eclipse the stars, but to those having a determination to utter truth and practice virtue, deceit and cunning, with their attendant train of wickedness, must hide their heads. "To see what is right and not do it is want of courage." To know what is right and contend for it upon proper occasions, is something I trust you will never fail to do. Fearlessly and devotedly endeavor without distinction of class or creed, to convey the truth to all.

"Honesty is not a policy," it is a principle.

Set therefore your faces like flint against corruption, duplicity and hypocrisy. Do not forget that syco-phantic schemers, who give and take bribes have seldom failed to oppress the good, while turning loose, unwhipped of justice, the vile.

Under such conditions the upright stand afar off, the voice of wisdom is hushed in the halls of universities, and honest councils are voiceless in national legislation, whilst sneering, deceitful hypocrites plant their feet on the neck of justice, and invite revolution and death. Holding duplicity and fraud as means to an end they unhesitatingly tear others down to make for themselves a way to climb up.

While wearing the livery of heaven to serve the devil in, they plant distrust in the very heart of sincerity, sneer at truth, mock at honesty, undermine integrity, destroy virtue and thrust death under the very ribs of life.

Posing as champions of physical and moral courage, such entertain neither respect for superiors, nor veneration for age. Ambitious and suspicious while boasting of the possession of a tender conscience they rudely trample beneath their feet things most sacred and holy. With swelling importance they make of themselves the standard of fitness, gauging every man by their own narrow views and warped prejudices. From such turn away. Like the moth trying to eclipse the light, let them buzz and hum and sputter until, in the blaze, their wings are clipped and they fall, helpless objects of pity and of contempt.

Be thou, my young friends, in all the walks of life, honest, upright, impartial, just, not great in small things, but ever too magnanimous to permit private dislikes to enter into public measures. For never has there been a man who, not having reference to his own character, in dealing with others, was able effectually to instruct them.

If you adopt the noble profession of teacher in the school room, see that condemnation or approval are not unequally enforced. Let not one student receive a light penalty, another a heavy one, for like infraction of the rules, for if you do, your students will not know how to move hand and foot, because the school government is guided by partiality and not by principle. Whether to flatter the teacher, lay wires to please himself and friends or rebel against wrongs, they know not which to do. Nothing in life is more painful than the enforcement of a just