

worthy, and who have been willing to lay down their lives for the kingdom and for their brethren, just as the Prophets Joseph and Hyrum did; and these men have stood at the forefront of the people and they have walked in the very path that the Prophet Joseph trod all his life—the path of persecution and trial. As the Prophet Joseph, from the very beginning, was wrought upon in regard to the building of temples and died while a temple in Nauvoo was being built, just so was President Young; and he passed away while temples in these valleys of the mountains were being built. He laid down his life, not by violence, but in peace at home, and at the time when this great temple here, now finished, and others were being built. The burden of his anxiety and that of his brethren was that these temples should be finished and the work of God accomplished in them for the living and the dead. We have been a temple-building people. Are there any other temple-building people today? Not on this earth. There are no other people on this earth doing work for the dead, giving endowments, sealings for eternity and the like. There are no other people preaching the gospel of gathering. The very missions that were opened and established under the direction of the Prophet Joseph have been worked from that day to the present, and many others have been opened. The Prophet Joseph gave the word of the Lord to the Latter-day Saints in his life time, and when he spoke by the inspiration of the Almighty he spoke the revelations of the Lord just as much as he did when he wrote. The words of the Prophet Joseph, when remembered and known today, are prized just as highly as though they had been shaped into a revelation, for he spoke by the power of God. And I say that he did not speak more by the power of God than did President Brigham Young and his brethren who have followed up to this day. When the Prophet Wilford Woodruff, standing at the head of the Church, the mouthpiece of God, gives to us the word of the Lord, it is just as binding and just as sacred as that that was given by the Prophet Joseph. When the word of the Lord is given through the Apostles, as they travel among the people, laboring, organizing, regulating and setting in order the Church of Christ, that is also binding on the people; and the labor performed by them, under the inspiration of the Lord, is as much the work of the Lord as that that was done by the Prophet Joseph.

This is my testimony to you today, my brethren and sisters. I say that there never has been a moment when there was a necessity for any re-organized church or any other church to come in and break the thread of authority and of succession in the Presidency of the Church that we have here today. This body of men gathered together today, bearing the holy priesthood, is the nucleus of the kingdom of God upon the earth. This is the Church that Christ established himself; and the God of heaven graced the earth with His presence when it was established, in accordance with the words recorded in the Old Testament by Daniel, that in the last days the God of heaven should set up a kingdom which should stand upon the earth and all other kingdoms and powers should pass away. The Lord has established this Church and His authority is among men. We must hold

that authority and guard it as sacredly as we would our lives. A man should prize the authority of God more than he does this mortal life; for it would be much better that a man should lose his life than that he should forfeit his right to the priesthood, or in any manner dishonor it. We cannot afford to dishonor it, for it is a most precious legacy that God has given to us. It is to bring us back into His presence, that we may dwell with Him and have eternal life with our families, our kindred and our friends.

This is the testimony that I desire to bear to all Israel—that the Church has never been disorganized. There has never been but one quorum in the Church disorganized, and that is the quorum of the First Presidency, when the President has passed away. The quorum of the Twelve has never been disorganized; and never will be from this time henceforth and forever. The Twelve will remain standing at the head of the people, in the absence of a Presidency, bearing the same authority and power and the keys of the kingdom. God has so ordered that this Church is to remain and endure, and no power is to interfere with its progress and its advancement; and its greatness will increase from this time forward. God bless you, my brethren and sisters and all Israel, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Written for this Paper.*

### LI HUNG CHANG.

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behind the throne which governs the fate of nearly five hundred millions of people. In his own province he has almost supreme control of a population more than half as large as that of the whole United States, and here a wink of his eye can cut off a head. He has more power than any ruler in Europe, with, perhaps, the single exception of the czar, and he is almost the sole representative of the government in its dealings with foreign nations. He has control of the Chinese navy. His army is by all odds the best in the empire, and he has at his beck ten thousand more troops than the standing army of the United States. These troops have been trained by European military officers. They are armed with the latest of modern guns, and they know no master but Li Hung Chang. They are, in fact, practically his slaves, and when an officer of the army disobeys his orders or makes a false move he is called to the palace and asked to explain. When he

cannot the viceroy sometimes grows very angry, and there are instances, I am told, in which he boots the kneeling official clear out of the yamen.

Li Hung Chang is the most progressive Chinaman of today. Gen. Grant spent some time with him here during his tour of the world, and the two talked over the future of China together. They discussed military and civil matters, and Gen. Grant said he considered Li Hung Chang one of the greatest statesmen of the age. He called him the Bismarck of China and was wont to compare him with Gladstone. The two men fell in love with each other and they corresponded to the day of Gen. Grant's death. Now, on every Decoration day, the Chinese legation at Washington sends, by the orders of Li, flowers to place on Gen. Grant's grave, and during my talk with the viceroy he was very solicitous as to the health of Mrs. Grant. The two men had a great deal in common. Their careers were somewhat similar. Li was the son of a great scholar in the province of Anhui. His father was, however, poor, and he had no official rank. Li was given a good Chinese education, and he soon jumped to the front as one of the great scholars of China. He passed three public examinations, which means that he was three times one of the two hundred successful men out of the fifteen thousand competitors, and at his last examination he took the highest degree of the whole fifteen thousand. He is a member of the Hanlin College, the most learned body of China, and he had a great deal to do in the education of the emperor. His scholarship gave him the position of military secretary to Gen. Tseng Kuo Fan, one of China's most famous statesmen of the past, and from here he rose to the governorship of the state of Kiangsi. He was acting as such during the Tai Ping rebellion, and it was he who, in connection with the American adventurer, Ward, and Chinese Gordon, put down this rebellion. Li Hung Chang was the commander-in-chief of the imperial forces, and the rebels were slaughtered by the millions. It is estimated that ten millions of people were killed during this rebellion, and when it was over Li's fortune was made. This was away back in the fifties, and Li Hung Chang has since then been the leading figure in Chinese history. He rose from his governorship to be viceroy of Wuchang, and as such controlled millions of people in central China. He was next made the viceroy of this, the imperial province. His capital here is one of the biggest cities of China, and it contains more than a million people. It is the center of the northern trade of the empire, and Li has control of everything that comes into North China. This trade amounts to many millions of dollars a year. Something like \$3,000,000 in revenues pass through Li's hands, and he spends vast sums in all sorts of ways. No one knows how much he is worth. Some reports put him high in the tens of millions, while others say he is comparatively poor. There is no doubt, however, but that he has a vast income, and his investments include steamship companies, cotton factories, gold and silver mines, railroad enterprises and real estate.

He is a pure Chinaman, but he has adopted many modern methods. He manages his great official force much