

ernment of the Latter-day Saints, and that the power of God may be manifest and the way be prepared for the ushering in of the kingdom of God, which shall never be left to another people, and which shall never fall, May God grant it. Amen.

[That portion of the foregoing discourse which refers to the address adopted at the last General Conference having been greatly misconstrued, I wish to state that I had not the remotest intention, in making those remarks, to convey the idea that the members or officers of the Church were to be directed as to how they should vote, or that they were required to seek counsel in political or business affairs in any way but as set forth in that document. Its language is very plain to those who do not seek to exaggerate it. That is:

We unanimously agree to promulgate as a rule that should always be observed in the Church and by every leading official thereof, that before accepting any position, political or otherwise, which would interfere with the proper and complete discharge of ecclesiastical duties, and before accepting a nomination or entering into engagements to perform new duties, said official should apply to the proper authorities and learn from them whether he can, consistently with the obligations already entered into with the Church upon assuming his office, take upon himself the added duties and labors and responsibilities of the new position.

This clearly refers only to those "leading officials" who are under obligations to the Church to give it their time and services and who in assuming other obligations and duties would have to neglect their labors in the Church. That, no less and no more, is its intent and signification. It is to maintain proper discipline in the Church and not to interfere in any way with the rights or liberties of a living soul.]

Jos F. SMITH.

SINGERS AT HOME.

The California chorus and accompanying friends arrived home today, the Union Pacific special of seven sleepers and one baggage car reaching the city Thursday, April 23rd.]

There were probably a thousand people at the depot—Irlands, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sweethearts—awaiting the arrival of the train load of precious freight. It was a happy meeting, and while the trip has been enjoyed by the excursionists, they lost no time in leaving the train and feeling beneath their feet the soil of their mountain home.

Most of the travelers looked dusty and some of them a little fatigued, but there were none but smiling faces to greet one as he viewed the throng, while the merriest of merry laughter filled all the air. Here and there was a singer carrying home a big, fat flower pot containing some choice plant, while orange boughs with two or three beautiful yellow spheres thereon were possessed by many.

Director Stephens was enthusiastic in his praise of the people of California. "We have enjoyed the trip immensely," he said, "and our treatment has been simply princely. We have given eight concerts

in all, one in Oakland, five in San Francisco, one in San Jose and one in Sacramento, and each one has been an artistic success. In San Francisco we opened to a small house, but the patronage increased with each successive effort until on Sunday evening the house was literally packed. The trip, while having been one of the greatest pleasure to our singers, has been a musical success. The beautiful valleys of California, richly covered with grass and flowers, were a great change from what we had left at home, and the treatment accorded us helped us the better to enjoy the sights. In fact the World's Fair trip did not compare with it in any way.

"We have met with some funny little experiences, however, one of which was the attitude of some of the newspapers. I was told by the reporters in one or two instances that their editors had refused to publish their criticisms of our work on the grounds that all we came to California for was to 'boom the Mormon Church.' As a rule, however, we have received very fair treatment from the papers. The only one that provided a particular exception was the Examiner, which, while it told many unvarnished truths, was inclined to be somewhat dyspeptic. I have been informed, however, that the Examiner's critic was an unsuccessful chorus director of San Francisco and that our success was not very palatable to him. I regard the San Francisco Music and Drama as the highest musical authority on the coast, and very much respected throughout the United States. Its opinion will be given more weight by musicians than will the criticisms of the newspapers." [The News has already published the criticism above referred to.]

"While this and other criticisms were somewhat enthusiastic and highly appreciated by us, they fail absolutely to convey to the mind a proper idea of the people's appreciation. Our audiences were positively wild in their enthusiasm at times and we took a warm place in the hearts of those who heard us. I am very proud of the choir and of their splendid work during the trip, and I am thankful no accident occurred to mar the tour; we are all home again safe and sound."

Manager Whitney, who has had charge of the business affairs of the chorus, is highly pleased with the financial result of the tour. "We started out from here with a deficiency of a little over two thousand dollars. I am unable to say before balancing up my accounts what the exact figures are, but our receipts from the eight concerts were a little over four thousand dollars. Our expenses were in the neighborhood of two thousand dollars, so that we have just about cleaned up our deficiency."

"The great trouble is that we came away just as people were becoming interested and had we remained another week in San Francisco we could have had packed houses every night. As it is, we were offered a guarantee of fifteen hundred dollars a night for next Saturday and Sunday if we would return for those two days. The offer came from the management of the Columbia theater, and is a good indication of our standing in

San Francisco. The work of the choir has, according to President Tanner of the California mission, allayed very much of the unreasonable prejudice which had heretofore existed on the Pacific coast against the Church, and the good done in this way is almost incalculable. We went to California on a pleasure trip, not as a financial venture. Our aim was to try and pay our expenses, which we have, as near as I can see now without the actual results in figures before me."

MORMONS IN CALIFORNIA.

On Sunday last Elder Heber J. Grant addressed a congregation in San Francisco, and the Chronicle of that city next morning gave the following report of the meeting:

A glimpse of the solemnity, the earnestness which characterizes the services held in the great Mormon Temple at Salt Lake City was given yesterday to the vast concourse which attended the services of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints at Metropolitan hall. Although the visiting members of the great choir number but one-third of those who take part in the home services, the effect and the work was so far above anything ever heard in San Francisco that it was a revelation in praise service.

The opening chorus was the Hosanna written for and sung at the dedication of the Mormon Temple, which has cost millions of dollars and was forty years in course of construction.

With outstretched hands, Joseph Shepherd, who with Henry S. Tanner represents the Mormon mission on this coast, offered the morning prayer, and instead of using the usual form said, "Join with me in calling upon the Lord." The choir sang, Hark, Hark, My Soul.

Apostle Heber J. Grant, who reached here yesterday from Salt Lake, was then introduced and said: "In sending missionaries into the world we have no desire other than the salvation of mankind; no desire but that the world may know and understand what we believe, and judge us not by the reputation given us by an unknowing public, but by our own doctrine, our lives and our work. The tree should be known by the fruit it yields. We wish to promulgate the plan of life and salvation as we understand it."

After assuming that the majority of listeners believed in God and Jesus Christ as the Savior of mankind, Elder Grant read the articles of faith of the Mormon Church. He analyzed them as he read and explained that while the Mormons believed in God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost, they did not believe that all three were one.

He continued: "We believe God to be a person having parts, body and passions as the man of today," and in support of the assertion quoted from first Hebrews, which tells of man being created in the image of God. He recounted that the Mormon creed teaches atonement through Christ, but does not confine its work to the living and those who have heard the Gospel.

He said: "Nearly all the work done in our great Temple is for the atonement of the countless souls who have died without even hearing of the Gospel. We claim that when Christ arose