try and come here had had the oppor-
tunity, and that we would assist him in
doing so. Did we carry it out? We did,
and we were united in our efforts, and we
did a good many things besides what we
promised to do. We have sent as many as
five hundred teams at a time from here
with provisions and other necessaries,
to bring the poor from the frontiers to
this land, before the railroad was in ex-
istence; and since then we have operated
and cooperated with our means to bring
them by the railroad. So far these things
are good, honorable and praiseworthy.

Then again, we are a good deal united
in our doctrinal affairs, and we begin to
feel that we are part of God’s creation,
that we are operating in this particu-
lar day and age of the world to accom-
plish a certain work, and that work is not
for our own individual interests alone, it
is not to build up and aggrandize our-
selves, but it is to build up the king-
dom of God and to forward his purposes
upon the earth. That is what we are
here for. You might talk about principle
to a great many men until your heads
turned gray and your tongues cleave to
the roofs of your mouths, and it would
make no difference—they are not pre-
pared to receive it. But the Latter-day
Saints are to a very great extent. Why?
Because the very first thing that God
did with us was to get us converted, to
get us baptized and in a position where
we could receive the Holy Ghost, and
then we were placed in what some people
call _en rapport_ with God—brought into
communication and relationship with
him so that we could recognize him as
our Father and friend, and we are his
friends; and he and we, and others who
have lived and died here on the earth,
who obeyed the same principles that
we have obeyed, are all operating toge-
ther for the accomplishment of the pur-
poses of God on the earth. That is what
we are doing. It is a great work, and,
everyone of us needs to ponder the path
of our feet, to mark well the course that
is laid out to us, and seek to do the will
of our heavenly Father. We are living
in a critical and an important age. Men
sometimes are astonished when they see
the corruption, wickedness and evil, the
departure from honesty and integrity,
and the villainy that everywhere exist;
but why should they be? Have we not
been preaching for the last thirty or
forty years that the world would grow
“worse and worse, deceiving, and being
deceived?” Has it not been preached to us
that the nations of the earth had the ele-
ments of destruction within themselves
and that they were bound to crumble?
And when we see honor trampled un-
der foot, and integrity and truth stand-
ing afar off, while the wicked, corrupt
and froward manage and direct affairs,
we may expect that the axe is laid at the
root of the tree and that it is decaying
and will soon fall. And that is what is be-
ing accomplished among the nations to-
day. We need not whine or think there is
anything strange or remarkable about it.
We have expected these things to tran-
spire, and they will be a great deal worse
than they are today. But we are en-
gaged in introducing correct principles,
and we are trying to get united. We
are united, as I said before, in many
things, for the religion that we have
embraced, in its spiritual signification,
brings us into communication one with
another, and helps us to love one an-
other, and I wish there was a little more
of that disposition among us, and that
we loved one another a little better, and
studied one another’s interests a little
more. I wish we could sympathize with