guage and eloquence of the angels of
God, I would tell you why, but the elo-
quence of angels never can convince any
person that God lives, and makes truth
the habitation of his throne, independ-
ent of that eloquence being clothed with
the power of the Holy Ghost; in the ab-
sence of this, it would be a combination
of useless sounds. What is it that con-
vinces man? It is the influence of the
Almighty, enlightening his mind, giving
instruction to the understanding. When
that which inhabits this body, that which
came from the regions of glory, is en-
lightened by the influence, power, and
Spirit of the Father of light, it swallows
up the organization which pertains to
this world. Those who are governed by
this influence lose sight of all things per-
taining to mortality, they are wholly in-
fluenced by the power of eternity, and
lose sight of time. All the honor, wis-
dom, strength, and whatsoever is consid-
ered desirable among men, yea, all that
pertains to this organization, which is in
any way independent of that which came
from the Father of our spirits, is obliter-
ated to them, and they hear and under-
stand by the same power and spirit that
clothe the Deity, and the holy beings in
His presence. Anything besides that in-
fluence, will fail to convince any person
of the truth of the Gospel of salvation.
This is the reason why I love to hear men
testify to the various operations of the
Holy Spirit upon them—it is at once in-
teresting and instructive. When a sub-
ject is treated upon with all the calcula-
tion, method, tact, and cunning of men,
with the effusions of worldly eloquence,
before a congregation endowed with the
power of the Holy Ghost, and filled with
the light of eternity, they can understand
the subject, trace its bearings, place all
its parts where they belong, and dispose
of it according to the unalterable laws
of truth. This makes all subjects inter-
esting and instructive to them. But the
case is quite different with those whose
minds are not opened and instructed by
the power of God. Sermonizing, divid-
ing, and subdividing subjects, and build-
ing up a fine superstructure, a fanciful
and aerial building, calculated to fasci-
nate the mind, coupled with the choic-
est eloquence of the world, will produce
no good to them. The sentiments of my
mind, and the manner of my life, are
to obtain knowledge by the power of the
Holy Ghost.

If all the talent, tact, wisdom, and re-
finement of the world had been sent to
me with the Book of Mormon, and had
declared, in the most exalted of earthly
elegance, the truth of it, undertaking
to prove it by learning and worldly wis-
dom, they would have been to me like
the smoke which arises only to vanish
away. But when I saw a man without
eloquence, or talents for public speak-
ing, who could only say, "I know, by the
power of the Holy Ghost, that the Book of
Mormon is true, that Joseph Smith is a
Prophet of the Lord," the Holy Ghost pro-
ceeding from that individual illuminated
my understanding, and light, glory, and
immortality were before me. I was en-
circled by them, filled with them, and
I knew for myself that the testimony of
the man was true. But the wisdom of
the world, I say again, is like smoke,
like the fog of the night, that disappears
before the rays of the luminary of day,
or like the hoarfrost in the warmth of
the sun's rays. My own judgment, nat-
ural endowments, and education bowed
to this simple, but mighty testimony.
There sits the man who baptized me
(brother Eleazer Miller.) It filled my sys-
tem with light, and my soul with joy. The
world, with all its wisdom and power,
and with all the glory and gilded show
of its kings or potentates, sinks into
perfect insignificance, compared with
the simple, unadorned testimony of the