called ecclesiastical, and the other a
civil government; but inasmuch as they have rebelled, and become corrupt and
wicked, governments have been intro-
duced of a different character; and the
Lord has, in some measure, sanctioned
those governments, so far as there were
good principles existing among them.

All good principles and laws have
emanated from the Almighty, and have
come to man by inspiration from Him.
For instance, the government of the
United States, or the Constitution, came
from Him; it was given, we believe, by
inspiration, and there are many things
connected with the various institutions
of men that are very good. There are
many good laws and good institutions in
the government of the United States, as
well as among many other governments,
but the government of the United States
is one of the best that has been organized
among men upon the face of the earth for
many generations.

"Did the Lord have a hand in the
organization of the United States gov-
ernment?" asks the enquirer. Yes, the
Lord had a hand in framing its Constitu-
tion. Why did not the Lord at that
time, introduce a perfect government—a
theocracy? It was simply because the
people were not prepared for it—they
were too corrupt and although they had
more integrity, more virtue, more hon-
esty, and more sympathy and feeling for
that which is just and upright and good,
than any other portion of the inhabitants
of the earth, and probably more than a
great many now have, yet they were far
from being prepared for the government
of God, which is a government of union.

They were far from that, conse-
quently the Lord inspired them to in-
troduce a government that He knew
would be just suited to their capac-
ity, and hence it was that He inspired

Jefferson, Washington, Franklin, and
others to introduce those measures
which they did, and to carry them out,
and they were such as were just suited
to the conditions and circumstances of
the people; hence the government of the
United States we, as a people, venerate
and defend.

Why do we do this? We do it because
God had His hand in the organization of
it; He controlled it so far as He could do
so without interfering with the agency of
man.

We have seen plainly and clearly that
had it not been for the organization
of this government, as has wisely and
justly been said, where would have been
the liberty of the Latter-day Saints.

This government, then, was organ-
ized to suit the people and the circum-
stances in which they were placed, un-
til they were prepared to receive a more
perfect one.

But will the government of the
United States continue forever? No, it
is not sufficiently perfect; and, notwith-
standing it has been sanctioned by the
Lord at a time when it was suited to the
circumstances of the people, yet the day
will come (I will say it on my own respon-
sibility and not that of this people), the
day will come when the United States
government, and all others, will be up-
rooted, and the kingdoms of this world
will be united in one, and the kingdom of
our God will govern the whole earth, and
bear universal sway; and no power be-
neath the heavens can prevent this tak-
ing place, if the Bible be true, and we
know it to be true.

The Lord will govern all things that
He has made and created, for it is en-
tered upon the records of heaven that all
nations shall bow to His authority; and,
consequently, we respect the government
of the United States, because it has good
principles in it, and not that we think it
will endure forever.