source. We have not learned either our
religion or morality from them. We have
not had them to cultivate our farms nor
to build our houses. They have not done
anything for us.

In relation to the land, I will sup-
pose they did steal it, which they did.
They obtained it because they had the
power, and Mexico obtained it upon the
same principle: the United States made
a quarrel with the latter nation, because
they knew they could bring them into
subjection, and they intended to capit-
ulate for California before they began
the quarrel, and they took it upon those
grounds. But that is righteousness—
that is purity, truth and holiness, in the
eyes of a corrupt and mighty nation.

We have got a little place that nobody
else would live upon; and I will warrant
that if any other people had been here,
half of them would have died, the last
two years, of starvation. But they cannot
let us alone. This is their greatness—
this their magnanimity, and this is the
compassion manifested by the fathers of
our great country. Of course we must feel
patriotic; we cannot but feel strongly at-
tached to such a kind, such a benevolent,
such a merciful Government as we have
got! How can we feel otherwise? They
would take from us the right to live, and
then it would be in their hearts to sweep
us from the face of the earth; but they
cannot do it.

There is no right associated with this
matter; there is no justice about it.
There are old rights and privileges the
people used to have, and we have our
rights. In the first place, we have a God
that lives, and He will help us to take
care of them, to maintain and preserve
them. Then look at this in whichever
light you please, you cannot change it:
we are citizens of the United States, and
have a right to the soil, if they did steal
it.

I am ashamed of being associated
with such things, but we cannot help our-
smallies; we are a part of the people, and
we had to partake of their evil deeds.

When we came here, we came as
American citizens; and we had just as
much right to be here as any other Amer-
can citizens in the United States.

They have made a religious pretext to
rob us of the right of preemption—that
is because we have more wives than one.
This is the course they have pursued to-
wards us.

Have they a right to force upon us
judges and send officers under a military
escort? The very act says they are afraid
of something. Have they a right to send
those men to rule over us, without our
having a voice in the matter? I say they
have not, according to the laws which
exist among men; they have not accord-
ing to the principles of justice and truth;
they have not according to the prin-
ciples upon which this Government is es-

tablished: but they want to rule over us
contrary to the principles of the Govern-
ment; and, as you have expressed it, you
have a right to withstand it.

God be thanked, there are not as
many sneak here as there are in the old
country: men here dare think and speak.

Well, these are our feelings and some
of our rights; but I will speak to you of
other rights; for we have greater rights,
that I have not yet touched upon.

[Blessed the sacramental cup.]

I speak of those other things because
they are inalienable rights that belong
to men—to us as American citizens—to
us as citizens of the world; but there are
other rights, other grounds upon which
we claim these rights.

The Lord God has spoken in these
last days; he has revealed the fulness
of the everlasting Gospel; he has re-
stored that Gospel in all its fulness,