water, and you have been exhorted to
 cultivate these valleys and raise grain,
 and provide for yourselves individually
 and collectively. But, say you, God said
to Joseph, “It is my business to provide
 for my Saints in the last days.”

“Behold, it is said in my laws, or for-
bidden, to get in debt to thine enemies;
But behold, it is not said at any time
that the Lord should not take when he
please, and pay as seemeth him good.
Wherefore, as ye are agents, and ye are
on the Lord’s errand; and whatever ye
do according to the will of the Lord is the
Lord’s business. And he hath set you to
provide for his saints in these last days,
that they may obtain an inheritance in
the land of Zion. And behold, I, the Lord,
declare unto you, and my words are sure
and shall not fail, that they shall obtain
it. But all things must come to pass in
their time. Wherefore, be not weary in
well-doing, for ye are laying the founda-
tion of a great work. And out of small
things proceedeth that which is great.”—
Doc. & Cov., sec. xxi. par. 6.

We have been driven from our native
land and birthplace, many of us, and God
has brought us into these rich valleys,
and says he, “Go to and cultivate, and
raise grain, and provide for yourselves
seven years’ provisions.” That is the way
he is going to provide for you—to tell you,
like a good father tells his sons, how to
provide for yourselves. “Here I will pro-
vide land for you, and seed,” &c. Now,
go to and cultivate the soil, increase the
seed, and provide for your wants. Now,
that is good logic—good reasoning: it is
not vain philosophy.

In this congregation there are hun-
dreds of men who have not a mouth-
ful to eat, only as they get it from
their neighbors from day to day, or
from week to week; and if others
had not gone to and raised provisions,
they would have perished, every one of
them, for a temporal subsistence. Is God
going to rain down manna? He will not
do it until we are brought into circum-
stances to require it. Will he remove a
mountain? No—not until the house of Is-
rael are brought into such straitened cir-
cumstances that there is no way for their
escape, except God removes a mountain
for their deliverance.

The Lord says, “In the last days it is
my business to fight the battles of my
Saints.” If it is his business, he will take
his children to do it; and we are his chil-
dren. You may think that comes right
in contact with the revelations of Jesus
Christ; but it is not so. Why does our
President, our Governor, order out three
thousand men to be in the mountains?
To fulfil your prayers. What do you pray
for? “O Lord,” say you, “I ask thee,
in the name of Jesus Christ, to hedge
up the way of our enemies, that they
may never come here.” We had to send
some three thousand men to fulfil your
prayers. Who is going to fight the battles
of the Lord, if not his people? They have
got to stand in defense of this kingdom
and Church of God in the last days.

If our enemies are prevented from
coming here, they are prevented because
of the Saints of God. Would they have
been prevented from coming here if our
brethren had not gone out there and
hedged up their way? God will take his
few valiant servants in the last days, and
with them use up the world and bring ev-
ery kingdom and dominion into subjec-
tion to the kingdom of God.

Do you suppose you are going to sit
here on your seats and in your habi-
tations, and never step forth to the
help of the Lord? Nearly one year
ago, the last who came in with hand-
carts were brought in out of the moun-
tains. Would they have been in our
cities and congregation today, had we
not gone out and brought them in?