and abide by it; and it is the only safe
law and protecting power that will shield
and screen us in the day of adversity and
trial.

As Joseph stood to the people in his
day, so do brother Brigham and his
Counselors stand to the people in our
day. Now, then, provided we can se-
cure the favor, friendship, and goodwill
of them that hold the keys of the king-
dom in our day, it will be all right.

Suppose some of us did really sin and
transgress in the days of Joseph, in our
darkness and ignorance, in our stupid-
ity and blindness, and grieve the Holy
Spirit and the spirit of Joseph: he is dead
and we are living; and by-and-by brother
Brigham comes up before Joseph. "Well,"
says Joseph, "How did those ones get
along in your day? Have they improved
any? Have they done right even in
your day, and secured your confidence
and goodwill?" "Oh, yes," says brother
Brigham; "they have done well in my
day. We have had no trouble with them:
they have kept my word." Says Joseph,
"If you can speak in their favor, I will not
interpose any objections."

It is for us, brethren and sisters, to
secure the goodwill of those that hold the
keys of the kingdom here. We do not care
what they think outside of us. We ask no
odds of them: they may think what they
please. If we can only get the goodwill,
faith, and love of our brethren that pre-
side over us, we shall not need the en-
comiums of the ungodly.

If we can get the goodwill of them
that preside over us in our day, they will
speak a good word for us. If you, Bishops,
have a man in your Wards that has been
refractory and is put under your jurisdic-
tion, the President calls upon you and
asks, "How does that man get along?"
"First-rate: he is easily governed and
controlled." Says the President, "I am
glad to hear it; I am glad he is getting
along so well, and hope and trust he will
continue to do so: he has my goodwill."
If we can secure the friendship, goodwill,
and confidence of those who preside over
us, and merit it (mark you, and we shall
not get it without we do), the fact is, it
will be their pleasure to speak a good
word to Joseph for us, and also to oth-
ers that have gone before. Is there a
Bishop under the sound of my voice now
that would not esteem it a pleasure to
bear testimony in favor of a man for his
good conduct, if he had been rebellious
and had reformed under his administra-
tion? No. Let us remember these things,
brethren.

The men that God has placed in our
midst let us sustain like the two coun-
selors of Moses, Aaron and Hur, who held
up the hand of Moses. Let us honor
that word that comes from the Prophet
of God. He holds the keys of the king-
dom. He is the true successor of Joseph,
and he will have power over the nation,
either in life or in death: it is immaterial
to him. When brother Brigham goes and
joins with Joseph, it will be said, "Oh, we
are one, just as we always were; and here
come his Counselors: they are one, and
they increase the strength and power of
the Priesthood beyond the veil." It is for
us to uphold these men in every condi-
tion.

Do we ever eat a meal of victuals
without asking God to bless it? We do
not, if we do right; for we ought to have
grateful hearts all the time, and ask God
to bless every gift he bestows upon us,
and thank him for it. And when we
pray, can we pray without remember-
ing the power that bears us up? If I
were going to climb upon a scaffold, and
I thought it weak, I would strengthen
it before I ventured upon it. I do not
want to venture upon it unless I know
it is strong. If I put forth my powers
in behalf of it and strengthen it, then
I know it is strong. If I never pray