was quite a little army of Elders and 
Priests, Teachers and Deacons, laboring 
in the vineyard; and thousands have re-
joiced in the testimony of the Gospel 
borne to them by their fellow country-
men.

Do any of you ask how this came to 
pass that so many thousands have gath-
ered from that land, and are now in these 
valleys of the mountains; and why thou-
sands more are longing to come here 
who are rejoicing in the testimony of the 
Gospel in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, 
Iceland, &c.? I answer—It was not done 
by the wisdom and learning of man, or 
by any influence that man himself could 
exert over that distant people. If any per-
son thinks so for a moment, he thinks so 
because he knows no better. It is a mys-
tery to them; and they would not believe, 
if it were unfolded to them.

We testify and bear witness that it is 
not of man, but of God—that it is the 
power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ— 
that it is the gift and influence of the 
Holy Ghost that bears witness to the 
hearts of this people. When in the sim-
plicity of my heart I could speak but 
little unto them with stammering lips, 
I said more with my eyes and fingers 
than with my tongue. The power of the 
Holy Ghost rested upon the people; and 
when I asked them if they understood 
me, "Yes," said they, "we understood it 
all." It was not because I spoke it fully 
with my tongue, but God made them un-
derstand me. If I asked them if they be-
lieved it, "Yes," would be the reply; "we 
have the testimony of the Holy Ghost 
bearing witness within us that it is true."

I laid my hands upon the men 
that were raised up around about me, 
and sent them to preach the Gospel; 
and they were just such men as the 
Lord sent me; no matter if they 
were shoemakers, carpenters, chimney 
sweepers, or any other kind of trade. 
I told them to go forth and bear witness 
of what they had heard, and of what they 
knew; and every time they opened their 
mouth, a stream of light would flow from 
them to the people, who were melted be-
fore them. This is the experience of every 
man of God upon all the earth.

You ask the people who are in these 
valleys who profess to be Latter-day 
Saints why they are here, and they will 
tell you they could not keep away; and 
many will say that if they could have 
kept away, they would. Say they, "Mor-
monism is true: We know it." They feel 
like Almon Babbitt: he said he would 
give ten thousand dollars if he could only 
know "Mormonism" to be untrue.

It troubles those who do not exactly 
love it, because it interferes with some 
of their favorite desires: it will not ex-
actly allow them to gratify every wish 
and desire of their hearts. It curtails 
them in some of their wickedness, pride, 
selfishness, and idolatry; and because of 
this, they do not like it, and they wish 
it were not true, that they might escape 
an awful condemnation. Because they 
know it is true, they cannot get off the 
hook, and must be drawn in. Ask them 
if they were so influenced by the wis-
dom, learning, shrewdness, or cunning of 
those who taught them the principles of 
life and salvation, and they will answer 
you that they know better. There are but 
few religions you can name, or preachers 
of any denomination, that have not been 
heard by the chief bulk of the Latter-day 
Saints. But did their eloquence, learn-
ing, cunning, intelligence, and experi-
ence govern and control them, or influ-
ence them in any uncommon way? No. 
But when the simple, naked truth was 
told to them in childlike simplicity, if it 
came from a babe, they understood it: it 
grew to their hearts. This is the reason 
why they are here, and why they stay