happiness.” Yet how overanxious the
great majority of mankind are for the
vain and foolish things of this life!

Are the people mourning for anything
now? And do they think this to be a
day of trial and darkness? In the spring
of 1857 we moved from our homes at a
time when it was pleasant for living out
of doors and lying upon the ground; but
hundreds now present have had to leave
their homes in the dead of winter, with
no habitation to shelter them. The rev-
elations declare that this people shall be
tried in all things. If we were not tried
in the things that now try us, we should
not be tried in all things. We have had
the trial of burying our friends: we have
been driven from our homes, leaving our
possessions, our goods, our farms, our
houses, orchards, gardens, and furniture
standing in our houses. We gathered up
teams, a little food and clothing, and left.
We have been tried in losing our fathers,
our mothers, our children, our sisters,
and brethren. We have been tried in hav-
ing a mob butcher our brethren before
our eyes, shooting them down as deliber-
ately as a mountaineer would shoot a
wolf.

It is necessary that we should be
tried, in order to prove whether we can
be still in prayer time. You know that
it is sometimes necessary to correct our
children for making a noise in prayer
time. It is now prayer time with us. Can
we keep still, or shall we be found mak-
ing a disturbance in the family? Let us,
as children, keep still, or our Father may
use the rod of correction. What a trial,
to keep still in prayer time! Oh, how
this people are tried!! Those who turn
away from the holy commandments will
meet trials that are trials indeed. They
will feel the wrath of the Almighty upon
them. Those who are still and are good
children will receive the rich blessing of
their Father and God. Be still, and let
your faith rest on the Lord Almighty. He
is at the helm; he is in the midst of this
people, and guides the ship Zion. Be good
children until our Father has taught us
our present lesson, and be ready to an-
swer every call, to render obedience to
every requirement, and have compassion
upon each other. But if you should hap-
pen to see John or Lucy climb up into a
chair in prayer time, and yet have no evil
design in so doing, let charity cover that
impropriety. Do not tell Father that John
was a naughty boy. Do not be so full of
religion as to look upon every little overt
act that others may commit as being the
unpardonable sin that will place them
beyond the reach of redemption and the
favors of our God.

Some come to me saying, “Oh, brother
Brigham, it does seem that all the peo-
ple are going to the Devil!” I can fore-
tell a few things. Those who are good
children, and behave themselves until
prayer time is over, will by-and-by sit
down to supper and have a joyful season.
Some may say, “I fear there will be but
few left to eat supper, there are so many
going astray.” Be patient: there are more
than seven thousand in this city who
have not bowed the knee to Baal, with-
out numbering those of other cities who
are ready and anxious to do right, and
none of them will be lost. “But some are
stealing.” Can you at present prevent it?
“No. But do you not think that it ought
to be stopped?” Yes, if we had the power;
but we have not now the power. If I had
the power, I would send every thief to
his long home. I will promise thieves,
drunkards, and other offenders against
good order, morality, and the well-being
of society, that if I can learn of their com-
mitting such sins, I will cut them off from
the Church. I will not knowingly fellow-