there anything else necessary and im-
portant? Yes—to so live as to have the
light of the Spirit of truth abiding within
you, day by day, that when you hear the
truth you know it as well as you do the
faces of your father's family, and also un-
derstand every manifestation produced
by erroneous principles.
I plead with the Elders of Israel day
by day, when I have an opportunity, to
live their religion—to so live that the
Holy Ghost will be their constant com-
panion; and then they will be qualified to
be judges in Israel—to preside as Bish-
ops, presiding Elders, and High Coun-
selors, and as men of God to take their
families and friends by the hand and
lead them in the path of truth and virtue,
and eventually into the kingdom of God.
Let me now tell you, Latter-day Saints,
that you do not live to your privileges—
you do not enjoy that which it is your
privilege to enjoy; and when I see and
hear of contentions, broils, misrule, bad
feelings, ill conduct, wrong in my neigh-
bor or myself, I know that we do not live
according to our profession. Why not live
above all suspicion and above the power
of Satan? This is our privilege.
So far as morality is concerned, mil-
ions of the inhabitants of the earth live
according to the best light they have—
according to the best knowledge they
possess. I have told you frequently
that they will receive according to their
works; and all who live according to the
best principles in their possession, or
that they can understand, will receive
peace, glory, comfort, joy, and a crown
that will be far beyond what they are ant-
icipating. They will not be lost.
I was highly gratified by a remark
made by the Reverend Mr. Vaux,
the gentleman who has just addressed
you, that the terror of the Lord never
can, neither should, in the nature of
things, bring men to repentance. Those
of you who are acquainted with the his-
tory of the world reflect upon the con-
duct of the inhabitants of the earth, and
when did tyranny ever cause repentance
of evil? Never. It produces crime. When
men are infringed upon in their rights
and tyrannized over, they are prone to
rise in their might and declare, "We
will do as we please, and will let you
know that we will have the ruling of our
own rights and dispositions." Tyrannical
power may possess the ability to behead
them, hang them, or sentence them to
prison; but resolute men will have their
will.
Unless a ruler has the power of the
Priesthood, he cannot rule the minds of
the people and win their unbounded con-
fidence and love. To illustrate my idea, I
will relate an anecdote. A young man en-
tered the ministry, but soon learned that
he could not rule the minds of the people.
He then turned his attention to the study
and practice of medicine, and directly
discovered that the power of evil had in-
duced the people to care more for their
bodies than for their souls. But that pro-
fession did not give him the influence he
desired, for he found the will of the peo-
ple first and foremost with them. He
then studied law, and could command all
the influence he desired; for their wills
they would gratify in preference to either
soul or body. You cannot break down the
indomitable will of the human family. I
have known children to be so abused and
whipped as to render them almost or en-
tirely worthless and still the indomitable
will remained. How came it there? God
organized us to become absolutely in-
dependent; and the will I am speaking
about is implanted within us by him; and
the spirit of every intelligent being is or-
ganized to become independent accord-
ing to its capacity.