I know how to build a meetinghouse—
how to place the first and last stone and
piece of board, and how to put on the
first and last touch of paint. I know how
to build a mill and put the machinery
in it, and I intend to keep improving
as long as I live. There are mechanical
branches that I do not understand, but
I am constantly trying to learn. Should
I live—and I would not then be a very
old man—to hear the command, "Return
and build the Center Stake of Zion," I
intend to know how to build it.

You may say, "If you know all about
it, there is no necessity for our learning
anything concerning it." We cannot be in
every place; and though we could, every
man, woman, and child should improve
as rapidly as possible. Parents should
know how to teach their children, women
should learn to make the most beautiful
cloth, and men should become skilled in
raising sheep, and in the improvement
of all kinds of stock, and in making all
kinds of useful machinery. It is said we
are yet young. True; but we ought to, at
least, make a beginning. Not one woman
in ten, that I ever saw, thoroughly under-
stands keeping a house.

Why do not women learn to be house-
keepers? They may reply—"Brother
Brigham, if you will teach us, we will
keep our houses according to your in-
tuctions." I could go into your houses
and tell you item by item. Your hus-
bands may furnish fine furniture and
glass and chinaware, and some of you
suffer your children to mar and break
it. Give children such playthings as
they cannot break, and with which they
cannot hurt themselves. Were I now
to go into one of your houses, per-
haps I should hear the mistress inquir-
ing for the dishcloth; but Sal does not
know where it is: the last she saw of
it little Abraham or Joe was playing with
it outdoors. Where is the milk pail?
Turned bottomside up on the hogpen.

What I say of housewives will fully
apply to farmers and mechanics. I la-
bored many years as a mechanic, and in
the darkest night I could put my hand
upon any tool I used. You may call this
boasting, but it is not. It is merely men-
tioning the order in which I kept my
shop. When a farmer has done with his
ploughs, he should put them under shel-
ter until they are again wanted. When
harness is taken off, it should be so
hung up that you can go at any time
of night and find it, or a saddle, bril-
dle, saddle blanket, or any other trap-
ing, and be ready at once, without a
hostile Indian's being able to see you,
or being made aware of your prepara-
tions, through your being obliged to take
a light to hunt scattered articles.

We have been toiling and delving at
home, and now you see us enjoying our-
selves, without one word of discord. A
week ago today we passed this settle-
ment, with several men, women, chil-
dren, horses, mules, and vehicles; and I
ask the company whether a single per-
son has been found out of his place?
We have traveled in order and peace,
notwithstanding our dispensing with a
formal organization. "Where is the cap-
tain of the company?" I do not know, un-
less I am he. We have traveled in the
order in which persons joined us, and I
do not think a rash word has been spo-
ken by any man, woman, or child since
we left Great Salt Lake City. What does
this prove? That when the law of God
is written on the hearts of a people, ev-
ery person will know his place. It proves
that we are improving.

Law is for the disobedient and
lawless. When a people are made
free in Christ, and come to under-
standing, they will know that there