stood the things of God; but many of
the past as well as the present gen-
erations have been full of bloodthirsti-
ness, fraud, and oppression, without any
correct principles, without the Spirit of
the Lord to direct them. It is so now,
and hence the wars and turmoils that
at present exist in these United States—
a war of brother against brother to de-
stroy each other, and to bring each other
into bondage. This is the condition of
things as they exist in this country at the
present time, and this state of things will
increase throughout the whole world,
and all the inhabitants thereof will par-
ticipate in the very things that are now
transpiring in this nation. "Is there no
balm in Gilead; is there no physician
there?" There seems indeed to be very
little hope; we talk about conquests and
victories; but we talk without God, his
decrees must be accomplished. Is God's
work to stand still? No; for the salvation
of the people depends upon its progress.
The Almighty has established this king-
dom with order and laws and everything
pertaining thereto, that we might under-
stand his will and operate in his king-
dom, that we might be taught of God
and understand correct principles, that
when the nations shall be convulsed, we
may stand forth as saviors, and do that
which will be best calculated to produce
the well-being of the human family and
finally redeem a ruined world, not only
in a religious but in a political point of
view.

We have commenced in this impor-
tant work, we have labored diligently
with a hardhearted and stiffnecked gen-
eration; many of us have striven for
years to do mankind good, and what
have we to fear in relation to the results
of the cause in which we are engaged, or
the result of our labors for the salvation
of men; we are simply agents; we did not
start it. Is there any of us capable of
originating this work, or of guiding it af-
ter it has commenced? No, only those
that are set apart and inspired and dic-
tated by the Almighty, and who rely upon
the arm of Jehovah, and who by their
humility, faith, and obedience, call down
the blessings of the Lord. True there are
those who are capable of understanding
political principles to some extent, but
even that is very little indeed, when we
consider government as viewed by man
and then as revealed by the Almighty.
By the testimony of Jesus, which is the
Spirit of Prophecy and the fostering care
of our Father in heaven we get an un-
derstanding of correct principles, and in
spite of all the powers of darkness that
may be brought in array against us, we
can carry out the wishes of our Heavenly
Father in aiding in the establishing of
righteousness upon the earth. What are
we looking for? To establish the kingdom
of God upon the earth, according to the
predictions of all the Prophets that have
spoken since the world began.

We are a very small company of peo-
ple here, but God is with us; and, if he
were not, it would be very little use ask-
ing or thinking of doing anything for the
amelioration of the condition of the hu-
man family. There is one of two things
true. We are either laboring under one
of the greatest delusions that ever af-
licted the human race, or we are under
the direction of the great God. There
is no halfway business about it. I have
said to men where I have been preach-
ing, when they professed to believe me to
be honest, but deceived, I did not want
them to set me down so, for I was ei-
ther right or I was a hypocrite and a
deceiver. We know that we have em-
braced the principles of eternal truth,
and we also know that we cannot get
rid of them. I tested them thoroughly
at the commencement, if I could have