served as the present law, even if it
should result in the depopulation of the
world, according to the profession of the
Shaking Quakers. But the Lord did not
get his kingdom in that way. The king-
doms he possesses and rules over are his
own progeny. Every man who is faithful
and gets a salvation and glory, and be-
comes a king of kings and Lord of Lords,
or a father of fathers, it will be by the
increase of his own progeny. Our Fa-
ther and God rules over his own children.
Wherever there is a God in all the eterni-
ties possessing a kingdom and glory and
power it is by means of his own progeny.
I am not going to ask the people whether
they believe it or not; and I do not want
Brother Heber to do it either, for it is
none of their business. When I tell the
truth I do not ask anyone’s testimony to
swear to it.

The economy of heaven is to gather
in all, and save everybody who can be
saved. Do we wish to destroy people? We
do not, not even those ignorant, blood-
thirsty Lamanites. Did we ever destroy?
No; it is not our doctrine; but our doc-
trine is to build up and save life in-
stead of destroying it. Is it necessary
on any occasion and under any circum-
stances whatever? Yes, let a man meet
me with a design to kill me, and I am
going to get the first blow if I can. I
have not come to die for the sins of the
world as our Savior, Jesus Christ, did.
It was necessary for him to be killed;
but it is not necessary for me. It was
not necessary for Joseph Smith to be
killed, if the people had believed his tes-
imony; but as the testator has sealed
it with his blood, his testimony is in
force on all the inhabitants of the earth,
and wherever it goes those who reject
it will be damned. Our doctrine is to
preach the Gospel of life and salvation,
and get every man, woman, and child to
believe and embrace it, and live as near
to its requirements as possible. That is
the duty of the Elders of Israel, and it is
our duty to preserve ourselves, our wives
and children, whether we have many or
few. Why does not our government make
a law to say how many children a man
shall have? They might as well do so as
to make a law to say how many wives a
man shall have.

There are a few in the Government
who will listen to any testimony against
us, no matter how false. The man who
was referred to this morning has given
testimony against us, respecting matters
here, which is utterly false. After mak-
ing such infamous statements, that man
could not live here twenty-four hours, if
it were not that we are Latter-day Saints
who live here. By letting him alone, how-
ever, he will kill himself. There is also
a man down the street who tried to ex-
hibit the endowments to a party who was
here. You will see what becomes of that
man. Do not touch him. He has for-
feited every right and title to eternal life;
but let him alone, and you will see by
and by what will become of him. His
heart will ache, and so will the heart of
every apostate that fights against Zion;
they will destroy themselves. It is a mis-
taken idea that God destroys people, or
that the Saints wish to destroy them. It
is not so. The seeds of sin which are in
them are sufficient to accomplish their
destruction. Every government of the
world has the seeds of its own destruc-
tion in itself.

I hope and trust and pray that the
government of our country may remain,
because it is so good; but if they cut
off this, and cast out that, and institute
another thing, they may destroy all the
good it contains. This, I hope, they will
not do; they cannot do it. I expect to see