streams of water and beautiful shade trees
down every street.” Every little cot, no
matter how humble, is encircled with
beautiful shade trees; and they want to
know who these people are who take such
pride in beautifying and adorning their
city. Why they are the poor “Mormons”
who have been driven into the mountains.
I have been driven from a good, handsome
property five times. Many of my brethren
have been served in the same manner. But
here we are again, and we are teaching the
people to be industrious, and how to raise
their own bread, make their own clothing
and gather around them the fruits of the
earth, that there may be no suffering
through our whole community. Is not this
praiseworthy? Yes, it is, and the statesmen
of this nation—those of them who have
brains—are looking at the industry of this
people; they admire it. Is this preaching?
Yes, and there are many amongst them that
we shall gather in yet. They would come
now by thousands and thousands, if the
Latter-day Saints were only popular.
“What, these honorable men?” Yes, they
would say, “I want to be baptized. I admire
your industry, and your skill in governing.
You have a system of governing that is not
to be found anywhere else. You know how
to govern cities, territories, or a world, and
I would like to join you.” But take care, if
you join this people without the love of
God in your soul it will do you no good. If
they were to do this, they would bring in
their sophistry, and introduce that which
would poison the innocent and honest and
lead them astray. I look at this, and I am
satisfied that it will not do for the Lord to
make this people popular. Why? Because
all hell would want to be in the church.
The people must be kept where the
finger of scorn can be pointed at them. Al-
though it is admitted that we are honest,
industrious, truthful, virtuous, self-denying,
and, as a community, possess every
moral excellence, yet we must be looked
upon as ignorant and unworthy, and as the
offscouring of society, and be hated by the
world. What is the reason of this? Christ
and Baal cannot become friends. When I
see this people grow and spread and pro-
per, I feel that there is more danger than
when they are in poverty. Being driven
from city to city or into the mountains is
nothing compared to the danger of our be-
coming rich and being hailed by outsiders
as a first-class community. I am afraid of
only one thing. What is that? That we will
not live our religion, and that we will par-
tially slide a little from the path of recti-
tude, and go part of the way to meet our
friends. They say now that if we will only
give up the doctrine of plurality of wives,
they will admit us as a state, and hail us as
“a pet state,” give us the preference to all
the states, for our industry and prudence.

But hold on, were we driven into the
mountains here for polygamy? Were we
drives from York State to Ohio and perse-
cuted and hated for polygamy? No. Was
Joseph Smith persecuted and driven from
Pennsylvania to York State, and from York
State to Pennsylvania, with writ after writ,
for polygamy? No; no such thing was ever
thought of. When we were driven from
Jackson into Clay, Caldwell and Davis and
other counties, and from there out of the
State by the mob, was it for polygamy? By
no means. When we were driven from
Nauvoo, after having made it like the Gar-
den of Eden, was it because polygamy was
offensive to the people? No; they knew
nothing of it. Why was it that we were
thus compelled to leave State after State,