have the means within ourselves to de-
feat almost anything that is intended for
our destruction and overthrow. However
I want to talk but little about this. I
have endeavored to instruct the brethren
and sisters where I have labored in rela-
tion to this matter, and if I shall repeat
here today some things that I have said
heretofore, do not think that it is because
Brother Hyde lacks a subject; but he is
happy to have the opportunity of declar-
ing the truth; and truth never becomes
stale because of being often repeated.

We are a commercial and trading peo-
ple, although far inland, and hence we
buy and sell. Now the question is, are
we always punctual to pay according to
promise and agreement? I am sorry
to say that in too many instances we
are careless and indifferent with regard
to fulfilling our word and agreement.
We are told in the good book that we
should owe no man anything but love
and good will; and if every man that
hears the sound of my voice today could
stand out like an angel of God and say,
"I owe no man anything but love and
good will," what missile from the ene-
mies' ranks could be successfully hurled
against us? I say not one. We have
paid that which we owe, and no man
can say aught in complaint against us
because we are delinquents; and every
one that knows us will be ready to say,
"God bless you, you are punctual and
faithful." Do we all desire, brethren and
sisters, to maintain this character and
stand upon this ground? I know that
cases will arise, and almost unavoid-
ably, in which we may be indebted to
our brethren; but how is it with some
of us when those to whom we are in-
debted apply for payment? I am afraid
that such creditors, instead of receiving
that which is their due, are sometimes
turned away with an excuse; when, if the
debtor would exert himself, he might pay
about as well then as at any other time.
But though we may turn away a brother
with an excuse, does that turn away the
demands of justice and right? I tell you
no. I have seen individuals who would
contract a debt, apparently regardless
whether they paid or not. I do not know
that there are any here, but if there are
I hope they will heed the words which I
speak. Let me say that I very much ques-
tion whether, if we have contracted debts
do not pay them, nor manifest any
desire to do so, we shall go into the ce-
stial kingdom. I cannot tell how this
will be, but I should rather fear that, in-
stead of going into the celestial kingdom,
we should go down to that prison that is
spoken of in the Scriptures. Hence we
are exhorted to, "Agree with thine ad-
versary quickly, whilst thou art in the
way with him; lest at any time the ad-
versary deliver thee to the judge, and the
judge deliver thee to the officer, and the
officer cast thee into prison. Verily, ver-
ily, I say unto thee, that thou shalt not
come out thence, until thou hast paid the
uttermost farthing." Whether this Scrip-
ture legitimately applies in this case, I
will not say; but to my mind it has a
strong beginning in that direction. Well,
if I have to go to prison and there work
to pay the uttermost farthing, heaven
nerve my arm so that I may meet and
pay my obligations while I am in the
flesh. I know that in relation to these
matters some of us have been in the
habit of considering, "Well, it is a brother
to whom I owe this debt, and I can put
him off; he will bear with me, and if he
begins to make any particular demon-
stration towards collecting it, I will
twine around him, and say, 'Bear with
me a little, and I will pay you,'" when