you almost worship your family; you
think a great deal of your wives." Yes, I
do, but, from my youth up, I never had
but one object in taking a wife, and that
was to do her good. The first one I had
was the poorest girl I could find in the
town; and my object with the second, and
third, and so on to the last one was to
save them. You say," Do I humor them?"
Yes I do, and perhaps too much.

Now, my brethren and sisters, a few
words more. We have been striving for
some time to get the people to observe
the Word of Wisdom. But why do they
not observe it? Why will they cling to
those habits that are inimical to life and
health? "Well," says a sister, "I cannot
leave off my tea, I must have a cup of
tea every morning, I feel so sick." I say
then, go to bed, and there lie until you
are better. "Oh, but it will kill me if I
quit it." Then die, and die in the faith, in-
stead of living and breaking the requests
of Heaven. That is my mind about the
sisters dying for the want of tea. With
regard to drinking liquor, I am happy to
say that we are improving. But there
are some of our Elders who still drink
a little liquor occasionally, I think, and
use a little tobacco. They feel as though
they would die without it, but I say they
will die with it, and they will die trans-
gressing the revelations and commands
of Heaven, and the wishes of our heav-
enly Father, who has said hot drinks are
not good.

Now let us observe the Word of Wis-
dom. Shall I take a vote on it? Ev-
erybody would vote, but who would
observe it? A good many, but not all.
I can say that a good many do
observe their covenants in this thing.
But who is it that understands wis-
dom before God? In some respects
we have to define it for ourselves—
each for himself—according to our own
views, judgment and faith, and the ob-
servance of the Word of Wisdom, or the
interpretation of God’s requirements on
this subject, must be left, partially, with
the people. We cannot make laws like
the Medes and Persians. We cannot
say you shall never drink a cup of tea,
or you shall never taste of this, or you
shall never taste of that; but we can say
that Wisdom is justified of her children.
Brethren and sisters, hearken to these
things. I do not know that we shall have
much time to talk about them; but take
the little counsel given, and observe it.
This is the place to give counsel to the
people. Go home, Bishops and Elders,
when the Conference is over, and observe
what has been told you here. If we com-
mence making our own bonnets, we shall
find that we shall increase in other di-
rections besides making leather for our
boots and shoes, and cloth for coats and
pantaloons.

It is very pleasant in passing through
the Territory to have brethren in the
various settlements say, "Bro. Brigham,
Brother Geo. A., or Brother Daniel, come
and see our store, or our shop; here are
boots and shoes made from leather of
our own manufacture;" and some are as
fine looking as you can see anywhere.
They are doing a good deal in this city,
and also in other places. Some are mak-
ing straw hats and bonnets, and oth-
ers are endeavoring to promote other
branches of home manufacture. This is
very pleasant, but we want to see it more
general in this great community. If it
were so this season in the one branch
of straw hat and bonnet manufacture we
should not see the scores and hundreds
of five-dollar hats brought here and sold,
that are good for nothing in the world.
They have no strength about them. The
manufacturers of these hats pick up
old cloth that is rotten and good for