the Gospel. It is also equally delight-
ful, when inspired by the Spirit of God,
to contemplate the future with its great
events, which the prophets foresaw, and
concerning which they have written so
much.

As a generation, we live in a busy,
stirring time—a time that is full of im-
portant events, one treading upon the
heels of another so rapidly that we have
scarcely time to contemplate the past—
even the past of our own history; and we
have but little time to look forward to the
future, only as it is necessary to comfort
and to cheer us. The work of God is rush-
ing forward with extraordinary speed,
and the Lord is operating in a most sig-
mal manner to bring to pass his great and
marvelous designs and purposes; and to
no eyes are these things clearer than to
those of the Latter-day Saints, especially
those whose minds are enlightened by
the Spirit of God, and who seek for the
inspiration thereof to guide them in their
everyday affairs.

It has been frequently remarked that
we as a people are entirely too egotis-
tical; that we imagine that God, in his
operations and dealings with the chil-
dren of men, has selected us and made
us the peculiar recipients of his blessings
to the exclusion of the rest of the human
family. I have heard it very frequently
remarked, when conversing with per-
sons respecting our views and doctrines,
that we confine our attention entirely too
much to ourselves and the little work
with which we are identified, forgetting
that we are but a small handful of the
great human family. I have also heard it
remarked that it was entirely too much
to expect that a people, so insignificant
as we are numerically, should antici-
perate the great results that we speak
about very frequently, and which, from
the writings of ancient prophets and of
those who have lived contemporaneously
with us, we are led to anticipate will be
fulfilled in our case. Men say, in speak-
ing of us: "Do you Latter-day Saints,
who in Utah and the adjoining Territo-
ries number probably one hundred and
fifty or two hundred thousand, and it
may be a few hundred thousand else-
where, recollect; or do you ever consider,
that the nation of which you form an in-
tegral part, numbers forty millions, and
that there are hundreds of millions of
human beings scattered over the face of
the earth who are not of your creed?
Do you recollect that you are very con-
temptible in point of numbers, influence
and wealth and everything that consti-
tutes greatness in the earth?" If we were
disposed to forget these things there
are those around us with whom we are
brought into frequent contact, who take
great and especial pains to remind us of
our insignificance, so that I think there
is no real danger of our entirely forget-
ting it. But though we are few in num-
bers, we declare that the oracles of God
are with us, and that he has chosen the
Latter-day Saints to be his peculiar peo-
ple and has placed upon them his name,
or the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and
has called us to be ministers of life and
salvation, to be the thunders of a new
order of things on the earth, and to be
the means in his hands, as we firmly be-
lieve and testify, of effecting a wonderful
revolution in affairs. Yet, while believ-
ing this, the Latter-day Saints are not so
uncharitable as to imagine that they are
the only ones with whom God is dealing,
or that they are the only people over and
towards whom his providences are being
exercised. Such a thought has never en-
tered into the hearts of those who are in-
telligent and reflecting in the Church of
Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is