tered, but additional authority was be-
stowed upon the prophet of God who
stood at the head of this dispensation.
And so also the completion of the tem-
ple at Nauvoo brought many blessings;
that is, so far as it was completed, for
the enemies of God’s kingdom did not
permit us to complete it entirely; but so
far as it was completed God accepted the
labor of the hands of his servants and
people, and great and precious blessings
were bestowed upon the Church of Jesus
Christ of Latter-day Saints for the faith-
fulness and diligence of its members in
rearing that house.

I have often thought of the shortness
of the period, after the death of Joseph,
which was continued in building that
house. He died, as you well know, or
was murdered, on the 27th of June, 1844.
Before 1845 had passed away the Saints
were receiving their endowments in that
house. The walls were completed, it was
roofed, the spire finished, and the up-
per story so far completed that the El-
ders could go in and administer in the
ordinances of God’s house—the sealings,
washings and anointings, and in the per-
formance of those ceremonies and or-
dinances which were necessary for our
growth, increase and perfection as a peo-
ple; and when it is recollected that all
this was done in a very short period over
one year, it bears testimony to the zeal
of the Saints and the mighty exertions
they made to fulfil the word of God and
the requirements He made of us as a peo-
ple, that we and our dead might not be
rejected. But we were not permitted to
enjoy that house, we were not permit-
ted to continue receiving blessings there;
the enemies of God’s kingdom were upon
us, and we were compelled to abandon
it and our homes, and it fell a sacrifice
to the wickedness of the wicked and it
was burned with fire—probably a better

fate than to have it stand and be defiled
by the wicked.

We have now to commence again the
erection of another temple. For many
years the foundation of one on this block
has been laid, and the Saints have la-
bored upon it to some extent; but it has
not been pushed forward with very great
rapidity. There have been reasons for
this—good and weighty reasons. It is
desirable when we build another tem-
ple that it should not fall into the hands
of the wicked, as those we have already
built have done; but that it should stand
as an enduring monument of the faith,
zeal and perseverance of the Latter-day
Saints, in which the ordinances of God’s
house and kingdom may be administered
through all coming time. There seems
to be a spirit now resting upon the ser-
vants of God to push this house forward
to its completion; and I doubt not that
this spirit will be received and cherished
by the Saints throughout Utah Territory,
and throughout the world. Judging by
my own feelings on this subject and by
the expressions of those who have al-
luded to it, I confidently believe that a
spirit is resting upon the people to re-
ceive the counsel that is given concern-
ing it, and to carry forward the work to a
speedy completion.

There are many reasons why we
should do it. It is true that God, in
his mercy, has permitted us to build an-
other house, which we call the Endow-
ment House, and in which we have re-
ceived many ordinances and blessings;
but there are several which cannot be
attended to in the Endowment House;
they must be postponed until a temple is
completed, in which the Elders and men
of God who bear the Holy Priesthood,
can go and administer the things of God,
and have them accepted by him. This,
of itself, is sufficient to stir us up, as