case have forced us into the very posi-
tion that we now occupy—namely, a Ter-
ritory in the United States of America;
and as we are here, we like other people, 
have to eat, drink, wear clothing, build 
houses, make farms, and so on. God has 
ordained all these things before, and we, 
as part of his creatures, have to do our 
part towards beautifying his footstool.

Finding ourselves in this capacity, we 
must have our courts. It is true that, for-
merly, our individual matters were reg-
ulated by our High Councils, Bishops' 
Councils, teachers, and so forth: but in 
some of the revelations it says, "Let him 
that steals be delivered up to the laws 
of the land." Well, here we are, and we 
occupy a political position, and we can-
not help it, and nobody else can help it. 
You who live here, form a city, and you 
must have city regulations. You want 
police to guard you from the inroads of 
wicked men, either among ourselves or 
outsiders, no matter who, to protect the 
peaceable, industrious, honest and vir-
tuous, and you must have some kind of 
government to do it. In a church capac-
ity, whether here or abroad, we could cut 
the thief or drunkard from the Church 
if we had a mind to, but here, if we cut a 
man from the Church, we cannot cut him 
from the State, he is still a citizen of the 
United States, and in the United States. 
In other places they make laws to punish 
thief, licentiousness and other crimes. It 
is true they do not carry them out; they 
do not care to do it, but they have such 
laws, and a variety of others to regulate 
property matters, and so forth. And we 
are compelled to enact such laws for safe-
guards around the whole community, for 
among other things we are beginning 
to possess property. We have farms,