God, there are many things pertaining to
our everyday duties, which if we clearly
understood by the light of the Spirit, we
would escape many things which cause
unhappiness. It is the want of clearly
understanding the will of the Lord un-
der all circumstances that causes us to
fall into many of the evils that we pass
through in life. I can look back on my
past life and can speak from experience
in these matters. I can remember many
times when, if I had been guided by
the Spirit of the Lord in regard to tem-
poral matters, it would have been well
with me; but not altogether understand-
ing what the mind of the Spirit was, the
course I have taken at times has been
very disadvantageous to me. I will relate
one circumstance of this kind as a sam-
ple. Some few years ago, I had a few hun-
dred dollars in goods and property, and I
expended all that I had in a store. Not
one of these cooperative stores, but in a
store kept at Fillmore. Being requested
by the merchants in that place to pur-
chase a bill of goods for them, and to
give my own note until they could settle
it; and being anxious that their business
should go on and prosper, I was foolish
enough to do as they wished, by which
I brought myself into great difficulties,
and lost over two thousand dollars by the
transaction. I had the bill of goods to pay
for, and lost all I put in besides. If I had
understood the teachings of the Spirit—
and I did have some impressions in rela-
tion to the matter, but if I had fully un-
derstood them I should not have fallen
into these unpleasant circumstances. I
have no doubt that there are many oth-
ers among the people of God, who can see
where they have erred, because they did
not have the Spirit of God upon them at
the time.

I can see, also, many times when
the Spirit of the Lord whispered to me,
and I scarcely knew whether it was
my own thoughts and imaginations or
whether it was the revelations of the
Spirit; yet it seemed to be the Spirit of
the Lord, and I followed the teachings,
and was prospered in so doing.

If we, as a people, would live up to our
privileges, how many difficulties might
be avoided! How many Latter-day Saints
would constantly live in the light of rev-
elation! This puts me in mind of a text
which I have often heard quoted, but I
do not know that I have said much in re-
lation to it. Neither do I know where it
is recorded, but I think it is somewhere
in the writings of Solomon. The passage
I refer to says that there is a spirit in
man and the Spirit or candle of the Lord,
I do not remember which, giveth it un-
derstanding. The idea is that in these
tabernacles of ours we have an intelli-
gent spirit which God has placed there,
and he has ordained that the Spirit of the
Lord shall light up these human spirits
of ours, that we may follow in the paths
of light, truth and righteousness and ob-
tain eternal life.

This text also puts me in mind of one
that is recorded somewhere in the Book
of Doctrine and Covenants, in which
the Lord, speaking directly to this peo-
ples, says that the word of the Lord
is truth, and whatsoever is truth is
light, and whatsoever is light is Spirit,
even the Spirit of Jesus Christ, and
the Spirit giveth light to every man
that cometh into the world; and the
Spirit enlighteneth every man through
the world that hearkeneth to the voice
of the Spirit. I cannot tell you on what
page nor in what section of the Book of
Covenants this can be found; but you
who are in the habit of reading that
book will find these words, as I have