are the books of genealogy, tracing indi-
viduals and nations among all people,
back to ancient times.

It may be inquired—"How can all this be done?" We answer, by the Urim and
Thummim, which the Lord God has or-
dained to be used in the midst of his holy
house, in his Temple. You may inquire—
"What is the Urim and Thummim?" We
reply, it is a divine instrument, prepared
in ancient times, by which he who pos-
sessed it could call upon the name of
the Lord, and receive from him answers
to all matters it was necessary that he
should know. Aaron, the chief Priest in
the midst of Israel, had this instrument
in his breast plate, in the midst of rows of
stones representing the twelve tribes of
Israel; and when he passed certain judg-
ments, he did not do it by his own wis-
dom, but he inquired of the Lord and re-
ceived the same, by this sacred instru-
ment. When that instrument is restored
to the house of God, to the Temple of the
Most High, our ancestry, that is, the an-
cestry of all the faithful in the church of
Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will be
made manifest. Not all at once, but by
degrees. Just as fast as we are able to ad-
minister for them, so will the Lord God
make manifest, by the manifestation of
holy angels in his house, and by the
Urim and Thummim, those names that
are necessary, of our ancient kindred and
friends, that they may be traced back to
the time when the Priesthood was on the
earth in ancient days.

If they could not be traced back, there
would be a great chasm, a broken chain
in the genealogies, and it would not be
perfect, but when the Lord God comes
suddenly to his Temple, he will come to
a people who have made themselves per-
fect by obedience to his commandments.
They have sought after the redemption
of their dead from generation to genera-
tion, until they can link on all those who
were not officiated for in ancient times,
and thus carry it back from one dis-
ensation to another, until it reaches to
our father Adam in the Garden of Eden,
and then, the saying of Scripture will be
accomplished—"The hearts of the chil-
dren will be turned to their fathers," and
the hearts of all those ancient fathers,
who lived thousands of years ago, will be
"turned to their children, lest the Lord
should come," as the Prophet Malachi
says, "and smite the earth with a curse."

Why smite it with a curse? Because
the people are careless and do not look
after the salvation of their dead, do not
let their hearts be drawn out after their
ancestry, do not seek to perform those
ordinances that are necessary for their
redemption, that they may be redeemed
by law. If we would not be smitten by a
curse, let us seek after the redemption
of our fathers, as well as of ourselves,
for says the Apostle Paul, "they with-
out us cannot be made perfect, neither
can we without them be made perfect." We
may do all that we please for our-
selves, and yet if we, through our care-
lessness and indifference, neglect to seek
after the salvation of the dead, the re-
ponsibility will be upon our own heads;
and the sins of the dead will be answered
upon us, because we had the power to act
for them, and we were careless and indif-
ferent about using it.

Many more things might be said
in relation to the dead, and what
is necessary to be done in Temples.
It was asked, by one of the speak-
ers, in relation to inheritances, "What
man or woman among the Latter-
day Saints has an inheritance sealed