vation; that we have the privilege of re-
ceiving and obeying the truth, and of se-
curing to ourselves that happiness which
the Gospel alone affords; and not only
of performing these ordinances for our-
selves, but of doing the necessary work
for our parents and forefathers who have
slept without the Gospel, that they may
partake also of the waters of life, and
be judged according to men in the flesh.
This is a privilege, a blessing, which no
one can sense unless he is in possession
of it. We are happy to know by our faith
and feelings through the spirit of rev-
elation within us that our labors have
been accepted of the Lord. We have en-
joyed ourselves exceedingly in the soci-
ety of each other; the aged, the middle-
aged and the youth have rejoiced and
been made glad in this glorious work.

When I look upon the youth, our
young brethren and sisters, who are
more or less unacquainted with the great
principles of life and salvation, I wish
that they could enjoy what a few of our
young people did this past winter, their
minds would be detached from the tri-
fles and follies of this weak world, and
they would be placed upon more sacred
things, upon the principles that are cal-
culated to exalt them and ennoble every
feeling and desire of the heart.

The Latter-day Saints present a
strange spectacle to those that enjoy
the spirit of revelation. To see them
following after the spirit of this world
and gratifying the lust of the eye and
of the mind, like the rest of mankind
who have never enjoyed the spirit of
the Gospel of life and salvation; and
yet not so very strange when we re-
alize the power of the enemy and
the thousands of snares which he lays
for the feet of the unwary, to draw
the people astray from the things of
God. Still, when we view the great object
of our life, our being here upon the earth,
being brought here expressly to receive
that experience by which we can discover
between right and wrong, between good
and evil, between light and darkness,
and obtain that experience that angels
have, that the gods have, and that all
exalted beings have, and remember that
we are put in possession of those prin-
ciples that make us wise unto salvation,
that we should stoop to the sinful deeds
and sinful reflections that many do, is
marvelous and strange. When I think
of these things I am impressed with the
great importance of this life and of ex-
ercising ourselves in the privileges that
God has granted to us to prepare our
hearts through obedience to the Gospel
of the Son of God, for a high station,
for a high exaltation in worlds to come,
such as we cannot receive whilst clothed
in this mortal tabernacle. But still, in
this life we can receive little by little,
and more and more, growing in grace
and in the knowledge of the truth, un-
til our minds are able to comprehend
many of the great things of eternity; and
thus prepare our hearts, by overcom-
ing sin and the weaknesses of humanity,
for that exaltation already awaiting the
righteous.

Sometimes I am so exercised that I
chastise the people very severely; but I
will say to the Latter-day Saints that
I have no chastisement for any unless
they deserve it, and if I myself am
found guilty of the same wrongs, I re-
ceive to myself a portion of the rebuke
which I give to others. But my feel-
ings are very acute; what I see and
hear oftentimes causes me sorrow and won-
der, and I feel to exclaim, "O Lord,
have mercy upon us, thy people!" How
easy it is for us to forget the Lord