thority intended to be exercised in the
text line.

Before dwelling upon this subject, I
wish to say to the Latter-day Saints, that
I have been permitted by the counsel of
the servants of God, to perform another
but very short mission abroad, having
left Salt Lake City on the 18th July, and
returned again after about two months
and nine days' absence, traveling, dur-
ing this period of time, about thirteen
thousand miles, by land and ocean. I
feel very glad, and rejoice, that I have
had this opportunity of going out once
more among mankind abroad. Although
my mission was not specially a preach-
ing mission, to declare to the people the
things of the kingdom of God, yet I en-
deavored, so far as opportunity permit-
ted to bear my humble testimony among
the people.

My mission, as is well known, was
to go to England, for the purpose of
printing the Book of Mormon, and the
Book of Doctrine and Covenants, ac-
cording to the phonotype system of Pit-
man. I will here state, that Pitman's
system of phonetics has been changed
and re-changed, in England, so many
times, that it has finally and almost en-
tirely dropped out of use in that coun-
try. Pitman still continues to pub-
lish a periodical in which he gives his
present forms of type or characters, and
present forms of spelling, but his paper
is more particularly advocating the sys-
tem of shorthand writing, or phonog-
raphy, which is quite popular in England.
By making inquiry, I found that one of
the brothers, Benj. Pitman, in conse-
quence of the numerous alterations that
were being made, was disgusted, and
came to America to see if he could es-
nablish a system upon a little different
principle. A certain wealthy gentleman
in our country became interested in the
enterprise, and he, by will, advanced
money to publish an extensive dictio-
nary upon the phonetic principle. A lit-
tle different alphabet was adopted in our
country from that which was used in
England. After examining these differ-
ent systems, I concluded that, in some
very few respects, they were all in er-
ror. These errors consisted mostly in the
mode of spelling. Some have adopted
one standard, and some another; and
having examined the different systems
closely and carefully, I finally concluded
to accept the American phonetic alpha-
bet, with the exception of two or three
characters, and also to spell according to
the American phonetic dictionary, with
some slight alterations.

I made arrangements with a house
in London to furnish the phonotype, and
most of it had arrived in Liverpool, just
as I was called home.

These preliminary preparations for
printing were made just as fast as pos-
sible before learning the sad news of the
death of our beloved President, which
we received some seven hours after he
breathed his last. A few hours later
we received another telegram from the
Council of the Twelve Apostles, instruc-
ing brother Joseph F. Smith and myself
to arrange matters in Great Britain, per-
taining to the European mission, and
come home immediately. We have com-
plied with the request.

We feel, with all our hearts, to mourn
with the Latter-day Saints, in the loss of
so great and good a man, as the Presi-
dent, who has led us, with marked suc-
cess, for one-third of a century. He
was the instrument, in the hands of
God, of bringing the people forth, some
1,400 miles from the great Mississippi
River, over wild, barren, and track-
less plains, and locating us here, in