marks, I shall be glad of it.

Our position, today, before the heav-
ens and the earth and before each other,
reminds me of days that are past and
gone. On the 20th of July, 1847, I
brought our late President Young in
my carriage through Emigration Canyon
into this valley, which was the first time
he set foot upon this land. The question
has been often asked by strangers who
visit our city, why did Brigham Young
pick upon this spot to build a city? Be-
cause it was shown him before he came
here. But when we came to this coun-
try, what did we find here? A barren
desert, as barren as the Desert of Sa-
hora; and the only signs of life were a few
black crickets, some coyote wolves, and a
few poor wandering Indians. Today we
may travel from Paris in the north of our
Territory to St. George in the south, a
distance of some 500 miles, and see on
every hand towns and villages, gardens,
and orchards, fields and crops; we behold
a people industrious and happy, build-
ing their own dwelling houses, meeting-
houses, schoolhouses, tabernacles and
Temples, and improvements and enter-
prises are constantly going on. And all
this within so short a time. What does
this mean? What does it bespeak to the
strangers who visit our Territory, and in
fact to the whole world, and to heavenly
as well as mortal beings? It is evidence
that God has set his hand to fulfil the
prediction contained in the Bible, that
he has commenced the work of uniting
the record or stick of Joseph with that
of Judah; that the set time has come
for him to favor Zion. And how have
these things come to pass and what was
the origin of this peculiar system that
presents itself now to the inhabitants of
the earth, which found a resting place in
the wilds of this desolate, uninhabited
land, and which has already produced
such marvelous results? It was per-
formed in a very singular manner, to be-
gin with. As the Lord ever has done in
attempting to establish his rule and gov-
ernment on the earth, he chose the weak
things of the earth, and them he will use
to confound the wisdom of the wise. He
manifested himself to a boy in his teens,
and also sent an angel to him on sev-
eral occasions, in fulfillment of the re-
velation to John the Revelator, and of the
inspired words of many other Prophets
and Apostles who have spoken concern-
ing the marvelous work and wonder of
the latter days. But says the world, “We
do not believe that.” We understand that
perfectly well; we do not expect you to
receive the Gospel of the Son of God with
the same readiness that you believe the
falsehoods and misrepresentations that
are constantly made about it. The world
ever has opposed it, and we expect to
meet all manner of opposition until the
final triumph of right over wrong, of
truth over error. We might commence
with father Adam and trace it down to
the present time, and we would find that
the same spirit of opposition and of per-
secution followed the people of God in ev-
ery age, as exists today against us, as
a people. And so natural is it for the
devil to oppose every move that the Lord
makes towards reclaiming and redeem-
ing the earth, that men are often found
to denounce the "Mormons” and their re-
ligion when they know nothing either of
us or our tenets. The Savior of the world
himself was denounced as a deceiver,
as an impostor; why? Because those
who raised this cry against him knew
him not, and those who reechoed it took
not the trouble to ascertain whether it