

**THE NATURAL WEAKNESS OF MEN—THE NECESSITY OF
CHARITY—THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE GOSPEL WAS
REVEALED—THE SPIRIT THAT SHOULD PREVAIL
REGARDING COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS—THE FOLLY
OF DISSENSION.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED AT KAYSVILLE, ON SUNDAY
AFTERNOON, MARCH 2ND, 1879.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

I am pleased to have the opportunity of meeting with the Saints in this place. I have come to talk with you, and to have a little visit; to tell you how I feel, and to learn how you feel, and how things are moving generally.

I desire to talk a while on some of the plain principles of "Mormonism," as we used to understand them in former times, and as we understand them today when we reflect and use our judgment dispassionately. Our feelings and ideas are not much different from what they used to be. Many of us started in this work many years ago, and we entered into it because we believed it was true, and that the principles taught and inculcated were from God; and when it came to us, we received it as a message from God to us. These were about the sentiments that we entertained some twenty and thirty, and as long as forty-five years ago; and I suppose the majority of us have still the same ideas of the work that we then entertained. Before we embraced the Gospel, we were beset with the weaknesses of the flesh,

and after we embraced it, these natural infirmities still followed us. We have had difficulties and trials, and have passed through many circumstances calculated to perplex and annoy, and caused, too, many times, by the unkind acts of others. And then we ourselves have not always been the most considerate and kind one towards another. And then we have not always done exactly right, ourselves being the judges, and other people were of the same opinion. And hence we have experienced, to no inconsiderable extent, little annoyances and difficulties, for which we have no one to blame but our own folly and weakness. And this too, in many instances, because when we had done wrong, we failed to go to God and our brother whom we had offended, making acknowledgements and asking forgiveness. And in too many instances difficulties that have arisen have been allowed to run on to our injury and annoyance, and we have been sometimes ready to ask, "Is this Zion?" "Yes, this is Zion." What, with all of our infirmities, weaknesses and