financially and in numbers. It is won-
derful! I was astonished, as well ac-
quainted as I have been with this peo-
pole for the number of years that they
have inhabited these valleys, to know
that one-third of the entire population
of this Territory—as far as the Latter-
day Saints are concerned—are children
under eight years of age. But such is
the fact. These reports do not take in
the entire population of this Territory.
There is quite a number of children over
eight years of age who have not been
baptized and consequently they are not
represented in these reports. I presume
that there are hundreds, if not thou-
sands, of cases in the midst of the Latter-
day Saints where we have neglected to
administer the ordinance of baptism to
our children, who, according to the rev-
elations of God, ought to be numbered
among the members of this Church. The
instructions which we have received are
plain and pointed; perhaps I may not be
a competent judge for all mankind, or for
my brethren, yet to me they are full of
the inspiration of the Lord and are cal-
culated to lead and guide his children in
the path of everlasting life. And it does
seem impossible to me for any man, or
any set of men, to refute the testimo-
ies that have been borne to this Confer-
ence.

It is proper and consistent that we
look for counsel to those who are ad-
vanced in the knowledge of the Gospel.
We should do the same in regard to law
or politics. If I were to go to Wash-
ington among the politicians of the coun-
try and set myself up as a politician,
pretending to understand all the ins
and outs of political life as, say, one
of the representatives of our nation, I
would find myself greatly deficient, and I
would gladly seek some experienced man
on whom I could rely to instruct me in
regard to these thing. It is true, I might
read the Congressional Record, in which
the speeches of our statesmen are pub-
lished; I might go to hear them deliv-
ered, and exert myself otherwise to in-
form myself; yet though through dili-
gence and perseverance I might acquire
very considerable knowledge of this kind
of business, yet I would lack a most im-
portant part, namely: the experience,
and I would willingly and gladly avail
myself of the teaching of an experienced
man. If I were to start in the business
of law, it would be reasonable to sup-
pose, of course, that I, like the seventy
men or more who follow that business
in this city, would have a smattering of
legal knowledge; but like them too, if
a more experienced man were to come
along, and especially if he were a genius
in his profession, I would gladly learn
of him and it would afford me pleasure
to listen to him. This is the case in all
things. Suppose a member of my fam-
ily is sick; I am at once prompted with a
desire to consult some experienced nurse
who is more competent than myself in
administering such things as one in that
condition ought to receive. Perhaps a fin-
ger of one of my children may need am-
putating. I might take an ax and cut it
off in my way, but I could not do it like
our Dr. Anderson for instance, a man
who is a skilled surgeon. I would natu-
really yield my way to theirs in regard to
these things. And so it is through all the
branches of business transacted in this
life—the influence, opinion or knowledge
of somebody else controls or affects that
of ours.

Today we may be acquainted
with a man who is really excellent
in his profession, but another man