for men to be engaged in such things is a
shame upon the priesthood, and an out-
rage upon the holy principles that God
has been pleased to reveal to us. That
is the way I look at these things. And
it is a trick of the devil to decoy and de-
stroy, to divide and disrupt, and to lead
men down to perdition. What would be
the result if these things are carried out
a little further? The whole head would
be sick and the whole heart faint. I say,
shame on the Elders of Israel! Shame
on men holding the holy priesthood that
cannot be united and operate together in
the interest of the Church and the King-
dom of God, but must drag in their mean,
low, contemptible ideas and notions, for-
getting the high calling with which they
are called.

What shall we do? Why, lay them
aside and repent of your foolishness,
and forgive one another of your hard
speeches and words, and your rash and
hard treatment made use of to produce
stings, trouble and annoyance among
men; and study from this time hence-
forth one another's feelings, and act the
part of a brother and friend one towards
another, live your religion and keep the
commandments of God. How did Je-
sus teach his disciples to pray? When
you pray, say, "Our Father which art in
heaven." What? I must tell a little story
here. There was a poor man once called
upon a minister for assistance; the min-
ister tried to cheat him, and would not
give him what he had agreed to for some
labor performed by him; the man was
not very well suited about it. The min-
ister, it would seem, was one of those
fellows who, if he could squeeze a lit-
tle out of the poor man, was quite will-
ing to do it. "Well," said the man, "I
will take what you offer me, although
it is not what you agreed to give me,
providing you will teach me the Lord's
prayer." To this the minister agreed and
said, "Repeat after me and say, 'Our
Father which art in heaven—'" "What!"
says the man, "is God your Father and
my Father, too?" "You must repeat what I
say," said the minister, "Our Father," etc.
"What," said the man, "my father and
your Father?" "Yes, yes." "Then," broke in
the man again, "is he indeed my Father
as well as your Father?" "Yes," replied
the minister, "but you must repeat my
words." "Well, what a rascal you must be
to try to cheat your poor brother in this
way?" We should all feel that God is our
Father, and that we are all brethren and
sisters. There are none of us very big; in
fact we are all very little when you come
to know all about us. None of us can do
anything except the Lord helps us, and
if he does not help us, we, as a certain
lady said, are "all poor, miserable, inde-
pendent sinners." There is none of the
"big I and little you" amongst us. We
should have a common sympathy one for
another, and feel a kindly regard for the
lowest of God's creations, and especially
for the Saints of God, no matter what
position they occupy. If any are in er-
ror, try to reclaim them by kindness; if
they have a bad spirit, show them a bet-
ter one; if any do not do right, do right
yourselves and say, "Come follow me, as
I follow Christ." Would not that be the
right course to pursue? I think it would;
that is the way I understand the Gospel.
We do not, any of us, have the priesthood
for self-aggrandizement, or to be used
to oppress, or take advantage of any-
body, or to use improper language; but
with all kindness and long-suffering and
forbearance and with love unfeigned.
I will read from the Doctrine and