in the fear of God, meeting together and
talking over the things of God, medit-
ating upon them, teaching one another
good, virtuous, holy principles, than to
see them associated with corruptions
and treading in the paths that leads
down to death. How much better to
Teach purity, holiness, virtue, and intelli-
gence, making them honorable men and
women, than to see them take a different
course. I have been asked sometimes if
there was the priesthood associated with
this. No; not particularly; but it is one of
those helps spoken of in the Scriptures.
A bishop will not object to being helped
by the Relief Societies. Will he object
to them visiting the poor? Will he ob-
ject to any man or any woman seeking
to promote peace, order, virtue, and righ-
teousness? No. Who are they? Some are
Elders, some are Seventies, some High
Priests, and all belong to the several quo-
rums of the priesthood. These associa-
tions are a very creditable thing, in ad-
- vance, say of our Sunday school opera-
tions. It is leading on to knowledge, or
what we term theology and science, and
every principle of intelligence. We have
a great many good, highminded, honor-
able young men and women, and I say
God bless you in your labors.
You, bishops, I say to you, encourage
all these things among you, sanction and
protect them, and do all you can to foster
them.
With regard to our political organi-
zation, I would say, we must be united.
Who, I ask, should dictate us? If I was
here in Provo, and had to do with such
matters, the first thing I would do would
be to confer with President Smoot to as-
certain whom he would recommend for
such and such offices.
“But,” say some, that would in-
terfere with my freedom. I think Watts
says:
“I would be walking with the wise.
That I may wiser grow.”
Well then,
I would not be walking with the fools,
Lest I a fool should grow.
But I would seek from men of experi-
ence and judgment advice as to the best
course to pursue. And as to your freedom
have as much as you please, that is, free-
dom to do right, not wrong. It is very nec-
essary that we be united; and anybody
that seeks to divide the people is not the
friend of God or man, neither is God his
friend; and if he continue to interfere
with the happiness and union of the peo-
ple of God, He will not hold him guilt-
less; but He will remove him out of his
place. There is a providence in many of
these things. People wonder sometimes
why we have sickness amongst us. The
Apostle Paul in writing to the Corinthis-
s, in referring to divisions that existed
among them, together with their unwor-
thiness, when partaking of the Lord’s
supper, says, "For this cause many are
weak and sickly among you, and many
sleep.” Do you believe a principle of that
kind? I do. Let us fear God then, honor
Him, and keep His commandments.
Another thing, we want the brethren
to do, and that is to cultivate a right
feeling towards the sisters, and towards
their wives especially. God has given
them to us; treat them well and kindly.
If they have weaknesses—which doubt-
less they have—we should bear with
them, they are the weaker vessel, and
we ought to be strong, and a strong
man ought not to be much afraid of
a weak woman. We ought to have
them in our affections, and instead