fore, a great and wonderful event oc-
curs, they seek for its origin and expla-
nation in some natural law. They ignore
the fact that God works through natural
laws; but seem to think that if he were
to interpose at all, it would be by man-
ifesting his power through the suspen-
sion of natural laws, by overriding and
violating them, and in such a supernatu-
ral manner that mankind would be com-
pelled to acknowledge it was his act, as
they would be utterly unable to account
for it by any laws known to them, or in
any other way than as being through his
power. Wars, famines, pestilences, cy-
clones, earthquakes, and the great va-
riety of calamities which God has said
shall be poured out upon the wicked na-
tions, are therefore looked upon by men
generally in these days as the results of
certain well-defined and easily explained
causes. When any of these calamities
visit a city or a nation they immedi-
ately commence to investigate the laws
which govern them, and by the violation
of which they assert they are produced;
and when they discover what they allege
is the cause, they triumphantly point to
it, and that is sufficient proof that the
Lord has nothing special to do with it;
for if it were a visitation from him, it
is supposed it would be so supernatural
as to be inexplicable. And thus men go
on, hardening their hearts and denying
God’s power, until they will be so com-
pletely given over to the evil one, that he
will lead them captive according to his
will.

My reason for calling your attention
to the word of the Lord I have read to
you is, that I have sometimes thought
that our people do not appreciate as they
should do the spirit of revelation, the
spirit of prophecy, the power of God, that
has been poured out upon us as a people.
The fact seems to be overlooked that it
was in the manner in which the Lord
tells Oliver Cowdery that Moses brought
the children of Israel through the Red
Sea on dry ground. The Lord said to
Oliver: "I will tell you in your mind and
in your heart, by the Holy Ghost, which
shall come upon you and which shall
dwell in your heart. Now, behold, this is
the spirit of revelation; behold, this is the
spirit by which Moses brought the chil-
dren of Israel through the Red Sea on dry
ground." How many of the Latter-day
Saints are there who understand that
this is the way in which Moses led the
children of Israel so miraculously? How
many are there who think that if we had
a man like Moses among us, the people
would be led differently and with greater
manifestations of power than they are?
How many are there who are dissatisfied
with what God is doing at present, and
are looking for some one to appear in the
future who shall exhibit convincing and
overwhelming manifestations of power?
How many are there at the present time
who are neglecting the precious and in-
estimable gift of revelation which God
has bestowed upon his people, because
it does not come to them in the way
to suit their preconceived notions and
ideas—or who are not suited with the
way the Church has been and is led, be-
cause there is not that wonderful degree
of power exhibited which they imagine
should be?

Apostates have asserted that there
was not the power in the leaders of the
Church which there should be. They said
so during the life of the Prophet Joseph,
asserting that he was a fallen prophet.
After his death they made the same
statements respecting President Young,
his counselors, and the Twelve Apostles.
And, if I am not mistaken, there are