shall stay the torrent? We of all men
would save the ship of state and would
say to these national patricides avaunt!
But if they will act foolishly and continue
to do so until they subvert the prin-
ciples of liberty, and thus destroy one of
the best governments ever instituted on
earth, then if forsaken by all else, the
elders of this Church will rally round
the Constitution, lift up the standard
of freedom, which is being trodden un-
der foot and bedrabbled by demagogues,
and proclaim liberty to the world; equal
rights, liberty and equality; freedom of
conscience and of worship to all men ev-
erywhere. That is not a prophecy of
mine; it is a prophecy of Joseph Smith's,
and I believe it very strongly. Will we
oppose them? No. Let them go on in
their own way and we will pray to God
to turn the designs of wicked men, and if
they will not repent and turn from their
evil deeds, pray to him that they may
be taken in their own trap, be caught
in their own snare, and fall into the pit
which they dig for us. Can you pray
with a good conscience that this may
befall them? Certainly. If men dig a
pit for others, they should not find fault
if they fall into it themselves. And as
sure as God lives they will do it, if they
persevere in their iniquity, and as sure
as we stand faithful to the principles
of truth, God will stand by us, and the
wrath of man will be made to praise him,
and the remainder he will restrain; and
they cannot help themselves. For both
they and we are in the hands of God,
and they can go no further than he per-
mits them, neither can we. And we will
try, as the friends of this nation and of
humanity, to do right, and to sustain
all correct principles, in the maintenance
of justice and equal rights to all; culti-
vating peace, respecting law, sustaining
our institutions, and praying that right,
justice and equity may prevail through-
out the land; and that the hands of all
honorable men may be strengthened to
preserve inviolable the God-given institu-
tions of this great nation. Let us also
try to fulfil all of our duties as fathers,
and our duties as mothers, our duties
as children and our duties as citizens of
the United States, our duties as Presi-
dents, our duties as Apostles, our duties
as High Priests, our duties as Seventies,
our duties as Elders and our duties as
Priests, Teachers and Deacons, and our
duties as members of the Church of Je-
sus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Let us
humble ourselves before the Lord, live in
the light of the Spirit of God, that the
Holy Spirit which we have received may
be in us "as a light that shines brighter
and brighter until the perfect day." And if
we are faithful, God will stand by Israel;
he will preserve his elect; he will listen
to our prayers: and we will go to work by
his help to build up Zion and establish
the Kingdom of God upon the earth; and
we and our posterity will never cease do-
ing it until the "kingdoms of this world
shall become the kingdoms of our God,
and his Christ; and he shall rule for-
ever and forever;" and then throughout
the endless ages of eternity among the
Gods in the eternal worlds we will join in
singing, "Blessing, and glory, and honor,
and power, and might, and majesty, and
dominion, be ascribed to him that sitteth
upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for-
ever." Even so. Amen.