ing, under the direction of the presi-
dency, in administering spiritual things,
and also in the office of an elder, priest
(of the Levitical order), teacher, deacon,
and member," etc.

This shows really, in as few words as
the matter could be conveyed to your un-
derstanding, the way that God has ap-
pointed for the governing of those affairs
in His Church and Kingdom, without en-
tering elaborately into detail.

When we have a Stake organiza-
tion, as you have here, the Presidency
of the Stake presides over all Bishops,
High Councils, and all authorities of
the Stake. The several Bishops preside
over their respective wards and man-
age their affairs, under the direction of
the Stake Presidency, who in their office
and calling are responsible to the First
Presidency of the Church. The Bish-
ops are also under the direction of pre-
siding Bishop Hunter in all affairs con-
ected with the temporal interests of the
Church. And Bishop Hunter is under
the direction of the First Presidency, the
Aaronic Priesthood being an appendage
to the Melchizedek Priesthood. It is
however, the special duty of the Aaronic
Priesthood to attend to temporal mat-
ters; but then the First Presidency pre-
sides over all Bishops, all Presidents, all
authorities, and lastly God presides over
all.

Now we are sometimes fond, that is,
some of us are, of talking about our au-
 thority. It is a thing I care very lit-
tle about. I tell you what I want to
do if I can. I want to know the will
of God so that I may do it; and I do
not want to dictate or domineer or ex-
ercise arbitrary control. Then again, all
men ought to be under proper control
to the Presidency and Priesthood pre-
siding over them. If I were a Bishop I
should want to know what the President
of my Stake desired, and I should con-
fer with him; and if there was anything
in which Bishop Hunter was interested,
I should want to know his mind.

I will read a little further with regard
to this subject of priesthood:

"How long can rolling waters remain
impure? What power shall stay the
heavens? As well might man stretch
forth his puny arm to stop the Mis-
souri river in its decreed course, or to
turn it up stream, as to hinder the
Almighty from pouring down knowledge
from heaven upon the heads of the
Latter-day Saints. Behold, there are
many called, but few are chosen. And
why are they not chosen? Because their
hearts are set so much upon the things
of this world, and aspire to the honors of
men."

Now, I wish you to take particular no-
tice of this, you Elders, you High Priests,
you Seventies, and you Priests, Teach-
ers and Deacons, and all men holding the
Priesthood; "That they do not learn this
one lesson—That the rights of the priest-
hood are inseparably connected with the
powers of heaven, and that the powers of
heaven cannot be controlled nor handled
only upon the principles of righteous-
ness;" and not upon any other principle.
And when anybody steps aside from that
and acts upon a principle of unrighteous-
ness, the result will be as is stated in the
context, namely: "That they may be con-
ferred upon us, it is true; but when we
undertake to cover our sins, or to grat-
ify our pride, our vain ambition, or to ex-
ercise control or dominion or compulsion
upon the souls of the children of men, in
any degree of unrighteousness, behold,
the heavens withdraw themselves; the