the record shows the twenty-five per
cent anti-Mormons to be, there would
have been 2,443 arrests made from their
ranks during the year 1881 instead of
the comparatively trifling number of
169 shown on the record; while if the
twenty-five percent anti-Mormon popu-
lation had as law-abiding and upright a
record as the seventy-five percent Mor-
mons, instead of the startling number
of 851 anti-Mormon arrests during the
year, there would have been but 56
made."

I give these statements of facts for
the information of the brethren who are
here from a distance; but, then, they
know them as facts; that is, they know
how these *soi disant* regenerators act,
but many of them do not know what
their civilization is here, and what is
sought to be introduced among us, and
the infamous statements circulated con-
cerning us. We are ready, as I said
before, to compare notes with them or
the people of this or any nation at any
time. And then again, we ought to be
more pure and virtuous than they, for
we do profess to be the Saints of the
Most High God. With this view, when
this Edmunds bill was being canvassed,
and there was a prospect of its passing—
although we thought at first it was im-
possible that such a concern could pass
through Congress; but when we saw the
falsehoods that were being circulated,
the furor that was being raised and
fanned by religious fanatics and political
demagogues, petitions were gotten up by
the people here, one of them represent-
ing the male class, another our Relief So-
cieties, another our young men, and an-
other our young ladies' Improvement So-
cieties. All of them represented that we
were a virtuous people—that polygamy
was a religious institution; and the
young people asserted that it had been
taught to them by their parents from
their youth up, and that the principles
of purity, virtue, integrity and loyalty
to the government of the United States
had been instilled into their minds and
hearts since their earliest childhood; and
further, that they had been taught and
understood that chastity was their great-
est boon, far above jewels or wealth,
and more precious than life itself. In
a few days we had 165,000 signatures,
and they were forwarded to Washington.
The request was that Congress would
not act as the government had before—
first send out an army and then send
commissioners to inquire, but that they
would send commissioners first to in-
quire into the facts of the case. But they
did not choose to listen. In fact, there has
been a great furor in the United States
in relation to these matters, and that
has originated to an extent through our
Governor. Now I am very much averse
to talking about official men; I do not
like to do such things. They ought to be
honorable men; the most charitable con-
struction I could put upon his acts would
be to say that his education had been
sadly neglected, and that he was not ac-
quainted with figures. He might have
learned to read and write perhaps, but
I would question his having gone so far
as arithmetic; because he did not appar-
tently know the difference between 1,300
votes and 18,500 votes. It does denote
a lamentable absence of a knowledge of
the rudiments of a common education;
but then, a man should not, perhaps,
be blamed for that which he does not
know. And, indeed, it would seem that
some of our lawmakers in Washington
are not educated. With all due respect
to them, with these facts before them