be ready at the time appointed and ful-
fill the duties required of me." These and
similar letters keep flowing in; and the
Elders go forth in the name of Israel's
God bearing precious seeds, the seeds of
eternal life, as messengers to the nations
of the earth, the legates of the skies,
commissioned by the Great Jehovah to
proclaim the words of life to the world,
and they return again rejoicing, bring-
ing their sheaves with them. This is one
work we have to do. Sometimes I think
that some of our Elders scarcely under-
stand this matter as fully as they might,
and I will here make a remark in rela-
tion to it. They say that people pay very
little attention to them in some parts; in
others a great many are baptized, etc.
Now, the Elders are not responsible for
the actions of other men. It is their busi-
ness to go and preach the Gospel and to
use all diligence and faithfulness and be
earnest and emphatic, and to seek for
the guidance and direction of the Lord in
the proclamation of his word; but they
have nothing to do with the people re-
ceiving or rejecting their message. If
they receive it, it is for their benefit; if
they reject it, it is to their condemna-
tion. But the Elder is not responsible,
whether they receive it or not. If he ful-
fills his duties he does just as much in
that respect as if thousands were to re-
ceive it. But, thousands are receiving
it, and we are doing our work and per-
forming our duties, and sending forth the
Gospel. And then when we have done
that, what else? Why, that is all we can
do. Preach these things to the world; de-
deliver the testimony that God has given
to us. And what then? Are we to per-
secute them because they do not believe
as we do? I think not. Shall we try to
crowd them, and tell them they have not
right government and right laws, and
that they are wrong in every particular
in regard to these matters? I do not know
that that is any part of our business.
Our business is to preach the Gospel,
and if they do not receive it, leave them,
that is all. In some particular cases,
when the disciples in former days went
and preached the Gospel, and the people
would not receive it—Jesus told them to
go and wash their feet as a testimony be-
fore Him in regard to that matter, and he
would deal with such people Himself. We
have to leave those things in the hands
of God, for the nations as well as our-
selves are all in the hands of God. It is
true that it is said of the Twelve Apostles
that hereafter they shall sit upon twelve
thrones judging the twelve tribes of Is-
rael, but it is also true that John the Rev-
elator says, "I saw a great white throne,
and him that sat on it, from whose face
the earth and the heaven fled away; and
there was found no place for them. And
I saw the dead, small and great, stand
before God; and the books were opened:
and another book was opened, which is
the book of life: and the dead were judged
out of those things which were written in
the books, according to their works." It
is said again that the Saints shall judge
the world, but that is not yet; our busi-
ness now is simply to preach the Gospel
and deliver our testimony, to gather to-
gether the elect from among the nations,
and having faithfully performed our duty
to leave the events pertaining to others
in the hands of God.
We have gathered to these valleys of
the mountains. What duties now devolve
upon us? To build up a Zion unto our
God. And who is