with very little to aid them—it is one of
the most wonderful things that a com-

munity like this can absorb so many peo-
de annually, and show no evidences of
pauperism. We have no paupers.

Now, my brethren and sisters, these
results—and I think them under the cir-
cumstances significant—are due to the
blessing, wisdom, power and guidance of
our God. We have been sustained here
by His arm. Yet at the same time we
have been treated like a stepchild by our
parent government. Loyal as we are to
the core; believing as we do that the
constitution of our country is inspired of
God; looking upon this form of govern-
ment as God-given, and as the best possi-
ble form of human government; notwith-
sstanding we entertain these views, we
have been treated from the beginning as
though we were aliens, and as though
we were a stepchild, instead of one born
legally, and entitled to the blessings that
the rest of our brothers and sisters in
the compact of the Union are entitled
to. We have had this sort of treatment
from the beginning. Every act of ours
has been viewed with jealousy. Never-
thest, we have prospered. God has
been with us. His blessing has been
upon us. We have maintained good or-
der in these mountains, not because gov-
ernors have been sent here not of our
choosing; not because federal officials
have been sent here in whose selection
we have had no voice; not because for
several years back it has almost been
deemed a qualification for officers to hate
the "Mormon" people among whom the
federal officials were going to serve; but
because there has been a union in the
midst of the people, there has been a wis-
dom, there has been a power in the gov-
ernment which God has given. God
has developed true statesmanship in the
midst of these Latter-day Saints. There
are hundreds of men in this community
who can take a body of people and go
into these desert wilds and build up a
city, or a number of cities, and govern
and control them in a manner that if the
whole world were governed in that way
would produce the grandest and happiest
results. We have demonstrated our
capacity for self-government, and it is
inherent, it may be said in the people,
springing, as I believe, from the wis-
dom and blessing that God has bestowed
upon men. There is no community to-
day, within the confines of these United
States, that can furnish so many prac-
tical men of this character as can the
Latter-day Saints, and the evidences of it
are to be seen in the good order that pre-
vails throughout these mountains from
north to south, and from east to west,
wherever the Latter-day Saints live and
have influence. I praise God for it. I
claim no credit for man in this matter. It
is the divine blessing, and it is in accor-
dance with the plan that has been pre-
aranged in the heavens. Why, the very
fact that we were permitted to be driven
to these mountains, shows us the hand
of God in it. There was no room for ex-
pansion in our old position. We could
not have grown; we could not have de-
veloped. But our enemies were deter-
minded to make us great, and they thrust
us out, and sent us into a land which
God evidently had designed to be set-
tled by just such a people as ourselves.
There is no such land under the sun to-
day. It is the habitat, the true habi-
tat of the Latter-day Saints, admirably
adapted in every feature of its cli-
mate, of its conditions, of its mountains,