characterized the Church of Christ in the
day when it was upon the earth. Noth-
ing was wanting. The same power, the
same blessings, the same gifts, the same
union, the same love, the same testi-
mony on the part of those who had re-
ceived these ordinances, until today we
have in these mountain valleys a peo-
ple the exact counterpart in every par-
ticular of that primitive Church which
Christ and His Apostles organized upon
the earth. Every distinctive nature, ev-
ery characteristic, every power, every or-
dinance, that that Church possessed is
claimed and possessed by this Church of
Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and
the same fruits, the same characteris-
tics, the same blessings, the same union,
the same power, attends the administra-
tion of its ordinances, and follows its be-
lievers in all their lives and in all their
operations. Go with its missionaries to
the remotest land, you will find them
the exact followers of the disciples of Je-
sus, who were with Him in the flesh.
Did they travel without purse or scrip?
So do the Elders of the Church in these
last days. Did they exercise faith before
God, to have their way opened up be-
fore them? So do the Elders in these last
days. Did they baptize repentant believ-
ers for the remission of their sins? So
do the Elders in these last days. Did
they promise unto repentant believers
who were baptized that they should re-
ceive the gift of the Holy Ghost? So do
the Elders who go forth in these last
days. The same promise, the same gift,
the same power, that was promised an-
ciently is again promised, and, what is
better still, is again bestowed and en-
joyed by those who qualify themselves
to receive this precious gift. Did they
lay hands upon the sick for the restora-
tion of their health? So do the Elders in
these last days; and the sick are healed;
and the power of God is manifested
among men as it has not been mani-
fested for these many centuries past. Did
they, when they had organized a Church,
find a people full of union and love, lov-
ing one another and willing to do deeds
of kindness to one another, and think-
ing more of their brethren than they
did of themselves? So do the Elders in
these last days in organizing branches
of the Church, and the same spirit at-
tends their labors and follows as a result
of their administrations in every land—
not in Christian lands alone, but in hea-
then lands, and among the natives of
our forests and of our mountains. Wher-
ever these Elders go they go accompa-
nied by the power of God. This rests
down upon the people who receive their
words, and they are filled with the Holy
Ghost, and their hearts are blended to-
gether in union and in love, which can-
ot be found elsewhere upon the face of
the earth—God in this wonderful man-
ner bearing testimony to the labors of
His servants and to their word, and ful-
filling their promises in bestowing those
gifts upon all races, upon all men who
bow in submission to the Gospel which
they preach. There is not a single char-
acteristic that the ancient Church pos-
sessed, that is not manifested in these
our days in the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints. The same persecu-
tion of the Church, the same hatred, the
same inclination to shed the blood of in-
offensive, innocent men and women, to
drive them from their homes and to treat
them with the utmost cruelty upon base-
less charges and misrepresentation—
that characteristic is not wanting ei-
ther. It follows the Church. It
follows the Elders of the Church go