aside should we not? This to me is the
veriest nonsense. It would not make one
hair’s difference with us whether such a
commission should decide that the Book
of Mormon is right or wrong. If they de-
cide that it is true it will not increase our
faith in it; if they decide that it is not
true, it will not decrease our faith in it.
Yet these are ideas that men entertain.

Speaking upon this point I am re-
minded of an incident that took place
a number of years ago. Several promi-
nent European scientists called upon me,
and they talked a little upon our reli-
gious principles. Then they asked me
if I was acquainted with the advanced
ideas in regard to geology. I told them
I knew a little about them from what I
had read. "What do you think," said one
of them to me, of these views as com-
pared with the scriptural account of the
creation of the world?" "Well," said I, "the
great difficulty is that men do not un-
derstand the Scriptures." They could not see
any difficulty on that ground, for they
all had their eyes to see, and they had
an understanding of words, languages,
etc. "Well," said I, "we won’t go through
the whole Bible, for that is quite a large
book; but I will take one or two of the
first lines in the Bible. ‘In the begin-
ning, God created the heavens and the
earth.’ Will you please tell me when the
beginning was? "We don’t know," "When
you find that out," said I, "then I will
tell you when the world was created." A
good many other things transpired as-
associated with this interview, that I do
not wish now to repeat. Suffice it to
say that before they got through, one of
them said: "I have read a good deal, I
have studied a good deal, I find I have a
good deal more to read and study yet." I

thought so too. I thought if men could
not understand the first two lines of the
Bible, it would be quite a task to teach
them the whole of it.

In regard to the work in which we
are engaged, as I said before and as you
have heard over and over again, it em-
anciated from God, and all the principles
pertaining to it, came from Him. We talk
sometimes about this work, and how it
is going to be accomplished. The work
we are engaged in is the work of God.
If it is accomplished it will be accom-
plished by the power of God, by the wis-
dom of God, by the intelligence of God,
and by the Priesthood that dwells with
the Gods in the eternal worlds, together
with that which he has conferred upon
his people here upon the earth, and not
by any other power or influence in ex-
istence. We talk of a Zion that is to be
built up. If a Zion is ever built up on this
earth, it will have to be under the guid-
ance and direction of the Almighty. We
talk about a Church that is to be built up
and purified. If it is ever built up and pu-
rified, it will be under the influence of the
gift of the Holy Ghost, the power of God
manifested among his people, whereby
iniquity will be rooted out, righteousness
sustained, the principles of truth ad-
vanced, honor, integrity, truth and virtue
maintained, and hypocrisy, evil, crime
and corruption of every kind be rooted
out. That will have to be done by the aid
and under the guidance of the Almighty.
There is no man living in and of him-
self, can guide the ship of Zion or regu-
late the affairs of the Church and King-
dom of God unaided by the Spirit of God,
and hence he has organized the Church
as he has with all the various quorums
and organizations as they exist today.