PERSECUTION IN ARIZONA.

receiveth not the things of God: neither can he know them, for they are spiritu-

ally discerned," and therefore those out-
side of that influence and spirit which is 
communicated to the Saints of the Most 
High, through obedience to the Gospel of 
the Son of God, find it very difficult to 
understand them. But we comprehend 
them, because God has given unto us His 
Spirit, which takes of the things of God, 
and shows them unto us.

I and a few others have been away 
from here for some time, visiting among 
our southern brethren; Brother Snow, 
who has just spoken to you, was one of 
the party. It appears rather an inclement 
season of the year to go on a journey of 
that kind; but circumstances seemed to 
make it necessary that we should go and 
look after the interests of the people, so-
cially and politically; for notwithstanding 
our religious ideas, we still have cer-
tain rights, privileges and immunities, 
which belong to us as individuals and 
as citizens of the United States, in com-
mon with others. And seeing that things 
were quite loose in those far-off settle-
ments, and that men and their families 
were being subjected to various kinds 
of outrage, usurpation and imposition, 
in many instances under the form of 
law, it seemed necessary that somebody 
should attend to these matters, and I 
thought it best for me to go, in company 
with others of our brethren, to ascer-
tain what was the true position of affairs, 
and to give such counsel as the circum-
stances might demand. We found that 
a great many outrages had been perpe-
trated upon many of our brethren; that 
they had been dealt with contrary to law, 
and in violation, as has been referred 
to, of the rules of jurisprudence govern-
ing such matters; that a vindictive and 
persecuting spirit had been manifested, 
and that several of the brethren had 
been sent off to a distant land from their 
own. I did not know but that they 
were without a prison in Arizona, when 
I heard of these things, and that there-
fore they had sent a number of honor-
able men who differed from them in their 
religious sentiments off to Detroit. I 
had these things inquired into and found 
they had a good Penitentiary in Arizona, 
and that there was no necessity for any 
such outrage as this to be perpetrated 
upon decent men. I was sorry to find that 
things had been conducted in this un-
usual and vindictive manner, and with-
out any ostensible reason for such extra-
judicial acts. Not only because injus-
tice had been heaped upon honorable 
men, but also because of the position 
in which it places the nation which was 
once the pride and glory of all lovers of 
freedom and equal rights, and boasted 
of as being "the land of the free, the 
home of the brave, and an asylum for the 
oppressed." These foolish men are now 
seeking to carry out the enormities that 
existed among what was called the civi-
lization and intelligence of ancient bar-
barism, then, as now, under the name 
of Christianity, and other euphonious ap-
pellations which are common to us, and 
that we are well acquainted with. I was 
in hopes that things were not so bad as 
they were represented to be, but I found 
that I was mistaken in that matter, and 
I was sorry to find myself so mistaken.

In relation to this anomalous form 
of proceeding they are now copying 
the example of Russia, which is gener-
ally considered an arbitrary gov-
ernment, and where despotism has 
been supposed to reign supreme; 
they have in that nation a place