and deepest devotion of their lives in the
acquitment of perishable wealth; and of
which, when acquired, they often make
golden gods to pay homage and soul-
less worship to, imagining that in these
things are found fame, honor, worldly
fame and earthly happiness. Gold, when
compared with the riches of eternity, be-
comes almost valueless, and yet it is
the creation of God, and no man has
ever brought an ounce of it into the
world, nor can he take a grain of it
out of the world. But notwithstanding
this fact known to all, men for its brief
possession willingly encounter untold
dangers, in traversing deserts, climbing
mountains, navigating seas, and battling
with angry waves; they willingly en-
dure the heats of torrid and the colds of
frigid zones, often sacrificing the endear-
ments of home and friends, and some-
times truth and honor. Created by the
Almighty, gold, when honestly acquired,
becomes a means of ministering to the
comfort and convenience of man; but
there is that which the Lord bestows
upon the honest, obedient and good, of
far higher value. The Holy Ghost, the
Comforter, hath the power of peace and
bestows salvation upon obedient human-
ity, regardless of their earthly surround-
ings. Let us, therefore, secure the Holy
Ghost, and in the testimony of the Fa-
ther and of the Son which He alone be-
stows, we shall have secured the "pearl
of great price," which the world can nei-
er give nor take away. Let us gain
the constant companionship of the Holy
Ghost, and the doctrines of the Priest-
hood will distil upon our minds as the
dews of heaven, and the gates that lead
to peace and happiness in time and in
eternity will, by the power and author-
ity of his keys, stand wide open for us to
pass through to exaltation, dominion
and glory.

Since the beginning of the new year
I have been almost constantly on the
move, having, during that time, traveled
a distance almost equal to that of half
the earth's circumference; most of it be-
ing by rail, but at least a thousand miles
was accomplished with teams, on horse-
back and on foot. I have examined a
country never before seen by me, con-
sisting of waterless, timberless plains,
and mountains rugged, wild, and unin-
habited. During my absence, my reflec-
tions have been mainly in reference to
the future destiny of the Saints of the
Most High. And these reflections have
led me to note the striking attachment
they have manifested of late years for
countries "exalted above the hills." In our
choice of locations we cling to the moun-
tains as naturally as a child to the bos-
som of its mother. As during our infancy
we have clung to them, learning to love
their crags, canyons and valleys, so, I
believe, we shall continue in them until
we grow strong, and be able not only to
stand erect, but to walk forth with god-
like dignity at least respected, if not hon-
ored by all peoples. We are not strong
now. We are weak and few in numbers.
But there is much in the training we are
receiving calculated to make our poster-
ity strong physically and bright intellec-
tually. In illustration of a part of this
training I am reminded of some of the re-
marks of the last speaker, Elder Villet,
who recently returned from an Italian
mission. On reaching his native land,
according to his statement, he found
the food offered him exceedingly dis-
tasteful, but later he ate it with relish.
Hunger changed and improved his ap-
petite. That hunger was the result of de-