reason I have heard is that we are an un-
popular people with the rest of the citi-
zens of this country, and then the next
reason is—and that which I really be-
lieve is deeply felt—the jealousy of the
east with respect to the west—the feel-
ing that the great commercial interests
of the east should have greater represen-
tation in the halls of Congress than the
sparsely-settled regions of the west.

But I look forward, my brethren and
sisters, to the time when the truth will
dawn upon this nation with respect to
this people. I look forward to the day
when they will discover that there has
been "a great bugaboo" raised over this
question of "Mormonism," which they
will be ashamed to think they have paid
much attention to, or taken much no-
tice of. I may say in a word that I look
forward to the time when the powers
that be in Washington, having raked and
scraped the country as with a fine-tooth
comb, will perhaps find half-a-dozen men
of the character I have referred to, who
will look into this question out here in
the mountains. And when that time
shall come perhaps we shall be vindic-
ted in the eyes of our fellow men; per-
haps there will be a blush of shame man-
tle the cheeks of some; and perhaps they
will discover some slight improprieties
nearer home that it will be well to regu-
late before mending all creation up here
to set as right.

There is one thing and only one thing
for us to do that I can see, and that
is to maintain our fidelity, to be true
to that which we know is true. We
ought not to be threatened or put in
jeopardy for that. We ought to be pro-
tected in that. All the strength, all the
power, all the influence of the land, of
the government, of Christian sentiment,
of enlightenment, of civilization—all
these ought to sustain us in maintain-
ing our fidelity to that which our con-
science teaches us is truth. If we quail,
if we vary one iota from that which we
know to be true, we should be undeserv-
ing of support; but if we maintain our in-
tegrity in the opposition we may meet,
God will not forsake us, and the better
sentiment, the genuine and true civiliza-
tion that is to be found in the world—
for the world is full of truth, notwith-
standing there are errors and wicked-
ness alongside of it—will aid us in main-
taining our integrity. I have yet failed
to meet the man of honor, the man of
sense, the man of discernment, the man
of good judgment who would condemn
me for maintaining the position that in
my heart I feel to take respecting this
question, even in these times. I have but
recently returned from visiting among
men in various classes of society in the
east, and I have talked over this ques-
tion of "Mormonism" in various forms. I
have put the question in this manner to
a great many, and the reply I have re-
ceived, I must confess, has been one of
encouragement, and one that has been
gratifying to me.

There have been gross errors com-
mitted in regard to Utah. For some
cause the nation has received the idea
that the "Mormons" are a wicked peo-
ple. Their record disproves it. There
has been a law passed which makes a
crime of a principle of the Latter-day
Saints' religion, but there is no peo-
ple in this land who have so free a
record in the criminal courts. What was
the percentage, as shown by the crime
records in this territory, before the oper-
ation of this law against the "Mormons?"
I believe, as nearly as I remember,
while five-sixths of the population of this