

We may roam away from the home of our youth,
Through nations unknown as we rove;
Yet our bosoms will warm at virtue and truth,
And long for a something to love.

The countenances of hearts may seem frozen and chill,
Near beauty nor kindness may move;
There still is a chord that will achingly thrill,
And yearn for a something to love.

Thy soul that's unwarm'd by friendship for earth,
May seek it in missions above;
The stern brow of thought, and the slight smile of mirth,
Will yield for a something to love.

Childhood is the warmest feeling can cheer,
When looking with love never strews;
Cold, night, and it's by the grasp of despair,
Who wants not a something to love.

The child and the man, and the tyrant and sage,
This yearning and longing will move;
The bosom will swell, and the brain it will swim,
And burn for a something to love.

Hopes and dreams may be nursed, and, blighted, com-
sume,
And a wreath of sad cypress be worn,
And the heart may seek peace alone in the tomb,
Still it aches for a something to love.

Deep down in the fount of humanity's heart,
Though blighted and scarred as we rove,
The feeling, the yearning, the passion will start,
We must have a something to love.

JOHN HYDE, JUN.

From the Cincinnati Gazette.

DISCOVERY OF AN ANCIENT MINE.

An old mine has recently been discovered on
the farm of John L. Neely, in Seaboard town-
ship, about two miles and a half from New
Hope, on the Delaware river, in Bucks county,
Pa.

There have been some traditions handed
down by the Indians with reference to the exist-
ence of a mine in the neighborhood, but very
little credit was attached to them.

The mine was discovered accidentally while
exploring a rabbit's hole. Who worked the
mine is not known. It must have been opened
a long time ago, as on what is supposed to be
soil thrown up in making the excavation,
trees are now growing which are thought to be
two hundred years old.

The Indian tradition said persons who work-
ed the mine carried the ore to the Delaware
in the night and shipped it. A large stone had
been placed at the mouth of the drift which had
been opened, and the dirt carefully filled in so
as to effectually conceal it for this long period
of time. The drift is excavated in solid rock.
There are no signs of metal in the drift except
what were picked up in the debris, and an occa-
sional indication of copper on the sides.

The drift extends into the side of the moun-
tain about 60 feet, where it crosses a chamber
15 feet square and 8 or 10 feet high, with a pillar
in the center, hewn out of the solid rock. At
the foot of this pillar descends another shaft
which is now called a well, from the fact that it
is filled with water of icy coldness. A stone
effigy dropped in this can be heard to strike
the bottom in an interval of 15 seconds.

Black snakes, 8 feet long, and bats innumera-
ble, were the only inhabitants of the drift. To
the right of the chamber is an oblique shaft, about
10 feet wide and from 30 to 40 feet high, which
opens at the spot before described farther, toward
the hill, and at the foot of which is built a stone
wall, or cribbage, evidently designed to protect
the miners from dirt or stone falling through the
shaft.

Passing through the chamber before referred
to, the drift extends 15 or 20 feet farther toward
the river, and terminates abruptly in solid rock.

THE MISSION OF THE NEWSPAPER.—The
world is too apt to slight and forget its obliga-
tion to the newspaper. "This the newspaper,"
that keeps men posted up on all matters and on
all subjects that do not pass under their own im-
mediate observation.

The office of the newspaper is universal; it falls
on all parts of the world, and searches out its
incidents, as well as the motives and passions
that control its movements. Nothing is too
great, nothing too trivial to escape its keen pen-
etrating glance; it is everywhere—on every-
body; above, below, around it, the four quarters
of the earth are its parlor ground; and it passes
over them every instant of each day.

It is ceaseless in its industry, tireless in its
watchfulness; and although gossip in its
character, it is vigilant at times, penetrative as
light, and sleepless as the stars.

Each succeeding dawn comes not with more
regularity than the morning journal with its fresh
batch of news despatches from all parts of the
world. The thoughts, positions, incidents and
movements of individuals and of nations,
are presented in its columns, as in a mirror—a
reflex of the thoughts and progress of man and
the world.

He who reads carefully a well conducted
newspaper, is in a danger of falling be-
hind the age. His journey keeps him posted up
on everything running on the great march of
time; it gradually prepares his mind to re-
ceive all the new discoveries of the human brain
in its rapid strides to clear and unclouded in-
tellect; it weans him from old fashions, old
customs, and old foggy thoughts; it separates
him from early prejudice, and gradually imbues
him with sound, practical notions, and enables
him to fathom the heaviest and most abstruse
subjects with the pliancy of common sense; it
keeps him alive to all the new progressive steps
in Trade, Commerce, Literature, and Art; it
makes him familiar with the details of all the
events transpiring in no matter what part of
the world, or the day; it enables him to keep pace
with the intelligence and progress of the times;
it carries him on, imperceptibly to himself, with
each progressive step of the era in which he
lives; and it enables him, if he be a man of busi-
ness, to open new channels of correspondence,
and thus secure for himself new openings for
trade, and new sources of profit.—[E.]

[From the Germantown Telegraph.]

ASHES ARE A SOLVENT FOR BONES.—Bones are
a valuable manure and should be regularly thrown
into a pile on every farm. They can, as we have
stated in these columns, be dissolved and
used. If placed in a pile and covered with wood
ashes, the ashes of fossil coal, leached ashes, or
common sand, and left exposed to the rain and
to the atmosphere, they will soon crumble into
powder. This manure is worth about as much as
guano. Test the matter for yourselves.

SEVERAL ADVICE.—It is said that when Sir
George Murray attempted to excuse himself from
taking office under the Duke of Wellington, on
account of his inexperience in public speaking,
"Poh, poh!" said the duke, "as I do; say
what you think, and don't quote Latin."

A virtuous and well-disposed person is like
good metal—the more he is used the more he is
refined. The wrongs are opposed the more he is
approved. Wrongs may well try him, and touch
him, but they cannot imprint on him any false
stamp.—Richelieu.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

April, 1841.

Wednesday, 7.—Minutes of the General Con-
ference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
day Saints, held at Nauvoo, Ill., on the seventh
day of April, one thousand eight hundred and
forty-one, at 10 o'clock, a.m., when the names
of the presidents of the several quorums were
called; who took their seats on the stand, and their
counselors in front. The meeting was called to
order. Choir sang a hymn; prayer by William
Law.

The Clerk then read the report of the First
Presidency, as follows:—

REPORT OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY.

The Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints, feel great pleasure in assem-
bling with the Saints at another general confer-
ence, under circumstances so auspicious and
cheering; and with grateful hearts to Almighty
God for his providential regard, they cordially
unite with the Saints on this occasion, in ascrib-
ing honor, glory, and blessing to his holy name.
It is with unalloyed pleasure that they have
to make known the steady and rapid increase of
the Church in the United States and Europe.
The anxiety to become acquainted with the
principles of the gospel on every hand is
intense, and the cry of "come over and help us,"
is reaching the ears of the wings of every wind;
while thousands have heard the gospel, have
become obedient thereto, and are rejoicing in its
gifts and blessings. Prejudice, with its attendant
train of evils, is giving way before the force of
truth, whose benign rays are penetrating the
darkness of sin.

The reports from the Twelve Apostles in
Europe and every other quarter, and state that
the work continues to progress with unparalleled
rapidity, and that the harvest is truly great. In
the Eastern States the faithful laborers are successful,
and many are flocking to the standard of truth.
Nor is the South keeping back. Churches have
been raised up in the Southern and Western
States, and a very pressing invitation has been
received from New Orleans, for some of the
elders to visit that city; which has been complied
with. In our own state and immediate neighbor-
hood, many are avowing their attachment to the
principles of our holy religion, and have become
obedient to the faith.

Peace and prosperity attend us; and we have
favor in the sight of God and virtuous men. The
time was, when we were looked upon as deceivers,
and that Mormonism would pass away, come to
nought, and be forgotten. But the time has
gone by, when it was looked upon as a transient
matter, or a bubble on the wave, and it is now
taking a deep hold in the hearts and affections of
all those who are noble-minded enough to lay
aside the prejudices of education, and investigate
the subject with candor and honesty. The truth,
like the sturdy oak, has stood unharmed amid the
contending elements which have beated upon it
with tremendous force. The floods have rolled
over after waves, in quick succession, and have
not swamped it up. "They have lifted up their
voice; but the Lord of Hosts is mightier than the
mighty waves of the sea," nor have the flames of
persecution, with all the influence of mobs, been
able to destroy it; but like Moses' bush, it has
stood unscathed, and now at this moment pre-
sents an important spectacle both to men and
angels. Where can we turn our eyes to behold
such another? We contemplate a people who
have embraced a system of religion unpopular,
and the persecutions which have brought upon
them repeated persecutions. A people, who, for
their love to God, and attachment to his cause,
have suffered hunger, nakedness, and almost
every privation. A people, who, for the sake of
their religion, have had to mourn the premature
deaths of parents, husbands, wives, and children.
A people, who, have preferred death to slavery
and hypocrisy, and have honorably maintained
their characters, and stood firm and immovable,
in times that have tried men's souls. Stand fast,
ye Saints of God, hold on a little while longer,
and the storm of life will be past, and you will be
rewarded by that God whose servants you are,
and who will daily appreciate all your toils and
afflictions for Christ's sake and the gospel's.

Your names will be handed down to posterity as
Saints of God, and virtuous men.
But we hope that those scenes of blood and gore
will never more occur, but that many—very
many such scenes as the present, will be witnessed
by the Saints, and that in the Temple the founda-
tion of which has been so happily laid, will the
Saints of the Most High continue to "regenerate
from year to year in peace and safety."

From the kind and generous feelings, manifested
by the Saints, we thus state our views, and
among them we may continue to expect the
enjoyment of all the blessings of civil and religious
liberty, guaranteed by the Constitution. The
citizens of Illinois have done themselves honor in
throwing the mantle of the Constitution over a
persecuted and afflicted people; and have given
evident proof that they are not only in the enjoy-
ment of the privileges of freemen themselves, but
that they willingly and cheerfully extend that
invaluable blessing to others, and that they freely
award to faithfulness and virtue their due.

The proceedings of the Legislature in regard to
the citizens of this place, who are marked with
philanthropy and benevolence; and they have
aid us under great and lasting obligations, in
granting us the several liberal charters we now
enjoy, and by which we hope to prosper until our
city becomes the most splendid, our university
the most learned, and our legion the most effective
of any in the Union. In the language of one of
our own poets, we would say—

"In Illinois we've found a safe retreat,
A home, a shelter from cruel wrongs;
Where we can worship God as we think right,
And neither persecutors nor disturbers of peace."
Where we can live and hope for better days,
Enjoy again our liberty, our rights;
The land of the free, the land of the brave,
And long may Illinois remain the scene
Of truth's progress, by peace secured."

In consequence of the impoverished condition
of the Saints, the buildings which are in course of
erection do not progress as fast as could be desired;
but from the interest which is generally mani-
fested by the Saints at large, we hope to accom-
plish much by a combination of effort, and a
concentration of action, and erect the Temple and
other public buildings, which we so much need
for our mutual instruction and the education of
our children.

From the reports which have been received, we
may expect a large emigration this season. The
proclamation which was sent some time ago to
the churches abroad, has been responded to, and
great numbers are making preparations to come
to the place of their pilgrimage, and to the land
of promise.

From what we now witness, we are led to look
forward with pleasing anticipation to the future,
and soon expect to see the thousands of Israel
flocking to this region in obedience to the heavenly
command; numerous habitations of the Saints
thickly standing the flowery and wide-spread
prairies of Illinois; temples for the worship of our
God erecting in various parts, and great peace
resting upon Israel.

We would call the attention of the Saints more
particularly to the building of the Temple, for on
its speedy erection great blessings depend. The
zeal which is manifested by the Saints in this
cause, is indeed, praiseworthy, and we hope will
be initiated by the Saints in the various stakes and
branches of the Church, and that those who can-
not contribute labor will bring their gold and their
silver, their brass and their iron, with the blue
tint, and best tree, to beautify the same.

We are glad to hear of the organization of the
different quorums in this city, and hope that the
organization will be attended to in every stake and
branch of the Church, for the Almighty is a lover
of order and good government.

From the faith and enterprise of the Saints
generally, we feel greatly encouraged and cheer-
fully attend to the important duties devolving
upon us, knowing that we are not only the
approval of heaven, but that our efforts for the
establishing of Zion and the spread of truth, are
cheerfully seconded by the thousands of Israel.

In conclusion we would say, brethren, be faith-
ful, let your love and moderation be known unto
all men; be patient, be moderate to observe all the
commandments of your Heavenly Father, and the
God of all grace shall bless you. Even so.
Amen.

JOSEPH SMITH, President.

R. B. THOMPSON, Clerk.

On motion, resolved, that the report be printed
in the Times and Express.President Rigdon arose and stated, that in con-
sequence of weakness from his labors of yester-
day, he would call upon General John C. Bennett
to officiate in his place.Gen. Bennett then read the revelations from
"The Book of the Law of the Lord," which had
been received since the last General Conference,
in relation to writing a proclamation to the kings
of the earth, building a Temple in Nauvoo, the
organization of the Church, &c.President Joseph Smith arose, and made some
observations in explanation of the same; and like-
wise of the necessity which existed of building the
temple, that the Saints might have a suitable place
for worshipping the Almighty; and also the build-
ing of the Nauvoo Boarding House, that suitable
accommodations may be afforded for the strangers
who visit this city.The choir sang a hymn, and the meeting ad-
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accommodations may be afforded for the strangers
who visit this city.The choir sang a hymn, and the meeting ad-
journed for one hour.Conference met pursuant to adjournment, and
was called to order by William Law.Choir sang a hymn, and President William
Marks addressed the conference.General Bennett read the charters granted by
the Legislature of this State, for incorporating
"the City of Nauvoo," "the Nauvoo Legion,"
"the University of the City of Nauvoo," "the
Agricultural and Manufacturing Association,"
and "the Nauvoo House Association."On motion, resolved, that the charters now read
be received by the Church.President Don Carlos Smith arose, and gave an
exhortation to the assembly.Gen. John C. Bennett then spoke at some
length on the present situation, prospects, and
condition of the Church, and remarked that the
hand of God must indeed be visible, in accom-
plishing the great blessings and prosperity of the
Church, and called upon the Saints to be faithful
and obedient in all things, and likewise for-
thrightly and courageously to resist the efforts of
the world, the flesh, and the devil, to bring them
down from their high position.The Twelve Apostles were busy in council,
visiting the Saints in Manchester, and in the
evening supped at Mother Miller's.

AN ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT JOSEPH SMITH.

Delivered on the evening of his arrival from Dixon,
June 30, 1843, in the Grove, near the Temple,
Nauvoo; about eight thousand people having
assembled, under the most intense excite-
ment, in consequence of the attempt of Sheriff
Reynolds, of Jackson County, Missouri, to kid-
nap him to Missouri, by preventing him from
obtaining a writ of Habeas Corpus.[Reported by Dr. Willard Richards and Elder Willard
Woodruff.]

JOSEPH SMITH AND SAID:—

The congregation is large; I shall require atten-
tion. I discovered what the emotions of the
people were on my arrival at this city, and I have
come here to say "how do you do?" to all parties,
and I do now at this time say to all, "How do
you do?" I meet you with a heart full of grati-
tude to Almighty God; and I heartily wish you
all feel the same. I am well—I am hearty. I hardly
know how to express my feelings—I feel as strong
as a giant. I pulled sticks with the men coming
along, and I pulled up with one hand the strongest
man that could be found; two men tried, but
they could not pull me up; and I continued
to pull mentally until I pulled Missouri to Nau-
voo. But I will pass from that subject.There has been great excitement in the country
since Joseph H. Reynolds and Harmon Wilson
took me; but I have been cool and dispassionate
through the whole. Thank God, I am now a
prisoner in the hands of the Municipal Court of
Nauvoo, and not in the hands of Missouri.It is not so much my object to tell my afflic-
tions, trials, and troubles, as to speak of the writ
of Habeas Corpus, so that the minds of all may
be corrected. It has been asserted by the great
wise men, lawyers and others, that our munici-
pal powers, and legal tribunals are not to be
sustained by the authorities of the State; and
accordingly they want to make it lawful to drag
away innocent men from their families and friends,
and have them put to death by angry men for
their religion. Relative to our city charter, courts,
right of Habeas Corpus, &c., I wish you to know
and publish that we have no power; and if any
man from this time forth says anything to the
contrary, cast it into his teeth. There is a secret
in this; if there is not power in our charter and
courts, then there is not power in the state of
Illinois; nor in the Congress, or Constitution of
the United States; for the United States gave to
Illinois her constitution or charter, and Illinois
gave to Nauvoo her charters; giving unto us
our vested rights, which she has no right or power
to take from us; all the power there was in Illi-
nois she gave to Nauvoo; and any man that says
to the contrary is a fool. The Municipal Court
has all the power to issue and determine writs of
Habeas Corpus within the limits of this city; that
the Legislature can confer. This city has all the
power that the State Courts have, and was given
by the same authority—the Legislature.I want you to hear and learn, O Israel! this
day, what is the happiness and peace of this
city and people. If our enemies are determined
to oppress us, and deprive us of our constitutional
rights and privileges as they have done; and if the
authorities that are on the earth will not sustain
us in our rights, nor give us that protection which
the laws and constitution of the United States,
and of this State, guarantee unto us, then we will
claim them from a higher power—from heaven—
yea, from God Almighty.I have dragged them men here by my hand, and
will do again; but I swear I will not deal so
rudely with them again; for the time has come
when forbearance is no longer a virtue; and if you
or I are again taken unlawfully, you are at liberty
to give loose to blood and thunder. But be cool,
be deliberate, be wise, act with almighty power;
and when you pull, do it effectually—make a
sweepstakes for once.My lot has always been cast among the warm-
est hearted people; in every time of trouble,
friends, even among strangers, have been raised
up unto me, and assisted me.The time has come when the veil is torn off
from the state of Illinois, and its citizens have
delivered me from the state of Missouri; friends
that were raised up unto me would have split their
lives' blood, to have torn me from the hands of
Reynolds and Wilson; if I had acted them, but I
told them not. I would be delivered by the power
of God, and generosity, and I have brought these
men to Nauvoo, and committed them to her from
whom I was torn, not as prisoners in chains, but
as prisoners of kindness. I have treated them
kindly. I have had the privilege of rewarding
them good for evil. They took me unlawfully,
treated me rigorously, strove to deprive me of my
rights, and would have run with me into Missouri
to have been murdered; if Providence had not
interposed; but now they are in my hands, and I
will let them feel the power of the law, and the
head of my table; and please before them the best
which my house afforded; and they were waited
upon by my wife, when they deprived of seeing
me when I was taken.I have no doubt but I shall be discharged by
the Municipal Court; were I before any good
tribunal, I should be discharged, as the Missouri
tribunal is illegal, and good for nothing—they are
"without form and void."But before I will bear this unallowable persecu-
tion any longer—before I will be dragged away
again, among my enemies for trial, I will tell the
people of the laws, and will tell you all my
enemies are wrong. To hear any longer will be
a sin, and I will not bear it any longer. Shall
we hear it any longer? (One universal No! ran
through all the vast assembly, like a loud peal of
thunder.)I wish the lawyer who says we have no powers
in Nauvoo, may be choked to death with his own
words. Don't employ lawyers, or pay them
money for their knowledge; for I have learnt
they don't know anything. I know more than
they all.Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel;
be ye heralds in our chartered rights, may
come here and be saved, and he that does not
shall remain in ignorance. If any lawyer shall
say there is more power in other places and
charters, with respect to Habeas Corpus, than in
Nauvoo, believe it not. I have converted this
candidate for Congress (pointing to Cyrus Walker,
Esq.), that the right of Habeas Corpus is included
in our charter. If he continues converted, I will
vote for him.I have been with these lawyers, and they have
treated me well; but I am here in Nauvoo, and
the Missouri too. I am here by a lawful writ
of Habeas Corpus, issued by the Master in Chan-
cery of Lee County, and made returnable to the
nearest tribunal in the Fifth Judicial District
having jurisdiction to try and determine such
writ; and here is that tribunal, just as it should
be.However indignant you may feel about the
high hand of oppression which has been raised
against me by these men, use not the land of
violence against them; for they could not be pre-
vailed upon to come here till I pledged my honor
and my life that a hair of their heads should not
be hurt. Will you all support my pledge, and
thus preserve my honor? (One universal Yes!
ran from the assembly, and made returnable to the
nearest tribunal in the Fifth Judicial District
having jurisdiction to try and determine such
writ; and here is that tribunal, just as it should
be.)I have learned we have no need to suffer as we
have heretofore—we can call others to our aid.
The Almighty will bless good men—he will
bless you, and the time has come when there
will be such a flocking to the standard of liberty
as never has been, or shall be hereafter. What
an era has commenced! Our enemies have pre-
sented that we would establish our religion by
the sword; is it true? No; but if Missouri will
not stay her cruel hand in her unallowable per-
secutions against us, I restrain you not any longer;
I say in the name of Jesus Christ, by the authority
of the Holy Priesthood, this day turn the key
that opens the heavens to restrain you no longer,
from this time forth. I will lead you to battle;
and you are not afraid to die, and feel disposed
to give your blood in your own defense, you will
not offend me. By not the aggressor—bear until
they strike you on the cheek; then offer the
other, and they will be sure to strike that; then
defend yourselves, and God will bear you off; and
you shall stand forth clear before His tribunal.If any citizens of Illinois say we shall not have
our rights, treat them as strangers and not friends,
and let them go to hell and be damned! Some
say they will not do this; but they will not be
damned! If we have to give up our chartered
rights, privileges, and freedom, which our fathers
died for, and which the Constitution of the
United States, and of this State, guaran-
tees unto us, we will do only at the point of
the sword and bayonet.Many lawyers contend for those things which
are against the rights of men, and I can only ex-
cuse them because of their ignorance. Go forth
and advocate the laws and rights of the people, ye
lawyers; if not, don't get into my hands, or under
the wing of my tongue.Lawyers say the powers of the Nauvoo charter
are dangerous; but I ask, is the Constitution of
the United States, or of this State, dangerous?
No; neither are the charters granted unto Nauvoo
by the Legislature of Illinois, and the laws and
charters which any man, or men, have come and
stayed here. We have not enjoyed unmolested
those rights which the Constitution of the
United States of America, and our charters
grant. Missouri and all wicked men raise the hue
and cry against us, and are not satisfied. Some
political aspirants of this State also, are raising
the hue and cry that the powers in the charters
granted unto the city of Nauvoo are dangerous;
and although the General Assembly have con-
ferred them upon our city, yet the wrong is raised
"repeal and take them away." Like the boy
who swam up his jack-knife, and then cried,
"Daddy, daddy, I have sold my jack-knife, and
got sick of my bargain, and I want to get it back
again." But how are they going to help them-
selves? Raise mobs? And what can mobocrats
do in the midst of Kirkpatrick's? No better
than a lazier in the claws of a bear. If mobs
come upon any more here, during your gardens
with them. We don't want any excitement; but
when we have done all, we will rise up, Wash-
ington-like, and break off the hellish yoke that op-
presses us; and we will not be molested.The day before I was taken at Lisle Grove, I
went with my wife through Dixon to visit some
friends, and I said to her, "Here is a good people."
I felt this by the Spirit of God. The next day I
was a prisoner in their midst, in the hands of
Reynolds of Missouri and Wilson of Carthage.As the latter drove up, he exclaimed, "Ha, ha,
ha! By God, we have got the Prophet now!" He
gloried much in it; but he is now our prisoner.When they came to take me, they had two coked
pistols in my hand, and saluted me with "God
damn you, all about you." I'll about you, God
damn you," repeating these threats nearly fifty
times from first to last. I asked them what they
wanted to shoot me for. They said they would
do it if I made any resistance. "O, very well,"
I replied, "I have no resistance to make." They
then dragged me away, and I asked them by what
authority they did these things. They said, "By
a writ from the Governors of Missouri and Illi-
nois." I then told them I wanted a writ of
Habeas Corpus. Their reply was, "God damn
you, you shall have it." I told a man to go to
the jail, and get me a writ of Habeas Corpus. When
he returned, he said, "God damn you, you shall
have it, I'll about you. When we arrived at
Dixon, I went for a lawyer, who came, and Rey-
nolds shut the door in his face, and would not letme speak to him, repeating, "God damn you, I'll
shoot you." I turned to him, opened my bosom,
and told him to "shoot away; I have endured so
much persecution and oppression that I am sick
of life; why then don't you shoot, and have done
with it, instead of talking so much about it?"
This somewhat checked his violence. I then
told him that I would have counsel to consult,
and eventually I obtained my wish. The lawyers
came to me, and I got a writ of Habeas Corpus
for myself, and also a writ against Reynolds and
Wilson for unlawful proceedings, and cruel treat-
ment towards me. Thanks to the good citizens
of Dixon, who nobly took their stand against
such unwarrantable and unlawful oppression,
my persecutors could not get out of town that
night; although, when they first arrived, they
swore I should not remain in Dixon five minutes;
but I found they had no power to remove me
proceed to Rock Island. I pledged my honor
to my council that the Nauvoo city charter con-
ferred jurisdiction to investigate the subject; so
I came to Nauvoo, where I am now prisoner in
the custody of a higher tribunal than the circuit
court.The charter says that "the city council shall
have power and authority to make, ordain, estab-
lish, and execute such ordinances, not repugnant
to the Constitution of the United States, or of
this State, as they may deem necessary for the
peace, benefit, and safety of the inhabitants of
the city." It also says that the Municipal Court
shall have power to grant writs of Habeas Corpus
in all cases arising under the ordinances of the
city council." The city council have passed an
ordinance "that no citizen of this city shall be
taken out of this city by any writ, without the
privilege of a writ of Habeas Corpus." There is
nothing but what we have power over, except
where restricted by the Constitution of the United
States. "Hut," say the mob, "what dangerous
powers?" Yes, dangerous, because they will
protect the innocent, and put down mobocrats.
The Constitution of the United States declares
that the privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus
shall not be denied. Deny me the right of Ha-
beas Corpus, and I will fight with gun, sword,
cannon, whirlwind, and thunder, until they are
used up like the Kilkenny cats.We have more power than most charters con-
fer; because we have power to go behind the
writ, and try the merits of the case.If these powers are dangerous, then the Consti-
tution of the United States, and of this State,
are dangerous; but they are not dangerous to
good men; they are only so to bad men who are
enemies of the laws. So with the laws of the
country, and so with the ordinances of Nauvoo;
they are dangerous to mobs, but not to good men
who wish to keep the laws.We do not go out of Nauvoo to disturb any
body, or any city, town, or place; why then need
they be troubled about us? Let them not meddle
with our affairs, but let us alone. After we have
been deprived of our rights and privileges of citi-
zenship, driven from town to town, place to place,
and state to state, with the sacrifice of our homes
and lands; our blood has been shed, many having
been murdered; and all this because of our reli-
gion; and we worship Almighty God according
to the dictates of our own consciences, shall
die to the dicta of our own consciences, shall
we longer bear these cruelties, which have been
heaped upon us for the last ten years in the face
of heaven, and in open violation of the Consti-
tution and Laws of these United States, and of this
State? God forbid! I will not bear it; if they