

not, because it is merely scratched, and the full strength of the soil has not been found scarcely by a single person living in this Territory, good farmers though we may call ourselves. It was told me a short time ago that in Davis county one man sustained himself and wife and several children and had made a comfortable living for years from an acre and a quarter of land. I could scarcely believe it, but seeing the person concerning whom this was said, I enquired of him as to the facts in the case, and he told me that he had had an abundance for himself and family all the time he had been living there, which was for seven years, I believe. I asked him how he managed it. He said he cultivated every foot of land he had, and he found it required all his time, as well as the time of his two boys, to keep that land in proper cultivation. He had a part of it in fruit, a part in vegetables, and a small patch of grain—all on the acre and a quarter; and he was considered one of the most thrifty men in the settlement.

The land to which God has brought us, forbidding and full of alkali as some of it may be, is the strongest, I believe, that can be found anywhere. When you have once subdued the mineral that is in the soil, there is no land in any place that I have visited that yields so richly of vegetable, of grain, of fruit, and everything that is necessary to sustain man. We have hundreds of thousands—I might almost say millions—of acres of land in this Territory that are yet unoccupied, and in which the attention of these men who are without employment should now be turned. This is only one of the sources from which profit can be derived. Just turn out upon these barren lands—to which the water can be brought by a little labor and the expenditure of very little means—and think of the results that would accrue to this Territory through the employment of these hundreds of men upon these lands! They would not only provide for themselves and their families a comfortable living, but they would enrich the Territory; and they would bless not only the land which they cultivate, but they would bless all their neighbors; because as land is cultivated and brought under control, so the elements seem to work in harmony with men's exertions, and rain becomes more abundant, and the blessings of the Lord descend upon the whole country through the industry and labors of the people who cultivate the soil.

If the people could feel the spirit of dividing up their farms into three or four parts, or more if necessary, and men could be sent out of the cities, where we are becoming so crowded that we can scarcely get pure air, and they be given a chance to make something from the soil, God would bless us for our generosity in this respect. But I do not see how it can be done until that holy order of God is established whereby men and women will be equal in things temporal as they now pretend to be equal in things spiritual. But cannot something be done in this direction for the employment of our people? We find young men crowding from farms into the cities. The mania seems to have seized the young people throughout the country that they must

go to the cities. The result is, our cities are becoming congested with the number of people, and the country places are being robbed of the help which they need to harvest and to attend to the crops. If young men and women would only gain wisdom by the experience of their parents and men who understand these matters, they would take their advice and remain upon their farms. They would build homes in the country, where land can be obtained; and I testify to you that they will thus relieve themselves of mountains of care and anxiety which weigh so heavily upon men in business today in the cities of the Territory. I do not believe there is a man today, whatever his business may be, who has branched out extensively in any direction in this city, but would stand up and testify that if he had the opportunity now to lay off the burdens which rest upon his shoulders, he would do it gladly and go out in the country and furnish himself employment in the cultivation of the soil. It would be almost like heaven to him. You, my brethren and sisters, who live outside of the city, who have not the temptations to extravagance which are found in our midst, and who have yet to know what it is to feel the burden of debt resting upon you, thank the Lord that He has spared you this trouble! If you could see men wandering around our streets with any quantity of securities, unquestioned in ordinary times, seeking to obtain money, and see them refused the loan which they desire, and which seems necessary to their future prosperity—if you could but see this and feel for one moment the weight of the anxiety and the care which rest upon them, I believe it would be sufficient warning to you to avoid debt. If you are free from these cares, you can rest well at night. You are not afraid to meet a man, because you owe him something. But if you owe a man, and, as conditions now exist, are unable to pay him, you are measurably his bondman and must wear his yoke, especially if he is a hardhearted man.

We need relief from some source, and God will give to His servants, if they will seek it, the wisdom necessary to escape the troubles under which we are now resting. He has not forsaken Zion, even though there be only one-quarter of the people serving Him. That quarter has the faith and the power with God to call down His choicest blessings upon us. He can open the windows of heaven, if He desires it; He can open the bowels of the earth and make them produce of the riches which they contain, for the relief of His people. He can make the earth fruitful for their welfare and their sustenance. He can bless us, as He has said He would do, in making us the richest people upon the face of the earth, not only in spiritual things, but in the temporal things which so attract the eyes of men. He has this power; but I do not believe He will exercise it so long as our hearts are filled with covetousness and selfishness, so that our eyes are blinded to the wants and our ears closed to the cries of the suffering among us, and we are seeking only to build ourselves up, letting others bear alone the sorrows which they have to carry. Utah Terri-

tory today could support easily ten times the population it has if there were only union and harmony among the people. Look at the example which is set us by little Holland. That country was wrested from the sea by the energy and industry of its people. The whole country was under water, and the people, at the expenditure of fifteen hundred millions of dollars, built dykes along the shore and excluded the sea from the lands upon which they live, and in which they are now so prosperous. There was a time in Holland when every man had to keep his ear open to catch the sound of the bell which might call him to work upon the dykes to prevent his home from destruction. Yet today that little country, with three and a half millions of people, is prosperous. It is true there is poverty in Holland, as in all other countries of Europe; but it is not because the people are thriftless or idle, but it is because of the immense burdens which the government places upon them in keeping up the standing army which is necessary for the maintaining of its position among the powers of the earth. If they did not have their army they would be trodden down. The nation of Europe which dares to decrease its standing army is in constant jeopardy from those surrounding it, lest it should be overrun by the covetous people of the earth, who are continually seeking occasion against one another. Then, take in contrast the other picture. Look at Turkey, with the vast country which that nation controls—six hundred thousand square miles; and yet the people live in squalor and poverty, because they are not industrious; because they allow their land to produce only that which it will of its own accord, and they are not seeking to bring from it what it is capable of yielding.

We, brethren and sisters, have the name of being industrious, of being frugal, of being thrifty; and our renown has reached not only to the limits of this nation, but to the limits almost of the civilized world. Do not let it be said now, after we have brought this soil, under the blessing of the Lord, to its present state of cultivation, that in this land, abounding in the things of life, people are seeking employment and are starving because they cannot find it. Let it not be said of the people of God, who have been taught for so many years that their temporal salvation depends upon their producing that which they consume, that they cannot find employment, but must go elsewhere in the world to seek work, and thus, instead of fulfilling the requirement of the Gospel, that we should gather up to Zion, we have to scatter abroad and become as other people.

Well, it is said, how can this be done? It is well enough to talk and to theorize upon these matters; but how can it be accomplished? I believe today our home industries would be increased fifty per cent within the next two years if the Latter-day Saints would carry out their determination to use nothing from abroad that they can produce at home; if they would sustain the industries which already are struggling for an existence in our midst, and use their means to sustain each other. Just think of it! Some of our woollen