

Washington City D.C., Dec. 30th 1847

To President Brigham Young, & Council,

Ever Dear Brethren

You would have heard from me ere this..

Had my health been such as to have justified me in writing, Inflammation in my eyes has been the cause of my indisposition

From which I have but lately recovered. Presuming that others have informed

you in relation to our Trip over the Plains,

My narrative will therefore be from my journal commencing at Hanesville Iowa.

Many of our Brethren and Sisters trailed us as messengers from a far Country. sent to do them good; and aid ^{them} in going to a Land of Health, where the Ague comes comes not; and the fever climbeth not over the Mountains. As usual we were met, by men or less pale faces, bleached by ague and fever. Reminding us that it was a reality that we were again in the Lower World,

The general affairs here ~~are~~ in relation to the Saints are very much as you have often described them. And as we expected to find them, More I need not say.

"Little boats should keep near shore.

Larger ones may venture more".

I found the Saints in St. Louis in good spirits, and very desirous to obey the call "Come Home". Nothing of very great importance occurred on the journey to the eastern Cities, While in Phila I called to see our ever to be remembered Friend Thomas Y. Kane, I found his hand heart & words as warm as ever, active & alive to the general wellfair of his Friends in the far west.

I arrived in this City the evening of the 8th. Judge Brandebury & Secretary Harris arrived on the evening of the 6th. I found our Delege D^r J^r M. Berukised in only tolerable health, much labor and anxiety for his Friends has worn upon his health, But his zeal is as ever only more so. You have no doubt by this time received the accounts in the Newspapers published by Brandebury

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3 By Brandebury & his Coangators their verbal
statements are if possible more exaggerated
as is also their ^{Official} Report to the President of
the United States Their allegations fill
over 18 pages of foolscap paper, clearly written
embracing Charges of almost every varied
hue in the Catalogue of Crime. On the 24th
late in the afternoon ~~the~~ Our Delegate Received
a note from the State Department informing
him that the Charges made by the returning
Officers of Utah Territory, against Gov. Young
and others of said Territory, had been received
and would be sent on Monday the 29th instant
to the House of Representatives, Responding to
the call made upon the President ^{by} the House
on the 15th viz, for all the information in
his possession relating to the late difficulties
in Utah Ter. The D^r was informed at the
same ^{time} that if he wished to see the Charges or
send any accompanying Documents with them
he would have to do so before Monday the
29th On the 25th The State Department
as well as other Departments were closed. On
Friday the 26th we called on President Fillmore
to ask a delay but we were told by him that no delay

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No delay could be had &c. We then called on Mr Webster, for a Copy of the Report. which the Clerk said we should have by 4 P.M. accordingly it came to hand. At five o'clock I took the Cars for Phila. At 8 the next morning I was talking with Col. Kane. He was soon looking over the Charges. When he came to the one relating to our Domestic Relations he put it by saying it was false I found myself therefore under the disagreeable necessity of volunteering to tell him how far it was false & how far it was true.

The following are the Notes that I prepared and read them to him; with verbal explanations

Our Family or Domestic Relations, Philosophically Considered:

In the propagation of our principals and the gathering to gather of those who embraced them, it was found after nine years experience, that the aggregate number of Females was three, to two Males, showing that one third of our Women must remain single, or marry out of the Church either was thought impolitic. The Prophet Joseph Smith was left therefore to inquire of the great

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Great. Abouham who is and ever has been
the disposer of this matter, Granting from time
to time Special Dispensations according to the
situations and circumstances of the People to whom
said Dispensations were given; The Dispensation
given by the Lord through the Prophet, to
the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
is one limited and strict in its nature; Like
unto the one given unto Abraham & others in
his day And not as elastic as the Dispensation
appears to have been in the days of David &
Solomon, In relation to relatives belonging to

the same Family See Abrahamic Dispensation
Gen^{20th} & 30th Chap^{as}. I ^{will} add that a Mother
after the Death of her husband may attach herself
to another Family, without becoming a Wife to the
Head, or any Branch of said Family, See, Isa 4, Chap

The Rights of Women among us are sacredly
regarded & respected They are kindly treated
well provided for & saved in the Scriptural sense
of the word, See First Tim^{2nd} Chap⁸ & 15th ver

In reply to the Complaint that our Leaders have
larger Families than others I will say that their
known good qualities had the effect to fill up
their Families several years ago so they have

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Have had no additions except Children, which for ought I know has been equal to the prolific account given by the Judges & Secretary. If so it looks like ancient days, or the Faith of the ancients reduced to practice. See Judges 8, 10 & 30, v also 100 & 40.

I will not undertake to tell you in this communication how the Col seemed to feel after my announcement of the whole matter. Let it suffice for me to say here that I am satisfied. He will not fail to do all in his power to help us in the present crisis of affairs indeed ~~and~~ he declares that he never will leave us when we are in trouble &c &c

From all the Facts we can gather and the Council we have received from different sources we at present think it will be best to take Issue before the Committee on Territories and have a Commission sent to Utah to take Depositions. This will delay the matter and give us a fair chance. In the meantime our Delegate will address the President Officially on the subject. Desiring him to stay Executive proceedings or action untill after the investigation. By this you will see that we intend giving them a long pull at least.

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Brandenburg & Cozartas ^{are quite} evidently ~~getting~~ uneasy
After labouring for over two weeks night &
day, to get their Report more to gather to suit
them, they sent it to the President and he
sent it to the Department of State, and we
were furnished a Copy, After all this
they withdrew their Report & have been
for several days altering & Revising;

If we see fit we will call for another Copy
at present it is said the Report will be sent
to the House, on the 5th January making only
a delay of 8 days from the time Mr Webster
said it would be sent, Dr Bernhiser thinks
it is a fixed fact that Governor Young is to
be removed from Office &c. It is urged that
another Gov should be appointed forthwith
and sent out immediately and Demand of Govn

Young the 20,000 Dollars, and that 2 Regiments ^{2,000 men}
of the Army be sent out to help in force
the Laws of United States &c I will now
(Secretary)

W.M.D. the present candidates for Gov. First B.D. Harris of
N.Y., Latson of N.Y., Gen. Donaphon of Mo.
& others not a few. "What a long tail our Pupp
has got."

8 The Doctor will send you a copy of the Charges. As far as I am concerned I feel that all will be as the Lord wants it; in the mean time we will do all in our power, keeping ourselves right side up with care I have written several times to Br Benson But as yet have not received his answer as it takes a long time to get news from Kansasville. I have received a letter from Br Gibson dated Oct. 26, this is the last news from the Valley, and all that I have received since General Wells' Letter bearing date Oct. 1st

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P. M. Grant
to
Pres. Young

From all I can learn from different parts of the States you may look with safety for a large emigration the coming season, not only of the Saints, but of Gold Diggers & others going to Oregon. Every body seem uneasy and unsatisfied, the spirit of the Lord is being withdrawn from the earth more & more as the end neareth near

To me the favor of Remembering me to my Friends in the Valley I believe as ever your Brother

Residents
Brigham Young;
W. C. Kimball
Willard Richards.

J. M. Grant. To