

please not read this letter out of
the quarters of the Twelve

Boston Oct 9th 1844

President Brigham Young
Beloved Brother

While the sable shades of night
has drawn its dark curtains over the Earth, I seat myself by the
side of Brother Phelps table in the City of Boston to spread some of the
legitations of my mind before you, and it is unaid peculation feeling
I do it, May the God of Israel direct my pen in wisdom that I may
communicate to my beloved brother what I ought + no more.

* After a long tedious journey ^{of almost} I have made my appearance in the City of
Boston, I was on the Plains of Lakes 15 days amid wind storm + fire
when out it was difficult to make Harbours + when in difficult to get
out, our boat took fire 3 times besides having a dreadful rough time
however I have no complaint to make, I with my wife and children
are all well, I leave these subjects, I have other matters to talk about
but if I could see president Young one hour I could tell better
with my tongue what I wish than with my pen, It is so frequent
for Elders to write home to inquire what they see, hear, feel or some complaint
against somebody that I dislike to follow strict, yet I do feel it to be my
duty to give you an account of the state of things in the Eastern Church
^{as far} as I can see, hear + feel, I should have waited until I could have
had more of an opportunity of visiting the Churches, owing as I have an
opportunity of sending by private carriage. Now Br Young I am going
to give you a simple statement of facts + feelings + your own feelings +
course of pursuit just as it is as near as I can without any intention
of bringing any accusation against any man, not even wishing
to have my communication seen by any but our own group
* unless absolutely necessary. On my arrival at the Westfield branch
of the Church, An Elder informed me that he attended the Westfield
conference, + their appeared much difficulty arising in that quarter
upon a variety of subjects, but kissing woman spiritual wife burning,
the most prominent one, one was turned out of the Church for
calling Adams or Mrs Smith a rascal; much difficulty appeared to
be bearing in Westfield + Philadelphia; I visited a sick woman
in the Westfield branch, for some reason the subject of marriage for
eternity rested with wait upon my mind, I did not know the cause
as it was the most foreign from my mind to introduce the subject
I enquired of Br Sparks if they had hear any thing said upon the
subject he inform me she had bear scate to her husband
I wrote solo by, He said Elder Brannan Elder of the people

I was a little surpris'd at this, ^{and} He inform'd me that Elder Brannan had been through the Church, calling collections for the prophet yet considerable in the Small Branch, Mr^r Smith was with him gathering funds at the same time for the Temple, this Brother paid him \$20 or \$25 dollars for the Temple as he was one of the Twelve, the tale ~~to me~~ is that Elders Smith Adams & Brannan are leag'd together in all things, visit the Church constantly & beg to get the one for the prophet, one for the Temple & Adams to pay a debt that he had borrow'd in Nauvoo, ^{or he had lent so much to the Saints} And preaching the Spiritual wife doctrine (as they call it) to perfection, After getting through with this Branch I took Cars for Boston and last night at 8 o'clock stop'd at Mr Phelps's, his wife told me there was a meeting of the Church I immediately repair'd to the place, & in the midst of business went to the stand & took a seat some men seem'd to be somewhat embarras'd at my presence, Elder Adams ask'd if I came by the way of New York & Philadelphia, Elder Smith ask'd what the feelings of the Twelve was towards him in Nauvoo, spoke of the Office of Patriarch said it was his right, should contend for it through death & the grave &c. the first business I saw was John Hardy resign his Office as president, and another appointed in his stead, which was Joseph Ball who was contended for strenuously by Brannan & Mr^r Smith I will confess some feeling came across me that made me squirm all over, I saw there was wrong spirits, conflicting spirits, Elder Phelps was the only man that oppos'd openly, Elder Ball's opposit ment, & he was instantly lam'd down, but I knew after Ball oppos'd to the moove, I saw trouble in the hearts of men I had just came in, knew not what is going on, during this movement I sat by the side of Mr^r Smith, who said to me "there is an influence arising against Br Adams, but all is right with him he is a good man he upholds the Twelve I will stand by him until death," "Windsor has come out against us & I have cut him off" I ask'd how Br Brannan came to be marrying people for eternity, He says I oppos'd him to do it, His Administrations are not legal "yes they are my Elder can do it that has power to marry as well" "It is a right exclusively belonging to the quorum of the Twelve or the president of the Quorum not legal with those who are not endow'd" "that has reference to exclusive privileges, & not ^{reference} to a man to his wife for eternity for any Elder can do that" Here the confessions evoked meeting closed & I went home with Br Phelps, I however gave out an appointment for a Church meeting on Saturday night, the whole week is to be taken up

with another long discussion between Adams and Backeller. I
soon discovered from various sources that the conduct of Wm. Smith
& Adams & Brannan Ball & Co had been such in crowding their spiritual
wife Adams, visiting the Church, meeting together in begging money, ruining
over all rights of presiding Elders, as the claim that Wm. Smith was
one of the Twelve, the people's Brother, & Adams was the great Apostle to
the gentiles as Paul from the 13th of April (which claim were held up to me) until
some of the strongest pillars were shaking, & if any opposed them in their
deeds they would trample them down until presiding Elders were being
their part, & some ready to come out in battle array openly against
the Church. I heard of New York about to leave John Hardy resigned &
about to visit the pair against the Church, Phelps, Fann, Beckford & the Whites
in place & they were feeling that they could bear such things no longer
with a belief that Adams, Smith, Brannan was combined with the Jews to
do any thing to carry out their designs, preach potatoes & voting
for Peck for a little while, & was using my influence to remove all
presiding Elders that would not favor their designs & put in another
word, it looks like it is broken, for Elder Ball has thought as well
as Wm. Smith the Samwell girls that is not easy to have intercourse with
no man would they please & Elder Ball tries to sleep with them when he can
they have tried to remove a good presiding Elder in Samwell to put
in one who is in their company, but they would not have their
the Samwell Church is shaking, and in fine to speak just as I feel, it
seems as though if I had not come or been summitted to have taken
a different course that all these Eastern Churches would speedily go to
the devil. I can say my spirit is not compromised with Adams
Waltham & Brannan. I shall take a different course from what they
are taking, I have been with them a little while to lay our spirits dead
girls, they keep together in a cluster they don't visit the effect ones much.
It was as I arose this morning I felt it my duty to visit Br Hardy
& the first ones I have done so & done much good. I told Br Hardy &
all to hold still, & not write against the Church, he says he won't do it unless
they undertake to crush him, & perhaps not that. The difficulty with many
is they think the members of the Twelve know these things in Adams & Wm
& work at it & sustain them in it. And my candid opinion opinion is
that if the loose principle which they are presenting or what report says they are
that the Church will sustain a good ^{giving}, I don't think we had lives enough
to contend with at this time without having to deal with such cursed
nonsense, for it seems as though some Adams thought that their whole reliance
depended upon accommodating their tail, some in this country think that
Ministries was not fairly dealt with but that I do not know so much
about, but some good men are sustaining an injury in these things
I believe,

I inquired to day why they were pursuing the course they are on
the subject political affairs, "because the Irish party are supporting the
paper some months after the election, I told them if they would
fill my hat with gold I would not do it, I asked what they were going
to do with the money collected for the Temple, "Send it up by Elder
Adams, who is going to Warsaw in few days, I hope a ^{game} of speculation
will not be carried on in the East upon that subject but will not
reach the Temple, Elder Lane is much opposed to the course going
on, & wrote a short piece in the prophet last week warning the women to beware
but Brammer said it should not have got in if he had seen
it, they don't like to publish any thing that will check their progress,
I saw Elder Young I have poured out a part of my budget before you
I am very much I am discouraged or weak in faith myself, but I am
not acquainted with either of them, I am in the best of spirits, Elder Bennett
wrote me a letter last year to Warsaw upon the same subject, perhaps he
did not understand it then, perhaps I don't now, but what I have written
I have given as it came to me, some report, some positive testimony,
some I see, hear, & some I feel, I am not an accuser of my brethren
I don't pretend to present it as an accusation, only to let you know
a state of things that do apparently exist, their seems to be a desire that
Elder Adams & Smith & Brammer may separate from the Church, & let their
alone & not continually be racing through among them & keeping them
off in a foam, holding debates to make money & bragging all the while &
each other speaking through the prophet, you may weigh these things &
have them for what they will fetch, but you may rest assured I shall
take a different course in my ministry. The following is a
synopsis of my intentions. To sustain Elder Young as the president
of the Church in connection with the quorum of the Twelve, to set before them
the course pursued at the conference in Worcester, to select men that are
able to enquire to Warsaw, carry money & arms, Appoint an agent to
receive the subscriptions for the Temple that will appropriate it what it is
applied to do what they can, And to require the written authority
of any man that come to collect money or on any Church matters
signed by president Young or the Twelve or both, that old papers
will not answer. To oppose the claims of Elder Bigden to head the Church
according to the circular he is spreading in the Eastern Churches. To warn
all against iniquity & improper conduct, & if they see things wrong in
others not to make shipwreck of their own faith but stand still
and all shall be right in time, that the Church will not support
iniquity, would advise not to mingle with politicians on the election
this falls, shall try to save those who are tried & tempted as far as they have
a disposition to do right, & mingle in the society of all the Saints

5th page

As my mission is not in America I shall not take the responsibility of regulating things myself but will try to give good advice as I pass along, requesting all to maintain their integrity until the Districts are appointed & distributed in order. I have a meeting tomorrow night in Salem, Thursday night in New Bedford, Saturday night in Boston & Sunday, Tuesday night next week in Lowell, & Thursday night in Peterborough then go to Maine get my family return to New York & sail to Liverpool. I want if you see any thing wrong in any of my writings say that it may be taken from me for God knows I want to do right for I feel more than a usual deep interest in the welfare of the Church. At the present time, I have written this letter in great haste in the night so it may be a trouble to read it but I think Dr. Richards will make it out please give my respects to all the quorum & all who inquire after me remember me to Bro & Sister Webster, Tell them I visited Father's House & all was well.

By way of conclusion I wish to say that in all my remarks about things here I have given them as they came to me quite up perhaps much allowance out to be made, things may be much exaggerated by report & c. I say that Adams is a good man doing what he can for the Church & c. but I leave anything as it is given with regard I would not wish to have this letter go to Adams or Mr. Smith as I designed it for your self for I expect we shall have to handle things carefully until they are righted up.

* From your servant in the Kingdom of God
W. Woodhuff

Boston Monday Morning Oct 11th
 Copy the following on another sheet
 Elda Perry

I am passing along with him & want I had my meeting on Saturday night with the Saints had the spirit of God with me spoke plain to the Saints about many things. Elder Adams & Brannan were present, the Saints seemed to be edified I urged the case of the Temple, among other things there is some or considerable money put into the hands of Mr. Smith for the Temple but much of it do not know. Elder Wingate wants to know or see I have told the Saints to put money into his hands for the Temple & for him to take their moneys & send

He has got some, you will engage into it who he comes
who I closed my meeting Elder Braumman proposed a
charge against Elder John Hardy for the Standard for
saying they had been engaged in the spiritual wife business
& I immediately advised Br Adams & Braumman to let it
alone at present & not stir it up as Hardy had withdrawn
from the presidency & stood as a private member as purposed to
let it alone, but Br Braumman said he was advised by Br
Adams & Smith to go ahead & stir it up & he should do so
the trial comes on tomorrow night before the whole
Church & not a council of Elders, The object on one side
is crush Hardy, & on the other to save all hell over for Estlin
a striking man it will be, you may look out for a
storm in Boston I feel a little sorry the men are so con-
tentious at this time to try to crush any body that says a word
I would rather they would let things rest a little longer, anything that
can be said up in Boston will go to the winds but I was free
to clear my shirt by giving the best council I could.
I preached twice yesterday to a full congregation in Boston & a
good time the spirit of God was with me. In the evening I
attended the religious discussion in Marlborough Chapel between Adams
& Badollet there was a large attendance they took about \$750 at
10cts each, Adams far gained the day I think in the public mind
Adams went with me yesterday, manifested a good spirit &
I think has a disposition to maintain the Twelve, as far as their
is any way I think it would more with Br Wm than with
what he does he does to sustain Br Wm & Smith he says as he is
one of the quorum of the Twelve, I dont wish to injure Br Adams
or any body etc, but this feeling has been expressed to me by some
good men that they thought it was a great injury for several Elders
to go together in such a way when it did not seem necessary
to stir among all the Churches, among our the right & authority of
the presiding Elder, creating & renewing them, many feel that
about it, I think there will be some fire as well as smoke
in this eastern country & above Br Wm I am going to stop
writing about these things, perhaps you will think I am like a
cow give milk & kick it over but I have been between two fires
& had to write as things appear to me from hour to hour as I
have paper along, and I wish you to understand that nothing
that I have written is not by way of charge against any man
but felt it my duty to let you know how things were by
*letter as far as I could, Elder Adams informs me that you had

sent for him, I wish to say that if he is sent out on any other
mission I think it would be well to advise him to take a course a
little more reserved, relative to female society, & not to
~~use~~ ^{use} power & authority that he does not possess, but for him
to understand what ground he does belong to. Father ~~Wickham~~
Wickham feels bad about things here. He is among the clerics
in the eastern country & I think is doing ^{good} may have confidence
in him. Elder Adams is capable of doing much good in
the cause of the ~~cause~~ takes a righteous course. X
May God bless you & give you wisdom in all things
& the ground of the ~~ground~~ with you is the progress of
your service in the Kingdom of God.

W. Woodruff

W Woodruff
To
Pres. Young

Oct. 9 1844

Sta 22nd

Leage of W^m Smith Adams & J. Brannan

Copied

Oct. 9. 1844

Wm
Adams

Proctor B. Adams

W. Woodruff

(By the politeness of Edwin Mangate)

Sept. 9. 1844

W. Woodruff - Boston

David B. Young

Warren S. D.

Friend

George of New South Providence St. J. Burman

Dear Young

W. Woodruff

Sept 22nd

Oct 9 1844

(By the politeness of Elder Wingate)