



Type: Book Chapter

Appendix: Minutes of Brigham Young's Remarks at the Morning Meeting, August 8, 1844

Source: *Opening the Heaven: Accounts of Divine Manifestations, 1820-1844*
(Second Edition)

Editor(s): John W. Welch

Publisher: Provo, UT/Salt Lake City; Brigham Young University Press/Deseret
Book, 2017

Page(s): 505-507



BYU Studies is collaborating with Book of Mormon Central to preserve and extend access to BYU Studies and to scholarly research on The Book of Mormon. Archived by permission of editor John W. Welch and BYU Studies.

<http://byustudies.byu.edu/>

Appendix

Minutes of Brigham Young's Remarks at the Morning Meeting, August 8, 1844

Skeptics have implied that Thomas Bullock's curious shorthand minutes from the meeting of August 8, 1844, have not been transcribed and made available to historians or general researchers because this text has material that would prove embarrassing to mantle advocates. The following minutes were transcribed in August 1997 at the request of BYU Studies editors and were provided by the Church History Library.¹

Literal Transcription

Pres Young: If I can make the people hear I want their attention a few minutes be perfectly still [--?] you can't hear in the first place I have not asked any man or woman for their following I feel much better than a shiprat and can refrain from weeping [three words crossed out: I have not] I rise to [said/set/st/sd] to this congregation about their support of being in a hurry to transact business here [where/we're/who] are [in/

1. Transcription by LaJean Purcell Carruth in August 1997, provided by Church History Library, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City. Bullock's minutes were written in Taylor shorthand, a very rudimentary shorthand developed by Samuel Taylor in 1786. This shorthand has no vowels, except a dot may be used to indicate a strong vowel at the beginning or end of a word; this, however, does not indicate which vowel is intended. Words where the transcription is uncertain are indicated by square brackets []. At times the transcriber has included two or more possibilities when it is impossible to determine the most likely one. Taylor does not include any punctuation: the end of a sentence is shown only by a longer space between words, and is often difficult to determine. The transcriber has preserved these spaces. Many sentences are incomplete, some just fragmented phrases, as the recorder apparently struggled to keep up with the speaker.

any] laboring under a mistake I am sorry that the [three letters written out: LLS/LDS?] should be in a hurry and as there has been a meeting called for this day to choose for themselves an agent not knowing what has been we have ----- a meeting for next [letter written out: T] I wanted to sit weep for 30 days before the priesthood to business but there is a spirit who shall be greatest in our midst and it will be foiled by that Jehovah and all things will be made right

we are surrounded by enemies come [tkr] this afternoon at 2 and there will be no meeting on [written out: T.] it is not the feelings of my brethren in the name of the people I say we will have a meeting [at two/here] show our hands my private feelings might always bend for the public good the [kmstrts] [west/would] be in that [letter/later/elder] for the general good of all and in regard to the question why [poor/brother] [written out: J.S.] [has been?] in a hurry I [now/no] know for myself and I wish I would hear from every [written out: E. H. O.] and all I want to know where every brother and sister were that [would/will] submit to the organization that is [b/p rt-- tl/tion] a plan the question is asked who will take [written out: J] place he keeps it himself let every man stand in his own place and all will [be peace and harmony] gather together all men and there we can transact business right and when we can get all things right we can [tell you about?] it I want to know what is in them I will [now?] want every man in his [trntl/trntion?] awake up at his post and all things will be right I will say to our brethren the [two letters written out: HC] take their seats by themselves [written out: PM] take his seat here in this seat it will be proper and right for every man be in his place [br.] [letter written out: R] come and take his seat at our right hand then other [letters written out: H.C. then the LB] the other persons in their place this will be the right way [words on fold of paper illegible] resolves and we can do the things [several words on fold of paper illegible] [--] as well as we are we are not going to act against every other and every man and woman will [written out: Amen] meeting to be [end of document]

Edited Transcription

Pres Young: If I can make the people hear, I want their attention a few minutes. Be perfectly still, or you can't hear.

In the first place, I have not asked any man or woman for their following. I feel [not] much better than a shiprat and can [hardly] refrain from weeping. I have not. I rise to [speak] to this congregation about their support.

Of being in a hurry to transact business here. Where are any laboring under a mistake. I am sorry that the LDS should be in a hurry as there has been a meeting called for this day to choose for themselves an agent not knowing what has been [scheduled]. We have a meeting [scheduled] for next T[uesday]. I wanted to sit [and] weep for 30 days before the priesthood [took up] business, but there is a spirit who shall be greatest in our midst and it will be foiled by that Jehovah and all things will be made right.

We are surrounded by enemies. Come [together] this afternoon at 2 and there will be no meeting on T[uesday]. It is not the feelings of my brethren. In the name of the people I say we will have a meeting at two. [We will] show our hands.

My private feelings might always bend for the public good. The [kmstrts] would be in that [leader] for the general good of all.

And in regard to the question why [brother] J.S. [has been?] in a hurry. I now know for myself.

And I wish I would hear from every E. H. O. and all. I want to know where every brother and sister are that will submit to the organization that is [?] a plan.

The question is asked, Who will take J[oseph's] place? He keeps it himself.

Let every man stand in his own place and all will be [in] peace and harmony.

Gather together all men and there we can transact business right. And when we can get all things right, we can [tell you about?] it. I want to know what is in them. I will [now?] want every man in his [?] awake up at his post and all things will be right.

I will say to our brethren. The H[igh] C[ouncil] take their seats by themselves. PM take his seat here in this seat. It will be proper and right for every man [to] be in his place. Brother R[igdon] come and take his seat at our right hand. Then other H.C. then the L.B. The other persons in their place. This will be the right way.

resolves and we can do the things

as well as we are

we are not going to act against every other, and every man and woman will
Amen.

Meeting to be