DATE: 08 September 1844
            Nauvoo, Illinois

SOURCE:     Addresses/BY
            T&S 5:664-665

At the trial of Sidney Rigdon (second address)

      President Young arose again and said he wanted to read some testimony which had been presented to him relative to this case, but did not wish to mention the names of the individuals at the present time, if it could be dispensed with.  He continued:  honest men may be deceived for a time, but they will generally see their error and turn about.  There are some who are trolling off and wanting to make divisions amongst us.  Brother Sidney says, "if we go to opposing him he will tell all of our secrets!" but I would say, oh don't, Brother Sidney!  don't tell our secrets, oh don't! But if he tells of our secrets, we will tell of his--tit for tat.  He has had long visions in Pittsburgh revealing to him wonderful iniquity amongst the saints.  Now, if he knows of so much iniquity, and has got such wonderful power, why don't he purge it out?  He professes to have got "the keys of David." Wonderful power, and revelations, and he will publish our iniquity!  Oh dear, Brother Sidney, don't publish our iniquity!  Now don't!  John C. Bennett said in his exposure, he knew all of Brother Joseph's secrets, and he would publish them.  Joseph H. Jackson, says he has published all Joseph's secrets, but nobody believes their tales, because they lie!  and if Sidney Rigdon undertakes to publish all of our secrets, as he says, he will lie the first jump he takes.  If Sidney Rigdon knew of all this iniquity why did he not publish it sooner?  If there is so much iniquity in this church, as you talk of, Elder Rigdon, and you have known of it so long, you are a black hearted wretch because you have not published it sooner.  If there is not this iniquity you talk of, you are a black hearted wretch, for endeavoring to bring a mob upon us and murder innocent men, women and children!  Any man that says the Twelve are bogus makers, or adulterers, or wicked men, is a liar; and all who say such things shall have the fate of liars, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. Who is there that has seen us do such things?  No man. The spirit that I am of tramples such slanderous wickedness under my feet. And if they take my life I will go where they cannot hurt me.

      Brother Joseph did cast of[f] Sidney, and his power and authority was taken from him, and put upon Amasa Lyman.  We told Brother Sidney to come along with us, and if he will do this we will build him up.  Let him do as Elder Amasa Lyman has done.  Now we don't expect ever to move without revelation and they that have the keys of the kingdom can get revelation. If any thing would make me fight it would be to hear any one heap charges on Brother Joseph who is dead.  They cannot let the dead alone so great is their corruption and wickedness.

      Here is another secret leaked out of their secret meetings.  They say the man of sin spoken of in the revelations, is the Twelve.  A pretty large man I should say.  Now this is the testimony we present before this council to know if we are to fellowship Elder Rigdon any longer.

      I shall now wait and see if there is any one to produce testimony in favor of the opposite side of the question.