G. S. L. City, Sept. 30, 1853

 Bro Barker

In answer to your letter of Augt 4th, I reply that I have no objection to your taking a wife, and inasmuch as you both walk uprightly you shall rejoice in the blessings of the Lord on your union, and duties.

My time will not permit me to write particulars of news &c. but health and prosperity are abundantly extended on us, the defences for the different settlements are mostly finished or soon will be, and next Week we shall begin to make a good ditch & substantial earth wall entirely around the city, at an estimated cost of $40,000, thus you see we are likely to be sufficiently occupied to prevent our running into mischief through idleness.

May the Lord prosper you constantly in your mission, is the prayer of

Your Brother in the Gospel

Brigham Young