DATE: 01 January 1846

Nauvoo Temple

SOURCE:       Seventies Record Book B p 177

The President [Brigham Young] called the house to order & said that he had a message to this gathering which mostly were young, in the bloom of youth, & when I have declared my message then I shall have done what the Lord has commanded us to do--verily thus saith the voice of the Spirit to you--this is mine holy House which I have caused to be built in my holy name.  Therefore let no person go forth in the dance unless they will covenant to separate themselves from the world & never again mingle in their society nor participate in their mirth or amusements from this time forth & for ever.  I have said children here [sic] & should they transcend these bounds they may expect to meet the frowns of an affectionate Father that holds the Keys of the Priesthood.  Mirth & recreation belongs to the people of God.  It does not belong to the unbelievers & they participate in them they usurp that privilege or prerogative that belongs to the saints alone.  Now dance & enjoy yourselves but first learn to reverence & advance the Name of the most high in all your devotions & recreation.