

Horace Greeley, "Letter of Horace Greeley. Two Hours with Brigham Young," *New York Herald*, August 24, 1859, 2.

6.3. *New York Herald* editor Horace Greeley interviews Brigham Young in 1859 regarding his views on slavery.¹

Document

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H.G.—What is the position of your church with respect to slavery?

B.Y.—We consider it of Divine institution, and not to be abolished until the curse pronounced on Ham shall have been removed from his descendants.

H.G.—Are there any slaves now held in this Territory?

B.Y.—there are.

H.G.—Do your Territorial laws uphold slavery?

B.Y.—Those laws are printed—you can read them for yourself. If slaves are brought here by those who owned them in the States, we do not favor their escape from the service of those owners.

H.G.—Am I to infer that Utah, if admitted as a member of the federal Union, will be a slave state?

B.Y.—No; she will be a free State. Slavery here would prove useless and unprofitable. I regard it generally as a curse to the masters. I myself hire many laborers and pay them fair wages; I could not afford to own them. I can do better than subject myself to an obligation to feed and clothe

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their families, to provide and care for them, in sickness and health. Utah is not adopted to slave labor.