Clayton's Secret Writings Uncovered

Extracts From the Diaries of Joseph Smith's Secretary William Clayton

Introduction by Jerald and Sandra Tanner
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INTRODUCTION

For 140 years the Mormon Church has been suppressing the Nauvoo diaries of Joseph Smith’s secretary William Clayton. These diaries have been hidden in the vault of the First Presidency. Recently, however, quotations from these diaries leaked out, and this has caused great consternation among the General authorities and officials at Brigham Young University. In an article entitled, RESTRICTED CHURCH DOCUMENT ‘STOLEN,’ the Seventh East Press reported the following (the names David Brown and Tom Wilson “are pseudonyms,” according to this paper):

A BYU graduate student has accused a member of a bishopric of stealing copies of materials which the student obtained from the vault of the First Presidency.

In doing research in LDS Church history, Andrew F. Ehat . . . obtained permission to examine the restricted Nauvoo diaries of William Clayton and make notes. He gave a copy of his notes to BYU religion instructor Lyndon Cook, who kept them in his campus office. The notes were taken without permission and photocopied by David Brown, a member of a bishopric which uses Cook’s office. In September Brown lent his copy to Tom Wilson, a BYU religion instructor, who in turn lent them to a history student, Scott Faulring.

Faulring had already made five copies for various individuals when Ehat discovered that his notes were being copied without his permission. Ehat spent much of the remainder of fall semester trying to recover all the copies that had been made.

The notes represent approximately 90 typed pages of excerpts from the personal diaries of William Clayton . . .

Some time ago, Andrew (“Andy”) Ehat obtained permission through the Historical Department of the Church to examine the Clayton diaries. Ehat made a copy of his notes for Lyndon Cook, with whom he was working to produce the book The Words of Joseph Smith which appeared in early 1981. . . . In an interview, Ehat implied that he had made copies for others as well, but declined to mention any names. . . .

After borrowing the copy from religion instructor Tom Wilson, Scott Faulring made five copies for student and faculty acquaintances. A few days later, Faulring had the notes in a campus office when Andy Ehat, who was present, happened to recognize Lyndon Cook’s handwriting in the margins of the photocopy. Ehat bolted to his feet and demanded to know where the copy had come from. Faulring was reluctant to cooperate at first, but was willing to help when he learned the notes had been copied without permission. Individuals present report that Ehat was extremely upset and at one point said, “If this gets out it could destroy the Church.” . . .

Ehat says he was able to obtain the five copies Faulring made within about 12 hours, but that three of the people who turned in copies had secretly made extra copies and kept them back for themselves and others. . . .

Another person to obtain a copy was Hal Palmer, a former student who dropped out of BYU near the end of fall semester. . . .

Palmer reports that he was surprised to see Andy Ehat on his doorstep as he left for school early one morning last November. Ehat asked for Palmer’s copy and, according to Ehat, “reasoned with him from every possible way I could conceive of: ethically, morally, and so forth. And he was unwilling to cooperate.” Palmer states that Ehat followed him from his apartment to his class on campus and that the two were “screaming and yelling and I was swearing at him the whole way. People kept turning and looking at us.” According to Palmer, Ehat implied that he (Palmer) could be excommunicated if the notes weren’t returned. . . .

Angry with Ehat’s approach, Palmer gave copies to Special Collections libraries at both BYU and the University of Utah. Ehat has since retrieved both of these copies. At one point, Ehat phoned Elder Boyd K. Packer of the Council of the Twelve Apostles to ask for advice on the situation. Ehat declined to comment on that conversation.

To this date, Palmer’s copy has not been returned, and it appears that other copies are still being circulated by various individuals, a situation which has left Ehat frustrated. Ehat explains that Brown’s actions “cost me getting a master’s degree here at the university in the sense that I lost twelve weeks of my life trying to track down all the people who had copies.” . . .

While Ehat initially stated that information in the Clayton diaries “could destroy the Church,” he has since given very different explanations for wanting to keep the material confidential. Ehat told the Seventh East Press that his concern in this matter was “the fact that the diaries (i.e., his notes) were stolen and . . . that wide publicity of this matter would almost certainly prevent further access to any other materials.” . . .

Ehat also believes that use of the diaries should be limited out of respect to William Clayton, who “in a different sphere is still living.” . . .

Others, however, see different reasons for not wanting to see the diary made public. Lyndon Cook for example, says the diary contains some “very sensitive entries which may not do us too well if the anti-Mormons got a hold of them.” . . .

Cook says the diary gives a lot of information concerning the secret practice of polygamy in Nauvoo and says that for a time Emma Smith was unaware that it was being practiced by her husband Joseph. He also feels that publishing the diary “may injure some who are of weaker faith.” (Seventh East Press, January 18, 1982, pp. 1 and 11)

This whole episode led BYU President Jeffery Holland to call for an investigation:

President Jeffery Holland has appointed Vice-president Noel Reynolds to investigate the recent unauthorized circulation of restricted research materials concerning Church history . . .

Reynolds thinks that incidents such as those surrounding the circulation of the Clayton material may “destroy our credibility as a research institution with the Church archivists.” . . .

Palmer . . . denies that he has acted irresponsibly, saying that he would never give information to anti-Mormons. Palmer asserts that he has “an undying testimony of the gospel.” . . .

Bill Seavey, another student contacted by Reynolds, feels that while irresponsible students in the underground may contribute to the tightening of restrictions in the Church Historical Department, it is equally likely that the reverse is true: the tightening of restrictions encourages students to participate in the underground. (Seventh East Press, January 18, 1982, pp. 1, 10, 11)
Andrew Ehat went to “BYU security and the Provo Police Department,” to try to stop the circulation of the material, but neither organization could help him because no actual physical property was missing: “The Police, reports Ehat, weren’t concerned about what was on the papers that were taken, only the cost” (Ibid.). The Seventh East Press also reported that Ehat told the man who had made the original copy “that if he was unwilling to cooperate[t]e with us completely, that I did not have any qualms about recommending and charging ecclesiastical action as well as civil action.” In spite of all the pressure applied by Ehat and BYU officials, they were unable to stop the circulation and copying of the excerpts. Many copies were spread around Provo, Salt Lake City and even to different parts of the United States by “the Mormon underground Xerox press” (a group composed mostly of liberal Mormon scholars). Most of those who received copies were very careful to see that they did not fall into the hands of critics of Mormon scholars (many of whom were the editors of the historical journals published by the Mormon Historical Association). Most of the material was distributed to private homes and libraries, but some was brought to Brigham Young University and was on display there. Ehat wanted someone to help him to stop the material from being circulated, but there was no one who would co-operate. The police did not want to get involved, and the university officials were unable to stop the circulation and copying of the excerpts. Many copies were spread around Provo, Salt Lake City and even to different parts of the United States by “the Mormon underground Xerox press” (a group composed mostly of liberal Mormon scholars). Most of those who received copies were very careful to see that they did not fall into the hands of critics of the Church. As we have already shown, the Seventh East Press told of a man who had a copy but said “he would never give information to anti-Mormons.” Nevertheless, several months after Mormon scholars began circulating the typed extracts, we were given permission to make a copy. At first we were reluctant to print the material. Andrew Ehat was vigorously opposed to anyone publishing the material. In fact, one man who was preparing to print it, received a letter from Ehat’s lawyer which threatened legal action if he did not desist. We tried to weigh the right of the Mormon people to know the truth about the diaries their leaders had suppressed against Ehat’s desire to keep the extracts out of the hands of the public. From what we were able to learn, Ehat could not copyright the material taken from Clayton’s diaries. However, he could possibly claim a copyright on his own comments which appear in the manuscript. Comments of Lyndon Cook also appear in the margins. To solve this problem, we have cut off the sides of the photocopies and blacked out Ehat’s notes which appear in the text. Therefore, we have a photographic printing of the document which does not violate Ehat’s manuscript rights. Although Ehat’s notes are helpful to those reading the extracts, they are not essential. The important part is that which was written by William Clayton. In any case, we feel we have arrived at a good solution to the problem.

While Ehat would like to keep some of the more devastating material from the public, he and Lyndon Cook have already published some portions of the diaries in their book, The Words of Joseph Smith. (Compare, for instance, pages 6–9 of this manuscript with pages 168–171 of The Words of Joseph Smith.)

James B. Allen, formerly Assistant Church Historian under Leonard Arrington, published some extracts from Clayton’s Nauvoo diaries in an excellent article which appeared in Journal of Mormon History, Vol. 6, 1979, pages 37–59. A note at the beginning of Ehat’s extracts indicates that the portions of the manuscript which are underlined have been published by Allen.

Unlike many of the early pioneer journals, the extracts from Clayton’s diaries have all the earmarks of material written at the time the events occurred. For instance, under the date of May 20, 1843, Clayton records that Joseph Smith “says Jackson appears a fine & noble fellow . . .” (p. 42). Just three days later, however, he reports that Smith said that “Jackson is rotten hearted” (p. 43). If the material had been written at a later time, it is unlikely that Clayton would have recorded Smith’s favorable comment concerning Jackson. Many other things lead us to believe this is a contemporary record—not something written at a later date.

Plural Marriage

The William Clayton diaries certainly confirm our research concerning the deceitful way plural marriage was introduced by the Mormon Prophet, Joseph Smith. For instance, in Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?, pages 206–207, we quote Emily Dow Partridge (a faithful Mormon) as telling how Joseph Smith deceived his wife Emma:

. . . the Prophet Joseph and his wife Emma offered us a home in their family . . . I was married to Joseph Smith on the 4th of March 1843 . . . My sister Eliza was also married to Joseph a few days later. This was done without the knowledge of Emma Smith. Two months afterward she consented to give her husband two wives, providing he would give her the privilege of choosing them. She accordingly chose my sister Eliza and myself, and to save family trouble brother Joseph thought it best to have another ceremony performed. Accordingly on the 11th of May, 1843, we were sealed to Joseph Smith a second time, in Emma’s presence . . . From that very hour, however, Emma was our bitter enemy, . . . things went from bad to worse until we were obligated to leave the house and find another home. (Historical Record, p. 240)

In William Clayton’s diary, he tells of Joseph Smith having a problem with Emma over the Partridge sisters. He indicates that Joseph deceived her by telling her he would “relinquish all” for her sake when he really didn’t intend to “relinquish any thing”:

Wednesday 16 . . . This A.M. J. [Joseph] told me that since E. [Emma] came back fro St Louis she had resisted the P. [Priesthood?] in toto & he had to tell her he would relinquish all for her sake. She said she would [sic] given him E. & E. P [Emily and Eliza Partridge] but he knew if he took them she would pitch on him & obtain a divorce & leave him. He however told me that he should not relinquish any thing O. God deliver thy servant from iniquity and bondage. (William Clayton’s Diary, August 16, 1843, typed excerpts, p. 24)

On May 24, 1843 (p. 43) William Clayton told of Joseph Smith holding the door shut when he was in a room with one of the Partridge girls and that this made Emma very “irritated”:

Prest. stated to me that he had had a little trouble with sis E. he was asking E. Partridge concerning Jackson conduct during Prest. absence & E came up stairs. he shut to the door not knowing who it was and held it. She came to the door & called Eliza 4 times & tried to force open the door. Prest. opened it & told her the cause &c. She seemed much irritated. He says Jackson is rotten hearted.

In Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?, page 245, we show that while Joseph Smith secretly lived plural marriage, he denied it publicly and even published a statement that “Hiram Brown” had been “cut off from the church” for “preaching polygamy, and other false and corrupt doctrines . . .” (Times and Seasons, Vol. 5, p. 423). According to William Clayton, Joseph Smith was willing to go so far as to initiate a fake excommunication to cover up the practice of polygamy:

Thursday 19 . . . Prest. J. . . . began to tell me that E. was turned quite friendly & kind. she had been anointed & he also had been a K. He said that it was her advice that I should keep M [Clayton’s plural wife Margaret] at home and it was also his council. Says he just keep her at home and brook it and if they raise trouble about it and bring you before me I will give you an awful scouring & probably cut you off from the church and then I will baptise you & set you ahead as good as ever. (Ibid., October 19, 1843)

William Clayton’s diaries paint a very unattractive picture of polygamy in Nauvoo. Clayton was continually having family problems because of plural marriage. He tells, for instance, of a problem he encountered when he wanted to sleep with both of
his wives at the same time:

Thursday 24 . . . At night I asked mother if M might sleep with Ruth & me she appeared very rebellious & would not consent but said we might do as we had a mind. (Ibid., August 24, 1843, p. 25)

Clayton does not indicate how his wives felt about this situation, but it is obvious from the diary that Margaret was really in love with another man. She had been engaged to this man but had been counseled to marry Clayton instead. Clayton felt very bad and asked Joseph Smith if he had done wrong in taking Margaret away from the man she really loved. Smith “answered no you have a right to get all you can” (Ibid., August 11, 1843). Joseph Smith really seemed to believe in that philosophy. At one time he and Clayton were both interested in Lydia, the sister of two of Clayton’s wives. He claimed, therefore, that God gave him a special revelation showing it would be wrong for Clayton to have her:

Friday 15th . . . Prest. J. told me he had lately had a new item of law revealed to him in relation to myself. He said the Lord had revealed to him that a man could only take 2 of a family except by express revelation. He said he had intended to take Lydia he made this known for my benefit. to have more than two in a family was apt to cause troubles. He finally asked if I would not give L to him I said I would so far as I had anything to do in it. He requested me to talk to her. (p. 25)

William Clayton’s diaries certainly throw light on the bad relationship Joseph Smith had with his wife Emma. Most of the problems seemed to stem from the doctrine of plural marriage. Clayton records the following under the date of July 12, 1843:

Wednesday 12th This A.M. I wrote a Revelation consisting of 10 pages on the order of the priesthood, showing the designs in Moses, Abraham, David and Solomon having many wives and concubines &c. After it was wrote Prests. Joseph & Hyrum presented it and read it to E. who said she did not believe a word of it and appeared very rebellious. (p. 20)

On August 21, 1843, Emma was “vexed and angry” because of correspondence she found between Joseph and one of his plural wives. Two days later she treated Joseph so badly that “he had to use harsh measures to put a stop to her abuse but finally succeeded.”

Joseph Smith feared that Emma would become involved in the same type of conduct in which he was engaged. At one time he even suspected William Clayton of using “familiarity” with her:

Monday 29 This A.M. prest J. told me that he felt as though I was not treating him exactly right & asked if I had used any familiarity with E. I told him by no means & explained to his satisfaction. (Ibid., May 29, 1843, p. 44)

On June 23, 1843, William Clayton recorded this strange entry in his diary:

Friday June 23rd. This A.M. Prest J. took me and conversed considerable concerning some delicate matters. said [a mysterious character appears at this point in the manuscript which Mormon scholars interpret as “Emma”] wanted to lay a snare for me. He told me last night of this and said he had felt troubled. He said [the character representing “Emma” appears again at this point] had treated him coldly & badly since I came . . . and he knew she was disposed to be revenged on him for some things she thought that if he would indulge himself she would too. He cautioned me very kindly for which I felt thankful. He said Thompson professed great friendship for him but he gave way to temptation & he had to die. Also bro Knight he gave him one but he went to lose conduct and he could not save him. Also B.V. [Brigham Young] had transgressed his covenant and he pled with the Lord to spare him this end & he did so, other wise he would have died. B. denied having transgressed He said if I would do right by him & abide his council he would save my life while he lived. (pp. 19-20)

Taken as a whole, Ehat’s extracts from William Clayton’s diaries cast early Mormonism in a very bad light. In Mormonism—Shadow or Reality? page 245, we quoted the Mormon Apostle, John A. Widtsoe as saying: “The Church ever operates in full light. There is no secrecy about its doctrine, aim, or work.” Widtsoe further proclaimed that “From the beginning of its history the Church . . . has fought half-truth and untruth.” William Clayton’s diaries certainly show that Apostle Widtsoe was incorrect in these statements. The Church was certainly not operating in “full light” and there was a great deal of “secrecy about its doctrine.” Furthermore, Clayton makes it clear that Joseph Smith used “untruth” as a tool to advance his work. Not only was he deceiving the outside world, but he was deceiving his own wife and other members of the Church.

Discounts Smith’s History

In Mormonism—Shadow or Reality? pages 126–142-D, we show that the History of the Church, which was supposed to have been written by Joseph Smith himself, is filled with serious problems and that over 60% of it was actually compiled after Smith’s death. The Mormon leaders plagiarized from diaries, newspapers and oral accounts of other people to complete the history. To make it appear that the history was written by Joseph Smith, these accounts were changed to the first-person. The extracts from Clayton’s diaries throw important light on this subject. Even a superficial examination reveals that Clayton’s writings were the source for entries attributed to Joseph Smith in the History of the Church. For instance, under the date of May 1, 1843, Clayton recorded this statement concerning the Kinderhook plates in his diary: “Prest J. has translated a portion and says they contain the history of the person with whom they were found & he was a descendant of Ham . . .” (p. 18). In the History of the Church this has been falsified to make it appear that Joseph Smith was the author: “I have translated a portion of them, and find they contain the history of the person with whom they were found. He was a descendant of Ham . . .” (Vol. 5, p. 372).

On May 16, 1843, Clayton wrote: “Before we retired the Prest. gave bro Johnson & wife some instructions on the priesthood. He put his hand on my knee and says . . .” (p. 40). This has been rewritten as follows in the History of the Church, Vol. 5, page 391: “Before retiring, I gave Brother and Sister Johnson some instructions on the priesthood; and putting my hand on the knee of William Clayton, I said.”

The extracts from William Clayton’s diaries not only provide evidence that third-person sources were changed to appear that Joseph had authored them, but they also cast doubt upon one of Joseph Smith’s most famous prophecies — the prediction that Steven A. Douglas would “aspire to the presidency of the United States.” This prophecy appears in Joseph Smith’s History of the Church, Vol. 5, page 394, under the title, “The Great Prophecy on the Head of Steven A. Douglas”:

Judge, you will aspire to the presidency of the United States; and if ever you turn your hand against me or the Latter-day Saints, you will feel the weight of the hand of Almighty upon you . . .
The Mormon historian B. H. Roberts made the following comment concerning this prophecy:

Two great prophecies by Joseph Smith belong to this period. The first was in relation to the removal of the saints to the valleys of the Rocky Mountains; the other was a most remarkable prediction concerning Steven A. Douglas. . . (A Comprehensive History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Vol. 2, p. 181)

In his book, Prophecies of Joseph Smith And Their Fulfillment, Nephi Lowell Morris maintained that the prophecy concerning Steven A. Douglas provides “ incontrovertible evidence to the divine mission and inspiration of Joseph Smith” (p. 215). On pages 201–202 of the same book, Morris argued that “At the time of the event, Steven A. Douglas was in his thirtieth year and though a bright and promising young man, he was scarcely known outside of his own state.”

In the History of the Church a note appearing in brackets on page 393 of Vol. 5 indicates that this prophecy was actually taken “from the journal of William Clayton, who was present.” In other words, it was supposed to have been copied from Clayton’s diary into the “Manuscript History” of the Church. Since Ehat’s extracts from Clayton’s diary cover the same day, one would expect to find the prophecy recorded there. An examination, however, reveals that while the diary does mention Douglas, the prophecy concerning him is not included. Joseph Smith is quoted as saying the following on May 18, 1843:

. . . “I prophesy in the name of the Lord God that in a few years this government will be utterly overthrown and wasted so that there will not be a potsherd left” for their wickedness in conniving at the Missouri mobocracy. The Judge appears very friendly & acknowledged the propriety of the preists. remarks. (William Clayton’s Dairy, May 18, 1843, typed excerpts, p. 42)

The account published in the History of the Church is about 160 words longer than the one found in Clayton’s diary. It differs in two very important aspects: One, additional words appear in Joseph Smith’s prophecy that the United States would be “utterly overthrown.” These words change the prophecy to make its fulfillment conditional upon the performance of the United States Government. Two, the entire prophecy concerning Douglas has been inserted. In the quotation from the History of the Church which is printed below we have marked the important additions with italics:

. . . I prophesy in the name of the Lord God of Israel, unless the United States redress the wrongs committed upon the Saints in the state of Missouri and punish the crimes committed by her officers that in a few years the government will be utterly overthrown and wasted, and there will not be so much as a potsherd left, for their wickedness in permitting the murder of men, women and children, and the wholesale plunder and extermination of thousands of her citizens to go unpunished, thereby perpetrating a foul and corroding blot upon the fair fame of this great republic, the very thought of which would have caused the high-minded and patriotic framers of the Constitution of the United States to hide their faces with shame. Judge, you will aspire to the presidency of the United States; and if ever you turn your hand against me or the Latter-day Saints, you will feel the weight of the hand of Almighty upon you; and you will live to see and know that I have testified the truth to you; for the conversation of this day will stick to you through life.

He [Judge Douglas] appeared very friendly, and acknowledged the truth and propriety of President Smith’s remarks. (History of the Church, Vol. 5, p. 394)

Instead of confirming the famous prophecy concerning Douglas, William Clayton’s diary seems to provide evidence against it. All it contains is the false prophecy that the United States will be destroyed. Joseph Smith’s private diary for May 18, 1843, is also silent concerning the prophecy. The manuscript for the History of the Church cannot be used as evidence for the prophecy because this portion was NOT written during Joseph Smith’s lifetime. In an article published in 1971, Dean C. Jessee, who was serving on the staff of the Historical Department of the Church, published a chart which shows that this portion of the History of the Church was not written until 1854 or 1855 (Brigham Young University Studies, Summer 1971, p. 441). This, of course, would be 10 or 11 years after Joseph Smith’s death! If the prophecy concerning Douglas was made up in the 1850’s, as the evidence seems to indicate, then it has no real value. By the middle of that decade it was well known that Douglas wanted to be President of the United States. T.B.H. Stenhouse informs us that in 1856 “Senator Douglas was a candidate for the Presidency” but that his party (the Democrats) chose James Buchanan to represent them. In 1860 Douglas finally received the nomination of the convention but was defeated by Abraham Lincoln in the election (The Rocky Mountain Saints, pp. 347–348). Since Douglas died shortly after his defeat, Mormon historians seem to feel that God punished him for turning against the Church. These same apologists do not seem to realize that this type of reasoning could be used against Joseph Smith. In Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?, pages 416–417, we show that Smith also aspired to be President of the United States. In 1844 he announced himself a candidate and the Elders of the Church were sent out to “electioneer for Joseph to be the next President” (History of the Church Vol. 6, p. 325). Before the election ever took place, however, Joseph Smith was murdered in the Carthage Jail. B. H. Roberts maintained that Douglas died “while yet in the prime of manhood—forty-eight years of age . . .” (Ibid., p. 396). For those who are not already committed to the defence of Mormonism, this does not provide any evidence that God was judging Steven A. Douglas for opposing the Church. After all, Joseph Smith was ten years younger than Douglas when he was murdered. If Douglas died in the “prime of manhood,” what can be said about Joseph Smith? B. H. Roberts claimed that Joseph Smith’s prophecy concerning Douglas “is one of the most remarkable prophecies either in ancient or modern times” (History of the Church, Vol. 3, p. 395). When all of the evidence is examined, however, it becomes clear that this purported prophecy does not furnish any evidence favorable to Mormonism.

In reading the extracts from the Clayton diaries the reader should be aware of the fact that some material is repeated and that it is not copied in chronological order. For instance, it starts out in 1843 and moves on to 1845. Then it jumps back to 1843 and proceeds again to 1845. Since this type of problem continues throughout the manuscript, the reader should watch the dates carefully to avoid confusion.

For those who are interested in a thorough study of Mormon history and doctrine we recommend our book, Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?

Jerald and Sandra Tanner

June 16, 1982
"Journal by WM. Clayton 1842-5."

Tuesday 7th. /March 1843/ A.M at the office. Afterwards went to Prest Josephs & commended settlement with those who have claims on city Lots. Er B. Young called me on one side & said he wants to give me some instructions on the priesthood the first opportunity. He said the prophet had told him to do so & to give me a favor which I have long desired. For this again I feel grateful to God & his servant, and the desire of my heart is to do right and be saved.

Wed 8th. . . . Evening I went to bro Kimballs meeting. The house was crowded to suffocation. He made use of the figure of the Potter & clay, and showed that O P Pratt was stiff & had to be cast off the wheel & A. Lyman put on it. The discourse was good.

Thursday 9. At prest. Josephs office. Walked out in the P.M. he told me it was lawful for me to send for Sarah & said he would furnish me money.

/27 April/ Thursday 27. At the Temple A.M. went to prests who rode with me to bro. E.C. Kimballs where sister Margt. Moon was sealed up by the priesthood, by the president—and M to me. . . . evening told Mother in law concerning the priesthood.

Tuesday 1st. /October 1844/ . . . Evening met the Twelve at bro. Kimballs and offered up prayer for the Governor and Emma & sundry other things. We had a very interesting season of conversation. A man has a right to be baptized for his acquaintances who are not relatives and sealed to them only by the consent and authority of him who holds the keys.

Friday 11th. . . . Evening at H.C.Ks in company with Prest. Young. H.C.K & G.A.3 of the Twelve, the two Trustees and sisters Kimball & Whitney We offered up prayer for the sick & sister Emma &c. and also that the enemies may have no more power over us. We had much conversation respecting the Temple Committee.

Wednesday 16th. . . . At 12 married Lucius N. Scovil to Lucy Snow also Alice Harris to L.N.S.

Friday 18. . . . I was at the office all day recording. P.M. Bishop Whitney read much in the Book of the Law of the Lord.

Saturday 19th. . . . Last night I dreamed I was in a nice building in a very pleasant place. I thought I was married to brother Cutlers youngest daughter & she seemed as happy as an angel and I felt full of joy and peace. I thought I had
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received Miss Cutler in addition to those I had already got. When I awoke I felt disappointed and felt to pray in my heart, O God if it be thy will give me that woman for a companion and my soul shall praise thee but they will be done and not mine... Sister Booth tells me that Sara Ann is very unhappy and wants to see me she says Jane Charnock is perfectly unhappy and if there is any way she can be loosed she wants me to take her. Mary Aspen is ready to unite to me as her savior and sister Booth says she shall not risk her salvation in Roberts hands & wants me to interfere. We had considerable conversation on many subjects and felt pretty well.

Monday 21st (sic) ... P.M. I went to see M. Aspen she has made up her mind to go with me. I also went to see A. H. she is better.

Sunday 27th. A.M. went to fetch books from the office. Called at brother Cutlers. Then went to George Willers, in council with E.K. Whitney, Orson Pratt, George A. Smith, George Miller, Anasa Lycan, Lucien Woodworth and John D. Parker. Brother Parker has been prying into the secret designs of the mob. He has professed to be an apostate and by that means got into their secret councils. He was told by the mob that all their plans to overthrow the church has completely failed, but they had one plan in view which they felt satisfied would accomplish the purpose and that plan was to obtain our sacred records and destroy them and also obtain testimony from them to our overthrow. They gave him to understand that this was to be accomplished by the means of a man in our midst who had free access to the records and who had agreed to put them in possession of them. They finally told brother Parker that the man who was to do this was W.M. Phelps and Parker was told by several that Phelps was the man on whom they depended to get the records. I went over to Dr Richards and found that all the records were safe in his hands. There was also considerable fears entertained that bro. Cahoon is not true to us. A. Babbit is suspected from good evidence of being treacherous and of conspiring with the mob to overthrow us.

Friday 8th. ... P.M. went to see Jane Hardman she prefers me for a Saviour to any one else, so she says.

Tuesday 19th. ... At night, I retired and prayed for him according to the order of the priesthood.

Wednesday 20th. ... P.M. went with Prest. Young to see sister Jane Hardman. Prest. Young blessed her with the blessings of the ever lasting covenant and she was sealed up to eternal life and to W.C. for time and for all eternity.

Thursday 21st /Weeks Player & Cahoon had bitter feelings last two days/ We moved into the new office in P.P. Pratts store to day. Evening I went to brother H.C. Kimball's awhile and then to see J.H. & prospered.
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Friday 22nd. ... Evening brother Kimball sent for me to write two letters for him. We had considerable talk on the priesthood. Margaret don't seem happy which makes my head ache.

Monday 2nd. ... The brethren had a council at Dr Richards but I was not permitted to be there, probably they did not think worthwhile to tell me. I feel sorry and grieved at heart, but don't intend they shall know it.

Thursday 5th. ... I was at the office all day. At noon we had some conversation concerning recorders for the Baptisms of our dead &c. We feel very anxious on the matter but have little prospect of anything being done very speedily. I feel very anxious on the subject myself, in as much as the Records of our Baptisms for our dead have not been kept in order for near 2 years back. The minutes have been kept on loose slips of paper and are liable to be lost and they have not been kept according to the order of God. There is so much treachery in man that it is hard to find a man who can be trusted with those Records for they cannot be public property. In as much as they will have to contain histories pertaining to the transactions of individuals which never must be public. Dr Richards remains very sick & I fear if he do not change his mode of living he will die ... Brothet Kimball asked Preset. Young concerning D. Farr. He gave full consent & ordered Bro. M. to attend to it. I feel humbly grateful for this grant.

And feel to ask the fatherin the name of Jesus to give me favor in her eyes & the eyes of her parents that I may receive the gift in full.

Thursday 19th. ... Read 2 letters from Er Woodruff to Preset Young concerning Wm Smith & G. J. Adams showing that they are in opposition to the Twelve and have collected money in the East for the Temple & have used it. There are warrants out for them in N. York and Boston and all seems confusion and sorrow wherever they go.

Tuesday 24th. ... Evening I went to converse with brother Farr concerning D. He and sister Farr feels well towards me and are quite willing to give me what I ask. He wishes to converse with brother Kimball and D. before he decides. Thus has my prayer been answered to the full, and my heart is full of joy and gratitude to God for his mercies to me and my house. If my heart was as pure as I desire it should be, no sin nor evil would ever be found there but I am subject to vanity.

Wednesday 25th. ... Afterwards I went with the Band to Colliages. We had a very pleasant interview. Preset Young, H.C. Kimball G. A. Smith A. Lyman, & John Taylor and their Ladies were all there. After we got through playing preset Young read some remarks expressive of his good feelings and love for the brethren. His remarks were very profitable. He said the Lord would never suffer us to overcome our enemies while we cherish feelings of revenge. When we prevail over our enemies it must be from a sense of duty and not of revenge.
Friday 27th. ... After meeting I asked brother Farr if he had come to a conclusion & he gave assent to my request and seemed to feel well.

Wednesday 1st /January 1845/ ... 

Reflections

... I was admitted a member of the first quorum and a member of the council of fifty. I have received two companions, received two children and buried one.

Thursday 9th. ... He /Heber C. Kimball about 7½/ came at that time & we went over to brother Farrs to spend a little season together. Winslow Farr was married to Bk Olive H. Freeman for time & all eternity. After which the seal of the covenant was put upon Diantha. The question was asked of each one present, did they freely give her up, and they all signified their willingness by saying that they had no objections. There was present Winslow Farr her father & his wife. Also Loren Farr & Nancy his wife and William Walker & Bk Olive his wife.

The blessings pronounced upon her head were great and one promise was that her seed should become numerous as the sands on the seashore. H.C.K. gave her some very good advice afterward & she seems to feel well. ... May she never violate her covenant, but may she with her companion realize to the full all the blessings promised. And may there never the first tear or unkind feeling towards each other exist to all eternity is thy prayer of thy servant William O Lord and may it be ever so Amen. We had a very pleasant interview and parted about 8½ o clock.

27 ... P.H. talked with S.A. and brother Whitney who reminded me of some items of law which proves that M. cannot get away unless I break the covenant. I talked with M. again and told her these things and she seems more satisfied.

Tuesday 28th. At the office all day. Talked with brother Kimball who confirmed brother Whitneys remarks and is of the same mind. He said he will converse with A and show him that he is handling edge tools, for it cannot go down in as much as I hold more authority than he does. ... At 11 o clock Pres. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, N.K. Whitney, Geo. Miller, Elias Smith, B. Cahoon and myself (who are members of the Council of fifty) also John E. Page (not a member) went up into the council room. ... At noon I told M what brother Kimball said and she seems to feel much better.

Thursday 6th. ... Evening clothed far to offer prayers for Wm. ... & Vilate R. who are both very sick.

She was born in the town of Charleston Orleans County State of Vermont on the 12th of October 1828 making her 16 years old last October.
February 1845

Friday 14th. ... In the evening the following brethren met together to pray and ask God to thwart the plans of the mob and deliver the brethren out of their hands viz. B. Young H.C. Kimball, O. Pratt, G.A. Smith, Wd Richards, W.K. Whitney, Geo. Miller, A. Cutler, R. Cahoon, Isaac Morley, O. Spencer, Joseph Young & myself. We have a very good time and the Lord bless us and I believe we will have the desires of our hearts. After prayers it was voted that father Morley move in to Nauvoo as soon as possible & that Solomon Hancock be appointed to preside over the Lima Branch in his stead. It was also voted that Dr Bernhisel be appointed a traveling Bishop to visit the churches. We had also some conversation on the subject of sending six brethren with brother Lewis Dam a to the West, and especially to Texas.

Friday 14th. /March 1845/ Brother Whitney tells me today that he has notified Margaret to go an receive her washings and anointing at the same time Ruth does. This makes my heart rejoice. I had heard of it on Wednesday but not officially. Truly God is kind to me.

Saturday 15th. ... P.M. at the High Council taking minutes. G. J. Adams had his trial. Prats. Young and H.C. Kimball were witnesses against him. Many hard things were proven against him which he confessed and begged for mercy. It was decided that he write a confession of his wickedness, and agree to be one with the Twelve and do right here after, which he agreed to. The property in his hands belonging to the Temple he promised to bring and have a settlement. It was a good and interesting season and will do Adams much good.

Friday 28th. ... Sister Whitney went to attend to anointing my wife and Margaret but was again prevented through Sarah Ann not being there in season.

Monday 31. ... On Saturday Ruth and Margaret received their anointing for which I feel thankful. Margaret had some good instructions and she feels satisfied and reconciled. She says she will never leave me on any consideration.

I still feel determined to do all I can and be as faithful as I know as I know how for that is the desire of my heart, but my greatest desire is to so live that I may secure for myself and mine the highest degree of exaltation and glory which is possible for me to obtain, and to be with my friend Joseph Smith in the eternal world.
22 January 1843)

This A. M. Joseph preached in the Temple. Subject arose from two questions proposed from a Lyceum. 1st Did John Baptize for remission of sins,? 2nd Whether the kingdom of God was set up before the day of Pentecost or till then? To the 1st Q. he answered, "he did" It is acknowledged of 11 men that John preached the gospel & must have preached the 1st principles, so he must have preached the doctrine of Baptism for the remission of sins or that is the 1st principal of the Gospel and was ordained before the foundation of the world. I next give my own testimony because I know it is from God. On the 2nd question He said Where the oracles of God are revealed there is the kingdom of God. Wherever the oracles of God are & subjects to obey those oracles there is the kingdom of God. What constitutes the kingdom of God? an administrator who has the power of calling down the oracles of God, and subjects to receive those oracles no matter if there be but 3, 4 or 6 there is a kingdom of God &c."

0 January 1843)

Pres. Joseph Preached in the Temple on the Prodigal Son and showed that it did not refer to any nation, but was nearly an answer to the mark "he receiveth the sinners and eateth with them," the Temple was crowded with people.
(2 April 1843)

.... P. M. Joseph preached on Revelations chap. 5. he called on me to open the meeting. He also preached on the same subject in the evening. During the day president Joseph made the following remarks on doctrine. "I was once praying very earnestly to know the time of the coming of the son of man when I heard a voice repeat the following 'Joseph my son, if thou livest until thou art 84 years old thou shalt see the face of the son of man, therefore let this suffice and trouble me no more on this matter.' I was left thus without being able to decide whether this coming referred to the beginning of the Millenium, or to some previous appearing, or whether I should die and thus see his face. I believe the coming of the son of man will not be any sooner than that time." In correcting two points in Er Hydes discourse he observed as follows, "The meaning of that passage where it reads 'when he shall appear we shall be like him for we shall see him as he is' is this, When the Saviour appears we shall see that he is a man like unto ourselves, and that same sociality which exists amongst us here will exist among us there only it will be coupled with eternal glory which we do not enjoy now. Also the appearing of the father and the son in John c 14 v 23 is a personal appearing and the idea that they will dwell in a mans heart is a sectarian doctrine and is false"

In answer to a question which I proposed to him as follows, 'Is not the reckoning of gods time, angels time, prophets time & mans time according to the planet on which they reside he answered yes "But there is no angel ministers to this earth only what either does belong or has belonged to this earth and the angels do not reside on a planet like our earth but they dwell with God and the planet where he dwells is like crystal, and like a sea of glass before the throne. This is the great Urim & Thummim whereon all things are manifest both things past, present & future and are continually before the Lord. The Urim & Thummim is a small representation of this globe. The
(2 April, 1843, cont.)

earth when it is purified will be made like unto crystal and will be a Urim & Thummim whereby all things pertaining to an inferior kingdom on all kingdoms of a lower order will be manifest to those who dwell on it. and this earth will be with Christ. Then the white stone mentioned in Rev. c 2 v 17 is the Urim & Thummim whereby all things pertaining to an higher order of kingdoms even all kingdoms will be made known and a white stone is given to each of those who come into this celestial kingdom, whereon is a new name written which no man knoweth save he that receiveth it. The new name is the key word.

"Whatever principle of intelligence we obtain in this life will rise with us in the resurrection: and if a person gains more knowledge in this life through his diligence & obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come. There is a law irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundation of this world upon which all blessings are predicated; and when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated.

"The Holy Ghost is a personage, and a person cannot have the personage of the H. G. in his heart. A man receive the gifts of the H. G., and the H. G. may descend upon a man but not to tarry with him.

He also related the following dream. "I dreamed that a silver-headed old man came to see me and said he was invaded by a gang of robbers, who were plundering his neighbors and threatening destruction to all his subjects. He had heard that I always sought to defend the oppressed, and he had come to hear with his own ears what answer I would give him. I answered, if you will make out the papers and shew that you are not the aggressor I will call out the Legion and defend you while I have a man to stand by me. The old man then turned to go away. When he got a little distance he turned suddenly round and said I must call out the Legion and go and he would have the papers ready when I arrived, and says he I have any amount of men which you can have under your command."
(2 April 1843, cont.)

Er. Hyde gave this interpretation "The old man represents the government of these United States who will be invaded by a foreign foe, probably England. The U. S. government will call on you to defend probably all this Western Territory, and will offer you any amount of men you may need for that purpose. Once when pest. Joseph was praying earnestly to know concerning the wars which are to precede the coming of the son of man, he heard a voice proclaim that the first outbreak of general bloodshed would commence at South Carolina—see Revelation

The sealing of the 144000 was the number of priests who should be anointed to administer in the daily sacrifice &c. During Prest. Joseph’s remarks he said there was a nice distinction between the vision which John saw as spoken of in Revelations & the vision which Daniel saw, the former relating only to things as they actually existed in heaven—the latter being a figure representing things on the earth. God never made use of the figure of a beast to represent the kingdom of heaven—when they were made use of it was to represent an apostate church.

(6 April 1843)

This day was a special conference the saints assembled in the Temple soon after 9. I was appointed to take minutes. About 11 pest Joseph arrived and proceeded to business. He first stated the object of this conference, viz. 1st. To ascertain the standing of the first presidency 2nd. To take into consideration the propriety of sending some of the Twelve into the branches abroad to obtain funds for building the Nauvoo House. 3rd. To give a chance to those Elders who have been disfellowshiped or had their licenses taken away in the branches to have a re-hearing & settle
(6 April 1843, cont.)

their difficulties He then spake on the importance of building the Nauvoo House stressing that the time had come to build it. and the church must either do it or suffer the condemnation of not fulfilling the commandments of God.

He next presented himself & was unamisiously voted president of the whole church. Next his councillors Ers Rigdon and Wm. Law. and afterwards Er Hyrum who was voted with a hearty aye. He blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

The next business was appointing the Twelve on their mission &c. He showed the injustice of Ers collecting funds for the Temple in as much as they rarely brought them here. The conference must contrive some measures to put the Twelve under bonds, for a true return of monies received by them &c.

(7 April 1843)

various little items of business attended to and a discourse from the president on Rev.

(16 April 1843)

Heard Pres. J preach on the ressurection shewing the importance of being buried with the saints & their relatives in as much as we shall want to see our relatives first & shall rejoice to strike hands with our parents, children &c when rising from the tomb.
[24 April 1843]

Monday 24 . . . sister Margt Moon went with me [to Carthage] she is a lovely woman and desires to do right in all things and will submit to council with all her heart. Got back at dark conversed some with President
[22 December 1844] Met with the brethren of the first quorum to pray & counsel. My wife and O. Pratt's wife, P.P. Pratt's wife and A. Lyman's wife was voted in we have to use the greatest care and caution & dare not let it be known that we meet.
January 1845

Sunday 12th. At the Council Hall. Er H.C. Kimball preached. He used many figures to illustrate his ideas amongst the rest when speaking of the unwillingness of the saints to abide the laws of exaltation. He said that the church was like a swarm of Bees, who when they want to increase the king & queen go & seek a new location and when they have found it they come back to the hive & persuade the young folks out but as soon as they begin to fly the old women & young women run with their old tin Kettles and pans and cow Bells, tickling to drown the voice of the king and throw them into a confusion and prevent their enlargement. Just so with the saints when any seem disposed to enlarge their kingdom and godhead the old women & young women run with their old kettles & pans & cow Bells to drown the sound of the leaders and throw the saints into confusion and keep them shut up in their old traditions. After he got through O. Pratt added an idea on the extent & magnitude of the planetary system and the beautiful adaptation to the enlargement of the saints. It was a very interesting meeting.

P.M. attended the H.P. quorum with Aaron Farr. I conversed with him some concerning D. in Margarets hearing and she felt bad. Prest. Young, Kimball & others attended the quorum and selected 50 of the members to go on a mission till about April 1st. Evening met with the first quorum at Parleys. Joseph Young & his wife were anointed with the second ordinance.

D. was at my house when I got home and tarried with us all night.

Monday 13th. This A.M. I had some talk with D in bed. All things seemed to go right.

Tuesday 14th. ... Evening rode out with Lot to A. Farrs. Talked with Aaron considerable also with D. and was with her until 12 1/2 and accomplished the desire of my heart by gaining victory over her feelings. May the Lord bless her until her cup shall run over and her heart be as pure as gold.

[25 January 1845] Aaron Farr seems to be working to get Margt. away from me. We had a long talk together on the subject.
12 January 1845

Sunday 12th. At the Council Hall. Er H.C. Kimball preached. He used many figures to illustrate his ideas amongst the rest when speaking of the unwillingness of the saints to abid the laws of exaltation. He said that the church was like a swarm of Bees, who when they want to increase the king & queen go & seek a new location and when they have found it they come back to the hive & persuade the young folks out but as soon as they begin to fly the old women & young women run their old tin Kettles and pans and cow Bells, tickling to drown the voice of the king and throw them into a confusion and prevent their enlargement. Just so with the saints when any seen disposed to enlarge their kingdom and godhead the old women & young women run with their old Kettles & pans & cow Bells to drown the sound of the leaders and throw the saints into confusion and keep them shut up in their old traditions. After he got through O. Pratt added an idea on the extent & magnitude of the planetary system and the beautiful adaptation to the enlargement of the saints. It was a very interesting meeting.

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[22 January 1845]

Wednesday 22nd. ... Bought two rings and gave one to S.A. Whitney for painting aprons.
26 January 1845

Sunday 25th. Spent the day very pleasantly with D. P. for I felt so bad about Margt. I did not like to go to meeting. Evening met with the quorum. John E. Page & J. C. Kingsbury were received also Sara Ann Whitney, Hellen M. Kimball, Eliza R. Snow, Page, Pratt, Olive G. Frost, Lucy Seeley, Louisa Beaman. Aaron Farr has been talking again to M. and has succeeded in alienating her feelings much.
Mar. 10. 1845. ... While writing and copying the records of the
kingdom, I was writing these words dropped by Er H.C. Kimball in the council
on the 4th inst. viz "if a man step beyond his bounds he will lose his king-
dom as Lucifer did and it will be given to others who are more worthy."
This idea came to my mind. It has been a doctrine taught by this church
that we were in the Grand Council amongst the Gods when the organization
of this world was contemplated and that the laws of government were all
made and sanctioned by all present and all the ordinances and ceremonies
decreed upon. Now is it not the case that the council of the kingdom of
God now organized upon this earth are making laws and sanctioning principles,
which will in part govern the saints after the resurrection, and after
death will not these laws be made known by messengers and agents as the
gospel was made known to us. And is there not a similarity between this
grand council & the council which sat previous to the organization of
this world.
William Clayton Journal: 1843-1844 Journal

27 [April 1843]. At the Temple A.M. at 10 at bro Kimballs was M to M.M. [shorthand] ... evening told Mother in law about the priesthood
29 ... Rode out to Prairie with pres. Joseph, Wm & Samuel H. Smith and John Topham.

Apl 30-- ... P.M at Sister Booths where I learned that S. Ann would obey her instructions. Evening walked out with Margaret and accomplished a good object.

May 1st. A.M at the Temple. at 10. m J to L.W. P.M at prest. Josephs ... I have seen 6 brass plates which were found in Adams County ... Prest J. has translated a portion and says they contain the history of the person with whom they were found & he was a descendant of Ham through the loins of Pharoah king of Egypt, and that he received his kingdom from the ruler of heaven & earth

May 2nd ... Talked with Jane Charnock. she loves me & would sooner unite to me than R. Joseph rode out to day with Flora W.

May 3rd ... Diantha Farr went with me [Indecipherable] ... [Indecipherable] was abusive--much use of the term Joe Smith & sneeringly

Sunday 7. ... P.M at sister Booths with my wives. Evening walked to presits with Marg[are]t

Saturday 13th ... Sister Desdemona Fullmer came to see if she could board with me. I told her she could on tuesday

Sunday 14th ... Walked out with Mt. who promises to be true.

Monday 15 ... night my wife & Margaret slept together

Saturday 3 [June]rd. This A.M. started for Quincey on the Steam Boat 'Maid of Iowa.' I took my wife & her child. Also Margaret Moon & Sarah Crooks. We had a large company of brethren and sisters on a pleasure voyage. We arrived at Quincey about 1 oclock. I immediately went to the Probate Judge
June 1843

& presented the papers which we had made out pertaining to the Lawrence Estate. He said he could do nothing with them. Upon enquiring what he wanted I finally made a new account which he accepted. I then went to the boat & Prest. J returned with me to make oath to the accounts. balance in Guardians hands was $3790.89$\frac{3}{4}$ We soon got through & started back about 5 o'clock ... Sunday A.M ... Evening [4 June 1843] conversed with Sarah & Elizth. Brotherton. Thursday 8 [June 1843] ... Made deed to H.C. & H. M. Kimball for N.E $\frac{1}{4}$ L 2 B 118.

Sunday 11th ... Margaret received a letter from Aaron [???] which made her feel bad. It also gave me unaccountable sorrow.

Tuesday 13 ... Prest. J. started North. I have had some conversation with M. she promised she would not marry A if she can possibly avoid it. And if she ever feels disposed to marry she will tell me as soon as she thinks of it. She will seek my Council & says she will abide it. Last night S. Crooks went away abruptly to Thos. Millers but came back this A.M.

Friday June 23rd. This A.M Prest J. took me and conversed considerable concerning some delicate matters. said he wanted to lay a snare for me. He told me last night of this and said he had felt troubled. He said he had treated him coldly & badly since I came [---] and he knew she was disposed to be revenged on him for some things she thought that if he would indulge himself she would too. He cautioned me very kindly for which I felt thankful. He said Thompson professed great friendship for him but he gave way to temptation & he had to die. Also bro Knight he gave him one but he went to loose conduct and he could not save him. Also B.Y. had transgressed his covenant & he pled with the Lord to spare him this end & he did so, otherwise he would have died. B. denied having transgressed He said if I would
June 4th 1843

do right by him & abide his council ' he would save my life while he lived.  
I feel desirous to do right & would rather die than loose my interest in  
the celestial kingdom. ... [redacted]

Tuesday 4th [July 1843]. To day we had a meeting in the grove ... in the  
evening Prest. J. related a history of the Missouri persecutions & the late  
arrest in the presence of about 900 passengers & a very large multitude of  
Saints.

Saturday 8 ... Margt. wrote a letter to Aaron which I dictated informing  
him that she should not marry.

Sunday 9th. A.M at the Grove. Pres. J. preached

Wednesday 12th. This A.M. I wrote a Revelation consisting of 10 pages on the  
order of the priesthood, showing the designs in Moses, Abraham, David and  
Solomon having many wives & concubines &c. After it was wrote Prests. Joseph  
& Hymur presented it and read it to E. who said she did not believe a word of  
it and appeared very rebellious. J told me to Deed all the unincumbered lots  
to E. & the children. He appears much troubled about E.

Thursday 13. This A.M. J. sent for me. & when I arrived he called me up  
into his private room with E. and there stated an agreement they had mutually  
entered into they both stated their feelings on many subjects & wept considerable.

O may the Lord soften her heart that she may be willing to keep and abide  
by his Holy Law ... .

Saturday 15th. Made Deed for \( \frac{1}{2} \) S.B. Maid of Iowa from J. to Emma. Also a  
Deed to E. for over 60 city lots. ... .

Sunday 16th. A.M. at home writing bro. Kimball's lecture. P.M. went  
to the Grove [redacted]

Monday 17. A.M at the Temple & at Prest. J's, conversed with J. & Hyrum  
on the priesthood ... .
Saturday 22 ... Mt. and a had a long conversation together. She has stood true to her covenant with JW. I also had some talk with him & although the shock is severe he endures it patiently. And I pray the Great Eloheem to make up the loss to him an hundred fold and enable him to rejoice in all things. My heart aches with grief on his & M's account and could almost say O that I had never known h. But Thou O God knowest the integrity of thy servant. Thou knowest that I have done that which I have understood to be thy will & am still determined to do so and I ask thee in the name of Jesus Christ either to absolutely wean my affections from M. or give me hers entire and then I am content. But to live in this state of feeling I cannot. If I have done wrong in this thing, show it me that thy servant may repent of it and obtain forgiveness. But O Lord have mercy on me and by some means release me from this grievous bondage of feeling & thy servant will praise thee. Pres. Joseph came to see me & pronounced a sealing blessing upon Ruth and me. And we mutually entered into an everlasting covenant with each other.

July 1843

Clayton's Secret Writings Uncovered
Sunday 23. ... M. appears dissatisfied with her situation & is miserable O that the Lord will bless my house and deliver us from every evil principal & feeling that we may be saved. For I desire to do right. O Lord make my heart and my affection right and pure as it shall please thee that I may enjoy the blessing of peace and happiness even so Amen. Hyrum preached A.M. and Joseph P.M. Evening I had some more talk with M. & find she is miserable which makes me doubly so. I offered to her to try to have her covenant released if she desired it but she said she was not willing

Monday 24. ... M. is still miserable and unhappy and it does seem that my heart must burst. What shall I do? How shall I recompense? And how long must I thus suffer worse than death for that which I have always regarded as being the will of the Lord. By the help of the Lord I will do right. I have repeatedly offered to M. to try to get a release from the covenant and I have done all I know to make things comfortable but to no effect. She appears almost to hate me and cannot bear to come near me. O God if thou wilt give me M's affections, and cause things to be pleasant and happy between us, if thou wilt bless her & comfort her by thy spirit & cause her to rejoice in what she has done, and bring it to pass that I may secure her truly with all her affections for time & for eternity. I feel to covenant to try to serve thee with more diligence if possible and to do all that thou shalt require at mine hands. Wilt thou not grant me this blessing, and relieve my aching heart from this worst of all troubles which ever befell me in the course of my life? O God plead my cause and give me thine everlasting blessing, and do remember M. for I am good that she may be comforted even so amen amen amen

Tuesday ... M. much as usual.

Wednesday 25. ... M. seems quite embittered against me in consequence of which I called her to me and asked her if she desired the covenant to be revoked if it were possible. To this she would not give me a satisfactory answer only saying if it had not been done it should not be. (meaning our union) I then asked if she would consent if A. would take her under all circumstances; but she would not consent to have it revoked — saying she did it not for her sake but for the sake of the peace of my family. Under these circumstances I could not rest until I had ascertained whether the C could be revoked & although contrary to her wish I went to see Prest. J. I took A. to talk with him & asked him some questions whereby I ascertained that he would be willing to take her under all circumstances. I reasoned considerable with him to prove that I had done right in all these matters so far as I knew it. I called the Prest. out and briefly stated the situation of things and then asked him if the C. could be revoked. He shook his head and answered no. At this conclusion my mind seemed for the moment to get relief for the two fold reason that I had done all I could and I did not want the C. revoked. I came back & E & A. were together in Farr's garden. I told them the answer I had got & advised them to take the best measures to make all things right between them. I cannot help thinking that M. has treated me not only unkindly but nearly & cruelly, but I forgive her before the Lord for I sympathize with her in her grief, but can't console her for she will not speak to me. My earnest prayer to God is that all things may soon become right & pleasant & that the Lord may bless her & save her from sinning against him. And if I have done wrong in which asking if the C. could be revoked & seeking to have it done O Lord forgive me for I desire to do right in all things that I may be saved. I feel that I have done right in the sight of God & that he has abundantly blessed me for which I thank him and something tells me that the time will come when M. will love those whom she ought & when she will feel perfectly satisfied with her situation & rejoice that things remain as they are. And now O God bless thy servant and handmaid & stamp thy peace upon us and fill us with the spirit of truth for Jesus Christ's sake Amen.

Thursday 27 A.M. I went to see Prest. J. in our conversation about M. & A. he said if A. went to making me any trouble he would defend me to the uttermost and stand by me through all, for which I feel thankful. ...
Friday 11 [August 1843]. A.M to the Temple office. P.M Prest. J. came to my house & I went home with him & took dinner with him. In our conversation about Judge Adams J. made this remark "No man can put forth his hand to steady the ark but God and his servant Joseph." by the ark I understood him to mean this work & that no man could dictate and govern it but Jehovah and he whom God had appointed viz his servant Joseph. ... Judge Adams died about 10 o clock P.M. None of his family are here having only been sent for a few days & they are at Springfield. It is truly afflicting to see the sickness which exists through the city and the loss of this man seems very grievous. He attended the polls on Monday last and was elected Probate Judge for this County but he is gone to receive his reward in the other world. J. told me to day that "Walker" had been speaking to him concerning my having taken M away from A. & intimated that I had done wrong. I told him to be quiet and say no more about it. He also told me Emma was considerably displeased with it but says he she will soon get over it. In the agony of mind which I have endured on this subject I said I was sorry I had done it, at which J told me not to say so. I finally asked him if I had done wrong in what I had done he answered no you have a right to get all you can.

Sunday 13 ... At night my wives mother went into the garden to pray just as we were going to bed. Margaret and Lydia went out & found her on her knees. She was deranged. She came into the bed room trembling and seemed as though she had been frightened but was altogether delirious. her feet and legs were cold & I feared she was going to die. She got into bed & we got some hot water to her feet & rubbed her legs and feet with flannel & went to bed. She soon seemed some better. From her conversation with Lydia this afternoon it seems she took Prest. J's remarks very deeply to heart & that with her fears
August 1843

for Margaret overcame her. I feel as though I was in some measure a child of sorrow but am determined to try to do right in all things. May the Lord bless my family and my fathers house and save us with an everlasting salvation & let peace & intelligence beam upon us in the name of Jesus Christ Amen

Wednesday 16. . . Zout showing a man a lot/ We returned & met Prest. J. & some of the family going to the funeral of Judge Adams. P.M. I went with A. Young to look at a lot & called at sis Booths who is in trouble. Robert is gone away to work Sarah Ann is gone to Keokuk & Elsbeth & husband is going to Chicago this evening. This A.M. J. told me that since E. came back from St Louis she had resisted the P. in toto & he had to tell her he would relinquish all for her sake. She said she would given him E. & E. P but he knew if he took them she would pitch on him & obtain a divorce & leave him. He however told me that he should not relinquish any thing O. God deliver thy servant from iniquity and bondage.

Thursday 17th. . . Margaret seems friendly but not well satisfied yet she treats me very well & I pray God to bless her forever.

Friday 18th. . . Prest. J. instructed Er El. James in the order of the Holy Priesthood. . . I had some conversation with bro. Whitney & have learned that Farris family are conspiring with Walkers boys & girls & they with E. to accomplish my downfall. I find they are my secret enemies but I fear them not for God who knows the secrets of all hearts knows mine also. I told M of this & ascertained that she had acknowledged to A. that I had slept with her & if it never had been done (our union) it should not be. This of course has given him a plea and a weapon against me. At night my wives mother had another fit of delirium, which fills us all with sorrow, and I think we have a good share.

Saturday 19. . . evening went to Prest. J's did not see him. M. says D. Farris said to day she believed M & I was vexed at her & she almost felt disposed almost to go to every house in the city & tell all she knew & then come hom & kill herself. I felt my heart ache to night when we lay down being down stairs & M. up. My soul loves M. & my desire is to see her happy & comfortable. Oh may the Lord bless her.

Sunday 20th M. came up stairs to me. . . P.M. I went to sister Booths & had some conversation about S.A. at sister B's request. I have evidence that S.A is true to me & desire to receive her. I also had talk with M. Aspen who is in trouble. P.P.P has through his wife made proposals to her but she is dissatisfied Sister P. is obstinate. When P. went away sister P. cautioned A. against me & said the Twelve would have more glory than me &c. I tried to comfort her & told her what her privilege was. tarried till 8½

Monday 21. . . E. asked if I handed 2 letters to J. which she showed me. I had not done it. I satisfied her I had not. They appeared to be from ER Snow & Pres. J found them in his pocket E seemed vexed & angry
August 1843

Wednesday 25th. ... Prest J. told me that he had difficulty with E. yesterday. She rode up to Woodworths with him & caled while he came to the Temple. When he returned she was demanding the gold watch of F., he reproved her for her evil treatment. On their return home she abused him much & also when he got home. he had to use harsh measures to put a stop to her abuse but finally succeeded. ...

This evening I had some more conversation with Margaret & said she is stubborn and disposed to abuse me. I felt resolved to break my feelings from her if I possibly can.

Thursday 24. ... At night I asked mother if M might sleep with Ruth & me she appeared very rebellious & would not consent but said we might do as we had a mind.

Saturday 26th. ... Hyrum & I rode up to my house & J met Mrs Wdth & F. and conversed some time. ... Prest. J and I walked from my house to sis. Durfee's and thence to his house.

Sunday 27th. ... P.M. I went to sister Booths & talked with her and Mary Aspen.

Monday 28th. ... Pres. J met Ms Wdth at my house.

Tuesday 29th. A.M at the Temple Pres. J. at my house with Mrs Wdth.

Sunday 3rd. A.M at home. Unpleasant feelings with M.

Sunday 19th. ... In the evening I went to sister Booths

Friday 15th. A.M at Prest. J's afterwards at the Temple Office all day. Evening Prest. J. met me & I returned with him to O. Spence's to borrow $1400. to clear his farm from an incumbrance laying on it which fact Esq. Skinner has ascertained on searching the Records. Prest. J. told me he had lately had a new item of law revealed to him in relation to myself. He said the Lord had revealed to him that a man could only take 2 of a family except by express revelation and as I had said I intended to take Lydia he made this known for my benefit. To have more than two in a family was apt to cause wrangles and trouble. He finally asked if I would not give L to him. I said I would so far as I had any thing to do in it. He requested me to talk to her.

Sunday 17. At home all day with M. I had some talk with Lydia. she seems to receive it kindly but says she has promised her mother not to marry while her mother lives & she thinks she won't
September 1843

Monday 13 A.M at Prest. J's ... J & I rode out to borrow money - drank wine at sis Lyons. P.M. I got $50 of sis Lyons & paid it to D.D. Yearsley.

Tuesday 19th. ... J & E rode to Woolleys &c

Wednesday 20th. At the Temple Office & J's. he and Hyrum rode to his farm. M & Sarah Ann Whitney also rode to the farm but did not see him.

Thursday 21st. A.M at the Temple Office. P.M at the Boat & J's settling with the hands. he says I must go on the Boat a month to regulate the Books. This A.M. he came to talk with Lydia but she wont yet consent she wants to terry with her sisters.

Saturday 23rd. ... I went to sis Booths but S.A. did not come.

24th September he leaves Nauvoo for Quincy

1st October 1843/st. Had some meditation about home, M. &c on the summit of the Hill above Peru. Never did M. and my little family appear more lovely and endearing than while my anxious thoughts were pondering over their probable situation. At 12 we started out for St Louis.

Saturday 7th. ... At 7 we started in the stage and arrived at Montrose soon after 9 got over the River at 10 and arrived at home at 1 before 11. All my family were gone to conference but M. we had a joyful meeting, and she gave me a warm evidence of her love, and never did my affections glow more warmly than during our meeting embrace and during the time we had the privilege to be alone which was untill 3 o clock when the rest of my dear family returned home. My bosom heaved with joy to find them all well ... P.M. went to Morisons. Sis. Booths, Burbanks &c. S.A. had been at home 2 weeks ago and had gone back. I felt very much disappointed.

Wednesday 11th. A.M at home sick. P.M. at Prest J's. he is gone to Benbows to dine &c. ... Evening B.F. Johnson came to meet J & Hyrum. At about 8 Wm. Walker came to say J. & H. could not come untill morning.

Saturday 14th. A.M at Prest J's. He was conversing with some strangers one of whom I believe is Dr Turner the Phrenologist & another a memerist. They had a pretty warm debate. J. said they could not prove that the mind of man was seated in one part of the brain more than another &c ... Evening I went to sis. Booths and saw S.A. but could not have a chance to converse any.
October 1843

Monday 16th. ... P.M at the Temple Office & sis. Booths. Sia is to be married to Jno Needham tomorrow

Wednesday 18. ... P.M. went to J's - did not see him spent 2 hours with lovely M.

Thursday 19. A.M at the Temple Office comparing books & recording deeds. At 11 W. Walker came & said Prest. J wanted me to go to Macedonia I went immediately to see him & he requested me to go with him. I went home & got dinner & got ready he soon came up and we started out. After we had got on the road he began to tell me that E. was turned quite friendly & kind. she had been anointed & he also had been a K. He said that it was her advice that I should keep M at home and it was also his council. Says he just keep her at home and brook it and if they raise trouble about it and bring you before me I will give you an awful scourging & probably cut you off from the church and then I will baptise you & set you ahead as good as ever.

Friday 20th. At B.F. Johnsons writing Deed. Evening J. gave us much instruction, showing the advantages of the E.C. He said there was two seals in the Priesthood. The first was that which was placed upon a man and woman when they made the covenant & the other was the seal which alloted to them their particular mansion—after his discourse B.F. Johnson & his wife were united in an everlasting covenant.

Tuesday 24. A.M at Prest. J's. receiving Temple property from sister Emma

Tuesday 21 /November/ A.M. at the Temple Office P.M. went to J's to ask him to come to my house & marry Margt. Butterfield to her first husband. He could not come but sent Hyrum. I learned from H. that E. had power to prevent my being admitted to J's Lodge for the present for which I feel somewhat sorry but yet believe that innocence will finally triumph I stood as proxy for Edwd. Lawrence. ... Evening I attended the /Lodge/ Tuesday 28th. ... Evening at home -- My feelings have been harrowed up while reflecting on the disappointment A. must have felt when he returned home and found he had lost M. I would gladly recompense him if it were in my power. I pray that the Lord may bless him & give him a companion worthy of him—

Sunday 3rd /December/ ... J. was reading my letter.

Wednesday 6th. A.M. at Prest. J's. went to see the Q for f and was well pleased with it.
December 1843

Thursday 7th A.M. at Prest. Js went to see. After at the meeting at the Temple which was got up to petition the Gov. not to issue a writ to satisfy the demand lately made in Mo. P.M. at the Temple Office making 2 Deeds. after Evening Lodge attended Lodge

Friday 8th. At the Temple Office & J's P.M. with J. Evening attended Lodge

Sunday 17. At home all day. Mother in law in trouble which causes M. also to weep. Evening my feelings were insulted while hearing M and her mother in conversation.

Tuesday 9th. /January 1844/ At Prest. J's settling with E. Robinson & Lawrence &c--P.M. got Lawrence's account from Yearsley. J. sent for me to make out Maria Lawrence account

Wednesday 10th. At Prest J's all day. Finished settlement with E Robinson & passed receipts in full. After posted books & prepared accounts for settlement on Lawrence Estate

Monday 15th. At Prest Js all day. P.M settled with the Lawrence Estate

Tuesday 23rd. At Prest. Js all day taking inventory and trying to conclude the transfer to E. Robinson ... J. sent for me to assist in settling with bro Taylor about the Lawrence Estate.--

Monday 29. At Prest. J's in Council with the Twelve on the subject of running J for President of U.S. J said he would have to send me out on a mission. P.M. at his house. Evening attended & after had some conversation with Desdemona C. Puller. She has treated my family unfeeling and unkindly in various ways & I requested her to lock out for another home. She said she would not untill she had council from J.

Sunday 4th /February/ At home all day. Evening attended quorum.

Saturday 10th. At Prests all day. Recording Deeds Evening attended quorum.

Sunday 11th. At home all day. evening I attended quorum but did not organize.

Saturday 17. At Prest. Js all day. Evening with Cahoon at J's. Emma talked a good deal about B. Young & others.

Sunday 18th. About 12 A.M. M began to be sick and continued to grow worse until 5 o clock when she was delivered of a son. She did remarkably well for which I thank my heavenly Father. Mother attended her. I was at home all day. M. seems to do very well.

Wednesday 17. At Prest. Js all day. Settled with John Hester. Gave him a deed of L3B123 and took his due bill for 28.93

Evening attended Lodge
February 1844


Sunday 3rd. ... Evening attended Q. /March 1844/

Friday 22nd. P.M. met the Twelve in prayer at B. Youngs.

Saturday 23rd. A.M. rode with Pres. J. and bro. Neibag to Doctor Foster's. He was gone to appanoose & his wife was at Mr. Gilman's. We went down their and saw her. Prest. J. asked sister Foster if she ever in her life knew him guilty of an immoral or indecent act. She answered no. He then explained his reasons for asking and then asked if ever he had used any indecent or insulting language to her, she answered, never. He further asked if he ever preached anything like the spiritual wife doctrine to her only what he had preached in public. She said no! He asked her if he ever proposed to have illicit intercourse with her and especially when he took dinner during the doctors absence. She said no. After some further conversation on the subject we left. Mrs. Gilman was present all the time.

Sunday 24th... A.M. ... went to the Temple heard Pres. J. speak a little also O. Spencer and S. Rigdon.

Friday 29th ... night clothed & offered up prayer for W. Beber.

Sunday 7 /April 1844/. At the conference all day A.M. Er Rigdon preached. P.M. Prest Hyrum talked on spiritual wives & after Joseph discoursed on the dead

Monday 8 Er G. J. Adams preached P.M. attended Ers conference

Saturday 13. A.M. at Prest Js recording Deeds. He prophesied the entire overthrow of this nation in a few years

/18 April 1844/... Sarah Cook has been at my house to day & before she left again she shewed her enmity to Joseph & others in full. She has got a wicked spirit in her & will be cursed if she do not repent.

I also attended in council with the Twelve & High Council on the cases of the Laws & R.L. Foster— when Wm. Law & his wife Jane Law— Wilson Law and R. D. Foster were cut off from the church by unanimous vote.
April 1844

Sunday 28th ... Sister Mary Wood came evening attended quorum. We united for Prest. J. the Church - the presidency contests the lawsuits, the apostates -- the sick &c. &c. We had a good time. Prest J was not there

Thursday 2nd. A.M. preparing to go to Dixon. went to Prest J's and he desired me to go to Mr Laws to find out why they refused to pay their note. I went with Wm. /Moore?/ and asked Wison what he means by saying he had got accounts to balance the note. He seemed to tremble with anger & replied that he had demands for his services when he was ordered to call out the legion to go and meet Smith besides money which he expended at that time. I told him that was a new idea & that Genl. Smith had had no intimation of any such thing. Wm Law came in and mentioned $400 which was borrowed of Baily $300 of which I am satisfied was paid, and the $100 Wm. Law said he would pay and give it to help defray the expense of the persecution but he now demands the $100 and some more of the $300. —On the whole this is to me a certain evidence of the meanness of the men and a proof that they also are disposed to oppress & persecute those who have invariably befriended them & saved them from the public indignation. I returned and told J. what had passed & he ordered Dr Richards to sue the notes & also gave Moore his own note for $200. payable 6 mo after date.

Saturday 25. A.M. at Prest J's. Also P.M in council with the quorum.

Monday 10. ... The City council passed a resolution declaring the Printing press on the hill a "nuisance" and ordered it destroyed if not moved in 3 hours notice. About sun down The police gathered at the Temple about sundown and after organizing proceeded to the office and demolished the press & scattered the type.

28 June 1844 And all this brought upon us by those who have shared of the kind sympathies & generosity of Genls Joseph & Hyrum Smith and have received good at their hands. The names of these men are William Law who was one of Josephs council and a member of the Quorum. Wilson Law Robert D. Foster, Charles A. Foster, Francis M. Higbee, Chancy L. Higbee Their associates in crime were Austin Cowles, Joseph H. Jackson a murderer, John M. Finch, Wm A. Rolleston Wm H.J. Man /Marr?/, Sylvester Emmans, Alexander Sympson S.M. Marr /Man/ John Eagle Henry O. Norton & Augustine Spencer. These had been aided and abetted by Charles Irvins & family. P.T. Rolfe, W.J. Higbee, Wm.Cook & Sarah his wife formerly Sarah Crooks of Manchester England. James Blakeslee. And finally a band of mobocrats scattered through the county among whom are Alexander Sympson, Thos. C. Sharp, Colonel Williams, Walter Bagby, & C. C. Skinner. Some of the aforesaid parties were storekeepers here & have drawn a vast of money from the place. David Bryant also joined in the clammer but did not take any public measures.
... After the bodies were laid out I went in to see them. Joseph looks very natural except being pale through loss of blood. Hyrum does not look so natural. Their aged mother is distracted with grief & it will be almost more than she can bear.

Sunday 30. ... A few of the Quorum assembled and agreed to send G.J. Adams to bear the news to the Twelve. Woodworth is bitter against Adams and said many hard things against him.

Tuesday 2nd A.M went to see Emma. She is in trouble because mother Smith is making disturbance about the property in Joseph's hands. Mother Smith wants Samuel to move into Nauvoo and take the Patriarchs office & says the church ought to support him. There is considerable danger if the family begin to dispute about the property that J's creditors will come forward & use up all the property there is. If they will keep still there is property enough to pay the debts and plenty left for other uses. I had much talk with Emma on the subject.

Wednesday 3rd. A.M at the Temple Office Emma sent for me & Cutler & Cahoon we had conversation with Esqr Wood on the situation of Josephs affairs. Emma has councilled Esqr Wood on the subject. P.M. at the Temple Office & after went to dig up the Records. Water had got into the place where they were & they were damaged.

Thursday 4th... I went to Emma's and assisted Esqr Wood to examine Josephs affairs. The situation looks gloomy. The property is chiefly in the name of the Trustee in Trust while the obligations are considered personal. Woods advised Emma to have all the Deeds Recorded at Carthage for he says our Recorders office is not legal. This will cause trouble & much dissatisfaction P.M. in Council with brothers Marks Cutler & Cahoon at Mark's house. It seemed manifest to us that brother Marks place is to be appointed president & Trustee in Trust and this accords with Emma's feelings. Brother Taylor is at brother Marks. I saw some of his wounds which are bad but he is recovering.

Saturday 6th. ... Yesterday a raft of Pine Lumber arrived for the Trustee in Trust. Woodworth laid claim to it, but the brethren say it is my duty as agent for the Trustee to take charge of it. I have accordingly done so and ordered Rockwood to Guard it till we can get it to the Temple. The greatest danger that now threatens us is dissensions and strife amongst the Church. There are already 4 or 5 men pointed out as successors to the Trustee & President & there is danger of feelings being
manifest. All the brethren who stand at the head seem to feel
the delicacy of the business. Phelps & Dr Richards have taken
a private course & are carrying out many measures on their
own responsibility without council.

Sunday 7th. At home writing this history which I now conclude
again at 1 o clock P.M. 5 o clock went to council with the
Quorum on the subject of appointing a Trustee in Trust. I
was told on the way that R. D. Foster is in Nauvoo having a
permit from the Governor to come and settle business. O.P.
Rockwell, M. G. Eaton and Theodore Turley are raging and threaten
his life if he tarry here, consequently the City Council have
sent a Guard to take care of him. I reasoned with Rockwell
& tried to show him the folly of his conduct inasmuch as the
Governor had said that if one of those men were assassinated
the whole city would be held responsible, and that President
Joseph gave himself up into the hands of his murderers for the
express purpose of saving the City from being Massacred. But
no reasoning seemed to touch him. He swore bitterly he would
have revenge and that Foster should not tarry here. I feel
grieved at this conduct, for there is now a little prospect
that the public sympathy will turn in our favor if we keep still.
I was late at the Council. The brethren had agreed not to ap-
point a Trustee until the Twelve came home, and that I should
act in the place of Trustee to receive property &c untill one
was appointed.

Monday 8th. At the Temple all day. Emma came up
... She also objected to the conclusion of the council last
evening & says there must be a Trustee appointed this week on
account of the situation of business.

Friday 12th. A.M. at the Temple measuring Lumber. Prest. Marks
came up to enquire which was best to do about appointing a Trustee.
We concluded to call a meeting of the several presidents of
Quorums & their council this P.M. at 2 o clock. As I returned
to dinner bro. Whitney came down with me & stated his feelings
about Marks being appointed Trustee. He referred me to the fact
of Marks being with Law & Emma in opposition to Joseph & the
quorum. &nd if Marks is appointed Trustee our spiritual blessings
will be destroyed inasmuch as he is not favorable to the most
important matters The Trustee must of necessity be the first
president of the Church & Joseph has said that if he and Hyrum
were taken away Samuel H. Smith would be his successor.

After dinner I talked with Cutler & Cahoon on the subject
& they both agreed in the same mind with bro. Whitney & myself.
At 3 we went to meeting. Emma was present and urged the necessity
of appointing a Trustee immediately. But on investigation it
was considered we could not lawfully do it. Another meeting
was appointed for Sunday Eve. Dr Richards & Phelps seem to
take all the matters into their own hands & won't tell us any
thing what they intend or have thought to do.
Saturday 13. This A.M Fergens paid over $00 from L Wight & $1000. from bro. Kimball in paper money. He however requested payment of an execution against Tufts amounting to $254.95 which Prest. J. agreed to do. I consulted Cutler & Cahoon & they said I had better pay what I did. Emma sent for me to enquire about the title to Snyders Lot. She talked much about Trustees being appointed & says if he is not a man she approves of will do the church all the injury she can by keeping the Lots which are in her name.

Sunday 14. ... At 6 went to the council. Phelps & Richards & P.F. Pratt stated that they had concluded to appoint 4 Trustees when a majority of the Twelve returned. These three brethren seem to keep matters very close to themselves and I and several others feel grieved at it. After meeting I informed Emma of the proceedings. She thinks they don't use her right.

Monday 15. ... Emma sent for me. I went & conversed considerable with her. She feels dissatisfied with the conduct of Richards and Phelps & says if they undertake to trample upon her she will look to herself. I conferred with Richards & Phelps & told them our feelings & they seem to feel more free. They told me the names of those they had thought of nominating for Trustees, Myself & A. Cutler are two of them. I told Emma of this & she seems better satisfied.

Tuesday 16th Emma sent for me early concerning the Lawrence business. She concluded that she & I had better go to Quincy to settle the business. I went home & got ready & we started on the "Omprey." ... We arrived at Quincy about 6½ P.M. Went to the City Hotel. After supper I went to see Mr. Lawrence concerning a tax title which he holds on some property in Lima belonging to bro Marks. He wants $100 for it. I had much conversation with him. Emma stayed at Burr Riggs' & I went to the City Hotel.

Wednesday 17th. Went to see Judge Miller and found that the Lawrence business could not be settled until another Guardian was appointed. ... At 12 at night a boat came & we left for home on the "Waverly." Amasa Lyman & G. P. Dykes was on the boat. We arrived in at Nauvoo at 11---

Thursday 1st August 1844. At 11 we arrived in Nauvoo, where we heard that Samuel H. Smith died on Tuesday evening.

Sunday 4th. A.M attended meeting. Er Rigdon spoke on the words My ways are not as your ways &c. He related a vision which the Lord had shown him concerning the situation of the Church and said there must be a Guardian appointed to build the Church up to Joseph as he has begun it. P.M at home bro. Whitney came. Evening Charles C. Rich came to my house to enquire about some revelations. He said brother Marks had notified the public that next Thursday there would be a meeting to choose a Guardian inasmuch as Er Rigdon was in a hurry to go home again. I do
not feel satisfied with this move because it is universally under-
stood that the Twelve have been sent for and are expected here
every day and it seems a plot laid for the saints to take ad-
vantage of their situation.

Tuesday 6th. ... Phelps told me that they had a council and
called upon Er Rigdon to say why he was so much disposed to
hurry matters &c. He said they should wait until the Twelve
returned.

Wednesday 7th. This morning the Committee and myself went out
to Lots to take invoice of Joseph property. Brother Cutler
said that in the council yesterday he drew out from Marks that
Sidney Rigdon was to be president and Marks Patriark.

5 of the Twelve got home last night viz. B. Young, E.C.
Kimball, L. Wight, O. Pratt and W. Woodruff. This seems very
providential and has given great satisfaction to the people.
At 4 P.M the Twelve & the High Council assembled in the 70s
Hall when Elder Rigdon stated the object of his mission. He
said he had a vision presented to his mind, not an open vision,
but rather a continuation of the one mentioned in the Book of
Covenants. It was shown to him that this Church must be built
up to Joseph and that all the blessings we receive must come
through Joseph. He had been ordained spoken to Joseph and
he must come to Nauvoo & see that the Church was governed in
a proper manner. The people could please themselves whether
they accepted him or not. He said he had a conversation with
Judge Pope on his way to Pittsburgh and that Pope told him that
the U.S. government were determined to deal with our Municipal
Court for the proceedings in relation to Jeremiah Smith and that
Butterfield and Pope were very determined to prosecute &c. After
Er Rigdon got through B. Young said a few sentences. He said
he did not care who led the Church if God said so even if it
was old "Ann Lee" but he must know that God said so. He said
he had not the keys & the means of knowing the mind of God on this
subject. He knew there were those in our midst who would seek
the lives of the Twelve as they had sought that of brother
Joseph. He should ordain some man and give him the keys so
that if he was killed the church might still have the priesthood.
He said the Twelve would not be permitted to tarry here long.
They would organize the church & then go away & they would
baptize Mormons a great deal faster than the mob would be able
to kill them. Er Lyman Wight followed in the same strain &
said he knew there were those in our midst who were seeking
his life. The meeting closed by appointing a conference for
next Tuesday at 10 o'clock.

Monday 5th/August/ This last night I dreamed
that Joseph and Emma came to me and appeared very much dissatisfied
and displeased because I had kept back the money sent by brother
Kimball. I thought I explained the reason and told them I had
been conciliated to do so.
August 1844

Thursday 8th. A.M I went to council with the Twelve. Brother Kimball concluded to pay the $1000 to Emma. I went home to get it & while there B. Young came & said they were going to have their conference this afternoon and wanted I should notify the brethren. I then went with brothers Kimball and Richards to see Emma. B. paid her the $1000 and bore testimony to her of the good feelings of the Twelve towards her. She seemed humble and more kind. P.M. attended conference. The Church universally voted to sustain the Twelve in their calling as next in presidency and to sustain Er Rigdon and A Lyman as councillors to the Twelve as they had been to the First Presidency. The Church also voted to leave the regulation of all the church matters in the hands of the Twelve. There was a very good feeling prevailed except amongst a few who were dissappointed.

Sunday 11th. A.M had conversation with Dianthe Parr on various subjects. She seems to be true and faithful. Margaret is miserable and unhappy. P.M. attended meeting for prayer with Mrs E. Young, G. Miller, H.C. Kimball, A. Lyman, T. Biglers, L. Richards, J.P. Green, L. Woodworth, N.K. Whitney & G. A. Smith & W. Woodruff.

Monday 12th. At the Temple Office & Emma's settling & preparing papers for her settlement as administratrix.

Thursday 15th. ...I went to see sister Emma, as she had sent for me early this A.M. I found her very cross. Esqr. Wood told me what he wanted done with regard to settling up the estate. He wanted a "list of all titles in the name of the Trustee in Trust, & not conveyed away, whether deeded or bonded, and by whom conveyed to the Trustee. Also a list of all lands conveyed to him as Trustee & by him conveyed away & to whom conveyed. Also a list of lands in his individual name. Also a full list of such personal property as was in his name as Trustee at the time of his death. Also a list of all notes & accounts and given their value and whether good or bad. Also a list of all property both real or personal belonging to the heirs" Besides this he wanted me to produce the papers pertaining to the transfers of the "Mid of Iowa" and recommended Emma to have the Boat included in the schedule. While he was talking I felt as though he was laying a deep plan to find out the situation of the public & public matters of the Church and to lay a trap for our ruin. I did not feel free to given him the papers of the Boat until I could get council. Emma seemed very much dissatisfied because I did not go in the morning and because I yielded to do anything else until she had her business settled. After dinner I went to see Er B. Young & have his council. I laid the matter before him & he advised me not to given. Would any accounts pertaining to the business of the Trustee in Trust. We both went over to bro. Whitneys and stated the matter to him. He was also opposed to Wood's interfering with the business of the Trustee in Trust.
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I then went to see Emma. I found her alone and began to talk to her & tell her what I thought Wood's intended to do. She grew warm and said that all the business of the Trustee must be presented. We had no secrets that we must keep back from the public for she was determined to have everything settled now. I replied to her that there were many things which I was unwilling the world should know anything about and should not lend my hand to ruin the church. She then grew more angry and said I had neglected her and the business, and there was nothing that had Prest. Smith's name to that should not be investigated. She said she had no secrets nor any thing she was unwilling the whole world should know. I told her that there was some things which would be unwilling the public should know. She denied it. I said I knew things that she did not want the world to know. She said if I harbor'd any idea that she had ever done wrong it was false. I answered "what I have seen with my eyes and heard with my ears I could believe." She said, if I said she had ever committed a crime I was a liar and I knew it. I replied sister Emma I know I dont lie and you know better what I know I know and although I never have told it to any soul on earth nor never intend to yet it is still the truth and I shall not deny it. She then several times called me a liar and said she knew I was her enemy and she never had been so abused in all her life. I told her I was not her enemy nor never had been. She said I neglected her and spent my time in the secret counsel of the Twelve and it was secret things which had cost Joseph and Hyrum their lives and says she "I prophecy that it will cost you and the Twelve your lives as it has done them." She repeated this two or three times in a threatening manner, and said it in a manner that I understood that she intended to make it cost us our lives as she had done by Prest. Smith. I told her that I would rather die then do anything to ruin the church. She raged very hard and used many severe threats and told me that she had now proved that I was an enemy to her and she did not want such persons about her to do business. I coolly replied that I was her friend and she would prove it so and I had done nothing but what I felt perfectly willing to meet her and Joseph together and answer for it. I also tried to show her that she had misinterpreted my words for I did not mean what she said I did. I told her I had run at her call night or day whenever I could get a chance and have suffered abuses which I never would have born from any other woman in the world. She would not listen to anything I could say and I left her. I still feel to befriend her all I can but she will now try to destroy my character and influence no doubt but I have no enmity towards her and am determined I will not given way to it. She is blind as to her best interest and those who are her best friends she is the most bitter against. She is cherishing and putting her life into the hands of traitors and murderers and they will use her up; for she will not listen to the advice of her friends nor be at peace with those who wish to do her good. I feel to pray that God will soften her heart and shew her the danger she is exposing herself to and to Bind her up that she may not have power to destroy thy servants O God. I went & told Prest. Young the whole circumstances & he told me to fear not, but rejoice
"She don't want to give up the money and I suppose if she can ruin my character and hold on to the money she will accomplish a two fold object. God knows that I am innocent of the charge as the angels in heaven, and it is grosly wicked in her to give out this report. Er Young recommended me to watch carefully - and in the morning go and get the secretary. I feel sorry to think that after I have served that family like a slave, having run all night & day, and never wronged them out of the first cent that she should thus abuse me, for I must say I never met with oppression and tyranny so cruel from any person in all my life as I have borne from that woman, but yet I will not be her enemy nor do her any harm, except it should be in the defence of my own life and character."

Tuesday 27. During last night D.A. grew much worse. The Canker in his mouth grew worse and turned quite black. About 7 this A.M. he was seized with a kind of fit which weakened him a good deal. He sank gradually ... until 2 o'clock P.M. he breathed his last. Thus has ended the earthly career of an innocent sufferer who has known no comfort in this life but has suffered since his birth to his death. The tongue of slander has swung freely against him and many of which his death (sic). Thus He is gone to rest with the just and will come forth again to inherit thrones, kingdoms, dominions, principalities, and powers in the mansions of his father.

"She did this by means of a false key which will unlock it. Her treachery seems unbounded. Rigdon, Marks, Emma, and some others are trying to draw of a party They say there is no church.

Thursday 29th. At the Temple A.M. at 10 met the Twelve at Prest Youngs. Er Marks & Rigdon had been notified to attend (for whom the council was designed) Er Rigdon said he was sick and should not attend. Er. Marks was present. Prest. Young stated to Er. Marks that in consequence of rumors & reports of the proceedings of him & Er Rigdon he had called them together that the thing might be talked over and if possible an union effected. Er Young stated what he had heard and Er Marks denied the charges in toto, and said he had been abused by the tongue of slander. He acknowledged that the course the Twelve had pursued was contrary to what he had expected but he did not intend to say any thing. The meeting was benificial to me & I thought I would never listen to reports again. Evening Er Kimball called to see us I had a long conversation with him. He advised me to take L for time.
August 1844

Friday 30th. At the Temple all day talked with L. but she don't seem disposed to do what is counselled.

Saturday 31st. At the Temple Office all day. P.M. went to see A. Hardman who is getting better. She will do right & wants her sister Elizabeth to go with her.

Monday 2nd. At the Temple Office had much talk with father about the gospel &c.

Tuesday 3rd. At the Temple all day Bro Whitney handed me the following

John Smith & wife 2
Hyrum Smith & do 2
Mercy R. Thompson 1
W. Woodruff & Wife 2
G. A. Smith and W 2
N. K. Whitney & do 2
R. Cahoon & do 2
A. Cutler & do 2
Jno Taylor & do 2
O. Hyde & do 2
James Adams & do 2
E. C. Kimball & do 2
B. Young & do 2
O. Spencer & do 2
O. Pratt 1
E. P. Pratt 1
W. Richards & Wife 2
J. M. Bernhisel 1
L. Woodworth & wife 2
W. Lew & wife 2
Sis Durfee 1
Mother Smith 1
Geo. Miller & W 2

Jos. Smith & W 2
Wm. Marks & W 2
Jos. Fielding & W 2
C.P. Lott & W 2
L. Richards 1
W. J. Phelps & W 2
S.H. Smith 1
Isaac Morley & W 2
Agness Smith 1
Jos. Young & W 2
W. Clayton 1
J.P. Green 1
S. Rigdon 1
Wm. Smith 1
Almon Babbit 1
Lyman Wight 1

Wednesday 4th Last evening the Twelve and some others met together with Er Rigdon toinvestigate his course. He came out full against the Twelve and said he would not be controlled by them. They asked him for his license, and he said he would give that if he must expose all the works of the secret chambers and all the iniquities of the church. The Twelve with drew fellowship from him and James Emmett and

There is considerable feeling prevailing. Edward Hunter, Leonard Soby, Wm. Cotter, B. Coles are amongst those who have joined Er Rigdon, Samuel James is one of his main supports. Every one of his followers as far as I can learn are ordained prophets and immediately receive the same spirit Er Rigdon is of. In the evening the Twelve & a few others of us met at Er Youngs & offered up prayers for our preservation & the preservation of the church, and that the Lord would bind up the dissenters that they may not have power to injure the honest
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in heart. We had a good time and we believe the Lord will answer our prayers.

Thursday 5th... Evening I heard Er Hyde in the Masonic Hall. He proved very plain that Er Rigdon's course since he came here has been a continued course of deception and falsehood and that his object is to scatter the people and break up the foundation laid by our beloved prophet Joseph Smith. The people seem to feel indignant at Er Rigdon for it is now reduced to a certainty that he is conspiring with the apostates to bring a mob upon us.

Friday 6. ... A.M. Er H.C.K. came up to say that I might take A.H. I went to the Temple Office & also to see A.H. P.M. attended the High Council as clerk. Leonard Soby was disfellowshipped by the council for following Er Rigdon. He spouted hard.

Sunday 8. At the meeting all day and acted as clerk. Er Rigdon Samuel Bennett, Leonard Soby, George Morey, Joseph H. Newton and John A. Forgens were cut off from the church & Samuel James and Jared Carter disfellowshipped. There was a good feeling among the people and a bad feeling among the Rigdonites.

Friday 13. ... At 3 went to see Alice Hardman who is sick and was united in the E.C.

Sunday 15. A.M. hear P.P. Pratt preach on the priesthood.

Friday 20. ... Also wrote a letter for H.C. Kjiball after he and I went to see A.H and E.B. The latter will obey his instructions. He again earnestly told me that all the Twelve were my very warmest friends and he will help me to accomplish all my desires inasmuch as they are right. He says I shall yet have S.C.

"Yearsley has wronged me and it is an evidence to me that he is about to deny the faith. I feel that he has wronged me a second time. He refused to take a $5. bill a few days ago and said it was a counterfeit, when it is well known that it is good.

See other Book No 2
May 1843

Sunday 14th  ... Walked out with Mt. who promises to be true.

Monday 15. At the Temple office. night my wife & Margaret slept together

Tuesday 16. Went to see Pres. J. who ordered me to prepare for Carthage
I returned home & got ready & started about 11 oclock in the New Carriage
with prest. J. George Miller, Eliza Partridge, Lydia Partridge & J.M.
Smith Loran Walker drove. We called at Carthage & saw Styles, Backenstos
& others. Tarried about 15 minutes & started again for Ramus where we
arrived about 3½ oclock. We stayed at W. G. Perkins. Pres. J. & I
went to B.F. Johnsonsto sleep. Before we retired the Prest. gave bro
Johnson & wife some instructions on the priesthood. He put his hand on
my knee and says "your life is hid with Christ in God," and so is many
others". Addressing Benjamin says he "nothing but the unpardonable sin
can prevent him (me) from inheriting eternal glory for he is sealed up
by the power of the priesthood unto eternal life having taken the step
which is necessary for that purpose." He said that except a man and his
wife enter into an everlasting covenant and be married for eternity while
in this probation by the power and authority of the Holy priesthood they
will cease to increase when they die (ie. they will not have any children
in the resurrection, but those who are married by the power & authority of
the priesthood in this life & continue without committing the sin against
the Holy Ghost will continue to increase & have children in the celestial
glory. The unpardonable sin is to shed innocent blood or be accessory
thereto. All other sins will be visited with judgement in the flesh and the
spirit being delivered to the buffetings of satan until the day of the
Lord Jesus." I feel desirous to be united in an everlasting covenant

to my wife and pray that it may soon be. Prest. J. said that the way he knew
in whom to confide, God told him in whom he might place confidence. He
also said that in the celestial glory there was three heavens or degrees,
May 1843

and in order to obtain the highest a man must enter into this order of the priesthood and if he dont he cant obtain it. He may enter into the other but that is the end of his kingdom he cannot have increase.

Wednesday 17th Breakfast at bro Perkins, after which we took a pleasure ride through Fountain Green. At 10 Prest. J. preached on 2nd Peter Ch 1. He shewed that knowledge is power & the man who has the most knowledge has the greatest power. Also that salvation means a mans being placed beyond the powers of all his enemies. He said the more sure word of prophecy meant, a mans knowing that he was sealed up unto eternal life by revelation & the spirit of prophecy through the power of the Holy priesthood. He also showed that it was impossible for a man to be saved in ignorance. Paul had seen the third heavens and I more. Peter penned the most sublime language of any of the apostles.

Dined at bro. Babits. prest. J. said to bro. Johnson & I that J.B. Nobles when he was first taught this doctrine set his heart on one & pressed J. to seal the contract but he never could get opportunity. It seemed that the Lord was unwilling. Finally another came along & he then engaged that one and is a happy man. I learned from this anecdote never to press the prophet but wait with patience & God will bring all things right. I feel to pray that God will let me live so that I may come to the full knowledge of truth and salvation & be prepared for the enjoyment of a fulness of the third heavens.

After dinner I took a pleasure ride with Lorain & the children P.M. pres. J. attended the City council & afterwards rode out with B.F. Johnsons family. In the evening we went to hear a Methodist preacher lecture. After he got through Pres. J. offered some corrections as follows. The 7th verse of C 2 of Genesis ought to read God breathed into Adam his spirit or breath of life, but when the word "ruach" applies to Eve it should be translated lives.
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Speaking of eternal duration of matter he said. There is no such thing as immaterial matter. All spirit is matter but is more fine or pure and can only be discerned by purer eyes. We cant see it but when our bodies are purified we shall see that it is all matter. The gentleman seemed pleased & said he should visit Nauvoo immediately.

Thursday 18th. We left Macedonia about 8½ and arrived Carthage at 10. I asked the Prest. wether children who die in infancy will grow. He answered "no, we shall receive them precisely in the same state as they died is no larger. They will have as much intelligence as we shall but shall always remain separate and single. They will have no increase. Children who are born dead will have full grown bodies being made up by the resurrection.

At Carthage we paid some taxes &c. Dined at Backenstos's with Judge Douglas who is presiding at Court. After dinner the Prest. & Judge had conversation concerning sundry matters. The Prest. said "I prophecy in the name of the Lord God that in a few years this government will be utterly overthrown and wasted so that there will not be a potsherd left" for their wickedness in conniving at the Missouri mobocracy. The Judge appears very friendly & acknowledged the propriety of the prests. remarks.

We left Carthage about 2 & arrived home at 5½. my family all well.

May 20th 1843. ... Rode on prairie with prest. J Jackson bro Oakley & others to look lands. P.M. rode out with Jackson to shew lands. prest. Smith tells me he has appointed Jackson to sell lands and relieve me of their burthen. He says Jackson appears a fine & noble fellow but is reduced in circumstances. The prest. feels disposed to employ him & give him a chance in the world. Jackson says he shall be baptized ere long.

Sunday 21. Prest. J. preached on 2 Peter chapter 1 to a very full house. P.M. we had sacrament administered. Evening I took a walk with my wife M. to H Kimball's & thence to the post office
May 1843

Monday 22. Went to prest. J's he rec'd a letter from sister Armstrong of Philadelphia complaining of slanderous conduct in B. Winchester. the Prest. handed the letter to Dr Richards saying the Twelve ought to silence Winchester. ... In company with Jackson Prest. J. Mr Simpson and some others Tuesday 23. Conversed with H.C.K. concerning a plot that is being laid to entrap the brethren of the secret priesthood by bro. H. and others. Attended to much tax business with sundry brethren. ... Prest. J & lady rode to his farm. Evening Prest. gave up lot 4 B 148 which he agreed to purchase of Asa Smith some time ago in consequence of Asas wanting to drag all money out of Prest. and paying it for land else to here. Prest. said such covetous minded men would be damned. Prest. stated to me that he had had a little trouble with sis E. he was asking E. Partridge concerning Jackson conduct during Prest. absence & E came up stairs. he shut to the door not knowing who it was and held it. She came to the door & called Eliza 4 times & tried to force open the door. Prest. opened it & told her the cause &c. She seemed much irritated. He says Jackson is rotten hearted.

May the Lord preserve me from committing a fault to cause me to lose the confidence of my friends for I desire to do right thou Lord knowest.

Wednesday 24. ... Prest J. bought 11 quarter sections of land of Gen. Adams. ... Prest. J. rode on the hill with Emma & also attended Court in the Ferry case.

Thursday 25. Started early to Carthage to redeem the city lots. Completed the business & returned home. I arrived about 8. rained very heavy Friday 26. A.M. went with A. Cordon to look a lot. Also at the Temple office. The carpenters finished in my house. Prest. J came up in the afternoon & I went back with him. Settled with Wm. Ford by giving him \( \frac{1}{4} \) of lot & took up the due bill. Prest. in meeting with the Twelve & Judge
May-June 1843

Adams. Hyrum received the doctrine of priesthood
Sunday 28. At bro Kimbals who was blessing his children, he also blessed
Wm. Haber Clayton. At 2 I met with the wardens of the lodge P.M at
home writing papers on settlement with the lodge. We are occupying our new
house for which I feel very thankful.
Monday 29 This A.M. prest J. told me that he felt as though I was not
treating him exactly right & asked if I had used any familiarity with E.
I told him by no means & explained to his satisfaction. At the store office.
Tuesday 30. At the Mayors office preparing papers for the Lawrence business.
Wednesday 31. ... This A.M. Sarah Crooks arrived at Nauvoo. She received
word that I sent to bro Clark on Feby 12th - & started immediately. She
has been prospered & blest on her journey.
Thursday June 1st. This day I have been at Prest. J's office all day,
preparing papers for the settlement of the Lawrence business with bro's Whiting
& Richards. ... Evening J. rode in the carriage with F. Whdoounto
[Woodworth]. He let Lorin Walker have a knowledge of some things.
Friday 2nd. ... wrote to Susan Conrad. This evening I talked with
Sarah again & she appears willing to comply with her privilege.
(16 May 1343)

... He said that except a man and his wife enter into an everlasting covenant and be married for eternity while in this probation by the power and authority of the Holy priesthood they will cease to increase when they die (ie: they will not have any children in the resurrection, but those who are married by the power & authority of the priesthood in this life & continue without committing the sin against the Holy Ghost will continue to increase & have children in the celestial glory. The unpardonable sin is to shed innocent blood or be accessory thereto. All other sins will be visited with judgement in the flesh and the spirit being delivered to the buffetings of satan untill the day of the Lord Jesus." ... Pres. J. said that the way he knew in whom to confide, God told him in whom he might place confidence. He also said that in the celestial glory there was three heavens or degrees, and in order to obtain the highest a man must enter into this order of the priesthood and if he dont he cant obtain it. He may enter into the other but that is the end of his kingdom he cannot have an increase.

(17 May 1843)

... At 10 Prest. J. preached on 2nd Peter Ch 1. He shewed that knowledge is power & the man who has the most knowledge has the greatest power. Also that salvation means a mans being placed beyond the powers of all his enemies. He said the more sure word of prophecy meant, a mans knowing that he was sealed up unto eternal life by revelation & the spirit of prophecy through the power of the Holy priesthood. He also showed that it was impossible for a man to be saved in ignorance. Paul had seen the third heavens and 1 more. Peter penned the most sublime language of any of the apostles.
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23 May 1843:

Tuesday 23. Conversed with H.C.K. concerning a plot that is being laid to entrap the brethren of the secret priesthood by bro. H. and others.

26 May 1843:

Friday 26... Prest. in meeting with the Twelve & Judge Adams. Hyrum received the doctrine of priesthood.
(30 June 1843)

... At 4 o clock a large multitude were assembled at the grove & about 5 Prest. J. made his appearance on the stand in company with Cyrus H. Walker=Esqr. The general theme of his discourse tended to enlighten the minds of the public concerning the powers of the Municipal Court in relation to Habeas Corpus as granted in the Nauvoo Charter, plainly proving that the municipal court had more power than the circuit courts inasmuch as the latters power was limited while that of the former was unlimited. He also said that he had restrained the saints from using violence in self defense but from henceforth he restrained them no more. The best of feelings prevailed during the whole meeting.

(16 July 1843)

... P. M. went to the Grove and heard Pres. J. preach on the law of the priesthood. He stated that Hyrum held the office of prophet to the church by birth-right & he was going to have a reformation and the saints must regard Hyrum for he has authority. He showed that a man must enter into an everlasting covenant with his wife in this world or he will have no claim on her in the next. He said that he could not reveal the fulness of these things until the Temple is completed &c.

(6 August 1843)

... Prest. J. made some remarks on the election showing that he had taken no part in it. stated that Hyrum had had a manifestation that it was for our interest to vote for Hoge.
August 1843

Thursday 3rd A.M. at Prest. J's ... Conversed about W Law, Emma &c. ...
(13 August 1843)

Went to meeting heard J. preach on 2 Peter 3. 10 & 11—being a funeral sermon on the death of E. Higbee. When speaking of the passage "I will send Elijah the prophet &c" he said it should read and he shall turn the hearts of the children to the covenant made with their fathers. Also where it says and they shall seal the servants of God in their foreheads &c it means to seal the blessing on their heads meaning the everlasting covenant thereby making their calling & election sure. When a seal is put upon the father and mother it secures their posterity so that they cannot be lost but will be saved by virtue of the covenant of their father. P.M. Prest J. offered some complaints of the citizens of Nauvoo 1st because some young men sat on the ladies camp ground and laughed & mocked during meeting. He next spake of Walter Bagby & the little skirmish he had with him about a week ago he spoke of Esq Wells interfering when he had no business. He then spake of the abuses he received at the election by King & the board of Judges. Also of the Grog & Beer shops & said he should rip them up. He then showed that Sidney Rigdon had bound himself by an oath to Governor Carlin to deliver J into the hands of the Missourians if he could & finally in the name of the Lord withdrew the hand of fellowship from him & put it to the vote of the people. He was cut off by an unanimous vote & orders to demand his license.

(27 August 1843)

A.M. at the Grove. Prest. J. preached on Hebrews c 7. After reading a letter from Thos. Carlin to S. Rigdon and making some remarks about it. He shewed that the word "Salem" is a wrong translation it should be "Shalome" signifying peace. He prophesied that "not all the powers of hell or earth combined can ever overthrow this boy" for he had a promise from the eternal God. He spoke concerning the priesthood of Melchisedek shewing that the sectarian never professed to have it.
(27 August 1843, cont.) consequently never could save any one and would all be damned together. He showed that the power of the Melchisek P'd was to have the power of an "endless lives. he showed that the everlasting covenants could not be broken, and by the sacrifice required of Abraham the fact that when God offers a blessing or knowledge to a man and he refuses to receive it he will be damned--mentioning the case of the Israelite praying that God would speak to Moses & not to them--in consequence of which he curse them with a carnal law.

(9 October 1843)

...P.M. at the conference Pres. J. preached Judge Adams funeral sermon. The people were well edified and a very good feeling prevailed throughout.

(7 April 1844)

.... Joseph discoursed on the dead
30 August 1843 A.M. ... at Pres J's. He & Hyrum told me that Mr Brown of Rushville had arrived last night & had no where to go. They requested me to taken them in for about 3 weeks and I consented.

31st ... I move Mr Browns family to my house this evening.
3.21.1844 At the Council all day . . .

3.26.1844 In Council through the day . . .

2.3.1844 P.M. was permitted to the ordinance of washing and anointing, and was received into the Quorum of Priesthood. This is one of the greatest favors ever conferred on me and for which I feel grateful. May the God of Joseph preserve me & mine house to walk in the paths of righteousness all the days of my life & oh that I may never sin against him or displease him. For thou oh God knowest my desire to do right that I may have eternal life.

P.M.

1.22.1844 bro. Cahoon came to my house to say that a vote had been taken on my being admitted into the quorum & I was accepted. This filled my heart with joy, and gratitude for truly the mercy of the Lord and the kindness of my brethren have been great to me . . . .

12.22.1844 Met with the brethren of the first quorum to pray & counsel. My wife and O. Pratts wife, P.P. Fratts wife and A. Lymans wife was voted in. We have to use to greatest care & caution & dare not let it be known that we met . . .

A.M at Presb J's commenced taking inventory of Iosco Groceries & for J. and settler's wife & Roomer who has this day rented the "Marvin house" for $ 1000. pr annum & some other matters.
[25 January 1844]

Thursday 25. ... P.M. sis Durphy came to make my Robe & Garment.
I was at Prest. Js.
Wednesday 12th. [June 1844] ... P.M. at Prest Js recording Saunders
Died at 1½ o clock David Bettisworth a constable from Carthage came
with a writ for Joseph, Hyrum, Phelps, Jno Taylor, S. Bennett and a
number of others for riot, in breaking the press of the Nauvoo Expositor.
After the officer got through reading the writ, Joseph referred him to
this clause in the writ "before me or some other justice of the peace
of said County" saying we are ready to go to trial before Esqr Johnson,
for that was their privilege allowed by the Statute. The man said he should
take them before Morrison the man who issued the writ and seemed very
wrathy- Joseph asked him if he intended to break the law, for he knew
the privilege of the prisoners and they should have it. Joseph called upon
all present to witness that he then offered himself (Hyrum did the same)
to go forthwith before the nearest justice of the peace, and also called
upon them to witness whether the officer broke the law. Joseph [indecip.]
a write of Habeas Corpus which was taken out and served on Bettisworth. While
this was going on and the Marshall summoning the Municipal Court - Hyrum
related the whole history of the difficulty with Wm Law to the constable
& a man with him - showing them what we believed on sealing of the covenant-
that Law wanted to be sealed & J. told him he was forbid - which begun the
hard feelings. He talked about 2 hours, then J. came in & told about
Jackson. About 5 the court assembled in the 70s Hall- much testimony was
brought to the point & the Court discharged J. from the writ & assessed
the costs to F.M. Higbee the complainant.
Monday 17th. A.M at Prest. J's wrote a letter for Hyrum to the Twelve
requesting them to come home without delay.
12 June 1844

Wednesday 12th. A.M went to Temple office then to Prest. Js. walked with him, O.P.R. and J. Grant to my house & then to Temple. P.M. at Prest Js recording Saunders Died at 1 ½ o clock.

David Bettisworth a constable from Carthage came with a writ for Joseph, Hyrum, Phelps, Jno Taylor, L. Bennett and a number of others for riot, in breaking the press of the Nauvoo Expositor. After the officer got through reading the writ, Joseph referred him to this clause in writ "before me or some other justice of the peace of said County" saying we are ready to go to trial before Esqr Johnson, for that was their privilege allowed by the Statute. The man said he should take them before Morrison the man who issued the writ and seemed very wrathly – Joseph asked him if he intended to break the law, for he knew the privilege of the prisoners and they should have it. Joseph called upon all present to witness that he then offered himself (Hyrum did the same) to go forthwith before the nearest justice of the peace, and also called upon them to witness whether the officer broke the law. Joseph (?) a write of Habeas Corpus which was taken out and served on Bettisworth.

While this was going on and the Marshall summoning the Municipal Court – Hyrum related the whole history of the difficulty with Wm Law to the constable & a man with him – showing them what we believed on sealing of the covenant– that Law wanted to be sealed & J. told him he was forbid – which begun the hard
feelings. He talked about 2 hours, then J. came in & told about Jackson. About 5 the court assembled in the 70s Hall—much testimony was brought to the point & the Court discharged J. from the writ & assessed the costs to F.M. Higbee the complainant.
Saturday 15th. A.M. conversing with Dr Wakefield & others in the Bar Room - telling a dream concerning his father killing a man who attempted to stab him. He also spoke concerning key words. The [illegible] key word was the first word Adam spoke and is a word of supplication. He found the word by the Urim & Thummim—. It is that key word to which the heavens is opened.

Saturday 15th. A.M. at Prest J's. 2 brethren came up from the Morley settlement saying that old Col. Williams' Company had been to demand their arms & they wanted to know if they must yield them. J. told them not to do it while they lived. Various reports have come stating that the Warsawites have ordered the Saints to leave forthwith & threatening pretty bad. P.M at the Temple office—
(14 June 1844)

A.M. conversing with a number of gentleman in the Bar room concerning the proceedings of our enemies. He prophesied in the name of the Lord that if they did mob us it would be a precedent to come down upon their own heads with fury and vengeance.

(15 June 1844)

A.M. conversing with Dr Wakefield & other in the Bar Room--telling a dream concerning his father killing a man who attempted to stab him. He also spoke concerning key words. The grand key word was the first word Adam spoke and is a word of supplication. He found the word by the Urim & Thummim--It is that key word to which the heavens is opened.

(16 June 1844)

Preached at the stand. P.M at the Masonic Hall laying the proceedings of the City Council before a number of Gentlemen from Fort Madison. 4 o clock at the stand stated the design of the meeting & ordered the Major General to have the Legion in readiness to suppress all illegal violence in the City.

(18 June 1844)

... After Phelps got through Genl. J. Smith addressed the multitude. He briefly explained the object of the mob and showed that they waged a war of extermination upon us because of our religion. He called upon all the volunteers who felt to support the constitution from the Rocky Mountains.
(18 June 1844) cont.)
to the Atlantic Ocean to come with their arms, ammunition & defend the constitution. He called upon them as the Lieutenant General of the N. L and Illinois Militia in the name of the Constitution of the U.S. the people of the State of Ill. and the citizens of Nauvoo. He called upon the Citizens to defend the lives of their wives & children, fathers and mothers, brothers & sisters from being murdered by the mob. He urged them in strong terms not to shed innocent blood.--not to act in the least on the offensive but invariably in the defensive and if we die--die like men of God and secure a glorious resurrection. He concluded by invoking the Great God to bless the people.--

... In the above address he advised all to arm themselves those who had no rifles, get swords, scythe and make weapons of some kind. He informed them that he had 5000 Elders minute men who would come with volunteers as soon as he would inform them. He said there were many from Iowa waiting to come when requested.
18 June 1844 (Tuesday Noon). Front of Mansion House.

William Clayton Journal

This A.M. the Legion is ordered to parade.... At 11 he rode to the parade ground & after staying a short season the whole legion marched down to the Mansion. Judge Phelps there read the preamble and resolutions of the mob in which they threaten extermination to the whole Church in Nauvoo. After Phelps got through Gen. J. Smith addressed the multitude. He briefly explained the object of the mob and showed that they waged a war of extermination upon us because of our religion. He called upon all the volunteers who felt to support the constitution from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean to come with their arms, ammunition & provisions to defend us from the mob & defend the constitution. He called upon them as the Lieutenant General of the N.L. and Illinois Militia in the name of the Constitution of the U.S. the people of the State of Ill. and the citizens of Nauvoo. He called upon the citizens to defend the lives of their wives & children. For their [fathers?] and mothers, brothers & sisters, from being murdered by the mob. He urged them in strong terms not to shed innocent blood—not to act in the least on the offensive but invariable in the defensive and if we die—die like men of God and secure a glorious resurrection. He concluded by invoking the Great God to bless the people.—
April 1845

Journal of Wm. Clayton No 3 commencing April 1st 1845

Thursday 3rd. ... Evening met with a few of the high quorum at Dr Richards house for prayer, there were present B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, John Taylor, O. Pratt, G. A. Smith, J' E. Page, G. Miller, Joseph Young and myself. Our prayers were that the plans of the mob might be frustrated that they might have no influence nor power to disturb nor trouble us, that the leaders of the mob especially Sharp may be visited with judgements, and that we may be preserved in peace to finish the houses and see the Elders endowed and fulfil all that the Lord commanded us in this place, also that brother Whitney, A. Lyman & Uncle John Smith may be healed of their sicknesses, and that our families may be blessed &c. We had a good time.

Thursday 17th ... 

Evening tarried at the office till 8 o'clock afterwards met at Dr Richards' to pray in company with B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, G. A. Smith, A. Lyman, O. Pratt, of the twelve; N.K. Whitney & George Miller the two church bishops, John Smith, Patriarch and Joseph Young. The particular subjects asked for was father Bents mission to L. Wights company and the deliverance of the church from their enemies. At my suggestion the hands who labor on the Temple were remembered to be preserved from accidents, inasmuch as they are in danger all the while. We had a very good time.

Sunday 27 ... Evening met at Dr Richards with the Dr. Pres Young H.C. Kimball, A. Lyman, G. A. Smith, O. Hyde, J. Young & John Smith. Our object was to offer up prayers for a number of subjects. The meeting broke up about 10½ o clock with perfect peace & union.

Thursday 1st. /May 1845/ ... Prest. Young told me that he had learned that the Rigdonites are intending to have me taken up and prosecuted for polygamy, especially George W. Robinson & Samuel James ... Evening met for prayer at Dr Richards. There were present B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, A. Lyman, O. Hyde, O. Pratt; G. A. Smith, John Smith, I Morley and Joseph Young and myself.

Saturday 3rd. ... P.M ... Charles Ivins was in the office and says that in a conversation with Cowles he learned that Rigdons party is very much divided both in doctrine and sentiment. Law & Rigdon differed in fifteen points of doctrine, Rigdon wanting to deny the book of Mormon which Law could not do. McLellan & Rigdon also differ in sentiment.

Wednesday 7th. ... Evening met with the following brethren at Dr Richards for prayer being clothed &c. viz. B. Young, J. Taylor, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, N.K. Whitney,
May 1845

L. Richards, brother Kimball came in at the close of the meeting. We had a very pleasant time. The chief subjects were to pray that the Lord would hedge up the way of the mob so that they may have no power over us during court. Also that the Lord would hedge up the way of John Greenhow that he may not have power or influence to go to England and publish the book of Doctrine and Covenants. Petitions were also offered for brother Miller & others who are sick. It was also agreed to send a letter to Er Woodruff in England and warn him to forestall Greenhow and get out a copy right for the Doctrine & Covenants before him.

Thursday 8th ... Evening met at Dr Richards for prayer in company with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, O. Pratt, J. E. Page, N. K. Whitney, L. Richards, Joseph Young. We had a very interesting time.

Sunday 11th. At the office all day comparing account books with brother Whitehead. Evening met at Dr Richards for prayer with H. Young, W. Richards, J. Taylor, O. Pratt, G.A. Smith, J.E. Page N.K. Whitney and Levi Richards. Prest. Young advised me to keep closed up for a week or two inasmuch as the apostates, especially S. James & G. W. Robinson have entered into measures to take me with a writ to Carthage. The mob also want to get Prest Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, O. Hyde & W.W Phelps and it is said they have taken out writ for them. They want twelve men out of Nauvoo but we are unable to learn who the others are.


Sunday 18th. ... I went to meet with the brethren at Dr Richards but felt to unwell to remain.

Friday 23rd. ... Wm. Smith is coming out in opposition to the Twelve and in favor of Adams. The latter has organized a church at Augusta, Iowa Territory with young Joseph Smith for President, Wm. Smith for Patriarch, Jared Carter for President of the stake and himself for speaker to Joseph. Wm. says he has sealed some women to men and he considers he is not accountable to Brigham nor the Twelve nor any one else. There is more danger from William than from any other source, and I fear his course will bring us much trouble. Evening went with brother Whitney to see the Twelve at Er Taylors on Main Street. We dined till near 10 o'clock. There were present B. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, J.E. Page and N.K. Whitney. I presented to them a proposition to write a short history of the building of the Temple from its commencement, together with other matters and deposit the history in the corner stone about to be laid tomorrow. They acquiesced with the plan. The case of Wm. Smith was also talked over. It appears he is determined to
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rule the church and monopolize the whole to himself. Samuel Brannan came in while we were talking. I had an introduction to him. J.C. Wright and Elias Smith also came in and stated that the court had got a jury empanelled and was to proceed to try the murderers at 8 o’clock tomorrow morning. They say there is no manner of doubt but the murderers will be acquitted.

Sunday 25th ... At a little after 8 brother Kimball called and I went with him to Dr. Richards to meet with the quorum for prayer. Present Pres. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, Amasa Lyman, John E. Page and O. Pratt of the Twelve. N.K. Whitney and G. Miller, Trustees, and Levi Richards, Patriarch John Smith, Joseph Young and myself. We had a good time and felt that our prayers would be answered. We broke up about half past eleven.

Thursday 29. ... Evening met at Dr. Richards for prayer, in company with president B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, John Taylor, Amasa Lyman, G. A. Smith, O. Pratt, and O. Hyde of the Twelve, N. K. Whitney and George Miller, Trustees, Joseph Young and Levi Richards. The subjects prayed for were many, especially that the Lord would over-rule the movements of Wm. Smith who is endeavoring to ride the Twelve down, and also that the Lord would over-rule the mob so that we may dwell in peace until the Temple is finished. The council broke up about half past 12 o’clock.

Sunday 1st. ... Evening at Dr. Richards with B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, J.E. Page, O. Pratt, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, John Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller & Joseph Young. It was decided that Hanson translate the Doctrine and Covenants & Book of Mormon into the Norwegian language and that Dr. O. Pratt assist. Also decided that the Trustees give G.D. Watt a quarter of a lot and build him a house and employ him as a reporter for the Church, and let his labors go towards paying for his house and lot. I read a part of the record which I prepared for a depository, but it was not as full as president Young wanted and the council concluded to deposite all the Times & Seasons, to give a perfect history of the church in Nauvoo. Separated at 12 o’clock.

Thursday 5th ... Evening met at Dr. Richards for prayer in company with B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, O. Pratt, A. Lyman, J.E. Page, G. A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller and Levi Richards. We separated at 12 o’clock.

Sunday 6th. A.M. at the office, afterwards at home all day. At 4 met at Dr. Richards with B. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, C.Hyde, O. Pratt, J.E. Page, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, L. Richards & J.C. Kingsbury. We had a very interesting time and separated about 9 o’clock.
Thursday 12th. ... At 4 o clock met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, G. A. Smith, A. Lyman, O. Pratt, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, and Levi Richards. We had a very interesting time and separated about half past 8 o clock.


Thursday 19th ... Afterwards at Dr Richards with President B. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, O. Pratt, G. A. Smith, A. Lyman, O. Hyde, George Miller and Levi Richards. Prayers were offered up for many things especially that the curse of God may fall upon Judge Young and the Lawyers who have justified the murderers, and that they may not be able to hold court. Evening at home.

Sunday 22nd. ... P.M met at Dr Richards with Prest B. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, O. Pratt, A. Lyman, G.A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, John Smith, L. Richards & J.C. Kingsbury. Sister Richards is yet very sick and it was agreed that four of the company should go down with Er Richards to lay hands on her while the other remained to offer up prayers for her in the room. Ers J. Taylor, O. Pratt, J. C. Kingsbury, & myself were appointed to go with the Dr. He anointed his wife and we then laid hands on her. After we returned to the room prayers were offered up for sundry matters, especially that God would overrule the movements of our enemies. &c.

Tuesday 24th ... Wm. Smith has given bail for another brother of the Hodges who was in custody for robbing, and also beat brother Tufts shamefully yesterday for a matter of small consequence. Wm Smith is railing against the movements of the Twelve and says he has authority here to do as he has a mind to and the people shall know it. It appears he is determined to cause us trouble.

Thursday 26th ... afterwards at Er Richards with Prest. B. Young H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, O. Pratt, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, J. Young, L. Richards and John Smith. brother Richards Rhoda Ann, brother Kimball, Brigham Willard, and brother Whitneys Mary Jane were blessed each with great blessings. The afternoon was spent in conversation and prayer till 8 o clock.

Friday 27th. ... All things seem to go right according to our prayers...at 9 met at Dr. Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, A. Lyman, C. Pratt, G.A. Smith, J.E. Page, George Miller & Joseph Young. Most of the day was spent in conversation on various subjects, and towards evening we clothed and consecrated 9 bottles of oil and offered up prayers for general matters afterwards I went to the mansion.
June 1845

Saturday 28th. ... A new revelation has come to light from mother Smith, corrected and altered by William Smith so as to suit his wishes by representing him as the legal successor of Joseph in the presidency.

Sunday 29th ... At 4 met at Dr. Richards in company with Prest. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, O. Pratt, A. Lyman, G.A. Smith, J. Taylor, W.K. Whitney, G. Miller, Josh. Young, and J. C. Kingsbury. Prayers were offered for a variety of subjects. Sister Richards is recovering.

Wednesday 9th /July 1845/ ... Sister Richards died this morning at about 3 after 10. she has suffered much for a long time back. We have held her by faith alone, but she is gone to rest. ...

At 2 P.M. went with the Band to the dinner given by the Trustees for the Smith's family at the Mansion. Near all the connexions of brother William either by birth or marriage were present, besides a number of Wm. particular friends. The evening was spent cheerfully although the spirit of Wm. & his associates was very different from the spirit of the Twelve. The company broke up about 8 o clock.

Sunday 13th. ... At home till 4 P.M. then met at Dr. Richards with Prest. Young, H.C. Kimball W. Richards, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, O. Pratt, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, J. Young, L. Richards & J.C. Kingsbury. Prayers were offered for general matters.

Wednesday 16th. ... Evening I went to see Diantha. We walked out some together. She seemed to feel very bad about something which passed during her visit this afternoon. When we returned to her home I saw that her mind was affected and she was likely to have another fit of mental derangement. I tried to persuade her to go to bed but she was unwilling, but I finally got her mother to make her a bed down stairs and we put her to bed by force. Soon as she got laid down she began to talk about and rave as if in great pain which seemed to increase until she was perfectly out of her mind and raging. She tore her hair and I then held her which required all the force I had got to hold her hands. She continued about three quarters of an hour in this distressing situation and about half past 10 sister Farr went & called brother Farr. He came down and laid hands on her and rebuked the evil spirit and commanded it to leave her in the name of the Lord. She immediately calmed down and seemed to fall into a mild sleep. Soon after she commenced talking or rather answering questions. She seemed to be in the world of spirits on a visit, and about the first she conversed with was brother Joseph and the conversation seemed to be on the subject of the massacre. She then appeared to go and visit a number of their dead relatives who invariably enquired about their relatives on the earth. The answers she
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gave were literally facts as they exist. She then enquired for William Smith's wife Caroline. She was soon taken to her and entered into conversation. Caroline asked about William, how he acted, how he felt towards the Twelve, what was his course, how her two girls were and whether he had got married. To all these interrogatories she answered in the nicest manner, avoiding carefully any thing which would wound Caroline's feelings. She then enquired for sister Richards and soon met with her. It seemed by her answers that sister Richards asked how the Doctor felt when she left him, how his children were, and whether Lucy lived with him, all which she answered correctly. She then visited Wm. Snow's first wife and conversed about Wm. and his daughter and father. She then appeared to go back to brother Joseph and Hyrum Smith and father Smith. Joseph asked about Emma and the children and how the Twelve and Emma felt towards each other &c all which she answered wisely but truly. He also asked about Lydia and gave her some instructions for Lydia. He asked about me and told her I was a good man. When she parted with her friends she always bid them "good bye" but when she parted with Joseph she said, "I am not in the habit of kissing men but I want to kiss you" which she appeared to do and then said "farewell." She then seemed to start back for home. She appeared all the time in a hurry to get back. She said she would like to tarry but she could not leave father and mother and another, but she would soon return & bring them with her and then she would tarry with them. She conversed about two hours in this manner and seemed overjoyed all the time. A pleasant smile sat on her countenance which continued after she awoke. It was one of the most interesting ad sweet interviews I ever witnessed, and a very good spirit seemed to prevail all the time. I left about 10 o'clock apparently much composed and comparatively free from pain.

Thursday 17th ... I talked with Diantha at noon. She has not the least recollection of any thing that passed last night. She seems quite feeble and worn down with fatigue & exertion. At 4 P.M. met at Dr. Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, O. Pratt, A. Lyman, John Smith, N.K. Whintey, George Miller, J. Young & L. Richards. It was decided in council that Dr. Richards have a barn built by the Trustees, also that the Masonic Hall and Arsenal be prepared for store houses for grain, also that the Trustees purchase the New York store if it can be bought reasonable, also that brother Pack b y the Masonic Hall Tavern and that the Trustees rent or lease the Mansion for 3 or five years. Prayers were offered for the sick and a number of subjects and about 8 o clock we separated.

Sunday 20th. ... at 4 met at Dr. Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, O. Pratt, G. Miller; John Smith, J. Young, L. Richards & J.C. Kingsbury. It was decided that the Trustees furnish Orson Pratt $33.-- for his expenses East. Prayers were offered for.
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general matters especially that the Lord would turn away the sickness now prevailing amongst the children in the City.

Thursday 24. ... 4 P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, J. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, J. Young, L. Richards. Quite a number of sick were prayed for myself amongst the number. I felt immediate relig.

Saturday 26th ... Evening in council

Thursday 31st. At the office recording. At 4 P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, A. Lyman, G.A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, J. Young & L. Richards. It was decided in council that the Nauvoo House committee get tithing teams to haul their wood, and grain from the country. Also that they have 2000 feet of lumber from the Trustees, also that they collect all the scaffolding poles and take them to the Nauvoo House. A letter was written to the Temple Committee rebuking them for abusing brother Reese and teaching them their duty. During the conversation brother Miller insulted brother Whitney very meanly. Brother Whitney felt angry but governed his feelings and merely said he felt above such insinuations. Prayers were offered for a number of the sick and for several other general subjects.

August 1845

Saturday 2nd. ... 5 P.M. rode in the new Church Carriage with Prest. Young, H.C. Kimball, N.K. Whitney & George Miller to look out two Blocks of Emma's which she has agreed to give the Trustees for $550. -- They selected Blocks 96 & 97 and then went to mother Smiths and took her into the Carriage to show her the blocks and give her her choice which of the two she would have to be deeded to herself and her daughters. She selected Block 96. She wants a house building of the same pattern with brother Kimballs. After we got through she asked for the new carriage saying that Prest. Young & the Trustees promised it to her. She also wanted another horse and a two horse harness. Neither the Trustees nor Prest. Young ever promised the carriage to mother Smith, but they told her that when it was built they would ride her round in it. There is no doubt but Arthur Millikin, Lucy's husband, or else William has prompted her to do this out of ill feelings and jealousy lest brother Brigham should ride in it. Arthur idles his time away. He will do nothing either for himself or any one else, but out of respect for Mother Smith the brethren would rather indulge the whole family than to hurt her feelings. She is old and childish and the brethren strive to do all they can to comfort her. They have lent her the carriage while she lives, but it is church property and when she dies it falls into the hands of the Trustees.
Sunday 3rd. ... At 4 met at Dr Richards with Prest E. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, L. Richards, J. Young, J.C. Kingsbury. I read a letter from Wilford Woodruff giving a very cheering history of the progress of the work in England. Prayers were offered up for a number of sick.

Thursday 7th. ... At 4 P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. E. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, J. Young, L. Richards & Isaac Morley. It was decided to send John S. Pullmer and H.G. Sherwood with James Emmett to his company, to counsel and instruct them. The subject of brother Millers abusing em sometime ago was talked over. Brother Miller denies having done so, but his language is too fresh in my memory to forget it. It was decided to send out a number of the agents out who went last spring to collect funds for the Temple, and have them collect all the money and means they can so as to finish the Temple as speedily as possible.

Tuesday 12th. At Dr Richards in company with Prest. E. Young, H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, W. Richards, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller & others. The subject under consideration was to prepare the brethren who are going west, and give them instructions for their mission. Their names are Henry G. Sherwood, John S. Pullmer and James Emmett. A letter of authority was written by Dr Richards to brother Emmett's company stating that Sherwood and Pullmer were sent by the authorities of the church here to counsel them according to their circumstances and when they leave to appoint whomever they think best to preside over them & counsel them. It is not the object of the council to send for the company back but to see how they feel and whether they are willing to abide council. Perhaps it will be best for them to tarry where they are untill they are joined by others in the spring and then either locate there or proceed west.

Sunday 17th. ... P.M. with D. till 5 o clock, afterwards at Dr Richards, with Prest E. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, O Spencer, J. Young, J.C. Kingsbury & L. Woodworth A.W. Babbitt & B.P. Johnson, called in to enquire whether it would be agreeable to the council to let brother Johnson rent the Mansion. It was decided to call a council tomorrow at 2 o clock to conclude on the matter inasmuch as brother Benson has been spoken to, to either take the mansion or Masonic Hall. After the conversation ended Babbitt & Johnson withdr ew, and we then offered up prayers as usual for general subjects. Last Tuesday brother Woodworth was discharged from the work of the Nauvoo House as Architect by G.A. Smith one of the Trustees on account of incompetency and an unwillingness to listen to council. He foamed considerable at the time but feels tolerably well now. At the stand to day Wm. Smith preached to the saints.
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"the first chapter of the gospel according to St Wm" as he termed it. It was just a full declaration of his belief in the doctrine of a plurality of wives &c. The people appeared disgusted and many left the ground. His object was evidently to raise an influence against the twelve especially Brigham and Heber for he intimated in strong terms that they were practising such things in secret but he was not afraid to do it openly. His course to day will evidently hurt him in the estimation of the saints more than any thing he has done before.

Monday 18th ... I then rode to Prest. Youngs to council. It was there decided that B.F. Johnson can have the privileges of one of the Taverns, but he must pay the rent in cash. And in regard to his interest in the large Tavern in Macedonia we will given him property in Nauvoo for it, but not apply it on the rent.

Thursday 21st A.M. at the office recording tithings. P.M. met at Dr. Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, George A. Smith, A. Lyman, R.K. Whitney, Geo. Miller, O. Spencer, Joseph Young, & L. Woodworth, B.F. Johnson, John Pack & A. Miller were also present part of the time. A letter was read from Samuel Waldo of New Hampshire complaining of oppressive conduct and teaching doctrines calculated to break up the branch such as it being no harm for a man to sleep with a woman who was not his wife &c. in Nelson Bates. The council decided that fellowship be withdrawn from Bates & he be called home forthwith to give an account of his conduct. Er W. Richards wrote a notice to the above effect for publication in the next Times & Seasons. He also wrote a letter to O. Pratt informing him of the same. A letter was then read from Samuel V. Searles requesting a license. It was voted to send him one and Er W. Richards accordingly filled it out. The subject of the mansion and Masonic Hall again came up and it was decided that B.F. Johnson take the Mansion and Pack the Hall. These brethren then withdrew & the remainder clothed, offered up the signs of the Holy Priesthood and prayer for the usual subjects especially for the sick. There are a great many sick in the north part of town, so many that it is grievous to see their sufferings.

Wednesday 27. A.M. at the office recording. P.M. in council with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, P.P. Pratt, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, J.E. Page, N.K. Whitney & G. Miller. On Sunday last the council decided to let Wm. Smith go East by the authority of the church to give Patriarchal blessings, but on the representation of brother Parkey to day of Wms course and the feelings of the people in the East towards him it was decided that he had better not go and Er Richards wrote him a letter to that effect. A notice had been written to publish in the next "Times & Seasons" informing the saints
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that Wm would go East &c but brother Taylor was ordered not to insert the notice. It was also decided to pave the Temple floor with pressed brick instead of either stone or tile, to save expense and because they think it will be as good with brick. This morning brother Parley came into the office to say that his women folks wanted the rooms over the store. This would deprive us of all but the one room for office, store & council room. I suggested to the Bishops to move to the New York store, inasmuch as that property belongs to the church and is much larger and we are paying $200. a year rent for this. The Trustees immediately went over and examined the premises and decided to enlarge the cellar and make the "New York Store" our office. They mentioned the place to Prest. Young and he agreed to it at once. In council the matter was brought up and brother Parley proposed to sell his whole establishment. They offered to give him 3 Lots and houses for it, viz the one where Joseph Young lives, Mitchels house & brother Lees. He wants $3000, but seems disposed to take the offer if the houses suit. After council I was at the office.

Thursday 28th. ... P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, P.F. Pratt, W. Richards, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, O. Spencer and J. Young. It was voted to select three thousand men who are able to bear arms to prepare this winter to start to California next spring with their families. Prayers were offered up for the usual subjects.

Sunday 31st. ... P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, P.F. Pratt, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman, N.K. Whitney, O. Spencer & J.C. Kingsbury. The subject of the Oregon expedition was again talked over and the Twelve seem to think it important that they should go with the company to select a location and plant the standard. They would leave their families here and return when they had succeeded in finding a place. Prayers were offered up for quite a number of sick, amongst whom is Hugh Reding, one of our best carpenters now lying at the point of death. It is truly grievous to see the many sick in our midst especially in the north part of Town. Last night the first load of Glass for the Temple arrived and to day another load. The last load is expected tomorrow. ....

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Monday 1st. Daniel Spencer has returned from the West. He brings word that brother Jonathan Dunham died of a fever.

Thursday 4th. ... At the office all day. Foreman is sick and I had to tarry at the office instead of attending council.
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Saturday 6th. .... Rode round with D. and notified the members of the council of fifty to meet next Tuesday.

Sunday 7th. .... At 5 met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, A. Lyman, G.A. Smith, J. Taylor, P.P. Pratt, G. Miller, L. Richards I. Moodley and J.C. Kingsbury. Prayers were offered up for the usual subjects.

Daniel Spencer has returned a few days ago from the West. He reported in substance as follows:—"There mission was to the Seneca Indians. They proceeded to about 500 miles up the Missouri River. They there met brother Denay and from him learned that Dunham was dead. They tarried five weeks with the Stockbridge tribe. This tribe manifested great kindness towards them and the Mormon people. They have considerable knowledge of the Mormons and of what is going on; their interest seems to be identified with ours. From Denay they learned that the Cheokees had given permission for any number of our people to settle near by them and were willing to lend us any assistance they could, or to go west with us to explore the country. George Herring has been with several tribes and says they are all friendly and seem to understand what is going on and are ready to render us any assistance they can. Many of the Stockbridge tribe are joined in with the Baptists but are dissatisfied. Their chief expects to be here about the 6th of October. They preached to them and they seem satisfied with our doctrine. From what brother Denay said they concluded it unnecessary to go to the Seneca tribe, they learned that Denay had accomplished what they were sent for.

Thursday 11th. .... P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, P.P. Pratt, G. Am Smith, J. Taylor, A. Lyman, G. Miller, R.K. Whitney, L. Richards, O. Spencer and I. Morley. It was decided to dispatch a messenger to the Lima Branch and advise the brethren to propose to sell their possessions to the mob, and bring their families and grain here. It was also decided to send a messenger to Michigan to advise the brethren to sell their farms for stock, wagons, sheep &c. Also to send a messenger to Ottawa & advise the brethren to gather all the hay they can. Prayers were offered up for the usual subjects and also that the Lord would give us wisdom to manage affairs with the mob so as to keep them off till we can accomplish what is required. Also to give us wisdom to manage the affairs in regard to the Western emigration. A selection has been made by Prest. Young of those of the council of fifty who shall start west next spring. My name is included on the list. News has come in confirming the report of Gen. Demings death, which was further confirmed in a letter from J.B. Backenstos. He died on yesterday at about 107 A.M. News has also come that the mob have burned eight houses belonging to the brethren in Lima. A letter was sent to Solomon Hancock by special messengers advising him to propose to sell out
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also
to the mob, and that we will send teams on Monday to fetch away the women and children & grain. A letter was also sent to J.B. Backenstos, informing him of the movements of the mob and requesting him to take prompt measures to quell them as Sheriff and also to inform the Governor immediately of the movement.

Sunday 14th. At the office comparing books with brother Whitehead. At 5 P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, P.P. Pratt, A. Lyman, G.A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, Geo. Miller, L. Richards, J. Young & J. C. Kingsbury. Brother Miller reported that he went to Carthage yesterday to attend to some business. While there he was arrested on a writ got up by the mob for the grave charge of Treason. He had a kind of trial & was admitted to parole bail till next Saturday. Col. William & Sharp were at Carthage with the mob. The writ is against Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, C. Hyde, O. Pratt, J.B. Page, L. Wight and several others. The treason is for colleague with the Indians, building an arsenal, and making Cannon. The Higbees are very active with the mob, and there seems to be a desperate effort to break us up. All the families have got up from Lima and there are a great number of teams gone to fetch up grain. The last report gives 44 buildings burned and considerable grain, furniture, clothing &c. belonging to the poor Brethren. The Sheriff J.B. Backenstos has issued his proclamation warning the mob to disperse and calling upon all the Law and order citizens to act as "posse committatus" to preserve the peace.

It was decided in the council to offer some of our best property in the City for sale to reputable merchants in Cincinnati, Philadelphia &c judging it better for the safety of the property to sell out to such men than to leave it to the destruction of the mob. A great many were prayed for and we also prayed that the Lord would preserve us from the mob till the Elders can get their endowment. It was also agreed to turn more force of hands to the Temple even if it have to hinder the Nauvoo House.

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"Porter told B. not to be scared for they had fifty two with them meaning fifty two shots."

... A committee of five viz. Peter Haws, Andrew R. Perkins, Erastus H. Derby, David D. Yearsley and Solomon Hancock were appointed to carry a letter Col. Levi Williams stating to him that if the mob would cease their destructive operations, it is our calculations to leave the country in the spring, and requesting Williams to return a written answer, whether they would desist or not. The latter was signed by Prest. Young & others. About 7 o clock Backenstos with an escort of from fifty to one hundred men started for Carthage to fetch B's family and Denings family to Nauvoo.
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Wednesday 17th ... We learned this morning that the person killed yesterday was Frank Worrall, the person who stood at the jail door when Joseph and Hyrum were killed beckoning the mob and urging them on.

Friday 19th. ... At 5 evening met with some of the Twelve and others at Bishop Millers house. ... Before council broke up Pres. Yong and the comapny kneeled down and he offered up prayers that the Lord would preserve his servants and deliver those who had been active in the mob that killed Joseph and Hyrum into our hands that they might receive their deserts.

Thursday 25th. ... P.M. at Dr Richards with some of the Twelve and others. We offered prayers for the sick &c and especially that the Lord will preserve us in peace to finish the Temple and prepare to depart West in peace.

Sunday 5th. At the office all day recording minutes of the council of Fifty. Recorded 45 pages of a small record like this. ... Evening met at Dr. Richards with Prest B. Young, J. Taylor, W. Richards, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman and N.K. Whitney A letter from Backenstos covering a copy of a dispatch from Hardin to the mobocrats were read after which prayers were offered as usual.

Monday 6th. ... went to the General conference in the Temple and kept minutes all day. Wm. Smith was disfellowship'd from his standing in the quorum of the Twelve & from the office of Patriarch. A vote was taken that this people move to the West en masse and carried, also that we all use our efforts to the utmost of our ability with our means and property to take all the poor with us.

Tuesday 7th .... Evening met at Dr Richards with Prest B Young, H.V. Kimball, Jno Taylor, G. A. Smith, A. Lyman, & B.K. Whitney We offered up prayers as usual especially that the Lord in his providence would cause the Governors troops to leave this County, and preserve the saints from the ravages of the mob.

Friday 10th. ... P.M. met at Er Taylors, with Prest B. Young H.C. Kimball, J. Taylor, F.P. Pratt, G. A. Smith, and Joseph Young. We councillor together on the best plan to be resorted to in the present emergency. It appears Hardin has pledged himself to the mob that he will come to Nauvoo with his troops and wither have O.P. Rockwell, and some others of the brethren or "he will unroof every house in Nauvoo," three hundred of our enemies have volunteered to come with him from Quincey and they expect to be joined by others on the way. There seems to be no disposition abroad but to massacre the whole body of this people, and nothing but the power of God can save us from the cruel ravages of the bloodthirsty mob. We concluded to plead with our heavenly father to preserve.
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his people and the lives of his servants that the saints may finish the Temple and receive their endowment, and that the Lord will soften the hearts of the Governor Hardin, Warren & others like he did the heart of Pharoah that we may have peace this winter & depart in peace.

Saturday 11th At Er Taylors in council with Prest. Young, H.C. Kimball, P.P. Pratt, J. Taylor, G.A. Smith, A. Lyman & others. We had prayers in the forenoon and asked God to overrule the movements of the enemy and cause the Governor to withdraw his troops from this county – and preserve us in peace until we can depart in the spring.

After prayer we went to prepare a circular for the agents to take abroad with them. P.M. Prest Young did not attend, being completely worn down with fatigue. At 4 we adjourned till 7 – I went up to the office and attended to some little items of business. At 7 met again at Er Taylors with the brethren. We offered up our prayers for the same subjects, believing that the Lord will defeat our enemies & preserve his people. After prayer we finished an extract from the conference minutes for the circular. Also appointed additional captains of hundreds, making Captains for twenty five companies.

Sunday 12th At 7 met at Er Taylors with the brethren. We had prayers again as usual.

Tuesday 14. At 8 went to Er Taylors to write off the conference minutes with brother Bullock. offered up prayers that they might not be permitted to do any injury to any of the saints nor to interrupt our peace. They did not stay long, but returned accomplishing nothing, leaving us in peace.

Friday 17th Evening met at Er Taylors with the Twelve and others for prayer.

Sunday 19th. At the office all day recording tithings. Brother Whitehead and McEwan told me that Bishop Whitney seemed very much dissatisfied because I had balanced up J.C. Kingbury's account without first asking them about it. I know of no reason why they should be dissatisfied unless it be because they don't like his account to shew on the book. He had been to work 10 months and has two dollars a day but is still $138. dollars in debt. Besides this he pays no rent, but this is paid by the Temple, neither does he pay any thing for horse feed although his horse is kept on Temple feed and kept well. Besides this he has money when he asks for it and has the first pick at every thing that comes in on tithing. When we have sugar or honey he generally has more than twice as much as any other man and is treated as much better than any other man about the works as can be imagined. He has paid no tithing out of
this year's work and although he has work enough to keep him busy he can ride round when he has a mind to and all is right. He has no family, except Sarah Ann Whitney but he keeps a hired girl to wait on Sarah and a boy to wait on himself. Julia Durfee lives with him which makes the number of his family and they take more to support them out of the Temple property than I have for my family although we are ten in number and I pay my own house rent and horse feed and pay for every thing I get. and when I asked for some flannel last week to make some flannel garments to wear this winter the Bishop hesitatingly said he supposed I could have it but finally said "wear cotton garments as I do". I have worked faithfully seven days in the week all this last season and frequently nights too, I have the same wages Joseph has although I have been here near four years and when I recorded my tithing in full for my sundays services which is one seventh instead of one tenth day, the Bishop seemed some dissatisfied about this. Now on the reflection of all these circumstances, being virtually denied the flannel and found fault with because I balanced Joseph's account I could not help being grieved and angry and I make this record that if ever the question should arise in my absence as to the cause of my present feelings here it is. Besides all this the Bishop has found fault about the Temple committee wasting property, but justice would bear me out in saying that so far as I ever saw the Temple committee were more prudent in this respect than has been practice for the last year past. The Bishop's boys Whitneys & Miller have free access to everything in the store and when there is sugar in the store they eat it and waste it flueently. ... As a general thing the bishops have treated me as well as any other man but I confess they treat more like a servant than a brother. I have endeavored under all circumstances to take as little notice as possible of all these things but they sometimes force themselves on me and gall my feelings, especially to think that Joseph who has only been here ten months can fare so much better than the rest of us, and has a family of only himself and Sarah except their hired hands to wait on them. I respect Bishop Whitney as I do my own father but this does not make me insensible of feeling to see so much of what I consider to be unjust partiality and especially when I reflect that there has been so much complaints of others for doing precisely the same things. 

This morning Er Hyde preached in the Temple afterwards Wm. Smith was cut off from the Church by unanimous vote. He has published a pamphlet against the Twelve. 

Monday 20th ... Genl. James Arlington Bennet from Arlington House Flat Bush Long Island arrived here to day, and met the Twelve and others at Er Taylors in the evening. I was present part of the time. It appears he was opposed to our selling out to gratify the mob, and would rather we would fight them and maintain our ground, but when he was informed of our ul-
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timate plans and matters to be accomplished he seemed to feel very different. I should judge him to be a very ambitious and a/s/pitting man. After the interview we retired up stairs and had prayers as usual.

Tuesday 21. ... Brother Whitney told me (unasked) that I could go to Davis's and get the flannel I wanted. He seems to feel agreeable and I presume he don't know that his is the cause of my grief. ....

Evening met the brethren at Er Taylors and had prayers. The council wrote a letter to Judge Ralston inviting him to come here. He says he thinks he can bring a hundred Catholic families to buy out some of our property.

Wednesday 22. ... Evening had a talk with Bishop Whitney and learned that he had not said the words as were told to me but the language he had used was altogether different and unexceptionable. He stated that he had had it in his heart for some time to raise my wages half a dollar a day. We had a long talk and I was satisfied his language had been misrepresented to me. Afterwards went to Er Taylors to council with the Twelve & others. Read a letter from R. McBride in Kirtland stating that the Rigdonites, S.B. Stoddard, Jacob Bump, R.D. Foster, Hiram Kellog, Leonard Rich, I Jewel Raney are the leaders of the rioters. They have broke into the House of the Lord and taken possession of it and are trying to take possession of the Church Farm &c.

We also read a number of good articles from the New York Messenger relating to our troubles. After much conversation we had prayers.

Friday 24th. ... Evening at Er Taylors. ... We then had prayers as usual, and all felt that the Lord will deliver B/ , out of their hands. After prayer it was decided that Mary Smith & Emma have all the wood they want off the church land. Also that we establish an agency over the river to receive and take care of tithing grain until spring so that when we move we can take it as we go. It was recommended that J.E. Page be appointed for that agency if he will do it. It was decided not to hire Pecks Mill, inasmuch as he wants $300 down for 6 months rent.

Prest. Young seemed dissatisfied that Er Taylor did not take more interest in our councils. We had to sit without a fire.

Saturday 25th. ... Evening met the brethren at Er Taylors. Er Babbit related the circumstance of father Bigelow shooting Lieut. Edwards. .... We talked the matter over ... and then offered up the signs and asked the Lord to overrule the matter and take it out of Warrens heart that he may not declare Martial Law or other wise let his hand be heavy upon him with
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judgement that he may not be able to bring trouble upon this people. Prest. Young seems quite unwell.

Sunday 26th ... Evening met again at Er Taylors, and had prayers as usual.

Monday 27th. ... About 4 P.M. Er Babbit returned and the council were immediately summoned together. ... The watchful care of our heavenly father in directing the matter last saturday evening was plainly visible. ... We felt last night to return thanks to God for his kindness and ask him to overrule this matter also for the safety of his people and his servants.

Tuesday 28th. ... At 10 o clock went to Er Taylors and met to pray with John Smith, W.K. Whitney, W. W. Phelps, Jos. Young, O. Spencer, J.C. Kingsbury and L. Woodworth. Afterwards at the office till 5½ and then met again at Er Taylors. After we got through with our prayers Prest. Young came in and Ers Hyde Babbitt. ... It appears that the Lord has softened his heart in answer to our prayers for which we felt thankful.

Wednesday 29 ... At 10 went to Er Taylors. Soon after we arrived prest. Young sent for Bishop Whitney & myself to go and see him as the Twelve are still out of sight. We went to where he was at A.P. Rockwoods and found him in company with H.G. Sherwood and Markham also George A. Smith and Amasa Lyman. Er Sherwood and Pullmer returned from the West a few days ago. Er S. reported their mission which was very satisfactory. He also gave us some very interesting information concerning our best route to the West which will be of service to us when we move.

There is a rumor that Wm. Smith and others are trying to get up an influence with the president of the United States to prevent our going West and has already wrote to him on the subject, revealing the acts of the Council of Fifty &c and representing the council guilty of treason &c. ... Evening at Er Taylors with the Twelve and others. ... We had prayers as usual.

Friday 31st. ... Evening met the Twelve and others at Er Taylors for prayer. The subject of the United States endeavoring to prevent our removal West by taking out U.S. writs for the Council of Fifty was talked over and plans devised to defeat them in case they undertake to do it.

Monday 3rd. ... Evening met at Er Taylor's with the Twelve and others. ... I was sick and did not stay long.
Thursday 6th. ... Evening attended council at Er Richards.

Sunday 9th. ... Evening met at Dr Richards with the Twelve.

Tuesday 11th. ... At 4 P.M. met at Dr Richards with the Twelve.

Friday 14th. ... Evening met with the Twelve at Dr Richards.

Monday 17th ... My heart is grieved to see the difference of spirit, feeling and courses of Bishops Whitney & Miller. They appear to be at antipodes with each other in nearly all their operations. They have placed me as a mark for both to shoot at, and it has placed me in a very unpleasant situation. Miller seems angry with me because I appear to give preference to Whitney & which I consider I ought to do inasmuch as he is the Senior Bishop and is far more careful in his management than brother Miller is. The latter is perfectly wasteful and wild in his business transactions and if he had the management of the Temple business alone, he would soon wind it up and scatter it to ruin. ... At 5 met the Twelve at Dr Richards

Friday 21st. ... Evening met the Twelve at Dr Richards and had prayers. Backenstos came in and stated that Warren has sworn he will have the men who murdered Durfee brought to justice.

Saturday 22nd. At the office all day, made a deed from Marks to the Trustees for the Kirtland property.

Sunday 23rd. ... Afterwards I went to council. Received a letter from Uriah Brown saying that he sent the Encyclopedia to my house previous to his removal.

Saturday 29th. ... Evening at Pres. Youngs with the Band. Pres. Young, H.C. Kimball, Joseph Young and Levi W. Hancock danced a french four together. The two former are the only two of the first twelve apostles who have never wavered since their appointment and the two latter are the only two of the first presidents of seventies who have never faltered. ... During the day the Twelve, Bishops Whitney & Miller and some others met in the Temple and laid the carpet on the main floor of the attic story, and also on several of the small rooms ready for the first quorum to meet in.

Phelps, Isaac Morley, L. Woodworth. Composed some verses to the tune "Here's a health to all good lasses" before the brethren assembled. At about 12 o clock we clothed and sung "Come all ye sons of Zion &c". We then offered up the signs of the Holy Priesthood and repeated them to get them more perfect. I was requested to keep minutes. President offered up prayers and dedicated the attic story, the male room and ourselves to God, and prayed that God would sustain and deliver from the hands of our enemies, his servants until they have accomplished his will in this house. Er Taylor then sang "A poor wayfaring man of grief &c" after which we again offered up the signs and Er Kimball prayed that the Lord would hear & answer the prayers of his servant Brigham, break off the yoke of our enemies and inasmuch as they lay traps for the feet of his servants, that they may fall into them themselves and be destroyed — that God would bless his servant Joseph Young, heal his wife and bless his family — that God would bless and heal Er Kimball's family and put the same blessings on all our families which he had asked for Joseph Young and himself.

Hans C. Hanson the door keeper reported that there were two officers waiting at the foot of the stairs for Pres. Young. The Pres. concluded that he could bear to tarry up in the warm as long as they could stay in the cold waiting for him. Er Amasa Lyman requested hands to be laid on him that he may be healed. 5 of the brethren laid hands on him.

We again offered up the signs and Joseph Young prayed that our enemies may have no power over our leaders — He prayed for our brethren in England — on the Islands — brothers Bebbitt, Turley & Reddins — also that the Trustees may have means to liquidate all the debts.

At 3 o clock we undressed.

The side rooms are occupied as follows. The 1st on the south side by President B. Young. The 2nd by H.C. Kimball. 3rd & 4th others of the Twelve. 5th Joseph Young & presidency of 70s. 6 is a preparation room. On the north side 1st Bishops & Lesser Priesthood. 2nd Pres. of the Stake & High Council 3&4 High Priests quorum. 5 Elders Quorum. 6 Preparation room.

Hans C. & Peter O. Hanson are appointed to see to the fires, keep watch and guard the doors &c.

Thursday 4th. ... Went up into the Temple. The brethren are very busy preparing the room for work. ... Evening met with the first quorum in the Attic story of the Temple for prayer.

Saturday 6th. ... 5 P.M. met the brethren in the Temple for prayers.
Sunday 7th. In the Temple all day. All the first quorum with one or two exceptions were present both male and female. About 10 clock we clothed. The meeting was opened by prayer by Joseph Fielding. After which Er's Taylor, Hyde, Phelps Pratt and John Smith each expressed their feelings in regard to our present privilege of meeting in the Temple in spite of the combined opposition of men and devils. During the speaking the Bishop's having provided Bread and Wine, the bread was broke by Er Kimball & then blessed by him and handed round by Bishop Whitney. Joseph Young then blessed the wine which was also passed round by B. Whitney. Pres. Young then addressed the company. He said the time would come when the Celestial law would be put in force and that law forbids any man taking the name of God in vain. But we have men in our midst who do not scruple to say by God, by Jesus Christ, God damn you &c. and the time will come when the law will be put in force on all such. He gave much good instruction and the spirit of God rested upon him. He stated "that a few of the quorum met twice a week ever since Joseph and Hyrum were killed and during the last excitement, every day and in the hottest part of it twice a day to offer up the signs and pray to our heavenly Father to deliver his people and this is the cord which has bound this people together. If this quorum and those who shall be admitted into it will be as diligent in prayer as I have been I promise you in the name of Jesus Christ that we shall accomplish the will of God and go out in due time from the gentiles with power and plenty and no power shall stay us." After the exhortation we offered up the signs and had prayers for the usual subject. Joseph Young being mouth. We were then dismissed until next Sunday at 11 o clock.

Monday 8th ... At 5 went to the Temple and met the brethren for prayer, Geo. Miller being mouth.

Thursday 11 ... I spent the forenoon writing the history of these proceedings in Er Kimball's Journal also gave a description of the upper room.

At 12 Pres. Young said I could go and fetch my wife if I had a mind to. I immediately went down and returned with her at 1 o clock. I then went into the preparation room and was washed by Er H.C. Kimball & George A. Smith, and then anointed a priest and a king unto the most High God by Pres. Young and Amasa Lyman and pronounced clean from the blood of this generation.

Sunday 14 ... Quite a number of the quorum assembled in the Temple and clothed at 11 o clock. After singing and prayer the sacrement was administered by Isaac Morley and Charles C. Richs. President Young instructed the quorum concerning a number of items and proved that the office of seventies are higher than the office of High Priests or high Council. At half after one we offered up the signs and prayers Elder Orson Hyde being mouth.
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At 2 o clock also, those new members who have been received into the quorum last week met in the Celestial room where they were instructed more fully into the Order of the Priesthood and their duty by W.W. Phelps & Parley P. Pratt.

Wednesday 17th ... Brother Lucian R. Foster is now appointed to keep the Records of the endowment. Margaret came with me to the Temple this morning and received her washing and anointing. She was washed by sister Patty Sessions and anointed by sister Mary Ann Pratt wife of Er Parley P. Pratt one of the Twelve. I conducted her through the remaining ceremonies and also received her through into the upper or Celestial department. I feel grateful for this privilege and for all the blessings I receive from day to day for the mercies of the Lord to me are great and many of them. I instructed brother Foster in regard to keeping the Record and in the evening assisted Er Young and Kimball to collect a list of brethren to come here on Saturday. The following has been received into the quorum to day /

Sunday 21. ... The brethren & sisters were instructed more fully into their duty by Ers A. Lyman, H.C. Kimball, George A. Smith and O. Hyde.

Friday 23rd /January 1846/ ... At 1 went to a council in the Temple with the Twelve, Bishops &c ... Evening with Whitney dividing goods purchased by Snow. R. Miller reports that Strang is making heavy breaches in the church, and drawing many after him. In one place 30 families have left the church and gone with him. It is also rumored that many of the saints here are full of Strangism and talking hard in his favor. Among the rest are John Gaylord and Wm. A. Sangor who are openly advocating his rights to the presidency. I read a copy of a letter preportion to be wrote by Prest Joseph Smith on the 18th June 1844 in which he appoints Strang as his successor. The letter is a base forgery and is well calculated to deceive the simple minded and unfaithful.

It is also rumored that many are dissatisfied because the Twelve & some others are going West without taking the whole Church. This is a matter of impossibility and the saints have no cause for complaint. Amongst the rest are many of the Temple hands who are complaining much. The arrangements are made by which the whole church can go comfortably, but it is necessary that some men should go beforehand to prepare a place for the rest and the Twelve & some others have to go to save their lives for their are plans laid for their destruction. My sister in law Lydia is in the way of apostacy. She went to Burlington last year but previous to her going she agreed to be sealed to me for time and eternity. She refused to be
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sealed to Joseph. While at Burlington she wrote pledging herself to her contract. When she came home she faultered and went out to fathers where she got entangled with my brother James and has resolved to marry him. She has lost her faith in the Church as is on the road to ruin, but so determined that no argument is of any use. The family feel sorry but cannot change her feelings. Her mother frets much about it.

Monday 26th... at 1 went to the Temple with Ruth, Margaret and Diantha. We waited till about 8 o clock before we could be waited on. We then dressed and went into room No 1 and were sealed to each other on the alter by Prest. B. Young. Afterwards in No 2 we received our anointing by H.C. Kimball and a number of others. And afterwards Heber blessed us. I then took Ruth and Diantha home but Margaret tarried till morning.

Tuesday 27th. ... Evening with D.

Wednesday 28. ... Evening at home.
June 1845

Monday 30th [June 1845]. At the office till 4 P.M. council with Prest. Young & the Trustees about buying the lands lately owned by Prest. Smith which will be sold by the administrator tomorrow. It was agreed that I should bid them off for the Trustees. At 4 P.M. went to visit mother Smith in company with Prest. Young, H.C. Kimball, John Taylor, W. Richards, O. Pratt, A. Lyman, G. A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller and R. Cahoon.

A long conversation was had between her and Prest. Young pertaining to a vision she had last week, in which Wm. Smith is represented as president over the patriarchs to guide and council the church. I asked permission to copy it but she was unwilling. Wm. Smith did not meet with us but sent a letter, the following is a copy.

"Correspondence. William Smith to Brigham Young and the Council of the Twelve. Nauvoo June 30th 1845. Elder Young. It has been my purpose from the first to do all I could for peace. I said in a short note to you the other day that I would stand by you till death. But it might be asked upon what principle? I will answer, on the principle that I am dealt justly by in the church. The next morning after our meeting I notice an article that appears under the head of Patriarch. It is not so much the doctrine that I care about; it is the spirit of the article, a disposition that appears in the brethren to cut and shave me down to the last cent, every hour and minute in the day. I do not like it. And again, why was not the article shown to me as it was an article touching my office and standing in the church, nothing was said to me on the subject. This with other like circumstances since my return from the east, and for my hard labor there, have received no men can be applauded to the skies, and that too for the fruits of other favor nothing but hints of abuse, whilst other men's labors. I am sick and tired of such partiality. Only give me my just dues, that in truth, justice and honor demands, and all is well. I have often said and sufficient to satisfy all the saints that I was willing, it was my wish that you should stand as
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the President of the church, but I claim to be patriarch over the whole church, this gives me my place and proper standing, and what I inherit; and as to works, I am ready to measure arms with any man; give me what is due, then you know the understanding and the conversation we had on this subject when we met at brother Taylors that I was Patriarch over the whole church. This is what I claim and must have, and now to conclude as I understand you are to meet at mother Smiths to day, the 12 &c. &c. My proposition is my share of the kingdom and if you will publish in the Neighbor and Times & Seasons the true state of the case in regard to my office as patriarch over the whole church, this will give me a right to visit all branches of the church and intrude on no mans rights, and further, to attend to all of the ordinances of God, no man being my head, I will reconcile all difficulties and Elder Young can stand as the president of the church, and by my most hearty wish and consent. This will settle all difficulties and restore peace and good order, and further than this I cannot say, only that I want all men to understand that my fathers family are of the royal blood and promised seed and no man or set of men can take their crown or place in time or in eternity. Bro. Young the above is my proposition and will settle all difficulties at once and these are my avvid sentiments and no equivocation. Wm. Smith.

To the foregoing president Young dictated an answer which I wrote, informing him that there could be no authority given to him, to place him in a situation where he would not be amenable to the quorum of the Twelve, and there are many ordinances which cannot be administered only here in this place &c. (The copy is mis laid). The answer was read to mother Smith and her daughters and they acknowledge they were satisfied with it. Mother Smith seem to feel well and said that although in her vision it was told to her that there was two men whose hearts were blacker than the rest, it was
not any one who was then present. See July 4th. The company parted soon after six and brother Whitney and myself returned to the office to prepare an order and get the money ready to send to morrow to St Louis for the lead.

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Thursday 3rd. At 4 met at Dr Richards with Prest. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, A. Lyman, G. A. Smith, O. Pratt, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, L. Richards & J. Young. We offered up our prayers for variety of subjects. I read a letter which I wrote for Prest. Young to brother Woodruff in England, which was accepted. It was decided to employ brother Morley to make 100 barrels of wine for sacrament. Also to purchase a raft of Lumber laying at the wharf of 150,000.

Friday 4th. ... "The following is a copy of the answer to Wm. Smith's letter. Nauvoo June 30th 1845. Dr Bro. William. A Majority of the quorum of the Twelve, Bishops Whitney and Miller, and brother Cahoon one of the Temple committee have met to hold a little conversation with Mother Smith at her house. We expected to have had your company but were dissapointed. We however have received a note from you which we feel to answer before we separate so that it may be sanctioned or rejected by mother Smith. We have had considerable talk with mother Smith and find her possessing the best of feelings towards the church. As to your requests in your letter we would say that we are perfectly willing, and wish to have all things right, but there are some ordinances in the church that cannot be administered by any person out of this place at present, but must be done here. As to your having the right to administer all ordinances, in the world, and no one standing at your head we could not sanction, because the president of the church stands at the head of all the officers in the church, and each one of our quorum are amenable to the quorum, of which you are a member. But as to your
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right to officiate in the office of Patriarch, we say you have the right to officiate in all the world, wherever your lot may be cast, and no one to dictate or control you excepting the Twelve, which body of men must preside over the whole church in all the world.

We hope and trust there will be no feelings. Say nothing about matters and things. If you want peace, so do we; and let us walk together in peace, and help to build up the kingdom.

If this does not meet with your feelings brother William, write me again, or come and see me, and we will make all things right, for we surely want peace and the salvation of the people. We remain as ever, your brethren and well wishers. Brigham Young.

P.S. We have read this to mother Smith, Catherine, Lucy and Arthur and they express their satisfaction with it as well as those of the council who are present.

B.Y.

Saturday 6. ... At 4 P.M. met at Dr Richards with Prest. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, J. Taylor, O. Pratt, G. A. Smith, N.K. Whitney, G. Miller, L. Richards, J. Young & J.C. Kingsbury. We conversed till about 7 o'clock and then clothed & offered up prayers for general subjects. It was decided that the Trustees give to prest. Young a deed for the S.W. 25 - 7 N. 8 W and S.W. fr 10 - 7 N. 8 W. free of charge.

Tuesday 8th. ... Prest. Young & Er Richards came to the office and brought a bag containing $2599.75 in Gold. Joseph Toronto, an Italian came to Prest. Young and said he wanted to given himself and all he had to Prest. Young. He had this gold which was carefully wrapped up in old rags, tin Books &c, which he freely and voluntarily gave up saying he should henceforth look to Prest. Young for protection and council.
Sunday 10th /August 1845/ At 9 A.M. met at Dr Richards with Pres. B. Young, H.C. Kimball, W. Richards, A. Lyman, G.A. Smith, a letter was read from Pittsburgh from Amos Fielding dated July 25th 1845 giving an account of Wm E. McLellan abusing him &c. Also that Sidney Rigdon has had a revelation requiring his followers to sell their property and give him the avails of it to purchase land in the East to build up the kingdom. This letter is published in the Neighbor of August 15th.

After reading the letter prayers were offered up.