

Abbreviations Used in the Commentary and Appendices

ABD *Anchor Bible Dictionary*, ed. David Noel Freedman, (Doubleday: New York, 1992), 6 vols.

AEL M. Lichtheim, *Ancient Egyptian Literature: A Book of Readings*, (Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1973-80)

ANET J. B. Pritchard, ed., *Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament*, 3rd ed. with suppl. ed. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1969)

ANE Ancient Near East. See Appendix III.

ANP Hugh Nibley, "A New Look at the Pearl of Great Price," *Improvement Era*, Jan. 1968 - May 1970. This series of articles has been reprinted by the Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS) Usually cited with FARMS reprint page numbers. Some arguments and references outdated, but still the father of LDS Abraham studies.

Archives Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah.

BM British Museum staff notes.

BMAE *British Museum Dictionary of Ancient Egypt*, Ian Shaw and Paul Nicholson (London: British Museum Press, 1995)

BYUS Brigham Young University Studies.

CAS *The Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*, (Chicago: Oriental Institute, 1956)

CHC B. H. Roberts, *A Comprehensive History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, (Provo: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Brigham Young University Press, 1965)

CWHN *Collected Works of Hugh Nibley*, (several vols., ed. various) (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., various)

DSS The dead sea scrolls (usually Vermes, 1995)

EAG "Egyptian Alphabet and Grammar" title of a notebook in possession of LDS Church apparently dating from Kirtland period (1835-1837).

FARMS Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies at Brigham Young University

FRB FARMS Review of Books (continuation of RBBM below).

HC B. H. Roberts, ed., *History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, 2nd ed., (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1948)

IDB *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, (New York: Abingdon Press, 1962)

IDBS Supplement to IDB, (New York: Abingdon Press, 1976)

IOVC The Interpreter's One Volume Commentary on the Bible, (New York: Abingdon Press, 1971)

JD Journal of Discourses, (Liverpool: F. D. and S. W. Richards, 1854-1886)

JSCOM This commentary.

JSP The Joseph Smith papyri obtained from Michael Chandler in 1835.

JST Joseph Smith Translation. Joseph's additions/corrections to the KJV.

KEP Kirtland Egyptian Papers, a collection of Egyptian-related materials in the Library-Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. See Nibley, 1971.

KJV King James version of the Bible.

LÄ Lexikon der Ägyptologie, ed. W. Helck, E. Otto and W. Westendorf, 7 vols. (Wiesbaden: Harrasowitz, 1977-89)

MS Latter Day Saints' Millennial Star LDS periodical published in Liverpool, England.

MT Masoretic text. The text of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) is this text, which has shown very little variation since its production around 90 AD. Before this time, Old Testament Hebrew texts were comparatively fluid, existing with many variations in wording and spelling.

NHLE The Nag Hammadi Library in English 3rd ed., (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1988)

NICOT The New International Commentary on the Old Testament, (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1990)

NIDNT The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology, (Grand Rapids, 1978)

NT New Testament

OT Old Testament

OTP James H. Charlesworth, ed., *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1983)

PGP Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1981)

PJ The Parallel Joseph, ed., William V. Smith, www.boap.org.

PJS The Papers of Joseph Smith, ed. Dean C. Jessee (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1989-)

RBBM Review of Books of on the Book of Mormon (later, Farms Review of Books - FRB), publ. Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS)

TELA Traditions about the Early Life of Abraham, eds., John A. Tvedtnes, Brian M. Hauglid and John Gee, Abraham Series, Vol. 1 (FARMS, 2001)

TJPS Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, comp. Joseph Fielding Smith (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1938)

TS Times and Seasons, specifically the text of the Book of Abraham as it appeared there.

WJS The Words of Joseph Smith, ed. A. Ehat and L. Cook, (Grandin, 1990)

Book of Abraham Manuscript and Published Text Naming Conventions

The names used for manuscripts of the Book of Abraham text have changed through the years. In order to have a simple internally consistent system to refer to both these texts and published versions of the Book of Abraham, we have adopted the following scheme. Manuscript copies produced during the period 1835 - ca. 1845 will be referred to collectively as BAmss. The BAmss are housed in the Archives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah. For text trajectory, see the forthcoming critical text by Brian Hauglid.

A. Manuscripts produced during the Kirtland period of LDS Church history (1835-1837) found among what has been historically known as the “Kirtland Egyptian Papers” (KEP). Compare similar data in Appendix V.

BAmS-1: Manuscript # 1 ca. 1835. 10 pages. 32 x 20 cm. Ms Book of Abraham, 1:1 to 2:18 in the handwriting of W. W. Phelps and Warren Parrish (Parrish’ portion was apparently copied from BAmS-3 below.) Obtained from Wilford C. Wood in 1937 who acquired it from Charles C. Bidamon (step-son of Emma Smith), July 10, 1937.

BAmS-2: Manuscript # 2, ca. 1835. 4 pages. 33 x 19 cm. Ms Book of Abraham, 1:4 to 2:6a in the handwriting of F. G. Williams. The earliest of the extant BAmss. Possibly brought with Church records in migration to Utah from Illinois.

BAmS-3: Manuscript # 3, ca. 1835. 6 pages. 32 x 19 cm. Ms Book of Abraham, 1:4 to 2:2 in the handwriting of Warren Parrish. Possibly brought with Church records in migration to Utah from Illinois.

B. Manuscripts produced during the Nauvoo period of LDS Church history (1839 – ca. 1845).

BAmS-4: Manuscript # 4, late 1841. 18 leaves. 29 x 20 cm. Ms Book of Abraham, 1:1 to 2:19, 3:18 to 3:26 in the handwriting of Willard Richards. Ms in two parts. Part 1 has 14 pages. Pages 1-14 contains verse 1:1 – 2:18. Page 4 (1:9b – 1:12a) is missing. Extant part 2 contains only pages 7 and 8. These pages contain 3:18b – 3:26a. Includes (verso page 2, part 1) explanations of figures in facsimile 1 in the handwriting of Willard Richards, except explanation of fig. 12 is shorter. Also has facsimile 2, ca. 1841. Ms includes explanations in the handwriting of Willard Richards. Also, "A Fac-simile from the Book of Abraham," no. 2, ca. 1842 Engraved by Reuben Hedlock. Broadside. 32 x 19 cm. Facsimile from the Book of Abraham with explanation of the characters. Verso has letter, dated Aug. 1, 1843, to Clyde Williams Co., Harrisburg, Pa., signed by Joseph Smith and W. W. Phelps. Provenance unknown at present.

BAmS-5: Manuscript # 5, May 5, 1841. Excerpt from journal of William I. Appleby. Ms contains verses 1:15 – 1:31. Entry labeled “From the Book of Abraham, Translated by Joseph Smith the Prophet, Seer and Revelator of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.” Journal in LDS Archives, Salt Lake City, Utah: MS 1401 1. Frequent case variance with other mss, but generally agrees most with BAmS-4/6 otherwise. Also missing a few phrases by apparent copying errors.

BAmS-6: Manuscript # 6, ca. 1845. Manuscript copy of the Book of Abraham in the handwriting of Thomas Bullock. Copied into Book C-1 of the manuscript

history of the Church pages 1277-80, 1289-94, 1333. The three facsimiles (neatly cut from the *Times and Seasons* issues of March 1, 15 and May 16, 1842) appear on pp. 1277, 1290 and 1333 of Book C-1 (volume 3) and are pasted into the ms. The explanations are hand written. Preamble reads: "I commenced publishing my translations of the Book of Abraham in the Times and Seasons, as follows:--" then follows "A fac-simile from" Verses match the *Times and Seasons* (see below). Facsimile No. 2 appears after verse 16 of the text rather than in the middle of verse 25 as in TS-1. Some variation from TS-1 in capitalization and spelling.

C. Published English texts of the Book of Abraham from 1842 to 1921. [See Appendix VI for more information.]

TS-1: First published edition, March 1, March 15, May 16, 1842. Appeared in the LDS Church serial, *Times and Seasons*, in Nauvoo, Ill. Joseph Smith, Publisher. See item 60, Crawley, 1997. Printed at the northwest corner of Water and Bain streets, Nauvoo, Ill. Approximately 500 copies were printed. Entire text divided into 32 verses. Typeset in what would be about 8.5pt font in modern terms. The March 1 issue contained verses 1-13, March 15 had the remaining verses, 14-32. The May issue contained only Facsimile No. 3 and its explanations. Flake¹ 8955. Copies from this printing were still on sale in the 1870's. Brigham Young donated 2 copies to Harvard.

GP-1: Several eastern US newspapers published versions of facsimile 1 and portions of the text, including the *New York Weekly Herald*, the *Dollar Weekly Bostonian* and the *Boston Daily Ledger*. For example, see the Thursday Morning April 7, 1842 issue of the *Boston Daily Ledger* where a redrawn Facsimile No. 1 appears and verses 1-13 from TS-1.

MS-1: Second authorized edition appeared in the Church serial published in Liverpool, England. *Latter Day Saints Millennial Star* July 1842 (no. 3 of vol. 3). Facsimile No. 1 redrawn from TS-1. Richard James made the block for the facsimile. About 2000 copies were printed. Facsimiles 2 and 3 did not appear. Verses are as in TS-1. Flake 4779.

MS-2: The Book of Abraham was printed in the first edition of *The Pearl of Great Price* (PGP), by Franklin D. Richards, 1851. Liverpool, England. 7000+ copies based on financial records of the British mission. The facsimiles are new, Richard James (printer for the *Millennial Star*) was paid 2 pounds for new wood cut blocks. The Book of Abraham begins on page 19. Richards journal was not active for 1850 and apparently the printing work set up and paid for that year. Richards' 1851 journal does not mention printing the Pearl of Great Price. Verse numbers were eliminated and this state of affairs continued until SL-5 with the exceptions of SL-1 and MS-4 which duplicated the text format of TS-1 but were based on BAMS-6. This printing did not sell out before the mid 1870's. George Q. Cannon brought 600 copies to Utah and these were still for sale in 1874.² Brigham Young donated 2 copies to Harvard. Flake 6166.

MS-3: The Book of Abraham was printed in Welsh by John S. Davis, 1852, Georgetown, Wales. 5000? copies. Facsimiles from the blocks used for MS-2. Flake 6204.

SL-1: The Book of Abraham was printed as part of the serialization of the ms history of the Church in the Wednesday, August 8, 22, and September 26, 1855 issues of *The Deseret News* (a weekly) in "Great Salt Lake City." Facsimiles 1,

2 and 3 appear on those respective dates. This is a printing of BAms-6 rather than a reprint of TS-1. The facsimiles were printed from the same blocks as TS-1 and therefore these wood-cut blocks came west to Utah; the (Nauvoo) engraver's name appears on facsimiles 2 and 3, and the engraver did not come to Utah. The wood-cut blocks for facsimiles 1 and 2 are currently held by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They were displayed for public view in the old Deseret Museum at Temple Square until the museum contents were moved to a new Church Museum. They are currently unavailable for study. The wood-cut block for facsimile 3 is privately held. Peter Crawley estimates that about 1,500 copies of SL-1 would have been printed.³ Flake 2811d.

MS-4: The Book of Abraham was printed again in the *Millennial Star* vol. 19 (1857) 100-103, 164-168, 437-438, ed. S. W. Richards. The facsimiles are from the blocks used for MS-2. This printing duplicates the text of SL-1.

SL-2: The Book of Abraham was printed again in Salt Lake City, Utah as part of the 3rd printing of *The Pearl of Great Price*, in 1878. Editor: Orson Pratt (note 48, commentary). The Book of Abraham begins on page 25. Flake 6167. [BYU M224.1 A1 1878, handwritten inscription in front reads Mrs M. A. R. Carrington (nl) S. L. City, June 29, 1878.] "Fac-similes" labeled as "WOOD-CUTS" at bottom of table of contents. Facsimile 1 is a very close copy (although not the same size) of that from MS-2. The other facsimiles have more obvious differences.]

MS-5: The Book of Abraham was printed in Liverpool, England as part of the 4th printing of the *The Pearl of Great Price*, in 1879. This is a resetting of SL-2. Editor: William Budge. Flake 6168.

MS-6: Reprint of MS-5; ed. Albert Carrington, 1882. Used 1879 plates. Flake 6169.

SL-3: The Book of Abraham was printed in Salt Lake City, Utah as part of the 5th printing of *The Pearl of Great Price*, in 1888. Printed from new plates. Instead of the usual one foldout facsimile, two were printed as foldouts. Flake 6170.

SL-4: Reprint using MS-5 plates in Salt Lake City, Utah, 1891. Flake 6171.

SL-5: The Book of Abraham was printed in Salt Lake City, Utah as part of the 7th printing of *The Pearl of Great Price*, 1902. Edited by James E. Talmage. Extensive restructuring of the book with short verses introduced. From this point the text remains constant until 1981, except for introduction of double column pages in 1921. Sometimes published with The Book of Mormon, and The Doctrine and Covenants ("triple combination") or just with The Doctrine and Covenants ("double combination"). For the first time, footnotes were introduced linking the texts with the other "standard works" and offering explanations. Flake 6172.

MS-7: The Book of Abraham was printed in Liverpool, England as part of the 8th printing of the *The Pearl of Great Price*, in 1903. ed. Francis M. Lyman. New plates to conform to SL-5. Printer: C. G. Röder, Leipzig. Flake 6172a.

MS-8: Reprint of MS-7, 1903. ed., Francis M. Lyman. Appears only in double or triple combination. Flake 6173.

MS-9: Reprint of MS-7, 1906. ed., Heber J. Grant. Only in triple combination. Flake 6174.

SL-6: Reprint of SL-5, 1906. Two Sunday School printings. “a” is a vest pocket ed. Flake 6175 and 6175a. 6175a also in double combination.

SL-7: Reprint of SL-5, 1907 (used in Rev. Franklin Spaulding’s 1912 attack on the Book of Abraham). Also appeared in a vest pocket ed. pub. by Sunday School Union (only as double combination). Flake 6176a and b. 6176b appears also in double combination.

SL-8: Reprint of SL-5. Another Sunday School vest pocket (1908), only as double combination. Flake 6176c.

SL-9: Same as SL-9 only as double combination (1908). Flake 6176d.

MS-10: Reprint of MS-7, 1909, some printed in triple combination. Liverpool, England. ed. C. W. Penrose. Flake 6177.

MS-11: Reprint of MS-7, 1912, some in triple combination. ed. Rudger Clawson, Liverpool, England. Flake 6178.

SL-10: Reprint of SL-5, 1913, 1915: Flake 6179, 6179a, 6179b. 6179a-b appear also in double combination. a-b are vest pocket, Sunday School editions.

SL-11: Reprint of SL-5, 1917. Flake 6180.

MS-12: Another Liverpool printing, 1917. New plates, reprint of MS-7. ed. G. F. Richards. Only in triple combination. Flake 6180a.

SL-12: Reprint of SL-5, 1918. Only in double combination. Flake 6181.

MS-13: Reprint of MS-7, 1920. Ed. George Albert Smith. Only as triple combination. Flake 6182.

SL-13: Reprint of SL-5, 1920. Flake 6183.

SL-14: 1921. New plates used, with double column pages, text identical to SL-5. Facsimiles considerably degraded in quality. Also as a double and triple combination. Flake 6184.

The 1921 edition remained the standard (reprinted many times) until 1981 with one exception, SL-15. The Pearl of Great Price continued to appear singly or in double and triple combinations. After 1981, fewer solo printings were done and as of 2007, the official English Pearl of Great Price appears only in combination printings with the other canonical texts. Sixteen foreign language versions were available for distribution in March, 2007. With the advent of electronic editions, the PGP again appears as a separate book.

SL-15 : *History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*,[HC] rev. ed., 4:520f; published 1948; edited, B. H. Roberts and ?. The first edition of the history (volume 4 appeared in 1908) did not contain the Book of Abraham. The text follows the format of BAmS-6 but with some (but not all) text changes corresponding to MS-2, SL-5. There is no break between the two parts as in TS-1, SL-1, MS-4. The facsimiles are printed before text. Facsimiles 2 and 3 are new, while facsimile 1 seems to have been printed from nearly an exact copy of the 1878 engraving, not using any of the other available versions. This edition is therefore curiously unique. Printings of the History since this one are reprints of this edition.

¹ *Flake*, refers to the imprint number assigned in the massive two-volume *A Mormon Bibliography, 1830-1930*, (2nd ed.) edited by Chad J. Flake and Larry W. Draper (Provo, Utah: Religious Studies Center, BYU, 2004); alternate imprint numbers from other bibliographic collections are found there.

² Peter Crawley, private communication to the author.

³ Private communication to the author.