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Salt Lake City
5th East, St. S. 1040
Jan. 27th 1899

W. Collins Esq.

Dear Brother in the Gospel;
I received your letter of the 22nd inst. yesterday;
asking the question; Did Joseph Smith the Prophet
claim to have a revelation on polygamy or, plu-
-ral marriage. You say the Josephites deny that he
did. I can answer that question in a few
words. It is a positive fact that he did so
claim and ~~so~~ teach and also practice.

I am a living witness of the same, with
me it is neither guesswork or hearsay; I
had it from his own mouth; to me it
was the word of the Lord. I accepted the
true and sacred principle, and was mar-
-ried or sealed to him as his wife for
time and all eternity, in Nauvoo 1843.

I know positively that ^{he} had other wives;
I have witnessed his performing the ceremony
of plural marriage
for other parties. Now facts are stubborn
things, the Josephites may oppose and

deny but the fact still remains. The Josephites are building their church on a sandy foundation. Error is a poor proof to build any structure upon. Truth is best it will stand forever. I would be very sorry to bear false witness or testify to a falsehood and have it go down on record to future generations. But what I have stated here is the truth, and if I was standing before my God I could speak no different.

I also knew when Joseph Smith had the revelation on plural marriage written and knew the circumstances that caused it to be written at that time. The Josephites also deny that the prophet Joseph ever gave endowments. Now I know that he did give endowments to a few of ^{the} brethren and ^{their} wives in one of the upper ^{front} rooms of the Mansion House, I was not one of the favored ones but I witnessed the preparation ^{for} ~~of~~ the same and saw the

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making of the cloths. I also ~~had~~ knew
of his having praye-meetings there
afterwards - I was living there at the
time - I was an inmate of his home
for about three years. Now this is my
^{testimony}
to you and all seekers after truth

I am getting old and according to the
course of nature will not remain here
long. Those that were personally ac-
quainted with the prophet are fast passing
away, and very few remain that knew
of his teaching polygamy or, plural
marriage

Yours Truly

Emily D. P. Young