

[Whitney's Verify the Letter of August 1842]

The letter is copied into Book 2:25-27 then follows on the bottom of page 27:

Territory of Utah  
County of Salt Lake S.S.

Be it known that on this thirteenth day of August A. D. 1869 personally appeared before me, James Jack, a Notary Public in and [for] said County Elizabeth Ann Whitney and Sarah Ann Smith (Kimball) w[ho] was by me sworn in due form of law, and upon their oath say that t[he] foregoing is a true copy of a letter written at Carlos Graingers by President Joseph Smith, dated, Nauvoo August 18<sup>th</sup>, 18[42] to Newel K. and Elizabeth Ann Whitney and their daughter Sarah Ann Smith who was married or Sealed to President Smith, July 27, 1842. And further that they have this day deposited Said letter in the Historian's Office in the county and City of Salt Lake

Signed Elizabeth Ann Whitney  
Sarah Ann Smith (Kimball)

Subscribed and Sworn to by  
the said Elizabeth Ann Whitney  
and Sarah Ann Smith (Kimball)  
on this thirteenth day of Aug. 1869

[James Jack]  
[Notary Public]

[(Joseph F. Smith Collection, Affidavit Book 2:27, LDS archives; typed copy)]

March 18, 1999  
BYU

Orson F. Whitney Papers

MS 15, Orson F. Whitney, Box 1, folder 2, Correspondence, 1905-1912  
copy of letter by Orson F. Whitney to Joseph F. Smith, April 1st, 1912  
~~to~~

1 April 1912

"The document signed by Joseph Smith and addressed to Sarah Ann Whitney, my father's eldest sister, one of the Prophet's plural wives, was found among her mother's - my grandmother's - private papers, and was given to me by my father's youngest sister, Mary Jane Whitney Groo, with whom my grandmother, Elizabeth Ann Whitney, lived for many years and up to the time of her death." [p. 1]

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"I also send to you a copy of a document in the handwriting, as I suppose, of my grandfather, Newel K. Whitney, and which I myself found among his papers, held by my father at the time of his death in 1884. I have kept the original, for the reason that it contains other matters (not mentioned in the copy) of interest only to the Whitney family. The greater part of the document herewith enclosed, is, as you will see, a revelation from God, embodying the ceremony which Newel K. Whitney was directed to pronounce, in sealing his daughter, Sarah Ann, to Joseph Smith. The revelation was, of course, through the Prophet, and the date of it, in all probability, was that upon which the marriage took place." [p. 2]

Palmyra August 18th 1842  
Dear, and Beloved, Brother and  
Sister, Whitney, and C.—  
I take this opportunity to communicate  
some of my feelings, privately at  
this time, which I want you three  
Eternally to keep in your own  
bosoms; for my feelings are so  
strong for you, since what has  
passed lately between us, that the  
time of my absence from you  
seems so long, and dreary, that  
it seems, as if I could not live  
long in this way; and should you  
come and see me in this my lonely  
retreat, it would afford me great  
relief of mind, if those with whom  
I am valued, do love me, now is the  
time to afford me succour, in the  
days of desolate, for you know  
foretold you of these things, I am  
now at Carols Grangers, just back  
of Brother Hyams farm, it is only one  
mile from town, the nights are  
very pleasant, indeed, all three of  
you <sup>can</sup> come and see me in the  
fore part of the night, let Brother  
Whitney come a little a head, and  
reach at the south East corner of  
the house at <sup>the</sup> window, it is next to  
the cornfield; I have a room inter-  
rely by myself, the whole matter  
can be attended to with most perfect  
safety, I <sup>know</sup> it is the will of God that you  
should comfort <sup>me</sup> now in this time  
of affliction, or not at ~~it~~ now is the

To the Whitneys, August 18, 1842, p. 1. Handwriting of Joseph Smith.  
See text, p. 539. (LDS Church Archives.)