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"We, Ebenezer Robinson, and Angeline E. Robinson, husband and wife, hereby certify, that in the fall of 1843, Hyrum Smith, brother of Joseph Smith, came to our house in Nauvoo, Ill., and taught us the doctrine of polygamy.

And I, the said Ebenezer Robinson, hereby further state that he gave me special instructions how I could manage the matter so as not to have it know [sic] to the public.

He also told us that while he had heretofore opposed the doctrine, he was wrong and his brother Joseph was right; refering to his teaching it.

S'E. Robinson and
Angeline E. Robinson
29 December 1873

Pleasanton, Iowa

#3 28 January 1880

Ebenezer Robinson to Jason W. Briggs.

Dear Brother,

Yours of the 11th inst. is before me, in which you introduce a subject which is not pleasant to dwell upon but it is not wise for us as individuals, or as a people, to ignore the truths of the past, but to look the history of the past squarely in the face, so that we may be the better prepared to shun the errors and emulate the good.

You ask me ten questions, which you number in order:

1st Where and at what time do you date the introduction of polygamy in the church?"

Ans. The doctrine of "spiritual wives" was talked privately, in the church in Nauvoo, in 1841. This I always considered polygamy.

4th "How did Hyrum Smith talk you to practice polygamy so as to keep it hid?"

Ans. "He instructed me in Nov or Dec 1843, to make a selection of some young woman, and he would seal her to me, and I should take her home, and if she should have an offspring give out word that she had a husband, an Elder, who had gone on a foreign mission.

5th Was there a place appointed in Iowa, 12 or 18 miles from Nauvoo to send female victims to hid (sic) polygamous births?"

Ans. We were told that there was a lplace, a few miles out of Nauvoo, in Illinois, where females where sent for that purpose.

6th "Did you understand from Hyrum Smith in 1843 that polygamy & spiritual wifery was identifal?"

Ans. I did.