

Linda, he is referring to the Saints Herald. Volume 57, Number 4 - 26 January 1910. It

starts on page 94. The first pages state that editorial on "Young Joseph" & it there that says, "Elder Isaac Sheen was a student well versed in the scriptures, had obeyed the gospel in Philadelphia before the martyr's death, but had not become acquainted with the church by actual contact in Illinois until after the event." Since John's letter is published edited by G. S. H. - we are led to believe it is no accident that you are trying to cast doubt upon Isaac Sheen's comments in SAINTS HERALD Vol. 57, Jan. 1860 - that the Prophet was a polygamist. This letter also casts doubt, second hand however, that the REDS gifts of the spirit are well dubious. etc

Lushton, Nebraska, February 8, 1910. From Robert

The following letter to Elder Joseph F. Smith, Jr., from John K. Sheen, son of Isaac Sheen, was written and forwarded from Lushton, Nebraska.

"Mr. Joseph F. Smith, Jr.

Dear Sir:- I have just received the 'Jubilee Number' of Saints Herald of Lamoni, Iowa. It contains a 'Sketch of the Life of Isaac Sheen' and is so credited to me. I hardly recognize the child it has been so badly disfigured in its lower (later) parts that I can't recognize it as my child.

Should you receive a copy of this distorted history number of the Herald, I call your attention to paragraph 3, page 95.

A large part of this paragraph as written by me does not appear in this great 'Jubilee Number' and I will tell you why, and when I reproduce here what I therein wrote you will see why it was decapitated from the article.

'In 1843 Sheen settled at Macedonia. It was here he was first approached on the subject of Polygamy. Joseph Smith, Jr., Brigham Young and a Bishop Hunter came over from Nauvoo. What the occasion was I do not now remember. Joseph and Brigham engaged in pulling sticks; this consisted of both sitting upon the ground and grasping a stick with both hands, and father told me that Joseph would pull up Brigham every time.'

Mr. Smith, I have reproduced this from memory and I think is very near the same words used in manuscript sent Herald.

Again:- All of the large paragraph in second column on page 95 has been distorted not only to destroy what I wrote but also conflicts with their own histories of the beginning of what they now call the Reorganization.

In the first three numbers of True L.D.S. Herald published in Cincinnati, Ohio, Isaac Sheen admitted, as also did William Marks, that Joseph was knowing to that doctrine being taught, but I ask you to read Herald No. 1 January 1860 for the matter as it appears in its true light.

Father discovered the Lineal Priesthood doctrine in 1847 in Covington, Ky., and he and William Smith advocated that doctrine up to early in 1850 when Sheen broke away from William and published against him. You have written truly of the record of Marks, Gurley, Briggs, etc. The milk in the coconuts is that in writing a biography of my father I threw light that reflected upon Gurley's History of the Reorganization, or whatever its name was, or may hereafter be. Gurley in his 'History of New Organization' has told of great things in connection with the raise and progress of that organization--of how angels were hovering around and great predictions were made and they were told that Lineal Priesthood was the stuff and Jason W. Briggs got a revelation. All this history of Gurley's is laughable when read in connection with the fact that the great and wonderful things now being revealed (1851, 2 and 3) had been preached and published from 1847 to 1850 by Sheen and Wm. Smith and shall I say Lyman Wight--well, he at least from his exalted station down in the Cordilleras mountains in Texas at least fired encouragement by promising letters.

Yours Respectfully,
John K. Sheen.

Lushton, Nebr.