

CORRECTIONS

I would have liked to have written a perfect book, and I did everything humanly possibly to avoid mistakes, but realistically I expected that in time I would find minor or even major mistakes in my book. One is never happy to find a mistake, of course--in fact, the feeling can be quite unpleasant. Nevertheless, there is another side to the experience that is almost cheering--it feels really good to finally get that fact right. And the fact would never have been established unless you had made the mistake.

Furthermore, though I bent over backwards to avoid mistakes, trying to make the book fair and balanced especially in disputed and sensitive areas, I never intended my book to be "authoritative." In fact, one of the reasons I wrote this book was in hopes of learning more about the subject *after* the book was published. A book is part of a collective search for truth; it is never the absolute truth itself. (And at this point I should stop and thank the many people who helped me do research for this book, some of them giving me precious data and texts with enormous generosity. People like Bob Larsen, who nonchalantly handed me a packet at Sunstone with Sarah Lawrence's death records and a chronology of her later life.)

Therefore I welcome people writing in with corrections and possible additions. (I am interested in *every* document relating to these women, not just seemingly "important" documents.) Write me care of Signature Books, 564 W. 400 N. Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84116-3411.

STYLISTIC and TYPOS

p. 88: 2nd para., 4th line: replace the comma after "privation" with an em-dash, and put parentheses around "one of them newborn". So it should read:

"Though Henry was halfway across Iowa, driving a covered wagon for his wife and two sons (one of them newborn) through dangers and privations—at this time, of all times, he was sent on a mission."

One of the early on-line reviews of my book was by Boyd Peterson, and he critiqued my style as run-on, quoting this and another sentence as outstandingly bad. (Showcasing an author's worst for public excoriation is an endearing trait of book reviewers. You can read his review at <http://cc.weber.edu/~byparkinson/review22.html>.) I checked my files, and sure enough, my text as I sent it to the printers had an em-dash, not a comma, here, which makes it better, I think. Printing gremlins.

p. 11: third paragraph, first line: change "Smith" to "he"

p. 56: l. 5: change "well documented" to "well known".

p. 123: heading for VI., excise "The"

p. 126: third line from bottom: change "Presendia" to "her". So it should read: "affected her adversely" ("Presendia" is repeated too frequently in that passage)

p. 163, two lines from bottom: add "to" after "going back"

p. 261, last full paragraph, 6th line down: change "when Joseph" to "while Joseph".

p. 396: 11 lines from bottom: change "which" to "that" i.e.: "that so terrified her"

p. 435, 13 lines from bottom: change "leaving Emily and Lydia and little brother" to "leaving Emily, Lydia

and little brother" to

p. 446: third line from top: excise "even"

p. 503: 2nd para. from end, 2nd line: change "Helen" to "she"

p. 509: in section XII., 4th line: excise the comma after life

p. 563: fourth line from top: excise "now" so it should read: "Willard, was ten."

p. 657: In section I, line one, excise "See also" (Note: it doesn't make sense with "See also" in there)

p. 671, VII, **mad man**: change "1945" to "1845"

p. 691: 11 lines from bottom: put a space in "HS220-25". correct: "HS 220-25"

CONTENT

Louisa Beaman's Date of Death

p. 69: para. above section X, 4 lines up: change "on May 15" to "at five minutes to twelve, May 16" and, the next line, "May 18" to "May 17". add to p. 656, first para., after **Death Date**: "See Historian's Office Journal. Eliza Partridge, in recording the funeral on May 18, must have been referring to the previous day's events. Cf." After "Zina commemorated the" add "approximate".

Almon Babbitt's Birthday

My esteemed publisher discovered a discrepancy in my Almon Babbitt material. p. 298, I state Babbitt was born on October 1, 1812. p. 292, I state that Babbitt was 17 when he arrived among the Johnsons in "late fall" 1831. As it turns out, I had good documentation for both those dates, even though they are mutually incompatible.

Joseph Ellis Johnson, in *Joseph Ellis Johnson -- Pioneer*, wrote, "Later in the autumn of 1831, Joe, David and a young man about 17 years of old named Almon W. Babbitt came up from Amherst to visit the family." (Benjamin Johnson, in *My Life's Review*, has him even younger: "Later in the fall [after "early fall" 1831] my brothers came from Ohio to see us and bear their testimony, and were accompanied by Almon W. Babbitt, then not seventeen years of age.")

The Book of Sealing and Adoption, pp. 171, 181, 505, clearly has Babbitt's birthdate as Oct. 4, 1812.

Further research, far from clearing the matter up, only muddied the waters further. The Book of Sealing and Adoption adds another variation: October 4 instead of October 1.

I checked the Nauvoo Temple Endowment Register. As it turned out, Babbitt received his endowment twice, on Jan. 7, 1846, and one time his birthdate is given as 1812, the other time as 1813.

In the Clayton/Kimball holograph journal, in the washing and anointing record for Jan. 7, Babbitt's birthday is given as Oct. 29, 1813.

Finally I found that Jay Ridd's University of Utah thesis (see my book. 711) on Babbitt might have