Joseph Smith Fought Polygamy

How Men Nearest the Prophet Attached Polygamy to His Name in Order to Justify Their Own Polygamous Crimes

Richard and Pamela Price

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# Contents

Maps and Pictures ........................................ vii  
Preface ...................................................... xvii  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Martha Brotherton Case</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bennett’s Sixth Letter or the Essay on “Happiness”</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The Sarah Pratt Case</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Orson Pratt and the 1831 Revelation Rumor</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Apostle Pratt’s Revolt against the Prophet</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Joseph’s Anti-Bennett Crusade</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The Polygamy Crisis in the Fall of 1842</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. <em>The Peace Maker</em>—Another Source of LDS Polygamy</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. How <em>The Peace Maker</em> Has Been Wrongly Used to Promote a False Theory</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The Apostles Adopted Jacob’s Polygamous Concepts from <em>The Peace Maker</em></td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. More Evidence that LDS Polygamy Concepts Were Adopted from <em>The Peace Maker</em></td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Mary Page Eaton Testified that Joseph Was Not a Polygamist</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. The Smith Family Knew that Brigham Practiced Polygamy before Joseph’s Death</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. William Smith Provided Further Insights into the Origin of Polygamy</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Joseph’s Struggles to Eradicate Polygamy in 1842</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. LDS Leaders Accused Oliver Cowdery of Polygamy</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Apostle John Taylor Lied about Polygamy Being Practiced by Church Leaders</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maps

Map of the Warren Settlement ........................................ ix
Map of Jacob Corners (Pilot Grove Corners) ...................... ix

Pictures

Joseph and Emma Smith ............................................. x
Joseph’s Office (as Reconstructed) in the Red Brick Store ... x
General John C. Bennett ............................................. xi
Apostle Orson Pratt ................................................... xi
Island where Joseph and Emma Met ................................. xi
Photocopy of the Affidavits and Certificates ...................... xii
Mississippi River below Nauvoo .................................... xii
Nauvoo Home of Bishop Vinson Knight ............................. xiii
Homestead Dining Area ............................................... xiii
Apostle William Smith ................................................ xiv
President Israel A. Smith ............................................. xiv
Pilot Grove Cemetery at Jacob Corners ............................. xiv
Velma Thompson and Daisy Linkhart .............................. xv
Emma Josepha Smith McCallum .................................... xv
The Warsaw Signal Building ....................................... xv
Oliver Cowdery ......................................................... xvi
Two of Joseph the Martyr’s Sons ................................... xvi
The Brotherton family lived at Warren, a settlement for the Saints one mile south of Warsaw. (Map redrawn from an 1843 map.)

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Udney Jacob lived in a village of thirty-five to forty people, known as “Jacob Corners” and also as “Pilot Grove Corners,” about fifteen miles east of Nauvoo (courtesy of Hancock County Historical Society).
“What a thing it is for a man to be accused of committing adultery, and having seven wives, when I can only find one.”
—Joseph Smith

Joseph’s tiny office in the Red Brick Store (as reconstructed), where Martha Brotherton claimed to have been imprisoned.
Elbert A. Smith

The island in the Mississippi where Joseph and Emma met on August 8, 1842, with Nauvoo in the background. The island was covered by water in 1913 when the Keokuk Dam was built.

Apostle Orson Pratt, who promoted the rumor that Joseph Smith had a polygamous revelation in 1831.

General John C. Bennett, whose book is the only source of the “Happiness” essay.

The island in the Mississippi where Joseph and Emma met on August 8, 1842, with Nauvoo in the background. The island was covered by water in 1913 when the Keokuk Dam was built.
The Mississippi River below Nauvoo, in the vicinity where Orson Pratt contemplated his decision to oppose the Prophet.

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A photocopy of the Affidavits and Certificates which Joseph Smith used in his crusade against Dr. Bennett and his polygamy charges.
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Joseph and his family were eating in this room when Deputy Pittman entered the house. The Prophet went to his secret compartment by exiting through the door behind the spinning wheel.

The Nauvoo home of Bishop Vinson Knight, who helped Joseph in his crusade against polygamy.
Apostle William Smith, who wrote to Joseph Smith III giving details of the polygamous apostles’ conspiracy against Joseph the Martyr.

Israel A. Smith, president of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, who read The Peace Maker and agreed with his grandfather, Joseph the Martyr, that it was “folly and trash.”

The Pilot Grove Cemetery is all that remains of Jacob Corners where Udney Jacob lived when he published The Peace Maker (Courtesy of Hancock County Historical Society).
The building in Warsaw, Illinois, where William Smith’s “A Proclamation” was printed on the Warsaw Signal press in 1845.

Velma Thompson (right) and Daisy Linkhart. Velma told Pamela Price the story of Emma Josepha Smith’s experiences with Emma Smith Bidamon.

Emma Josepha Smith McCallum, who told Velma Bradshaw that her Grandmother Emma had declared to her that Joseph did not practice polygamy.
Oliver Cowdery, who did not hear of polygamy as a doctrine of the Church until 1846, even though Brigham Young said Oliver was a polygamist in 1829.

Joseph the Martyr’s sons, Alexander Hale Smith and David Hyrum Smith, who challenged Brigham Young’s claim about Oliver Cowdery and the article on “Marriage.”