

The BOOK OF MORMON Collection in the William Andrews Clark Library

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Douglas Wilson's recent article on the Book of Mormon (*Dialogue*, III [Spring 1968], 29–41) has prompted me to write a note about the Book of Mormon collection in the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library in Los Angeles. When William Andrews Clark, Jr., purchased the library of Charles N. Kessler of Helena, Montana, in 1924, he acquired one of the finest private collections of editions of the Book of Mormon to that time. The collection includes sixty-two separate editions of the Book of Mormon, from the first American edition in 1830 to the fifth German in 1924. There are fifteen foreign language editions (including the Deseret edition). Some of the books originally belonged to prominent church leaders. Two copies belonged to Orson Hyde (as gifts from Erastus and Lorenzo Snow), two belonged to Francis M. Lyman, and one belonged to Charles C. Rich (as a gift from John Taylor).

In his article Douglas Wilson suggests the desirability of establishing a definitive text of the Book of Mormon through horizontal and vertical collation of important editions. A happy circumstance for the Clark Library Book of Mormon collection is that it is located in the same building as the only Hinman collating machine on the west coast.

For those interested in using the Clark Library (which is part of the UCLA library, but not on the campus), it is located at 2520 Cimarron Street (at West Adams Boulevard), three blocks west of Western Avenue and three blocks south of the Santa Monica Freeway. The hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

The following is a list of the editions of the Book of Mormon in the Clark Library. *American*: Palmyra, New York, 1830 (first American edition; two copies); Kirtland, Ohio, 1837 (second American); Nauvoo, Illinois, 1840 (third American) and 1842 (fourth American); New York, New York, 1858 ("Wright" edition; not authorized by the Church); Salt Lake City, 1871 (first Utah edition), 1874, 1876, 1877, 1881, 1882 ("Orson Pratt" edition), 1888, 1888 (first large type edition), 1891; Independence, Missouri, 1899 (title, "The Nephite Records"; first Reorganite edition?); Salt Lake City, 1900, 1904 (two copies), 1906, 1906 (large type edition), 1906 (vest pocket edition), 1908; Chicago, Illinois, 1909 (Eastern states edition); Independence, Missouri, 1916 [1913?] ("Joel Ricks" edition); Salt Lake City, 1918, 1920, 1921, 1921 (with Doctrine and Covenants and The Pearl of Great Price).

*English*: Liverpool, 1841 (first English edition), 1849, 1852, 1854, 1879, 1881, 1909, 1917. *Armenian*: Boston, 1906 (called the "Turkish" edition because the mission headquarters was in Turkey). *Danish*: Copenhagen, 1851 (first Danish edition and first edition published in a foreign language), 1858, 1881, 1902. *Deseret*: New York, New York, 1869 ("Deseret" edition). *Dutch*: Amsterdam, 1890 (first Dutch); Rotterdam, 1909. *French*: Paris, 1852 (first

French?); *German*: Hamburg, 1852 (first German); Bern, Switzerland, 1873; Salt Lake City, 1893; Berlin, 1900; Basel, Switzerland, 1924. *Hawaiian*: San Francisco, 1855 (first Hawaiian); Salt Lake City, 1905. *Italian*: London, 1852 (first Italian). *Japanese*: Tokyo, 1909 (first Japanese). *Maori*: Auckland, 1918 (second Maori?). *Samoan*: Salt Lake City, 1903 (first Samoan), *Spanish*: Salt Lake City, 1886; Independence, Missouri, 1920. *Swedish*: Copenhagen, 1878 (first Swedish); Stockholm, 1907, *Tahitian*: Salt Lake City, 1904 (first Tahitian). *Welsh*: Merthyr Tydfil, 1852.

