Greetings

We are pleased to share with you our latest newsletter. This issue features an article by one of our historians highlighting the release of the most recent volume in The Joseph Smith Papers—Documents, Volume 13: August–December 1843, published on June 23, 2022.

We also include information on our latest web release as well as the most recent online publication of the diaries of Emmeline B. Wells from the Church Historian’s Press.

Sincerely,

Matthew C. Godfrey, R. Eric Smith, and Ronald K. Esplin
General Editors

Joseph Smith’s Letter to 1844 Presidential Candidates

By Christian K. Heimburger, Volume Editor
In November 1843, the venerable John C. Calhoun—former vice president of the United States, longtime member of Congress, and now a candidate for president—received an unsolicited letter at his plantation in present-day Clemson, South Carolina. The handwritten communication was sent from western Illinois by Joseph Smith, the famed prophet and president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who asked Calhoun: “What will be your rule of action, relative to us, as a people, should fortune favor your ascension to the Chief Magistracy?” The letter was passed down to Calhoun’s descendants until it was donated to the library at Clemson University. This fascinating piece of correspondence is one of fifty-three letters featured in *The Joseph Smith Papers: Documents, Volume 13.*

New Content on Joseph Smith Papers Website

The Joseph Smith Papers is pleased to announce its latest web release. This release features an 1838 land survey documenting Latter-day Saint land claims in Daviess County, Missouri; introductions and documents for five legal cases from Illinois, including cases against Joseph Smith for treason and riot; Nauvoo City treasurer documents; transcripts for Joseph Smith’s office papers; updated images for the Nauvoo Relief Society Minute Book; and hundreds of new entries in the calendar of documents.

Newly Published Diaries Highlight Public and Personal Sides of Emmeline B. Wells
The Church Historian's Press recently published four additional volumes of the diaries of Latter-day Saint leader and women's rights activist Emmeline B. Wells, covering 1905 to 1908. For the first time, an annotated transcript of these volumes is available for free to the public at churchhistorianspress.org/emmeline-b-wells.

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The Church Historian’s Press is an imprint of the Church History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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