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Greetings

We are pleased to share with you our latest newsletter. This issue includes information on our latest web release.

We also feature an article by one of our historians highlighting Barbara Matilda Neff's autograph book, which includes the signatures of prominent citizens of Nauvoo as well as a short poem inscribed by Joseph Smith. This poem is one of the documents featured in *Documents, Volume 14*, which will be available in spring 2023..

Sincerely,

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



New Content on the Joseph Smith Papers Website

The Joseph Smith Papers is pleased to announce its latest web publication. This release features the first [daybook](#) for Joseph Smith's store in Nauvoo, Illinois; introductions and documents for six legal cases from [Missouri](#), [Illinois](#), and [Iowa](#); the [final transcript](#) for the drafts of Joseph Smith's multivolume history; dozens of new [chronology entries](#) through summer 1844; and fifteen new [biographical entries](#).

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Barbara Matilda Neff's Autograph Book

By Jessica Nelson, Volume Editor

In spring 1844, a young woman named Barbara Matilda Neff traveled from Strasburg, Pennsylvania, to Nauvoo,

Illinois, with her parents. While they were there, Neff's parents purchased property for a new family home. Hyrum Smith gave Barbara's mother, Mary Neff, a patriarchal blessing. For her part, Barbara brought along an autograph book containing signatures from her friends and a poem that Wilford Woodruff had written when he visited the Neff home the previous fall. Woodruff wrote an acrostic poem with the first letter of each line spelling out Neff's full name vertically. Neff added to her autograph collection by gathering signatures of prominent church members in Nauvoo, including Eliza R. Snow, John and Leonora Taylor, Sidney Rigdon, and William W. Phelps. When Joseph Smith signed the book, he included a poem as well. This document will appear in *Documents, Volume 14* of *The Joseph Smith Papers*, to be released in spring 2023. The document is also available at josephsmithpapers.org.

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