

Mrs. Martha Ann Harris,
Provo.

My Dear Sister Martha:- I feel impressed to write you this morning, not that I have any thing outlined in my mind to say, nor because I have nothing else to do; for I have no time to be idle, and none to spare, indeed my time is not sufficient for the duties required.

I feel interested in the welfare of your family, for their welfare is yours. You cannot feel prosperous nor happy unless they are prospered and are moving in the line of duty, and faithful to their callings and true to their principles, to their religion and to God and man. Neither can they be happy and successful unless they are walking in these paths.

First and foremost we owe allegiance to Him who is the giver of life, and all other good things. No Latter-day Saint can enjoy the spirit of God without sincerely acknowledging Him, remembering him, honoring him in their lives and in the first fruits of all their increase. Merely living, or living only for the present life to make money, to accumulate rich-

Acknowledgments

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We are also indebted to the Office of the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for providing copies from its collection of Martha Ann's letters to her brother Joseph F. These additional letters, written over many decades, provided a more complete picture of the written conversation between two devoted, loyal, and loving siblings.

The authorization to reproduce the letters and images found in this book comes from L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University; from the Intellectual Property Office, the Church History Library, and the Church History Museum of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; from the International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers; and from various Smith and Harris family members who are cited in the captions. We have digitally enhanced a few of the historical photographs to remove modern notations from them.

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Abbreviations

- BYU L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
- CHL Church History Library, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, UT
- CHM Church History Museum, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, UT
- USHS Utah State Historical Society, Salt Lake City, UT
- UU Annie Clark Tanner Western Americana Collection, Special Collections Department, J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT