

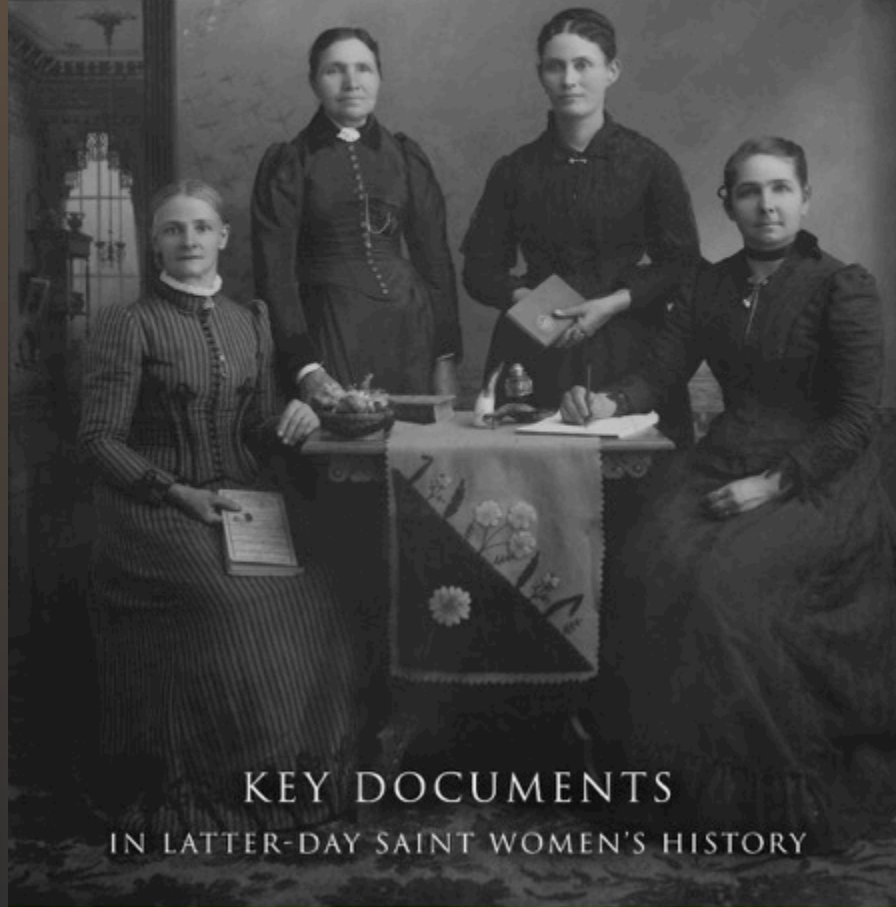
Female Relief Society.

(BY ELIZA R. SNOW)

This is the name of a Society which was organized in Nauvoo, on the 17th of March, 1842, by President Joseph Smith, assisted by Elders Willard Richards and John Taylor.

DESERET EVENING NEWS, APRIL 18, 1868

THE
FIRST FIFTY YEARS
OF
RELIEF SOCIETY



KEY DOCUMENTS
IN LATTER-DAY SAINT WOMEN'S HISTORY

THE CHURCH
HISTORIAN'S

PRESS

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“Organize Female Relief Societies in the various wards. You will find that the sisters will be the mainspring of the movement.”

BRIGHAM YOUNG, 8 DECEMBER 1867



“Pres. Young commissioned me to assist the Bishops in organizing Branches of the Society in their respective Wards.”

ELIZA R. SNOW, 1885

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A
Book of Records.

Containing
the proceedings
of the Female Relief Society of Nauvoo.

The following appropriate inscription,
was found lying on an open Bible, in the room
appropriated for the Society; at its first meeting.

"O, Lord! help our widows, and fatherless
children! So mote it be. Strive. With
the sword, and the word of truth, defend
thou them. So mote it be. Strive."

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This Book
was politely presented to the Society by
Elder W. Richards;
on the 17th of March, A.D. 1842.

A Record of the
Organization, and Proceedings of
The Female Relief Society of Nauvoo.

Nauvoo Lodge Room
March 17th 1842.

Present- President Joseph Smith, John Taylor,
Willard Richards, Emma Smith and others.

Elder John Taylor was call'd to the chair by Pres.
Smith, and elder W. Richards appointed Secretary.
Meeting commenced by singing "The Spirit of God"

Minutes of the Organization
of the
Female Relief Society of the Fifth & Sixth Wards, S. L. City.

Fifth Ward School House,
Dec. 18, 1867.

Meeting opened by singing— Prayer by Elder Solomon—
Bishop William Hickeloper acted as Chairman and
Elder Charles West was appointed Secretary. pro tem.

The Bishop made introductory remarks— said we have called
the sisters together to form an association for the benefit of the poor; we
want the aid of the sisters as well as of the brethren, in forwarding this
great and important work— this Society will be a great benefit &c.
The Bishop continued by saying that the first Society of this

A Record of the
Organization, and Proceedings of
The Female Relief Society of Kanwo.

Kanwo Lodge Room
March 17th 1842.

Minutes of the Organization
of the
Female Relief Society of the Fifth & Sixth Wards, S. L. City.

Fifth Ward School Room
Dec. 18, 1867.

Female Relief Society.

(BY ELIZA R. SNOW)

“This is the name of a Society which was organized in Nauvoo, on the 17th of March, 1842, by President Joseph Smith, assisted by Elders Willard Richards and John Taylor. Although the name may be of modern date, the institution is of ancient origin. We were told by our martyred prophet, that the same organization existed in the church anciently.”

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Female Relief Society.

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“This is an organization that cannot exist without the Priesthood, from the fact that it derives all its authority and influence from that source. When the Priesthood was taken from the earth, this institution as well as every other appendage to the true order of the church of Jesus Christ on the earth, became extinct, and had never been restored until the time referred to above.”

DESERET EVENING NEWS, APRIL 18, 1868

A
Book of Records
Containing Minutes
of the
Meetings and the Proceedings
of the
Quorum of Teachers
of the
Female Relief Society in the 14th Ward
Salt Lake City.

Ms. Phoebe W. Woodruff, President.
.. Jane Richards, - 1st Counsellor
.. Hannah C. Mumford, 2^d Counsellor
.. Sarah Elizabeth Cowley, Secretary.



Pres. Young told me he was going to give me a
〈another〉 mission. Without the least intimation of what
the mission consisted, I replied, “I shall endeavor to fulfil
it.” He said, “I want you to instruct the sisters.”

ELIZA R. SNOW, 1885



Salt Lake City Fifteenth Ward Relief Society
Hall