An Analysis of Textual Changes in "The Book of Abraham" and in the "Writings of Joseph Smith, the Prophet" in the Pearl of Great Price

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Abstract
The purpose of this study is to compare all the major printings of the texts of "The Book of Abraham" and the "Writings of Joseph Smith," both presently contained in "The Pearl of Great Price", to note the various changes in the texts and to evaluate the significance of those changes.

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In 1835, Joseph Smith and the LDS Church purchased some ancient Egyptian mummies and papyri from a traveling salesman because when Joseph first examined the papyri he identified them as containing the writings of the Genesis patriarchs Abraham and Joseph. Joseph worked on his "translation" of a portion of the papyri in 1835 and resumed work on it in 1842. That same year he published as three articles in Times & Seasons what he had completed, with the title "The Book of Abraham." It consists of five chapters and three "facsimiles," or reproductions of drawings from the papyri along with Jos... The Pearl of Great Price is part of the canonical standard works of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church) and some other Latter Day Saint denominations. The first paragraph of the Introductory Note in the LDS edition of the Pearl of Great Price states: "The Pearl of Great Price is a selection of choice materials touching many significant aspects of the faith and doctrine of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These items were produced by Joseph Smith and were