

"Letter to Emma Smith, 6 June 1832," The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed July 5, 2017, <http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/letter-to-emma-smith-6-june-1832/4?highlight=greenville>

Set forth below is a translation of a letter from Joseph Smith to his wife Emma while he was staying in Greenville, IN. The translation is to be used for historical purposes. The actual unedited letter can be found at the reference above with the entire collection of Joseph Smith papers.

Dear Wife-

I would inform you that Brother Martin [Harris] has arrived here and brought the pleasing news that our Family's were well when he left there which Greatly Cheered our heads and revived our spirits. We thank our heavenly Father for his goodness unto us and all of you. Martin arrived on Saturday the same week he left Chagrin having a prosperous time. We are all in good health. Brother [Newel K.] Whitney's leg is gaining and he thinks he shall be able to perform his Journey so as to get home about the 20th. My situation is a very unpleasant one. Although I will endeavor to be contented, the Lord assisting me I have visited a grove, which is just back of the town, almost every day where I can be secluded from the eyes of any mortal and there give vent to all. The feelings of my heart in meditation and prayer, I have called to mind all the past moments of my life and am left to mourn and shed tears of sorrow for my folly in suffering the adversary of my soul to have so much power over me as he has had in times past. But God is merciful and has forgiven my sins and I rejoice that he sendeth forth the comforter unto as many as believe and humbleth themselves before him. I was grieved to hear that Hiram (Hyrum Smith) had lost his little child. I think he can in some degree sympathize with him but we all must be reconciled to our lots and say the will of the Lord be done. Sister [Elizabeth Ann Smith] Whitney wrote a letter to her husband which was very cheering and being unwell at that time and filled with much anxiety, it would have been very consoling to me to have received a few lines from you but as you did not take the trouble, I will try to be contented with my lot knowing that God is my friend, in him I shall find comfort. I have given my life into his hands. I am prepared to go at his call. I desire to be with Christ. I count not my life dear to me, only to do his will. I am not pleased to hear that William E McLellin has come back and disobeyed the voice of him who is altogether lovely for a woman. I am astonished at Sister Emaline [Emeline Miller McLelling] yet I cannot believe she is not a worthy Sister. I hope she will find him true and kind to her but have no reason to expect it. His conduct merits the disapprobation of every true follower of Christ but this is a painful subject. I hope you will excuse my warmth of feeling in mentioning this subject and also my inability in conveying my ideas in writing. I am happy to find that you are still in the faith of Christ and at Father Smiths. I hope you will comfort Father and Mother in their trials and Hiram and Jerusha [T. Barden Smith] and the rest of the family. Tell Sophronia [Smith Stoddard] I remember her and Calvin [Calvin Stoddard] in my prayers. My respects to the rest. I should like to see little Julia [M. Smith] and once more take her on my knee and converse with you on all the subjects which concerns us. Things I cannot, is not prudent for me to write, I omit all the important things which I could make you acquainted with. Tell Brother [Frederick G.] Williams that I and Brother Whitney will arrange the business of that farm when we come give my respects to all the Brotheren. Brother Whitney's Family, tell them he is cheerful and patient and a true Brother to me. I subscribe myself your husband. The Lord bless you. Peace be with you. So Farewell until I return.

Joseph Smith Jr.

Greenville Ind.
June 6th
Ms. Emma Smith
Kirtland, Ohio

{Martin will come with us}