Other Important Editions in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division

- The Deseret Edition

The Deseret alphabet was devised as an alternative to the Latin alphabet for writing the English language. It was developed during the 1850s at the University of Deseret, now the University of Utah, and was promoted by Church President Brigham Young.

The name Deseret is taken from a word in the Book of Mormon and means "honeybee. It reflects the Mormon use of the beehive as a symbol of co-operative industry.

Brigham Young's secretary, George D. Watt, was among the designers of the Deseret alphabet and is thought to have used the Pitman English Phonotypic Alphabet of 1847 as the model.

The Mormon Church commissioned two typefaces and published four books using the Deseret alphabet. The Church-owned Deseret News also published passages of scripture using the alphabet on occasion. In addition, some historical records, diaries, and other materials were hand-written using this script, and it had limited use on coins and signs. The alphabet failed to gain wide acceptance and was not actively promoted after 1869.


- Second Edition


Second edition Errors in paging.

- Third Edition Revised


3d edition, carefully revised by the translator.

- First European Edition

Stereotype Edition

Book of Mormon.

4th American, and 2d stereotype edition, carefully revised by the translator.


German Edition

Book of Mormon. German.
*Das Buch Mormon.* Hamburg, 1852.

Hawaiian Edition

Book of Mormon.
*Ka buke a Moramona: he mooolelo i kakauia e ka lima o Moramona, maluna iho o na papa i laweia mailoko mai o na papa o Nepai ...* San Francisco, Paiia G. Q. Pukuniahi, 1855.

Book of Mormon in Hawaiian as translated by Josepa Samika.