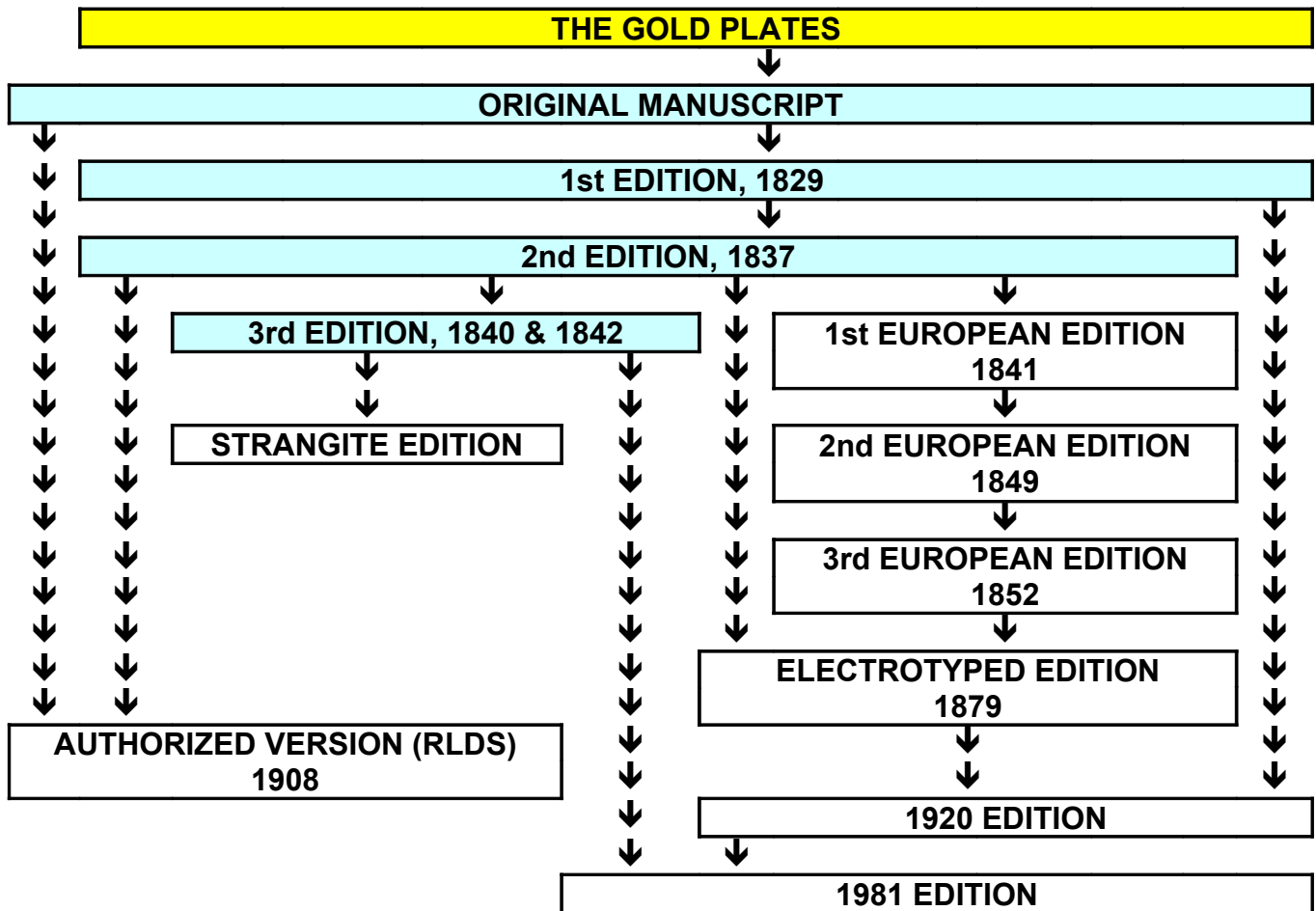


BOOK OF MORMON EDITIONS

- Boxes in blue are editions Joseph Smith had a direct hand in producing -



THE GOLD PLATES

Written by the ancient American prophets Mormon and Moroni; completed and buried by AD 421.

ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT

Dictated by Joseph Smith to Oliver Cowdery as he read it from the plates; had no punctuation or paragraphing.

FIRST EDITION

1829, Palmyra, New York, printed by Egbert E. Grandin, from Joseph Smith's manuscript as dictated to Oliver Cowdery. Mr. Grandin's office established all punctuation and paragraphing, changes being made even as printing was going on so that one book would vary from another.

SECOND EDITION

1837, Kirtland, Ohio, printed by Parley P. Pratt and John Goodson. Grandin's punctuation extensively

corrected by Joseph Smith. He also made various word changes in order to align this edition closer to the intent of the original plates.

THIRD EDITION

1840 & 1842, Nauvoo, by Don Carlos Smith and Ebenezer Robinton. Joseph continued to refine punctuation and wording to harmonize with the intent of the original plates.

FIRST EUROPEAN EDITION

1841, England, printed by Brigham Young. Text is the Second Edition. First copy to have an index; Testimonies of Three and Eight Witnesses moved from back of the book to the front.

SECOND EUROPEAN EDITION

1849, England, printed by Orson Pratt. It followed the style and wording of the 1st European Edition (which followed the text of the Second edition).

THIRD EUROPEAN EDITION

1852, England, printed by Franklin D. Richards. Followed text and style of 1st European Edition (which was the text of the Second Edition); contained first attempt at numbering verses.

ELECTROTYPED EDITION

1879, Salt Lake, by Orson Pratt. Chapters made smaller, nearly doubling in number; text broken down from paragraph to verse format as was common in biblical texts; some footnotes added; minor word changes made from previous U.S. editions which were based on Third Edition, using European Editions as source. Became the standard English-language LDS edition.

AUTHORIZED VERSION (RLDS)

1908; Independence, Missouri; based on the original manuscript and the 1837 Kirtland Edition (Second Edition).

1920 EDITION

1920, Salt Lake, by a committee headed by James E. Talmage. Word/punctuation changes, aligning text with First Edition & European Editions; pages formatted into double columns; chapter headings, chronological data, pronouncing guide, and new index added; footnotes and references revised and expanded.

1981 EDITION

1981, Salt Lake & Cambridge, England, by a committee headed by Bruce R. McConkie and Boyd K. Packer. Word/punctuation changes aligning it more closely with Third Edition as well as correcting mistakes that had crept in through various printing of the 1920 Edition; introductory material revised/expanded; all new chapter headings, footnotes, and index; cross reference greatly expanded, further cross-referencing it with other scriptures and the Topical Guide. In 1982 the subtitle "Another Testament of Jesus Christ" was added.

NOTE: I have written the Community of Christ and the Strangites for information on their editions of the book to include on this page, but I have never received an answer from either.