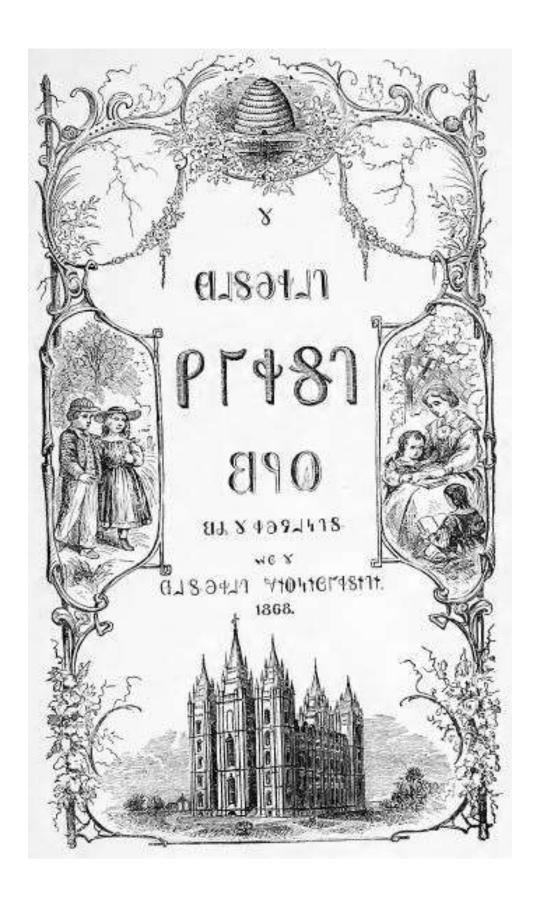
DESERET ALPHABET BOOK ONE

E-book Created by Paul R. Machula March 2014



FOREWORD

This e-book is dedicated to those who championed the 19th century English spelling reform known as the Deseret Alphabet. It was originally designed to help new converts of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) who came from many countries in the early days of the church to Utah (app. 1855-1875). Brigham Young, who directed these migrations, wished to integrate these people as quickly as possible into the church and also the English-speaking United States. He thought English spelling reform would be greatly beneficial in this respect. Although the reform was quite successful for some time among church members, it eventually was discontinued, especially after its greatest proponent, Brigham Young, passed away in 1877.

There were 3 primers that were used in "Deseret" (Utah territory) to teach the alphabet to children and those adults who were trying to learn English, or who just wished to learn the alphabet. This e-book is based upon the 1st Deseret primer book that was printed in 1868, including illustrations. There are 3 sections in the e-book: the first section contains the original Deseret characters followed by Latin script, transcribed and added by the producer of the e-book. Illustrations from the original book are included in this section. The second section is in Deseret characters only, as found in the original book, but minus illustrations. The third section is in Latin script only and is the transcription by the producer.

It should also be noted that the original book presented a slightly different 'Deseret key'. The producer of this e-book created the key that is here presented. It has no substantial difference from the original. Finally, the original book had a table of Arabic numerals and a simple multiplication table also, as did many other children's primers of the 19th century. Those tables are not present in this e-book.

Deseret Alphabet Key

In Deseret script the only difference between lower and upper case is the size of the characters. In the list below I use only the lower case.

Short Vowels

+-i as in it

」 − e as in bed

1 – a as in cat

₄ – ou as in ought

9 – oo as in book

r – u as in but

Long Vowels

a – ee as in bee

 ε – ay as in bay

Θ – a as in ball

o – o as in oat

Φ – oo as in coop

o – au as in Paul

Diphthongs

ุ่ a − i as in ice

9 - ow as in owl

Consonants

a - b as in boy

c – ch as in cheese

a – d as in dog

ρ – f as in fall

- ∞ g as in gate
- Ψ h as in help
- 9 − j as in jeep
- ω k as in keep
- ι I as in look
- o m as in may
- n as in now
- и ng as in sing
- 1 p as in pond
- φ r as in rope
- ⊕ s as in sound
- p sh as in ship
- n − t as in top
- y th as in that
- L th as in thing
- в v as in very
- w − w as in well
- → y as in you
- 6 z as in zoo
- s s as in pleasure



ച്ച ነወ ተገ.

Lesson One

I am in.
As we go.
On to it.

ሐ ነጋ. ዋ៦ ፥6. ተነ ፥6 ሐ. ተነ ፥6 ዋ៦. ነጋ ሐ ፥ነ? ୫០ ፥6 ዋ៦. ተፅ ዋን ተገ? ዋን ፥6 ተገ. ሠን ወ0 ተገ ነው ፥ገ.

Lesson Two

I am. He is. It is I. It is he. Am I in? So is he. Is he up. He is up. We go up to it.



to the so? the tall so.

Wa so th. Ya to th.

Go vo so th? & 10 th th.

Ya to th th. So no th.

to th no so? to, th to tall.

Ji no th wa so.

Lesson Three

Is it so? It is not so.
We go in. He is in.
Do you go in? I am in it.
He is in it. Go to it.
Is it to go? No, it is not.
On to it we go.

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Lesson Four

If it be so, we may see him go.

Is he by me? So he is. Is he up? We may see him go up. Go up on it, as you see me go. If he go, let me go too. We may go by him.



Lesson Five

Can we go in? We can go in. So we can. Let me go to it. He is to go by me. So he is. Let me sit by him. So may we sit by him. If it be so; so let it be. Who is it? It is I.

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Lesson Six

Do we go by it? Let us go by it. So we may go by it. It is not by us. If it is by us, so he may be by us. Let it go, so it may go by us. Let me go by it. We go to him.

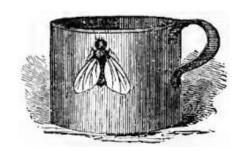


Lesson Seven

A boy and dog. The boy can ride. He has a hat. The dog runs. See how fast the dog can run. We may go and see the boy and dog.

<u>Lesson Eight</u>

I see a fly. May I get the fly? Yes, you may get it, but it will fly off. It bit an ox. The ox can run. Can the fly run? Yes, the fly can run up on the high wall.



Lesson Nine

This is a fly on a tin cup. It has lighted on the cup, but it may fly off, and light on the wall. Tin cups are of use. We may drink out of them.

46 814 ዓተነ 148 በ3. Гкት ወት 16. ሁኔት የተነ ነቀ የ

Lesson Ten

I can run and hop. Can you hop? Yes, I can. It is fun for me to do so. Our cat is fat; I pet her. She is very kind and loves to play. Let her sit on the rug and purr. She is very sly. Is she not? Yes, she is.



Lesson Eleven

My top is new. It can hum. See! I can spin it. You may have a top. The boy had a top. His top was not new. I told the boy he must not lose it. You may give it to me and I will keep it for you.

<u>Lesson Twelve</u>

The sun. The sun is up. The dew will soon be gone. The dew wets the earth and makes the grass grow. When we get up at sunrise and go into the lot, we may see the dew on the grass, but it soon goes off when the sun shines.



Lesson Thirteen

A bee on a bud. The bud will soon open. The wings of the bee are spread out. It may fly off to some rose bush. Come and look at the bee. Do you see it? Bees can work.

Lesson Fourteen

A bay nag. I have a nag. He can eat hay and oats. Put some hay into his crib and see him eat. If you get on his back you may ride to town and buy you a new hat.

Lesson Fifteen

A new gun. It is my new gun. Have you seen my new gun? A gun is good to keep off the dogs and bad men at night. We should take care of our guns and keep them clean. We must not point them at anyone.

Lesson Sixteen

I own an ox. The ox is in the lot. He can eat in the lot. May we go and see him? Yes, you may go out into the lot. Our cow and the ox eat in the lot. We will put the cow into the pen and feed her.



Lesson Seventeen

A lamb. Two lambs. I have a lamb. John gave it to me. I am fond of it. I play with my lamb, and it will run and skip about me. Lambs are fond of play too.

Lesson Eighteen

A cat can get a rat. Cats look for mice. Some cats will bite. Jane has a fine cat. She loves her cat, and she will let her lie near the warm fire.



Lesson Nineteen

My father gave me this book. It is his wish that I should learn to read it well. If I do this, I shall please him. My mother tells me to be good and mind what I am told. Good boys and girls heed what is said to them. They love to go to school.

ዋወቀ ተ6 ጋሖ ነተወ ወወι. ተገ ተ6 ១ ፀተወ ወወι. ወነነ ❤ወ ገርደ ነገ ወሀ? ❤ወ ጋε ୫៦ ሐ ወነነ. Јጋ ሐ ተነ ❤ወቀ ሠዩ? ት0, ❤ወ ୭ቀ ኁ√ገ ተነ ጋሖ ሠደ.

Lesson Twenty

Here is my new ball. It is a big ball. Can you play at ball? You may see I can. Am I in your way? No, you are not in my way.



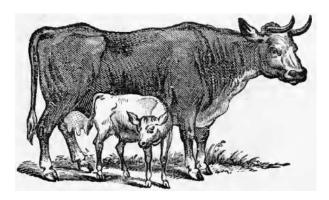
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Lesson Twenty-One

I see a girl and a cage. The door of the cage is open. The bird which was in the cage has flown off. What a pity! This makes the girl grieve to think her bird has flown, never more to come back.

Twenty-Two

I am fond of nice cake. My sister Jane bakes good cakes, and she gives me some when I go home. I can eat a cake and drink some milk.



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Twenty-Three

We have a red and white cow. She is a quiet cow, and does not kick when we milk her. She has a brown calf with a white face. My father gave the calf to me. The cow gives us milk. We churn the milk and make butter.

Lesson Twenty-Four

The hog is in the pen. How fat the hog is! We may see the hog eat corn and lie in his bed. When the sun shines he will lie in the shade. The hog cannot run. He is too fat. The hog can root.

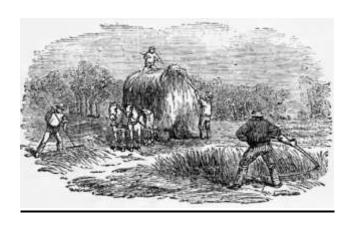


Twenty-Five

An old man. He seems feeble. He has sat down to rest. He lives in a small cot[tage] near by. The cot[tage] is by the roadside. It is many miles from town.

Lesson Twenty-Six

A pond with fish. The fish swim in the pond. Boys come fish with rods, lines, hooks and baits. I have seen some nice rods in the store for sale. I shall ask my brother to buy me a new rod and line.



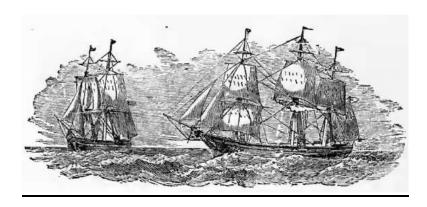
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Lesson Twenty-Seven

Come, James, and take a walk with me. Let us go to the hay field. I have seen the men cutting grass, and we may now see them loading the hay. I can turn over the newly cut grass with my hay-fork and make good hay.

Lesson Twenty-Eight

We have a well. It is in the back yard. The well is deep, and the water we draw from it is cold and pure. It is good to have a drink of cold water from the well after we have been hard at work.



Lesson Twenty-Nine

A ship. Ships go to sea. The ship sails fast. Will you help me to rig my ship? The deep sea. The waves roll on the deep blue sea.

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Lesson Thirty

Hens lay eggs. I have a hen and eight chicks, and have made a hen coop, in which I keep the hen and her chicks. I feed them on crumbs of bread. The old hen gets flies and grubs to feed her chicks.



Lesson Thirty-One

Let us go to school. We will be late for school if we do not make haste. Are your brothers going to school today? No, my brothers James and John are very ill. They cannot go to school today.

Lesson Thirty-Two

I shall go to the city next week and buy some pens, ink, and paper, also a slate. I should like to learn to write and spell, as well as to cipher. I hope to be able soon to read and write well, that my parents may be proud.



Lesson Thirty-Three

A boy with his slate. The boy looks clean and neat. His pen and ink are on the table, also his books. The boy likes to study and makes good use of his slate at home. His dog, Tray, is by his side. Tray does not study, but when the boy is through with his studies, Tray plays with him.

Lesson Thirty-Four

This is a new cap which I wear. It is made of dark blue cloth. My sister spun the yarn. My brother wove the cloth. I shall have a suit ov clothes this season of the same piece of cloth.

Lesson Thirty-Five

John, please get up. Jane, please get up. The sun is up, and we should be up too. The birds chirp and sing in the trees. The chickens are up, and want their feed. The pigs in the pen want their slop. Now, make haste, and I will help you, and when all are fed, we will take a walk and enjoy the cool air. How pure the air is, and how sweet the smell from the flowers in the garden! I love to rise early and enjoy it.

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Lesson Thirty-Six

Jane, come and play with Mary and me. My mother has given me some pieces of broken dishes, and with my playthings I can make a pretty little house. I have a small carpet, which we can spread, and these fine pieces will make a good show. We made a fine house last eve, but the pig broke out of its pen, and ran through our house and upset our little chairs, tables, and all our pretty things. Arthur has put the pig in the pen, and it cannot get out today to upset our playhouse.



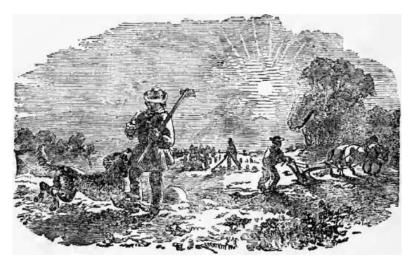
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Lesson Thirty-Seven

In the woodcut on this page we see a boy and dog. We shall call the boy John Rim, and the dog, Trap. John is a good boy and is now on his way to school. He lives on a farm and cannot go home at noon for his dinner, so he is trying to teach Trap to carry his meal to school in a basket. Trap is very willing to learn and takes the handle of the basket in his mouth and goes along. John thinks a great deal of Trap and has taught him a great many smart tricks, and Trap loves to be with his playmate, John.

<u>Lesson Thirty-Eight</u>

Boys and girls, let me tell you a few things about your parents. Your parents get food and clothing for you, and they have many cares about you, which you do not know nor think of. They think of you when you are from home and fear lest you might be in some place of danger and be hurt. They often spend restless nights when you are sick, or when little cares or trials which you have never felt before come upon you and cause you pain or grief. And many are the causes of sorrow which your parents suffer for your sake, and which you cannot now feel, because of your tender age.



Lesson Thirty-Nine

If we rise early in the morning we may see the sun rise. He rises in the East. In the Spring before sunrise the birds begin to sing amongst the trees and bushes: They seem very g[ay] and cheerful because the sun is coming to shine upon them. He darts his warm rays on the earth. He shines upon the flowers and upon the plants, and gives them their color and their beauty. If the sun did not shine upon the earth, plants and trees would not grow, nor appear green and lovely, as they do. When the sun has passed over our heads, he

seems to sink towards the West, and when he reaches the West he soon sets, and we do not see him again until the next day.

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Lesson Forty

In the last lesson you have read about the sun: how he rises and sets, and how he shines upon the earth. I wish to tell you in this lesson what is meant by the sun's rising and setting. When we turn our eyes towards the East and look at the sun in the morning, he seems to come up from behind the hills and move towards the West. The sun does not move, but stands still, and the earth turns round, and we are carried round with it. When we are on one side of the earth, and the sun is shining on the other side of it, it is night where we are, because the sun does not shine upon us. When the earth turns round, and gets the side where we live turned towards the sun, he then shines upon us, and it is then called day.



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Lesson Forty-One

This is James Orr and his sister Susan. James is very much pleased with his little sail boat, which his brother gave him. You see it is nicely rigged for sailing. He is showing Susan how well it can sail across the pond, and how pretty it looks. Susan has got a hoop with which she plays, and though she is a girl, she can run with the boys and beat many of them,

driving the hoop. Susan is a smart girl and fond of play. The father of James and Susan is a sailor and goes to far off lands beyond the seas. When winter comes, and the wind blows a gale, they think of their father who may be in danger, and they are sorry; but when he comes home, and brings them fine presents which he buys abroad, they are made happy.

Lesson Forty-Two

It is winter now. The days are short, and the nights are long and cold. It snows. How fast the snow falls! The fields and the gardens are white with snow. How bright and clear they look! In winter the trees are bare. They have lost their leaves. When winter is over, spring will come again. The sun will shine warm; the birds will sing again in the trees, and their sweet notes will be heard from the bushes. Then the trees will put forth their green leaves, and look g[ay], and their sweet blossoms will scent the air, and their fine colors will delight our eyes.

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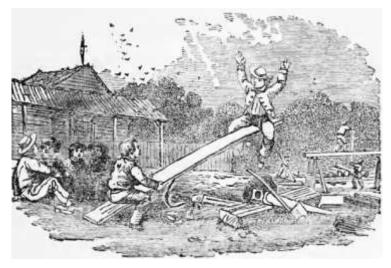
Lesson Forty-Three

Men go to sea on ships. They sail round the world and visit all parts of the earth. Ships carry the products of one nation to some other. Those who man ships are called sailors. It is a hard task to man a ship in a storm, when the winds blow, and the waves run high. The brave sailors must then be on duty, perhaps going aloft to furl their sails, which the ship is rocking, so that no one can stand upright without holding on to a rope, or to some part of the ship. When it is fair weather, the sailors have but little to do in some ships, and they are glad when they reach port to go ashore and buy fruit, fresh meat, and other thigs which they cannot get when far away at sea.

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Lesson Forty-Four

Honest children are the pride of their parents. We all love an honest, truthful boy or girl, those who will not steal from their playmates, nor tell lies when they have done a wrong to cover it up. Little children sometimes do wrong, and speak that which is not proper. When they are chided for doing this by their parents or their teacher, they should never lie to hide it; but they should confess that they did what was wrong, and said that which was not right, and should promise that they will try and do so no more. This course will make them feel well, and make their parents or teacher love and bless them. But should they lie to hide their little faults, they add to them, and this course will make them feel bad, and all good children will shun them. How much better it is to do what is right. Then, good children will love them, and choose them for playmates.



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Lesson Forty-Five

It is pleasing to children to have their seasons of play, and to have their choice sports. This is right, and it is good for children thus to amuse themselve at a proper time and place. The see-saw on this picture is one of the plays in which youth indulge, and with many it is thought to be a very fun pastime. These children enjoy their frolic and are glad to have such times. They live in the country, and were it not for their plays and games, they would be dull; but they have all sorts of sport, and they enjoy it too; for they are healthy, and full of vigor. They breathe the pure air. They rise early in the morning and have all their little tasks to perform; and when these are over, they have leave granted them to play.

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Lesson Forty-Six

John, have you got any fruit on your city lot? No, we have never planted any. Would you not like to have some? Yes, I would. Well, will you set out some peach and plum pits and current cuttings, if I get some for you? Yes, I will. Then I will give you them, and with a little labor and care, you may soon have a great many peaches, plums, and currents during the summer season to eat, and some to dry for winter, and this will help you to live. A few years ago, we had none of these nice fruits; but tossed them, we had all we could eat, and some to give to our friends; and next year will have many apt trees bearing fruit. This will be a great help to us. I love to eat apples.



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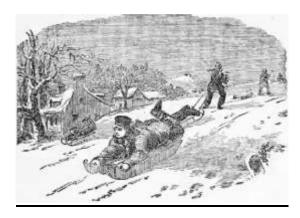
Lesson Forty-Seven

The grape is a very fine fruit. It is said that to eat freely of grapes is good for our health, and it surely is very pleasant to the taste. There are many hardy grapes that will stand the frost of winter and will ripen fine fruit in the fall. Raisins are dried grapes, and puddings made of them are rich, hearty food. Those who labor hard and are out of doors much may eat such food freely; but those who labor little, and are seldom out of doors should eat rich food with caution. All ripe fruit is good to eat, and is the best food we can take. We should strive to raise fruit trees and grapes and have fruit enough in its season to supply our wants. Deseret is a fruit country. The apple, pear, peach, plum, and cherry grow very well here. This is a source of wealth and comfort to us, as we are so distant from other countries in which fine fruit is grown.

ปมูล Рофา เ-ยา

Lesson Forty-Eight

In a former lesson we have been told to do right and we would feel well, and I believe it; for when I do what I am told and what I know is right, I am happy; and when I do not do so, I feel bad. I love to feel well, but it seems that I cannot feel well always. My parents teach me to pray to Father in Heaven in the name of Jesus that He may give me His Spirit that I may be led and guided by it in the paths which are right, and well-pleasing in His sight. The Spirit of God makes little children happy, and teaches them to love one another, and not do ought to offend each other. Were we always led by this Spirit, our actions would be lovely, and our ways pleasant to all around us; and our parents and teacher would feel to love and bless us. We should then pray often that this Spirit would lead and guide us.



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Lesson Forty-Nine

In the picture before you, you see a number of boys with their sleds. They have fun sport in riding. The hill, being very smooth with ice, is the cause of their sleds going down with great speed. The largest boy is first and is going at great speed. The other one is coming on behind him and seems to try to pass the first one, smiling as he goes, and one is going up the hill. Another is at the top of the hill, just ready to start. He may overtake the other boys if his sled is a very fast runner. Three other boys stand on the top of the hill and look on. They wish to take part in the sport, but they have no sleds. In winter time, when there is snow on the ground, every boy should have a sled of his own.