

## Preface

To the Reader ——

As many fals reports have been Sirculated respecting ~~this~~<sup>the following</sup> work  
& also many unlawful measures taken by evil desineing persons  
to destroy me & also the work I would inform you that I translated by the gift & power of God  
& caused to be written one hundred & sixteen pages  
the which I took from the Book of Lehi  
which was an account abridged from the plates of Lehi by the hand of Mormon  
which said account some person or persons have stolen & kept from me  
notwithstanding my utmost exersion to recover it again  
& being commanded of the Lord that I should not translate the same over again  
for Satan had put it into their hearts to tempt the Lord their God by altering the words  
that they did read conterary from that which I translated & caused to be written  
& if I should bring forth the same words again  
or in other words if I should translate the same over again  
they would publish that which they had stolen  
& Satan would stir up the hearts of this generation  
that they might not receive this work

but behold the Lord said unto me  
I will not suffer that Satan shall accomplish his evil design in this thing  
therefore thou shalt translate from the plates of Nephi  
untill ~~yeu~~ ye come to that which ye have translated  
which ye have retained  
& behold ye shall publish it as the record of Nephi  
& thus I will confound those who have altered my words  
I will not suffer that they shall destroy my work  
yea I will shew unto them that my wisdom is greater then the cunning of the Devil  
wherefore to be obediant unto the commandments of God  
I have  
through his grace & mercy  
accomplished that which he hath commanded me respecting this thing

I would also inform you that the plates of which hath been spoken  
was found in the township of Manchester Ontario County New Yorkk  
The Author