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Answer to a letter received by Mrs.

Emily H. P. Young, from Mr.
W. Collins, Wartagan, Ill.

Salt Lake City.

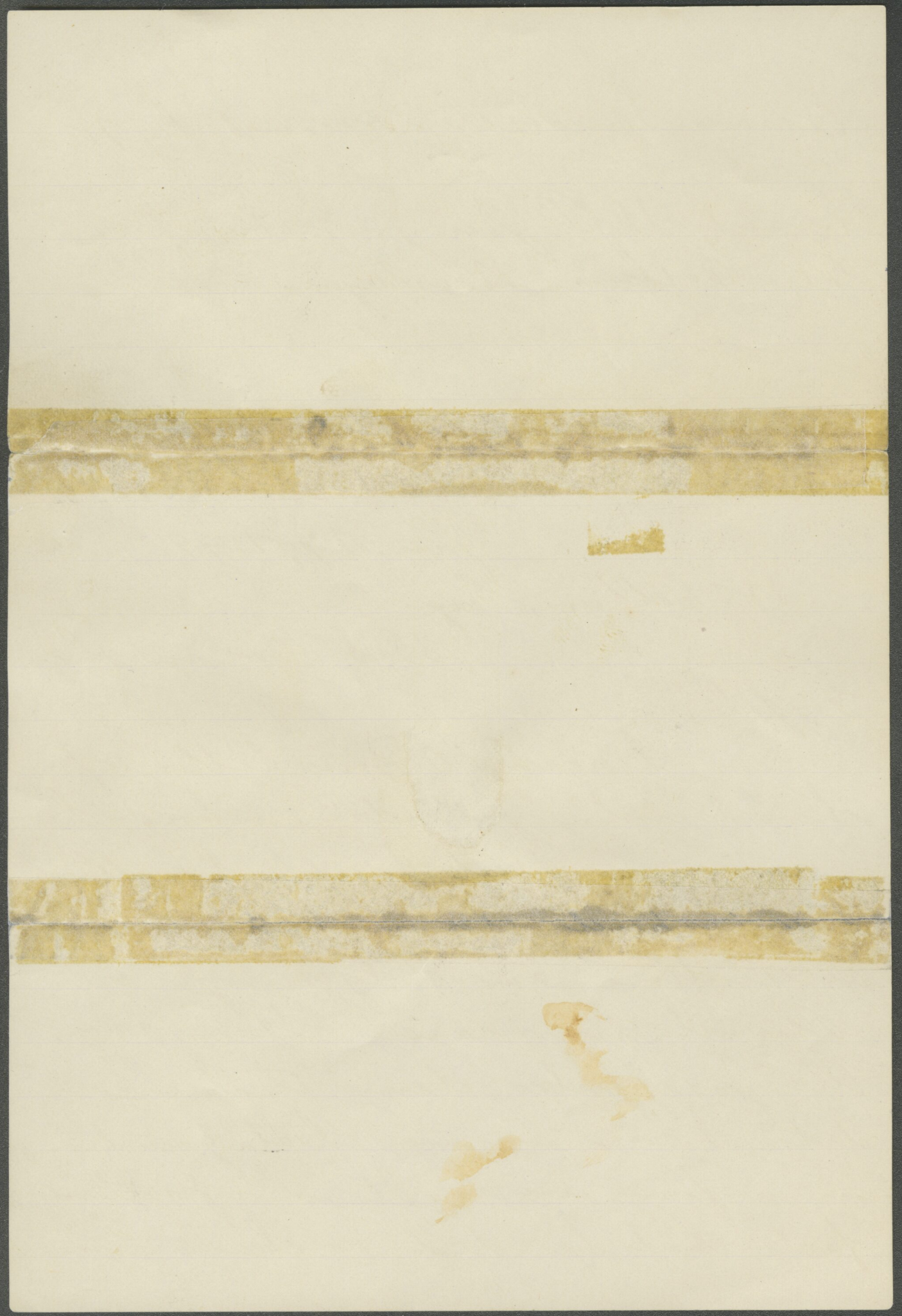
5 E St., S., 1070.

Jan. 27, 1899.

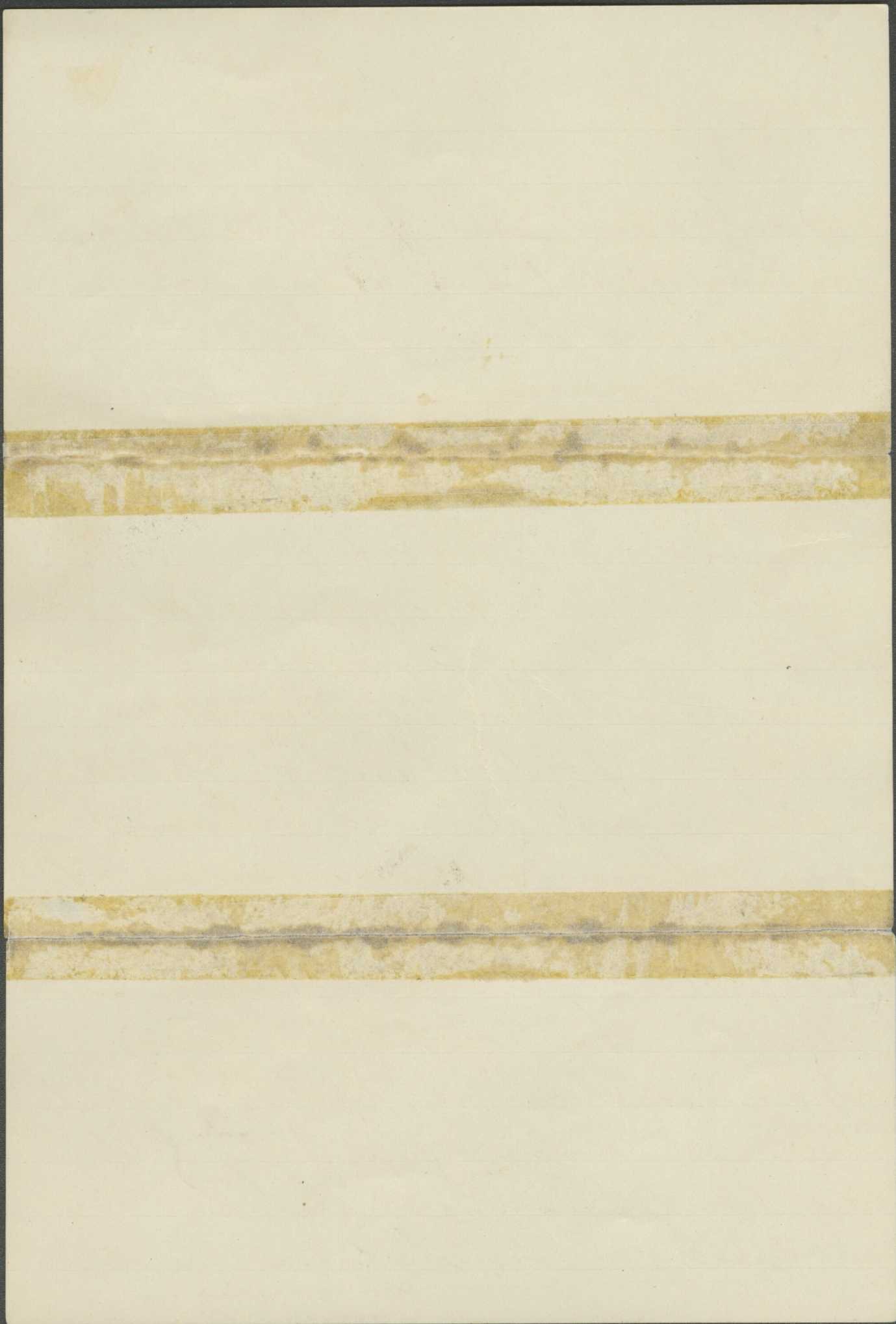
W. Collins, Esq.-

Dear Bro. in the
Gospel,

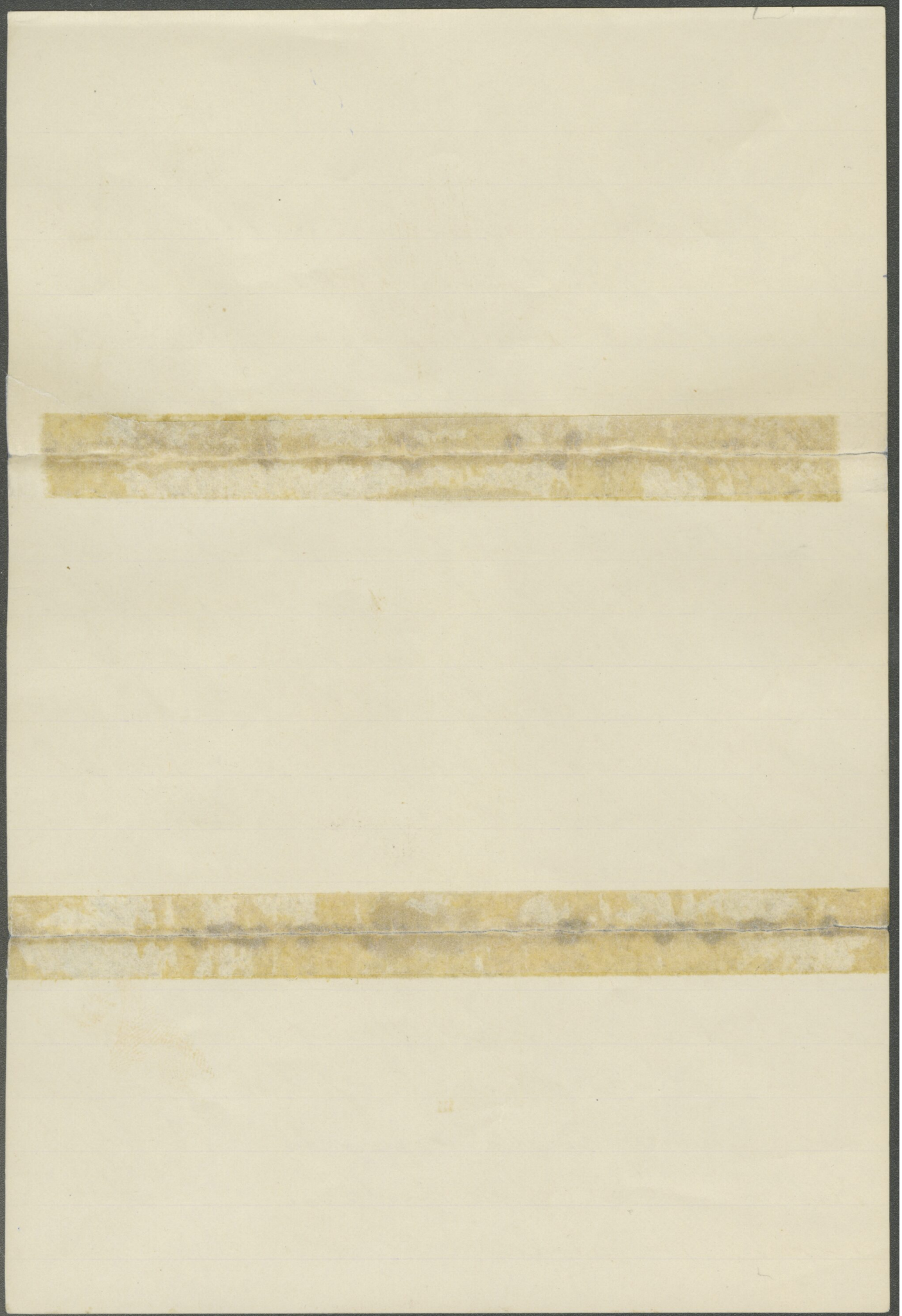
I received your letter of
the 22 inst., yesterday, asking the
question, "Did Joseph Smith,
the Prophet claim to have a
revelation on Polygamy, or
Plural marriage?" You say,
the Josephites deny that he
did. I can answer that question
in a few words. It is a positive
fact that he did so claim, and



teach, and also practice. I am
a living witness of the same
With me it is neither guess-
work or hearsay. I had it from
his own mouth. To me, it was
the word of the Lord. I accepted
the pure and sacred principle,
and was married, or sealed, to
him, as his wife, for time and
all eternity. In Nauvoo, 1843,
I know, positively, that he had
other wives. I have witnessed
his performing the ceremony of
plural marriage for other fan-
tics. Now, facts are stubborn
things. The Josephites may
oppose and deny, but the facts
still remain. The Josephites
are building their church on
a sandy foundation. Error



is a poor prop to build any structure upon. Truth is best, it will stand forever. I would be very sorry to bear false witness, or testify to a falsehood, and have it go down on record to future generations; but what I have stated here is the truth. And if I was standing before my God, I could speak no different. I also knew when Joseph Smith had the revelation on plural marriage written, and knew the circumstances that caused it to be written at that time. The Josephites, also, deny that the Prophet Joseph ever gave endowments. Now, I know that he did give endowments to a few of the brethren



and their wives in one of the upper front rooms of the Mission House. I was not one of the favored ones, but I witnessed the preparations for the same, and saw the making of the clothes. I also knew of his having prayer meetings there afterwards. I was living there at the time, I was an inmate of his home for about three years. Now, this is my testimony to you and all seekers after truth. I am getting old and according to the course of nature will not remain here long. Those that were personally acquainted with the prophet, are fast passing away, and very few remain that knew of his

This letter is a copy of the one
written to W Collins, sent to by
Emily to her sister Caroline B.
Symonds, Oak City, Utah and
now is the property of Mary L.
Freelinsow, Oak City. (granddaugh-
ter of Caroline)

Ms
d
2876

Salt Lake City
5th E, st 1070 S.
Jan 27-1899

W. Collins Esq.

Dear Brother in the Gospel.

I received your letter of the 22nd inst. yesterday; asking the question; did Joseph Smith the Prophet claim to have a revelation on polygamy of plural marriage. You say that the Josephites deny that he did.

I can answer that question in a few words. It is a positive fact that he did so claim and teach and also practice. I am a living witness of the same. Withe me it is neither guess work or hearsay. I had it from his own mouth, to me it was the word of the Lord. I accepted the pure and sacred principle and was married or sealed to him as his wife for time and all eternity, in Nauvoo 1843.

I know positively that he had other wives. I have witnessed his performing the ceremony of plural marriage for other parties. Now facts are stubborn things, the Josephites may oppose and deny but the facts still remain. The Josephites are building their church ona sandy foundation.

Error is a poor prop to build any structure upon. Truth is best, it will stand forever. I would be very sorry to bear false witness or testify to a falsehood and have it go down on record to future generations. But what I have stated here is the truth, and if I was standing before my God I could speak no different.

I also knew when Joseph Smith had the revelation on plural marriage written, and knew the circumstances that caused it to be written at that time. The Josephites also deny that the Prophet Joseph ever gave endowments. Now I know that he did give endowments to a few of the brethren and their wives, in one of the upper front rooms of the Mansion House. I was not one of the favored ones but I witnessed the preparations for the same, and saw the making of the clothes. I also knew of his having prayer meetings there afterwards. I was living there at the time. I was an inmate of his home for about three years. Now this is my testimony to you and all seekers after truth. I am getting old and according to the course of nature will not remain here long. Those that were personally acquainted with the Prophet are fast passing away, and very few remain that knew of his teaching polygamy or, plural marriage.

Yours Truly,

EMILY D. P. YOUNG

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