

to Kirtland Ohio, and in the fall of 1831, emmigrated to Jackson Co., Missouri, and in the beginning of the winter of 1833 was broke up by mobs, and driven out of the County and suffered, the loss of all things, with hundreds of my brethren and sisters.³

³Solomon Chamberlain, "A Short Sketch of the Life of Solomon Chamberlain," Beaver City [Utah] 11 July 1858. The original is located in possession of Mrs. Albert D. Swensen, Provo, Utah. Mrs. Swensen is the great-granddaughter of Solomon Chamberlain. Solomon Chamberlain died on 26 March 1862, in Washington County, Utah.

THE DEATH DATE OF LUCY MACK SMITH: 8 JULY 1775 — 14 MAY 1856

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Several competent historians record the death date of Lucy Mack Smith as having occurred in May of 1855. That date must stand corrected in the light of three historical documents. The first source to challenge the 1855 death date is the journal of John Lyman Smith. In recording a visit with his Aunt Lucy on Monday, 2 July 1855, he writes, "Aunt Lucy has been confined to the bed for 10 months unable to walk with the rheumatism."¹ The second source is a letter verifying the sale of Egyptian papyri, dated 26 May 1856 and signed by L. C. Bidamon, Emma Bidamon (former wife of Joseph Smith, Jr.), and Joseph Smith (son of Joseph Smith, Jr.). The letter mentions that Lucy's death "... occurred on the fourteenth day of May last this month."² The third document, which establishes the year, day, and hour of Lucy's death, is a letter of Joseph Smith III's to Miss Emma Knight, dated (Friday) 16 May 1856, "Last Wednesday morning at 2 o'clock Grandmother died and yesterday we buried her."³



¹John Lyman Smith, Journal, Entry for Monday, 2 July 1855 (Original and microfilm copy in Special Collections, BYU Library).

²A photograph of the original letter is reproduced in *Brigham Young University Studies*, VIII (2):180 (Winter 1968).

³Xerox copy of original letter on file in the Utah State Historical Society.