

Table 3.K Beginning text of The Book of Nephi [Third Nephi¹]

The printer's manuscript diction and spelling²

line numbers added
^ = insertion above the line

21	----- The Book of Nephi the Son of Nephi Which was the Son of Hela-
22	-man & Helaman was the Son of Helaman which was the Son of Alma which
23	was the Son of Alma being a decendant of Nephi which was the Son of Lehi
24	which came out of Jerusalem in the first year of the reign of Zedekiah the king
25	of Judah ----- Chapter -- I -----
26	Now it came to pass that the ninety & first year had passed away and it was six hu
27	-ndred years from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem & it was in the year that
	&
28	Lachoneus was the chief Judge & the governor over the land ^ Nephi the Son of Hela-
29	-man had departed out of the land of Zarahemla giving charge unto his son Nephi which
30	was his eldest son concerning the plates of brass & all the records which had been kept &
31	all those things which had been kept sacred from the departure of Lehi out of Jerusalem
32	then he departed out of the land & whither he went no man knoweth & his son Ne-
33	-phi did keep the records in his stead yea the record of this people & it came to pass
34	that in the commencement of the minety & second year behold the prophecies of the
35	prophets began to be fulfilled more fully for there began to be greater signs & gr-
36	-eater miracels wrought among the people but there were some which began to

¹ “The original text had four individual books with the title, ‘The Book of Nephi’. There was no numbering to distinguish between 1 Nephi, 2 Nephi, 3 Nephi, and 4 Nephi. The first and second books were distinguished early on when the words *first* and *second* were supralinearly inserted in the manuscripts, sometimes with heavier ink flow, sometimes with lighter—in either case, the insertion was not immediate.... The subsequent editing of these four book titles has been inconsistent.... The distinction for the last two books was first made by Orson Pratt in the 1879 LDS edition, when he added the extra headings ‘III Nephi’ and ‘IV Nephi’ before ‘The Book of Nephi’. These extra headings for the last two books have continued in all subsequent LDS editions.” Skousen, *Analysis of Textual Variants of the Book of Mormon, Part One*, 42-43.

² Skousen, ed., *The Printer's Manuscript of the Book of Mormon, Part Two*, 777. (manuscript page 363).

THE BOOK OF NEPHI.
THE SON OF NEPHI, WHICH WAS THE SON OF HELAMAN.
CHAPTER I.

And Helaman was the son of Helaman, which was the son of Alma, which was the son of Alma, being a descendant of Nephi, which was the son of Lehi, which came out of Jerusalem in the first year of the reign of Zedekiah, the king of Judah.

Now it came to pass that the ninety and first year had passed away; and it was six hundred years from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem; and it was in the year that Lachoneus was the Chief Judge and the governor over the land. And Nephi, the son of Helaman, had departed out of the land of Zarahemla, giving charge unto his son Nephi, which was his eldest son, concerning the plates of brass, and all the records which had been kept, and all those things which had been kept sacred, from the departure of Lehi out of Jerusalem: then he departed out of the land, and whither he went, no man knoweth; and his son Nephi did keep the records in his stead, yea, the record of this people.

And it came to pass that in the commencement of the ninety and second year, behold, the prophecies of the prophets began to be fulfilled more fully; for there began to be greater signs and greater miracles wrought among the people. But

³ Smith, *The Book of Mormon* (1830), 452.

Printer's manuscript analysis

Title: The Book of Nephi

Title appositive: the Son of Nephi Which was the Son of Helaman & Helaman was the Son of Helaman which was the Son of Alma which was the Son of Alma being a decendant of Nephi which was the Son of Lehi which came out of Jerusalem

Chapter designation: Chapter-- I

Introductory declaration:

Content synopsis

the record of this people

Contextual statement of chronology

in the first year of the reign of Zedekiah the king of Judah

the ninety & first year had passed away

it was six hundred years from the time that Lehi left Jerusalem

it was in the year that Lachoneus was the chief Judge & the governor over the land

in the commencement of the minety & second year

Societal description

the prophecies of the prophets began to be fulfilled more fully for there began to be greater signs & greater miracels wrought among the people

Verification

Nephi the Son of Helaman had departed out of the land of Zarahemla giving charge unto his son Nephi which was his eldest son concerning the plates of brass & all the records which had been kept & all those things which had been kept sacred from the departure of Lehi out of Jerusalem

his son Nephi did keep the records in his stead