January 2, 1843
Springfield, Illinois
Legal Events—Regarding the outcome of the ongoing trial against him, Joseph Smith prophesied that he would not go to Missouri, dead or alive. • History of the Church, 5:216–20

January 3, 1843
Springfield, Illinois
Ecclesiastical Duties—While in Springfield awaiting trial, Joseph Smith called upon Sister Crane and blessed her baby, Joseph Smith Crane. • History of the Church, 5:219

January 4, 1843
Springfield, Illinois
Legal Events—Joseph Smith appeared in a packed federal court and afterward had dinner and visited with U.S. Marshall William Prentice before retiring to Judge James Adams's. • History of the Church, 5:220–23

January 5, 1843
Springfield, Illinois
Legal Events—After Judge Nathaniel Pope discharged him from his arrest, Joseph Smith prophesied to him that Nauvoo, Illinois, would become a great city. • History of the Church, 5:223–32

January 6, 1843
Springfield, Illinois
Legal Events—Joseph Smith went to see Judge Nathaniel Pope in the morning and blessed his son. The judge wished him well and hoped he would no longer be persecuted. Joseph then visited Illinois Governor Thomas Ford, who signed an executive order rescinding Governor Carlin's earlier order for Joseph's arrest.

Andrew Jackson Davis, American spiritualist, became a clairvoyant known as the “Poughkeepsie Seer.” He was popular among abolitionists, feminists, and those in the temperance movement.
January 11, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith had a mishap with his sleigh while on an outing with his wife Emma.  • *History of the Church*, 5:248

January 17, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—At an overflowing public meeting at his home, Joseph Smith spoke at length on the kingdom of God and the manner of baptism performed by John the Baptist.  • Wilford Woodruff Journal, 2:212; *History of the Church*, 5:252

January 20, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith attended a meeting with the Twelve, where he told them that from April 6, 1844, he would prepare for a mission with them throughout the United States, England, and other countries. The council also considered the case of Orson Pratt and his reinstatement in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.  • *History of the Church*, 5:255–56

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith rebaptized Orson Pratt and his wife, Sarah, confirmed them in the Church, and ordained Brother Pratt to his former office in the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.  • *History of the Church*, 5:256

January 28, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith played ball with the brethren and rode around the city with Mr. Taylor, a land agent visiting from New York.  • *History of the Church*, 5:260

February 3, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Writings**—Joseph Smith read German and a proof copy of the second edition of the Doctrine and Covenants (published in 1844).  • *History of the Church*, 5:264

February 6, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Political Events**—After spending the forenoon at the city election held at his brother Hyrum’s office, Joseph Smith was re-elected mayor of Nauvoo.  • *History of the Church*, 5:264
February 8, 1843

**Personal Life**—After visiting with a man and woman from Michigan, Joseph Smith recorded, “I went out with my little Frederick, to exercise myself by sliding on the ice.” *History of the Church, 5:265*

February 9, 1843

**Visions and Revelations**—Joseph Smith received Doctrine and Covenants 129, a revelation about the nature of heavenly beings, stating “there are two kinds of beings in heaven,” resurrected angels who have bodies of flesh and bones and “the spirits of just men made perfect.” *History of the Church, 5:267; D&C 129*

February 11, 1843

**Political Events**—At a city council meeting, Joseph Smith reproved the judges for closing the polls at six o’clock at an election the week before, “when there were many wishing to vote.” *History of the Church, 5:270*

February 13, 1843

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—In the course of an evening at Elder Orson Hyde’s home, Joseph Smith remarked that “those brethren who came here having money, and purchased without the Church and without counsel, must be cut off.” *History of the Church, 5:272–73*

February 15, 1843

**Writings**—Joseph Smith published a letter in the *Times and Seasons* containing a parable about the libel and persecutions he had received from the press. *History of the Church, 5:273–77*

February 18, 1843

**Visions and Revelations**—Joseph Smith taught that the earth would eventually be a Urim and Thummim. *History of the Church, 5:279; D&C 130*

February 20, 1843

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith stopped two boys from fighting in the street and instructed them about their inappropriate behavior, after which he lectured bystanders for not interfering. *History of the Church, 5:282–83*
February 26, 1843

*Personal Life*—Joseph Smith stayed at home all day nursing his mother, who was “sick with inflammation of the lungs.” • *History of the Church*, 5:290

February 28, 1843

*Writings*—Joseph Smith saw a notice in the *Chicago Express* about the signs of the Son of Man and wrote to the editor of the Church newspaper *Times and Seasons* on this topic. • *History of the Church*, 5:290–91

March 2–3, 1843

*Legal Events*—*Charles A. Dana v. William B. Brink*. Brink had been charged with malpractice while delivering the Danas’ baby. Joseph Smith spent most of these two days examining “many witnesses,” hearing “many lawyers’ pleas,” and reading “much law.” This lawsuit “excited much feeling among the people.” • *History of the Church*, 5:293–94

March 4, 1843

*Personal Life*—In the evening, Joseph Smith said, “For a man to be great, he must not dwell on small things, though he may enjoy them.” • *History of the Church*, 5:298

March 10, 1843

*Legal Events*—*Charles A. Dana v. William B. Brink*. Joseph Smith opened court at 10:00 A.M. and rendered a decision against Brink for malpractice. That night Joseph and others observed rays of light in the sky in the shape of a sword. The following day he prophesied that the sword was a sign of a “speedy and bloody war” to come. • *History of the Church*, 5:300–301

March 11, 1843

*Travels*—Joseph Smith traveled with Brigham Young from Nauvoo to Ramus, where with one hand Joseph pulled up the strongest man in the town in a stick-pulling contest. • *History of the Church*, 5:302

March 13, 1843

*Personal Life*—Joseph Smith wrestled with and threw “the most expert wrestler in Ramus” and later, with “great fervency,” blessed nineteen children. • *History of the Church*, 5:302–3

1843

Sir George Everest, British surveyor, worked on the trigonometrical survey of India from 1806 to 1843. Mt. Everest was named for him.
Mar. 15, 1843
Victoria, British Columbia, was founded by the Hudson’s Bay Company as a trading post and fort.

Mar. 14, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

Ecclesiastical Duties—After Joseph Smith returned from Ramus, Illinois, he explained to Jedediah M. Grant why he (Joseph) had turned pale and lost strength the previous day while blessing nineteen children. • History of the Church, 5:303

Mar. 18, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

Personal Life—Joseph Smith spent most of the morning in the office in “cheerful conversation” with Willard Richards and others. About noon he lay down on the writing table with his head on a pile of law books and said, “Write and tell the world I acknowledge myself a very great lawyer; I am going to study law, and this is the way I study it.” He then fell asleep. Later that day he played ball with some boys. • History of the Church, 5:307

Mar. 27, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

Writings—Joseph Smith dictated a letter to Sidney Rigdon expressing suspicions of Elder Rigdon’s involvement with those working against the Church. • History of the Church, 5:312–14; Personal Writings of Joseph Smith, 580–82

Mar. 28, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

Personal Life—Joseph Smith moved his office from the smokehouse to the small upper room of his Red Brick Store. Josiah Butterfield (stepfather of the Lawrence sisters who were later sealed to Joseph) came to Joseph’s house and insulted him so outrageously that Joseph kicked Butterfield “out of the house, across the yard, and into the street.” • History of the Church, 5:316

April 2, 1843
Ramus, Illinois

Visions and Revelations—After hearing Orson Hyde preach on the Second Coming, Joseph Smith kindly corrected him in private and at a public meeting. Some of his instructions to Elder Hyde became Doctrine and Covenants 130. • History of the Church, 5:323–26; D&C 130; Paulsen, BYU Studies 35.4: 7

April 5, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

Legal Events—Joseph Smith sat with several brethren in the municipal court on a writ of habeas corpus. • History of the Church, 5:326
April 6, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—At the afternoon session of the annual conference of the Church, Joseph Smith taught about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. • *History of the Church*, 5:336

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April 8, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith asked the congregation to pray to calm the winds while he spoke to them at the morning session of conference. • *History of the Church*, 5:339–45

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April 12, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith was the first on board the steamer *Maid of Iowa* to welcome 240 members from England, as well as Parley P. Pratt and his family. • *History of the Church*, 5:354–57; Enders, *BYU Studies* 19.3: 326

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April 18, 1843
Near Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—On the prairie, Joseph Smith talked with three Pottawattamie tribal chiefs concerning stolen horses and cattle. • *History of the Church*, 5:365

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April 19, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith located a site in Nauvoo for a music hall. • *History of the Church*, 5:368

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April 24, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith took his children on a pleasure ride in a carriage. • *History of the Church*, 5:369

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May 1, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith paid Lucien Woodworth, general contractor, monies toward the building of the Nauvoo House. • *History of the Church*, 5:366. 372

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May 17, 1843
Ramus, Illinois

**Visions and Revelations**—Joseph Smith received Doctrine and Covenants 131, a revelation containing requirements for obtaining the celestial degree of glory. • *History of the Church*, 5:392–93; D&C 131

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May 18, 1843
Carthage, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith dined with Judge Stephen A. Douglas and prophesied that the judge would aspire to the presidency of...
May 22, 1843

The first major wagon train traveling northwest set out with a thousand pioneers from Elm Grove, Missouri.

May 23, 1843

**Personal Life**—With Emma’s approval and in her presence, Joseph Smith was married to sisters Emily and Eliza Partridge by Judge James Adams, a high priest in the Church. About this time, Emma also approved Joseph’s marriage to two other sisters, Maria and Sarah Lawrence. • Newell and Avery, *Mormon Enigma*, 143–44; Young, *Woman’s Exponent* 14.5: 38

May 24, 1843

**Writings**—To Joseph Smith’s pleasant surprise, the Boston Bee published a favorable letter about him. • *History of the Church*, 5:406–8

May 28, 1843

**Personal Life**—Joseph and Emma Smith were sealed as husband and wife for time and all eternity in the Red Brick Store after Emma had given approval for Joseph to take the Partridge sisters and Lawrence sisters as additional plural wives. • Newell and Avery, *Mormon Enigma*, 143

June 2, 1843

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith paid Dan Jones $1,375 to become half-owner of the steamboat *Maid of Iowa*. • *History of the Church*, 5:417–18

June 3, 1843

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith took his family and a large group on a pleasure voyage on the steamboat *Maid of Iowa* to Quincy, Illinois, with a live band on board. • *History of the Church*, 5:418

June 10, 1843

**Legal Events**—A letter was sent from Missouri to Illinois Governor Thomas Ford, informing him that Joseph Smith had been indicted for treason. A special agent, Joseph Reynolds, was sent to apprehend Joseph. • *History of the Church*, 5:422
June 11, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois  
**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith gave a discourse on the gathering of Israel and also interpreted Bible passages about post-mortal life and the Godhead. • *History of the Church, 5:423–27*

June 13, 1843  
En route to Dixon, Illinois  
**Travels**—Joseph Smith departed Nauvoo with his wife Emma and their children to visit Emma’s sister, Elizabeth Wasson, who lived near Dixon, Illinois. • *History of the Church, 5:431*

June 17, 1843  
Springfield, Illinois  
**Legal Events**—Illinois Governor Thomas Ford issued an arrest warrant for Joseph Smith in connection with the Missouri treason charge of June 10. • LDS Church Archives, Joseph Smith Legal Papers series

June 21, 1843  
Near Dixon, Illinois  
**Legal Events**—Stephen Markham and William Clayton, having been sent by Hyrum Smith to warn Joseph about the arrest warrant, arrived at the Wassons’ home at about 4 p.m. Joseph decided not to set out for Nauvoo, fearing that if he were arrested where he had no friends, he would be kidnapped into Missouri. • *History of the Church, 5:435–39*

June 23, 1843  
Near Dixon, Illinois  
**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith sent William Clayton to Dixon to try to find out what was going on there. Clayton met Joseph H. Reynolds, sheriff of Jackson County, Missouri, and Constable Harmon T. Wilson of Carthage, Illinois, both of whom were masquerading as Mormon missionaries. They found Joseph at the Wassons’ and arrested him. • *History of the Church, 5:439–43*

June 24, 1843  
Dixon, Illinois  
**Legal Events**—Although Reynolds and Wilson sought to prevent Joseph Smith from obtaining legal counsel, they were unsuccessful, and Joseph obtained a writ of habeas corpus, returnable before Judge John D. Caton at Ottawa, Illinois. Cyrus Walker, candidate for U.S. representative, agreed to serve as Joseph’s lawyer only after securing Joseph’s promise to vote for him. • LDS Church Archives, Joseph Smith Legal Papers series

1843  
James Joule quantified the conversion of work into heat.
June 26, 1843  
Dixon, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith and his entourage returned to Dixon and obtained a second writ of habeas corpus, this one returnable before the nearest tribunal in the Fifth Judicial District. • LDS Church Archives, Joseph Smith Legal Papers series

June 27, 1843  
Fox River near Geneseo, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Still in custody of Reynolds and Wilson, Joseph Smith was joined by members of the Nauvoo Legion and, shedding tears of joy, said, “I am not going to Missouri this time. These are my boys.” • *History of the Church*, 5:449–52

June 29, 1843  
Honey Creek, Daviess County, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith consulted with his lawyers and told them that Nauvoo was the nearest place where writs of habeas corpus could be heard. They agreed, and the party turned toward Nauvoo. Joseph and his company of roughly 100 men made it to Michael Crane’s on Honey Creek, where a flock of turkeys and chickens were killed for a feast for the company. • *History of the Church*, 5:454–56

June 30, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith rode into Nauvoo for his hearing, where he wept tears of joy together with his family and friends and was greeted with a band and processional. • *History of the Church*, 5:458–60

July 2, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Legal Events**—After a hearing on the return of habeas corpus pertaining to Joseph Smith’s arrest, the Nauvoo Municipal Court ordered Joseph to be discharged “for want of substance in the warrant . . . as well as upon the merits of the case.” • *History of the Church*, 5:474

July 12, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Visions and Revelations**—Joseph Smith dictated Doctrine and Covenants 132, a revelation about the eternal marriage covenant, in the presence of his brother Hyrum and William Clayton, his recorder. This revelation may have been received as early as 1831. • *History of the Church*, 5:500–507; D&C 132

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July 1, 1843  
Ulysses S. Grant graduated from West Point.
July 13, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith spent most of the day in conversation with his wife Emma. • *History of the Church*, 5:509

July 15, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith went with his family and 100 others on a pleasure excursion on the steamship *Maid of Iowa*. • *History of the Church*, 5:510

July 16, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith preached in a grove near the Nauvoo Temple concerning traitorous thoughts harbored by some in Nauvoo who professed to be Saints. • *History of the Church*, 5:510

July 17, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith spent much of the day at home with his brother Hyrum conversing about the priesthood. • *History of the Church*, 5:510

July 18, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith spent the day preparing hay on his farm. • *History of the Church*, 5:511

July 24, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith conversed with Mr. Joseph P. Hoge, the Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress. • *History of the Church*, 5:518

July 30, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith felt very ill, so he called for his brother Hyrum, William Law, and Willard Richards to give him a priesthood blessing. • *History of the Church*, 5:522

August 6, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith preached to the Saints about politics and the current elections. • *History of the Church*, 5:525–26

August 13, 1843  Nauvoo, Illinois

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith spoke at the funeral of Judge Elias Higbee. • *History of the Church*, 5:529–31

1843

*The Economist*, a magazine partly inspired by the American financial crisis of the 1830s, was first published.
August 14, 1843  
**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith attended the funeral of Lydia Walker, who had died at his house the previous day.  
*History of the Church, 5:532*

August 21, 1843  
**Writings**—Joseph Smith received a letter written by Mr. J. Hall of Independence, Missouri, “breathing hard things against us as a people,” which he forwarded along with some additional remarks to Illinois Governor Thomas Ford.  
*History of the Church, 5:538–40*

August 22, 1843  
**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith continued hearing rumors that people in Carthage, Illinois, were determined to raise a mob “to drive the Mormons out of the state.”  
*History of the Church, 5:541*

August 27, 1843  
**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith preached about the Aaronic and Melchizedek priesthoods and their respective powers.  
*History of the Church, 5:553–56*

August 31, 1843  
**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith began his move into the new Mansion House.  
*History of the Church, 5:556*

September 10, 1843  
**Personal Life**—George W. Taggart, later a musician in the Mormon Battalion, described the Prophet Joseph Smith as “one of the warmest patriots and friends to his country and laws.”  
*McConkie, Remembering Joseph Smith, 37.*

September 11, 1843  
**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith appointed William W. Phelps, Henry Miller, and Hosea Stout to try to persuade Illinois Governor Thomas Ford to provide public firearms for the Nauvoo Legion.  
*History of the Church, 6:31*

September 13, 1843  
**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith spoke a few words in reply to a lecture at a grove near the temple by Mr. John Finch, a socialist from England.  
*History of the Church, 6:33*
September 15, 1843  
**Nauvoo, Illinois**  
**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith put up a sign outside his home, explaining his decision to use the “Nauvoo Mansion” as a hotel.  
*History of the Church, 6:33*

September 16, 1843  
**Nauvoo, Illinois**  
**Political Events**—Joseph Smith went in company with his staff to view the parade of the Nauvoo Legion, who saluted Joseph as their commanding officer.  
*History of the Church, 6:34*

September 17, 1843  
**Nauvoo, Illinois**  
**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith made some remarks following the sermon of Mr. Blodgett, a Unitarian minister, and disagreed with some of his ideas concerning persecution.  
*History of the Church, 6:34*

September 19, 1843  
**Nauvoo, Illinois**  
**Writings**—Joseph Smith had William W. Phelps reply to a recent letter from Illinois Governor Thomas Ford and send him “a copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting of the mobocracy at Carthage.”  
*History of the Church, 6:35*

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1843  
Sojourner Truth, American abolitionist and freed slave, claimed to hear heavenly voices. She then traveled in the North, where she advocated emancipation and women’s rights.
About September 20, 1843

**Personal Life**—After hearing a boarder at the Smith home insult one of the hired servants, Joseph Smith demanded that he leave.

* McConkie, *Remembering Joseph Smith*, 99–100

September 28, 1843

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—Joseph Smith was chosen president over a special council of elders that met above the Red Brick Store.

* History of the Church, 6:39

October 1, 1843

**Writings**—Joseph Smith published in the Church newspaper *Times and Seasons* an invitation to donate money for Elder George J. Adams’s mission to Russia.

* History of the Church, 6:41

October 2, 1843

**Writings**—Joseph Smith wrote a letter to Lucien Adams, son of James Adams, co-owner with Joseph of the steamboat *Maid of Iowa*. James Adams had died of cholera in August 1843, and his son Lucien was handling his affairs, at least concerning the steamboat.

* Personal Writings of Joseph Smith, 583–84

October 3, 1843

**Personal Life**—Joseph and Emma Smith hosted a dinner at their new Mansion House for about 100 brethren and their wives.

* History of the Church, 6:42–43

October 13, 1843

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith allowed Dr. Turner, a phrenologist, to examine his head for about an hour.

* History of the Church, 6:56

October 15, 1843

**Ecclesiastical Duties**—From the speaker’s stand east of the Nauvoo Temple, Joseph Smith preached about the Constitution of the United States, the Bible, and Nauvoo’s economy.


October 19, 1843

**Travels**—Joseph Smith and William Clayton started for Macedonia (now Webster), Illinois, to visit Benjamin F. Johnson, and arrived at sundown. They returned two days later.

* History of the Church, 6:59–60

Oct. 13, 1843

The Independent Order of B’nai B’rith, the oldest continually operating Jewish service organization, was founded in New York City.
**October 23, 1843**  
Nauvoo, Illinois

*Ecclesiastical Duties*—After receiving more means from those of the Twelve who had returned from the eastern United States, Joseph Smith immediately gave directions to send for groceries and supplies for the Nauvoo Temple and the workmen.  *History of the Church, 6:60–61*

**November 2, 1843**  
Nauvoo, Illinois

*Writings*—Joseph Smith and some of the brethren agreed to write to five leading candidates for the presidency of the United States, to inquire “what their course of action would be in relation to the cruelty and oppression that we have suffered from the State of Missouri, if they were elected.”  *History of the Church, 6:63*

**November 4, 1843**  
Nauvoo, Illinois

*Writings*—Elders Willard Richards and John Taylor spent the day helping Joseph Smith write letters to presidential candidates. These letters were sent to John C. Calhoun, General Lewis Cass, Hon. Richard M. Johnson, Hon. Henry Clay, and U.S. President Martin Van Buren. Calhoun, Clay, and Cass responded to Joseph’s queries, but their answers were considered unsatisfactory.  *History of the Church, 6:64–65*

**November 7, 1843**  
Nauvoo, Illinois

*Writings*—Joseph Smith instructed Joseph C. Cole to move the tables for his school from the hall above the Red Brick Store, so Elders Willard Richards and William W. Phelps could continue working on the Prophet’s history undisturbed.  *History of the Church, 6:65–66*

**November 13, 1843**  
Nauvoo, Illinois

*Writings*—Joseph Smith wrote a reply letter to James Arlington Bennet in which he addressed a mathematical approach to religion brought up in Bennet’s letter.  *History of the Church, 6:73–78*

**November 15, 1843**  
Nauvoo, Illinois

*Writings*—At a mayor’s court, Joseph Smith told the brethren of his intention to write a proclamation to the kings of the earth. Joseph had been commanded in a revelation (now D&C 124) almost three years earlier on January 19, 1841, to write this proclamation.  *History of the Church, 6:79; D&C 124:2–3, 7, 107*
November 23, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Political Events**—Joseph Smith suggested “petitioning Congress for a grant to make a canal over the falls [around the Des Moines rapids], or a dam to turn the water to the city, so that we might erect mills and other machinery.” • *History of the Church, 6:8*

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November 28, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Writings**—Joseph Smith and the brethren prepared a “memorial” for Congress that included an account of their history and grievances with the state of Missouri. • *History of the Church, 6:84–97*

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December 3, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—In the assembly room above the Red Brick Store, Joseph Smith and the others present prayed for his brother Hyrum, who had injured his leg. • *History of the Church, 6:98–99*

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December 8, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Political Events**—At a city council meeting, Joseph Smith suggested petitioning Congress to have Nauvoo placed under the protection of the United States government. • *History of the Church, 6:105–7*

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December 9, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Writings**—Joseph Smith wrote a letter to William Clayton, asking him to pay $60 from city funds to the commandants of the Nauvoo Legion for the protection of Nauvoo. • *Personal Writings of Joseph Smith, 585–86*

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December 11, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith sent an affidavit to Illinois Governor Thomas Ford reporting conditions surrounding the recent kidnapping of Daniel Avery. • *History of the Church, 6:109–10*

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December 14, 1843
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith received a letter from Illinois Governor Thomas Ford in which he claimed no place to interfere in individual crimes committed against the Saints in this matter and that punishment belonged to the judicial power and not to the executive. • *History of the Church, 6:113–15*
December 15, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—After becoming ill in the morning, Joseph Smith was administered herbs and mild drinks by Levi Richards and was considerably revived by evening. *History of the Church, 6:115–16*

December 16, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Writings**—Joseph Smith signed a “Memorial to Congress for redress of losses and grievances in Missouri” and prophesied that if Congress would not hear the petition, the administration in power would be broken up. *History of the Church, 6:116*

December 25, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—Joseph Smith was serenaded in the morning by Sister Lettice Rushton’s family. Later that evening Joseph and his wife Emma hosted a dinner for fifty couples. *History of the Church, 6:134*

December 29, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Legal Events**—Joseph Smith pronounced a blessing on the Nauvoo Police and offered to pay twice the amount of any bribe offered to them for information about the briber. *History of the Church, 6:149–53*

December 31, 1843  
Nauvoo, Illinois

**Personal Life**—About fifty musicians and singers performed William W. Phelps’s New Year’s hymn under Joseph Smith’s window. *History of the Church, 6:153*