

Document 3: Vermont Newspaper

Source: Part of an article written in the Burlington Free Press, a newspaper published in Vermont, on March 8, 1850. No author was listed, which was normal for newspapers of that time. Revised using ChatGPT for easier reading.

The Mormons want to name their new settlement and state "Deseret" [a term that comes from the Book of Mormon]. Even if there weren't other problems with that name, one big problem is that if Congress accepts it, it would be like saying the Book of Mormon — which we believe is fake — is real. We strongly disagree with adding anything from that book into U.S. laws.

Original

The name by which the Mormons have begun to call their new settlement, and proposed to call their new state, is Deseret, and if there were no other objection to this name, it would be sufficient and fatal objection that it's adoption by Congress would be a direct recognition of the wretched fraud, called the Book of Mormon.... We protest against the incorporation of any of this jargon into the statute book of the United States.

Original found at

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84023127/1850-03-08/ed-1/seq-2/#date1=1850&index=2&rows=20&words=Deseret&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1850&proxtext=Deseret&y=11&x=17&dateFilterType=yearRange&page=1>