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The Book of Mormon as a Best Seller

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Abstract: The Book of Mormon may become a bestseller, and “the last few years has probably witnessed the sale of a quarter of a million copies.”

EDITORIAL

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The Book of Mormon as a Best Seller

Thirty years ago the American public was astonished by the statement that a popular volume of fiction had sold at the rate of a quarter of million copies in three months. That sort of thing was new in America at that time. It has occurred somewhat frequently since. The last few years has probably witnessed the sale of a quarter of million copies of the Book of Mormon. The book is not yet in the class of the best sellers, but it is rapidly moving toward such a place. It does not seem to us extravagant in any way to suggest that during the next hundred years the Book of Mormon will become one of the best sellers among American books; indeed, it is not impossible that it may become the best seller.

The Book of Mormon as a Literary Product

It is difficult to call to mind a book that has been more frequently scoffed at than has the Book of Mormon by its would-be critics. Yet the standard history of American literature, the *Cambridge History*, has devoted considerable space to the book under the caption, "New Bibles". While the author of the chapter insists that the advent of the book was quite unnecessary, quoting "Mormon" authorities to the effect that it agrees in all essentials with the Bible, therefore, he argues, there is no excuse for its