

Apostles and others. There was an intense anxiety for his recovery. When, after attending him closely for some days, there appeared to be a change for the better and a prospect of permanent improvement, his brother John Q. Cannon went out of the city for a few days; needed rest, the unfavorable symptoms again appeared, the brother was communicated with and immediately returned, not stopping to rest even at night till he was again at the bedside of the afflicted man. The two always had been bound together by the strongest affections, and frequently the sick man whispered his brother's name, and that brother's voice was most potent to rouse him from unconsciousness which often came in the severity of illness. On Saturday morning, the period of final unconsciousness appeared. President Joseph F. Smith who, like the other members of the First Presidency and the Apostles, had felt the keenest anxiety and solicitude for their afflicted brother, took his place in the sick man's room, and clung to him tenaciously to the last, without rest or food, prolonging his life in his earnestness to have him restored to health.

In the exercise of faith, and the prayers that were offered for the divine blessing upon Brother Abraham, there was no lack of devotion and zeal. Every effort was made in this line; yet upon all there was a feeling of depression from the outset, which it was earnestly hoped would be swept away; but Providence had decreed otherwise. The most fervent supplications did not bring that assurance which so often comes to the Saints in their exercise of the gifts that the one for whose restoration they were so anxious would be raised up; the answer to prayers was that he was in the hands of God, and the inspiration was that the time for a change to another life was approaching.

Abraham Hoagland Cannon was the son of George Q. and Elizabeth Hoagland Cannon. He was born in Salt Lake City March 12, 1859, his father being absent on a mission to the eastern states at that time. As a boy he was given the best advantages that the times afforded for an education, and being of a studious nature, availed himself thereof, finishing with the Deseret University. For a time when his father, President George Q. Cannon, was editor of the NEWS, Abraham was employed at the institution as errand boy. Later he learned the carpenter's trade at the Church carpenter shop, and worked on the Temple block. He also studied under the late Obed Taylor, and became an architect.

In 1879 he was called on a mission to Europe. The first portion of the time he labored preaching the Gospel in the Nottingham conference, England; then he was assigned to the Swiss and German mission, where he mastered the German language, and traveled as a missionary in both Switzerland and Germany, presiding over one of the conferences in the latter country. He wrote some of the hymns which the German Saints now sing in their congregations. During his absence on this mission his mother died. He returned home in June, 1882.

On the 9th of October, 1882, Elder

Cannon was ordained one of the First Seven Presidents of the Seventies; and on October 6, 1889, he was sustained at the General Conference of the Church as one of the Twelve Apostles. From that time he has been the junior member of the Council of Apostles.

In his religious life and duties he has been scrupulously strict and energetic. No duty devolving upon him was shrunk from, no obligation avoided. Every call was responded to with promptness and filled with fidelity. His precision in this regard was remarkable, and was characteristic of him from his youth up. As a boy and as a man he was frank and fearless, with a love for truth and virtue that was sublime. He never sought to shift to others any burden that devolved on him; and never hesitated in undertaking a task that fell to his lot. In his public religious calling and in his private life he was a true disciple of Christ—essentially a servant of God, whose conduct endeared him to all associates by the bonds of that pure and holy love which comes of conformity to divine principles. When, in the course of events during the persecution of the Saints, a decade since it came his turn to endure imprisonment for his religion, he did so cheerfully, praising God that he was worthy to suffer in His cause; and all sufferings and privations then and at other times in his ministry he bore without murmuring, being willing to endure all for the Gospel's sake. In his record as a man of God, he will ever live in the hearts of the Latter-day Saints, by whom he was greatly beloved.

As illustrative of his zeal and fidelity to the Gospel may be cited an incident in connection with the imprisonment referred to, when he gave expression to views characteristic of his whole life in its highest integrity to the convictions of right. He had entered into the order of plural marriage, and on March 17, 1886, being at that time twenty-six years of age, he was sentenced by Judge Zane to a term of six months in the penitentiary for his observance of that law of God. When called to receive the judgment of the court he said:

I would like to state, your honor, that I have always endeavored to keep the laws of the United States, because I have been taught by my parents that the Constitution was a sacred instrument. That I have failed in this respect, and now stand before you convicted of the crime of unlawful cohabitation, is due to the fact that I acknowledge a higher law than that of man, which is the law of God; and that law being a part of my religion, sir, I have attempted to obey it. When I embraced this religion, I promised to place all that I had, even to life itself, upon the altar, and I expect to abide by that covenant which I made; and, sir, I hope the day will never come when I must sacrifice principle, even to procure life or liberty. Honor, sir, to me, is higher than anything else upon the earth; and my religion is dearer to me than anything else that I have yet seen. I am prepared, sir, for the judgment of the court.

Previous to this time, Elder Cannon had had a long and serious illness, being prostrated with typhoid fever. His life was despaired of by many, but by the mercy and power of the Lord he was raised up, although for years after the effects of the disease caused

him much suffering, and it is not certain that the cause of the recent sickness did not have its inception in the earlier illness.

Brother Cannon had extraordinary qualifications for business management, and conducted with success many enterprises undertaken under adverse circumstances. It is notable in his career that all the enterprises with which he was connected were for the advancement of Utah and her people, and of those associated with them. In 1882, when twenty-three years of age, he assumed business control of the Juvenile Instructor and associate publications, developing what was a small printing office into one of the foremost publishing houses of the West. During his control there, which lasted until his death, a large number of publications has been issued under his direction; and while he laid no claims to great literary genius, between his other duties, onerous of themselves, he found time to write a vast number of articles for publication, and which have been read with interest by many thousands. The amount of his labor in this line cannot be computed.

In October, 1892, in connection with his brother, John Q. Cannon, he took hold of the DESERET NEWS, forming the publishing company which now conducts this establishment, and assuming the business management thereof, which he conducted until a short time ago, when other duties called him away. In the year 1892 he also became the editor and publisher of The Contributor, continuing in that relation up to date.

Of his other business ventures, there are so many that there is room here for but a passing mention thereof. He was the moving spirit in the Salt Lake and Pacific and the Utah and California railways, that great enterprise which was to connect Salt Lake City with southern California and to build a line into the Deep Creek country, and which is still under way. A few months ago he was elected director, vice president and assistant manager of the Bullion-Beck mining company. He was a director and one of the organizers of the State Bank of Utah; director of the Utah Loan and Trust company, Ogden; director in Z. C. M. I.; vice-president of George Q. Cannon & Sons company; director in the Co-operative Furniture company; first vice president of the Chamber of Commerce; the owner of a prosperous book and stationery business in Ogden; he had also been an active promoter in canal and irrigation company enterprises; and was a member of the Deseret Sunday School Union board, to the duties of which he had given much attention.

In the vast amount of labor which he performed, and in which he never seemed to tire, it may be said that during the past twenty years he has accomplished much more than many truly active, energetic men have been able to do in double that period of time.

On Sunday morning, when the spirit of Brother Cannon took its flight from the mortal body, it was without any apparent pain, and there came the peace of a calm slumber. The brave and gentle soul which had inhabited the beautiful tabernacle,