

BEGUN ADVANCE TO LADYSMITH.

British Army Now on the Move, and Fighting is in Progress.

GEN. METHUEN HEARD FROM

Received His Communication—Boers Preparing for Retreat—Want to Reduce Ladysmith.

New York, Dec. 9.—Reviewing the Boer situation, the London correspondent of the Herald says: "The Boer situation as was caused in London by the news that General Methuen's communications had been cut at Ladysmith was a feeling, for information of the war office at midnight that the British commander at Modder river had again been heard from. It was learned that Gen. Babinington had been at Modder river to take command of the cavalry, presumably taking up with him the major portion of a brigade. Almost simultaneously came a brief dispatch indicating that the long expected advance for the relief of Ladysmith had begun. This important news was contained in an agency telegram from Pretoria, saying that an official report from the Boer head laager near Ladysmith was in effect that the Boers were advancing on Colenso. From the date of the dispatch, Thursday, it would appear that the northward movement from Frere began on Wednesday. The Boer positions on the Modder had not been attacked up to Wednesday night. No confirmation of the Boer advance, either from the war office or from newspaper dispatches, but it is evident on reading some of the latter that the hand of the Boers is not at work.

Taken in conjunction with the news from Pretoria that fighting had begun on the Modder river on the morning of Wednesday, the news of Methuen's communication having been cut was taken upon as rather alarming. It was stated that it had been found impossible to keep intact the line of communication which stretches along the railway between the Orange river and the Modder river, a matter of fifty miles, and that parties of Boers had managed to maintain themselves, even in the case of Gen. Methuen's dearest victory.

Practically regarded the isolation of Methuen's force as a serious matter, especially as Gen. Buller does not seem able to make much headway from the direction of Kimberley Junction. While the Boers must number quite a few men, the original force which fought at Modder river having been reinforced from Kimberley, Jacobsdal and Boshof, it must not be forgotten that Methuen, too, on his part has been reinforced. Although many reports have been made, he must command now nearly 11,000 men.

In the Natal side there is good reason to believe that an action is imminent. The difficult work of bridging the Tugela river in the face of the enemy must be the first step. The Boers around Ladysmith are reported to be preparing strong positions, and heavy arms are being mounted and masonry.

Constant shelling of the hospital within the British lines is reported, in the Red Cross flag, which waves over it, and the repeated protests of George White. On December 22 a shell fell right in the building, killing one man and wounding nine others. It is, of course, impossible to attribute this to accident, and to make of all kinds of reports at present, some of which point to a possibility that the siege has already been raised.

The fact that from the end of last month dispatches from Col. Baden-Powell and various correspondents have been coming through from the beleaguered town, very much quicker would lead to the belief that Gen. Cronje's force had become weaker since Gen. Cronje's headquarters was moved to the north. It was called to reinforce the Boers at Modder river and around Kimberley. Col. Baden-Powell himself, under date of Dec. 20, said that all was well; that the bombardment was intermittent and the besieging force was now much weaker.

A message from Magalapahe announced that preparations had been completed for an advance in force for the purpose of repairing the railway and restoring communication with Ladysmith. A dispatch from Modder river dated Monday said that the whole Boer command had joined the Boers at Modder river and around Kimberley. Col. Baden-Powell himself, under date of Dec. 20, said that all was well; that the bombardment was intermittent and the besieging force was now much weaker.

The Boers are mounting numerous guns in commanding positions. They are evidently intending making a big effort to reduce Ladysmith after the capture of the Modder river. The town cannot be carried, but the new guns will be well placed for the attack.

A dispatch to the Tribune from London, dated Dec. 6, of the eighteen howitzer guns sent to England after an incessant rain, on slow transporters, arrived several days ago at Capetown. It is said that there are no reports of these guns to Durban, it is probable

that they have gone up the country to Lord Methuen, although it is not known whether they passed Gras Pan before the railway was cut by the raiders. The remaining twelve have gone to Durban where they will probably be landed on Tuesday. These guns are equal to the best artillery in the possession of the Boers and are capable of discharging at long range Lyddite shells of 50 pounds. It was worth while for both General Buller and General Methuen to wait for these powerful guns, with their ammunition, even if there were serious risks to the safety of the beleaguered garrisons from the delay, since the effect of the British artillery fire against both Colenso and Spytfontein would be greatly increased by Lyddite shells. The expediency of delay on the part of both generals does not alter the fact that somebody blundered in the war office in not sending out the howitzer batteries on one of the earliest and fastest ships.

Lyddite shells were used with tremendous effect at the battle of Omdurman. General Buller was personally responsible for their introduction in the British military service when he was adjutant general. He considered it nothing less than a scandal that the British army should not be supplied with high explosive shells, which Germany and France had adopted. Owing to some reason which remains an official secret these howitzer batteries were held back in England until the Boers had dragged very heavy pieces of artillery to the battlefields and siege guns were outclassing the British guns. The howitzer batteries started about the time when General Joubert's "long Tom" was throwing into Ladysmith at each shot a weight of metal equal to the discharge of a complete round of one of General Buller's six gun batteries of 15-pounders. Lord Methuen's infantry would have been greatly protected against loss in their three battles if the howitzers had been added to his artillery force, for, unlike the navy guns, which are tied to railway trucks, they are almost as movable as ordinary field artillery. General Buller has been waiting for them day after day when Ladysmith was exposed to a most scientific fire from the Boer artillery.

London, Dec. 9.—General Forster-Walker has sent the following dispatch, dated at 9 o'clock last night (Friday) evening, to the war office from Cape Town: "Telegraph and every communication to Modder river has been reopened. A battery of field artillery and a battalion of infantry were dispatched from Modder river against Commandant Prinz Loos' force of 1,000 Boers, with one gun, who had destroyed the railway. Our losses were, fourteen in wounded."

"Belmont has been strengthened by infantry and two guns, and a cavalry regiment and troops from Naauwpoort occupied Arundel Thursday. "The enemy's forces near Gen. Gatacre are reported as follows: At Dordrecht, 800; marching from Amsterdam to Boshof, 700, with six guns; at Stormberg, 1,500; at Waterfall, a large force, strength under Molteno, about 400.

"Lord Methuen reports casualties Dec. 6, on patrol duty as follows: Missing, Lieut. Triestman and four men of the twelfth lancers; wounded, four men."

Some interesting light is thrown on the position of affairs along the western frontier by a dispatch issued by a Boer agency last evening in Berlin. The dispatch says: "Commandant Prinz Loos' force is near Jacobsdal, between Modder river and Riet river. Gen. Cronje is still on the north bank of the Modder river, his rear being protected by fortified positions at Spytfontein. The hill between Modder river and Spytfontein and those between Jacobsdal and Riet river are occupied by the Boers. Commandant Delarey's force is stationed between Gras Pan and Honey Nest Kloof."

If this Berlin dispatch be correct—and it is especially significant when judged in connection with Gen. Forster-Walker's advice to the war office—there must be some 15,000 Boers around Lord Methuen, who is believed to have 11,000 men. Kimberley, however, possessing an armored train, can materially assist Methuen by harassing the Boers from the rear.

According to a special dispatch from Lourenco Marquez, the Modder river battle is described by a Boer correspondent with Gen. Cronje as "one of the fiercest the Boers ever experienced." The correspondent goes on to say: "Gen. Cronje's wing sustained almost solely the fearful attack of the British right throughout the day. The Transvaalers tenaciously held their positions until 7 in the evening, when the Free State burghers were forced to retire by the heavy British shell fire. Gen. Cronje then retired under cover of darkness, after facing the concentrated fire of all the British batteries."

The Boers freely acknowledge the herculean assault of the British and death-dispensing fire of the attacking infantry, but they held their position for thirteen hours against the flower of the British army, replying solely with their Mausers and maintaining an uninterrupted rifle fire. The Boer army was silenced early in the battle through the overwhelming number of the British artillery."

AQUINALDO'S REAR GUARD FIGHTS.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The war department has received the following from General Otis:

"Manila, Dec. 9.—A dispatch from Young at Vigan yesterday, says escaped Spanish prisoners report a four hours' engagement on the third inst., between his troops and Aguinaldo's guard near Conyantes, 50 miles southeast of Vigan, with heavy loss to the enemy, who is being pursued. Our loss was one killed, six wounded. Inhabitants of own accord joined troops in repairing the trail and carrying subsistence. Have pushed column to San Jose, south of Bangued."

"Howe's column on rear trail; Bathelet's battalion of Twenty-fourth is out of reach, north of Bayombong, evidently descending river. Natives report fighting twenty miles north."

"Navy reaches Apari tomorrow. "Column of MacArthur's Twenty-fifth infantry, reported near Iba, west coast of Zamboanga."

"Grant's column near Subig Bay. "Lawton in Bulacan province today, with sufficient troops to overcome opposition and scatter enemy." It is probable that the troops, which engaged Aguinaldo's guard, are here's command, as he was reported to be close to the insurgent leader's rear. General Otis also cables as follows regarding the revolt in Negros: "Information received that Negros revolt of minor importance; Brynes in rapid pursuit of the disaffected party, several days ago at Capetown. It is said that there are no reports of these guns to Durban, it is probable

FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS DEAD

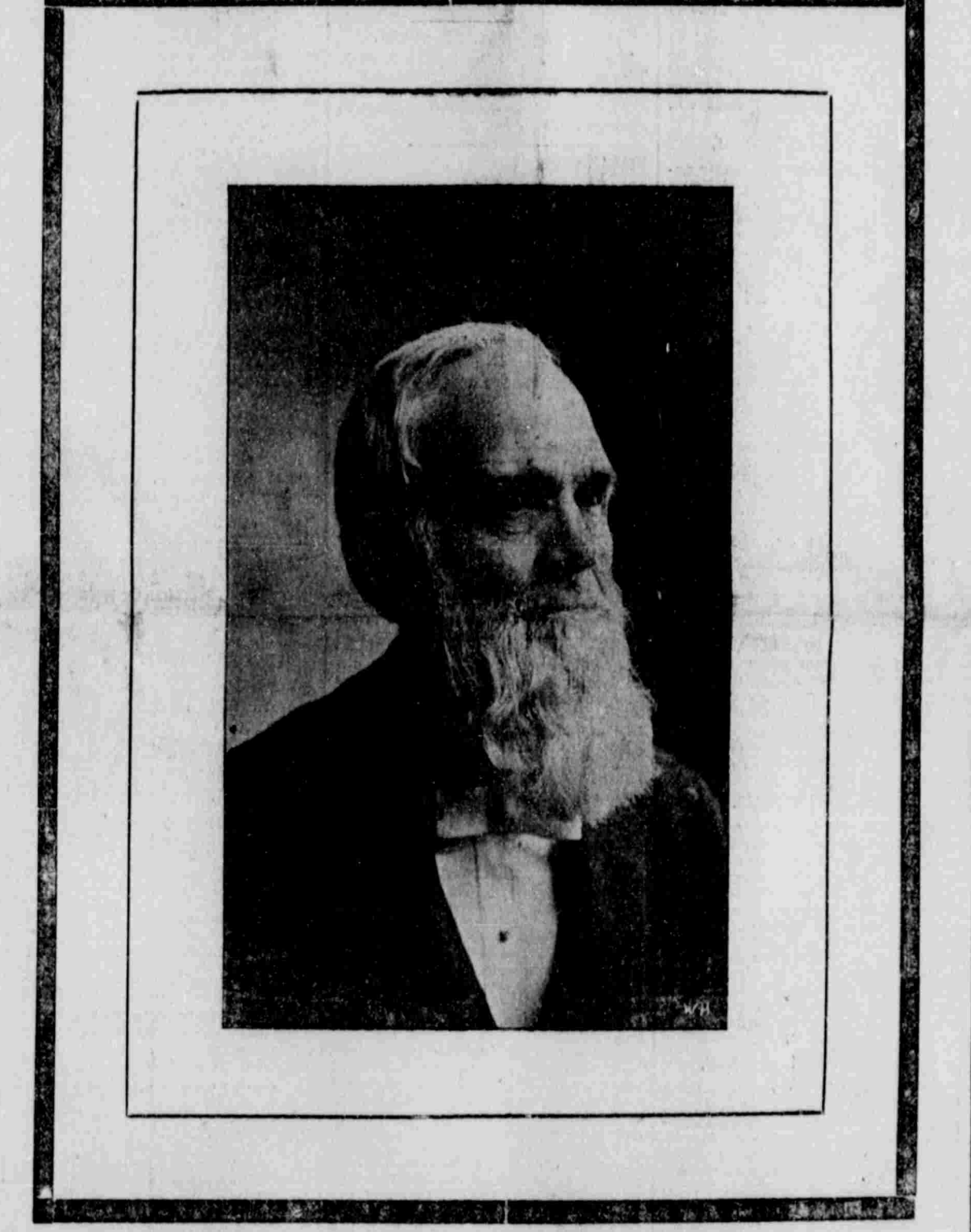
Venerable President of the Twelve Apostles and Historian of the Church Passes Into the Great Beyond.

Death Came at His Home in Ogden Shortly After Last Midnight, and Was Caused by a Protracted Siege of Nervous Prostration Brought On by an Exceedingly Active Life—Something of His Useful Career—Arrangements Under Way for the Funeral—News of the Death Received at the President's Office—President Snow in Brigham City Today—Will Return Home on Monday Morning.

There will be sadness in the homes of many of the people of Utah as well as in those of other States on learning of the death of Hon. Franklin D. Richards, President of the Twelve Apostles and Historian of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The final summons of the Grim Reaper came at fourteen minutes after 12 o'clock this morning. The end was not unexpected, for the

viving of his father's nine children. Being raised on a farm, he became at an early age accustomed to hard labor, but devoted all the spare time he had to getting an education and laying up treasures of knowledge. Before he was ten years old, he had read every book in the Sunday school, comprising some scores of volumes, and when thirteen years old spent a winter at Lenox Academy. His parents, being devout and respected Congregationalists, trained their children in a pious way,

corner stone of the Temple; and at this eventful gathering he was called to renew his labors in the region of northern Indiana. Just before he was to start on this momentous journey, he saw Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon, take the lead in nearly five hundred baptisms and confirmations; and the glorious light made his zeal mightier than ever. SICK NIGH UNTO DEATH. In the summer of that year he was at La Porte, Indiana, sick nigh unto



PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS.

venerable leader had been in precarious health for a considerable period, though his family and intimate friends—those who understood his condition—best—constantly hoped for his recovery until almost the very last. But during the night it became apparent that his earthly career was drawing rapidly to a close, as he had fallen into a quiet, ominous slumber that betokened the sleep of death. His entire immediate family, consisting of the following, were present when his spirit took its flight into the Great Beyond: Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Richards and family, Mrs. L. M. Richards and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. West and family, Mrs. J. L. Herrick, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Herrick and Mrs. Myron Richards.

Apostle Richards had been suffering from nervous prostration for upward of a year, and during the last summer went to California with a view to benefiting his health. He received temporary relief only and was obliged to return to his home, where he remained quietly until the present. In the death of President Richards the Church and the State both lose a stalwart—a man who has devoted his life to their upbuilding and betterment; for he has served with conspicuous credit in civil as well as ecclesiastical affairs.

The news of President Richards' death was received at the President's office this morning in a telegram from his son Franklin S. President Snow went to Brigham City this morning. It is expected that he will remain there tonight and go to Beaver City, Boxelder county, to dedicate the new meeting house there tomorrow. In the meantime arrangements for the funeral are being made.

President Richards' last ministerial work was accomplished with President Snow whose party he accompanied through southern Utah to St. George and return. He also went with President Snow north to Soda Springs and Bear Lake. It was while on the last journey that he was taken ill. From that sickness he never recovered.

MEETING WITH JOSEPH SMITH. In May, 1838, he first met the Prophet Joseph, and the following spring he was ordained to the calling of a Seventy and was appointed to a mission in northern Indiana. He journeyed and preached with great success, established by his own personal efforts, a branch of the Church in Porter county; and before he was 20 years of age delivered, at Plymouth, a series of public lectures which attracted much attention. The April Conference for the year 1841 saw him at Nauvoo witness to the laying of the

death, and yet determined to go on with his missionary work. He found consulting care in the kindly home of Isaac Snyder, and through several weeks he was nursed as a beloved son of the house. When the family of Father Snyder took up its march to Nauvoo, Franklin was carried back by them to the beautiful city; but soon after the succeeding October Conference, he was once more moving in a missionary field—this time being the companion of Phineas H. Young, in Cincinnati and its vicinities. He fortunately visited Father Snyder's family again, in the summer of 1842, just as he was convalescing from an almost fatal attack of typhoid fever, and in December of that year he wedded the youngest daughter of the house—Jane Snyder. He remained with the Saints at Nauvoo until the latter part of May, 1844, in the meantime being ordained a High Priest; and then was called to depart upon a mission to England. He was accompanied by Apostle Brigham Young and others to the Atlantic States, but before setting sail for Europe he heard the dreadful news of the Carthage tragedy, and was called back to Nauvoo.

The opening months of the next year, 1845, were spent by him in traveling more than a thousand miles among the branches of the Church in Michigan and elsewhere to gather donations for the Temple. He returned to Nauvoo with nearly five hundred dollars for this sacred purpose, and then was chosen by his Uncle Willard to be a scribe in the office of the Church Historian. He also labored through the spring of 1846 as carpenter and joiner in the lower main court of the Temple, until the structure was completed and dedicated—having previously received his endowments and participated in the administration of the sacred ordinances therein.

PARTED WITH HIS FAMILY. When these duties were concluded and the time for the exodus had come, he sacrificed the pleasant little home, built by his own toil; and with the meager proceeds he purchased a wagon and cattle and such few necessities as he could compass for the use of his family—an invalid wife and baby girl. With the heroism of the martyrs, he saw his loved ones starting on that melancholy journey to the western wilderness. He committed them to the great Creator's care, and then he turned his face resolutely towards the east to fill his

MISSION TO ENGLAND. In January, 1852, pursuant to advice from the First Presidency, who contemplated a visit from him to the Great Salt Lake Valley, he installed in the Liverpool office his brother Samuel who had been formerly his associate during his ardent and successful Scottish

to make his way by faith alone, across continent and ocean into a strange land. His younger brother, Samuel, was called to accompany him, and the two missionaries crossed the river to Nauvoo and slept in the first night of their arduous journey in a deserted building there. The God whom they so unselfishly served opened their way; they pursued their journey via the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Pittsburgh, and across the mountains to the coast; and on September 23, 1846, they sailed from New York, in company with Apostle Parley P. Pratt and others. The last word which Franklin received from the Camp of Israel, before the ship put to sea, was that his wife, Jane, amidst all the privations of the exodus, was lying at the point of death—that a little son had been born to her, but the child had quietly expired upon its mother's bosom. This was the comfort brought to the courageous missionary to speed and solace him upon his trying voyage.

LANDS IN ENGLAND. On the 14th day of October he landed in Liverpool. A few days later he was appointed to reside over the Church in Scotland, with Samuel Richards as his assistant. Apostle Orson Hyde was at this time the president of the British mission and editor of the Millennial Star, though he was soon to depart for America and was to be succeeded by Elder Orson Spencer. But at the hour when the change was expected to be made, a false report of Elder Spencer's death reached Liverpool. The rumor was believed and Apostle Hyde appointed Franklin, then only twenty-five years old, to both of the positions which he, himself, was vacating, but just as he was entering upon his high trust Elder Spencer arrived in England. Franklin was then chosen to be one of his counselors; and during the subsequent serious illness of the President, Franklin was obliged to sustain the responsibility and perform the duties of that calling. He labored there until Feb. 20, 1848, when he was appointed to take charge of a large company of Saints who were emigrating to the Rocky Mountains, crossing the Atlantic in the ship Carnatic.

DEATH OF A BROTHER. While all in the mission was prosperous, and the young Elder could justly feel proud and happy in the great work of proselyting, melancholy news came to him from the wilderness. His brother, Joseph Willard Richards, a member of the Mormon Battalion, had succumbed to the rigors of the march and his weary form had been laid in a lonely grave by the banks of the Arkansas river. Franklin's little daughter Wealthy had also died, and left his wife heartbroken, childless and alone. HOME AGAIN. The homeward journey via New Orleans and St. Louis to Winter Quarters was completed by the middle of May, 1848, and there Franklin found his wife and such of their relatives as had survived the perils and privations of the times. In June he was sent through Western Iowa negotiating for cattle with which to move the company of Willard Richards across the plains to the Salt Lake basin. His effort was completely successful, and on the 8th of July the train started, with Franklin acting as captain over fifty wagons. The journey was a most trying one to his wife. Much of the time it seemed as though each day would be her last. But they found kind and helpful friends who ministered to the wife's needs; and on the 19th of October they entered the valley through Emigration canyon and camped in the foot, more grateful to God than words can express to find a resting place for weary frames worn with toil and sickness.

IN SALT LAKE VALLEY. Franklin sold his cloak and every other article of clothing which he could spare, and with the proceeds purchased building material. Before the violence of the winter was felt he was able to construct a small room of adobe without roof and without floor. From this rude mansion on the succeeding twelfth day of February, he was called to receive his ordination to the Apostleship. APOSTLES DUTIES. The young Apostle became immediately associated with the other leading minds of the community in the provisional government of the State of Deseret, in general legislative and ecclesiastical work, and in the labors of creating a perpetual emigration fund.

RETURNS TO GREAT BRITAIN. In October, 1849, he was once more called to leave home with its tender ties and its responsibilities of love, and to renew his great missionary labor in the British Isles. He traveled in company with President John Taylor, Apostle Lorenzo and Erastus Snow and others, and had a most eventful journey. Hostile Indians, inclement weather, turbulent, icy streams, combined to delay and imperil their progress. But the hand of Providence protected them, and the opening month of the year 1850 found them at St. Louis, visiting with dear old friends.

This was among the most important missionary work in the history of the Church. President Taylor was on his way to France, Lorenzo and Erastus Snow were destined for Italy and Scandinavia. And Franklin was to officiate once more in the British mission.

EDITS THE STAR. Orson Pratt had been presiding and editing at Liverpool; but when Franklin arrived there, March 23, 1850, he found that the elder Apostle had been called on a hurried trip to Council Bluffs, and the Star contained a notification that during his absence Apostle Franklin D. Richards would preside over the Church affairs in Great Britain. The young president immediately began the establishment of the Perpetual Emigration Fund, and founded it upon a basis which has enabled its beneficent power to endure until the present day.

Later in the season Orson Pratt returned to England, and Franklin relinquished his place as chief, and became Apostle Pratt's associate for a few months; but with the opening of the next year, 1851, Orson was called to the valley, and Apostle Richards was

INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT. He revised and enlarged the Hymn Book and printed an edition of 25,000 copies, prepared the pamphlet, The Pearl of Great Price; stereotyped the Book of Mormon and arranged for stereotyping the Doctrine and Covenants; issued a new edition of Parley P. Pratt's Voice of Warning, and devised a plan which made the Star a weekly instead of a semi-monthly periodical and increased the number of its issue. He had also paid a visit to President Taylor at Paris, had sent to Zion the first company of Saints whose passage came through the Emigration Fund, and had made arrangements for the organization of a company to engage in the manufacture of

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ROBERTS MUST HAVE HIS RIGHTS.

His Statement Before the Committee Affects Public Sentiment.

IN THE COMMITTEE TODAY

Mr. Roberts Has a Hearing and Demands His Constitutional Rights.

MASS MEETING IN BOSTON.

Press Against Arbitrary Action—Mr. Roberts Calls Down Attorney Schroeder.

[SPECIAL TO THE "NEWS."] Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—The sentiment against Representative Roberts is slowly, but surely, dying, and after his statement to the committee this morning, denying all charges preferred against him, it is admitted by a large number of Republicans, who voted for the Taylor resolution, that he has a strong case and will ultimately be allowed to take his seat.

A. T. Schroeder of Salt Lake gave testimony before the committee. Among his suggestions is one that the committee go to Utah and take testimony there, but this is not possible. If the committee desires witnesses who are residents of Utah, they will have to come to Washington.

[SPECIAL TO THE "NEWS."] Washington, Dec. 9.—Roberts was before the committee today. He pleaded not guilty to all charges, and demanded the right to be tried for the alleged offense, as guaranteed in articles five and six of the United States Constitution. He claimed his prima facie right to a seat was established as far as known; that the charges are flimsy.

The committee meets again this afternoon. Public sentiment in the East everywhere is changing and favorable. The press is nearly unanimous against arbitrary action, and demands that proper procedure be followed. A mass meeting is to be held in Boston next Tuesday, in favor of Roberts' rights.

Roberts is confident of success.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The consideration of the case of Mr. Roberts of Utah was resumed at 10 o'clock this morning by the House investigating committee, Mr. Roberts being present to plead to certain specific interrogatories which had been framed. The proceedings continued to be behind closed doors.

Mr. Roberts was first asked if he conceded the existence of the court record wherein he pleaded guilty in 1889 under the Edmunds-Tucker law. This he conceded.

He was next asked whether about 1887 or since 1880 he had married plural wives and had lived with them since that time as wives. To the whole of this charge Roberts pleaded not guilty, and then demurred to the jurisdiction of the committee for the following reasons:

First, on the ground of violation of constitutional rights in that it attempted to try him for a crime without presentment of indictment by grand jury, and without trial by jury and without due process of law.

Second, that it was an attempt to deprive him of vested property that he held in the emoluments of an office for the full term.

Third, that the only evidence that could be rightfully considered in the committee was a court record and the establishing the guilt confessed or proved, of the representative-elect, and that the committee has no right to consider any other evidence.

Fourth, that the crime alleged, namely, that of unlawful cohabitation—even if proved, would not constitute a sufficient crime to bar a member or deprive him of his seat, because innocence of polygamy or unlawful cohabitation is nowhere enumerated in the Constitution as a qualification for the office of member of Congress, nor is it named in any United States law applicable to Utah or any other State.

Mr. Roberts argued these points for nearly two hours, referring to law books and answering questions. It was a legal controversy throughout, the facts not being gone into at length.

Mr. Roberts concluded by asking that his prima facie right to a seat be at once considered, as the present status denied to a sovereign State representation in the House at a time when injurious legislation affecting that State might take place.

At the conclusion of Mr. Roberts' statement, the committee held an executive session and then adjourned until 2 p. m. The chairman announced that subsequent meetings would be open and publicity also was given to the official stenographers' report of the morning.

At the afternoon session of the Roberts investigating committee, Mr. Roberts created a sensation by denouncing A. T. Schroeder, one of the Gentile delegation from Utah. Mr. Schroeder was about to address the committee when Roberts, waving his hand in protest, said:

"I object. I object to this witness if he comes here as an attorney. I object to him if he comes as a witness, on the ground that he is unworthy of confidence and because he is a common swindler. And I propose to establish by the records of the Supreme Court

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