

rejected altogether and given no place on the records. Seconded and carried.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

The Speaker called the House to order at 2 p. m., and the roll call as well as the appearance of the House showed the longest list of absentees of the session—Colton, Cunningham, Ferry, Lawrence, Montgomery, Marshall, Snow, Tuttle and Wright. The first two and Marshall came in before the reading of the minutes was concluded, however, this performance being accomplished in a few minutes. Colton had an amendment to make, as did W. H. Irvine, and the minutes were then approved. Ferry appeared at this juncture, but he gave the Minute Clerk the go-by.

The judiciary committee reported through Arnett, chairman, on C. F. 21, relating to the survival of all actions except libel and slander, recommending its rejection. Adopted.

The committee on live stock, through Nebeker, chairman, made a lengthy report regarding the complaints from various quarters in relation to damage done by sheep, and stated that in the absence of congressional legislation we are powerless to afford relief. It recommended that the committee on memorials ask the action of Congress in the premises. Adopted.

GEORGE C. RISER.

Brother Geo. C. Riser, whose death occurred on Sunday, January 24, 1892, and who was buried Tuesday, January 26th, was widely and favorably known throughout Utah, where he has resided and figured more or less prominently for more than forty-four years. The following sketch of his life is condensed from the *Historical Record*:

George Christian Riser, the son of Christopher Casper Riser and Barbara Hoffman, was born at Kornwesthime, Wurtemberg, Germany, July 16, 1818. He migrated to America in the spring of 1831 with his father, then a widower, located with a colony of German communists in Zoar, Ohio, where he resided for more than ten years. He first heard of "Mormonism" from a man named Ebenezer Kerr, who was employed in his shoe shop in the fall of 1842. For the purpose of getting more fully satisfied in regard to the divine mission of Joseph Smith, he bought a horse-team and started for Nauvoo, Ill., a distance of six hundred miles, September 6, 1842, together with his wife and child and his brother, John J. Riser. We was convinced that Joseph was indeed a true prophet, and on December 12, 1842, he and his wife were baptized in the Mississippi river, by Elder Albert Brown.

At the April Conference he and his Brother John were sent on a preaching mission to Ohio. After laboring three months in that State, he returned to Nauvoo. In April, 1846, he started westward. Having arrived on the Missouri river, his brother John enlisted in the Mormon Battalion and marched to California, leaving his effects with his brother George. In the spring of 1847 he continued the journey west-

ward, and arrived in Salt Lake Valley on September 25th of that year. A few days after his arrival in the valley, he located upon the small lot on the ground where the "Old Fort" was built that same fall. He opened a small shoe shop in a large military tent on the fort, and thus established himself as the first shoemaker in the Valley, in the beginning of October, 1847.

At the October conference, 1852, Elder Riser was called on a mission to Europe. Together with seventy-two other missionaries he started from home with horse and mule teams. They arrived safely at Columbus, the capital of Ohio. While most of his fellow missionaries went for refreshments, Elder Riser remained in the car trying to decide which way he should travel in order to find his father, who lived somewhere in the State. Utterly unable to reach any definite conclusion as to what he had better do, an audible voice from above spoke to him, saying, "Get a ticket for Cardington." He went into the railway station and inquired if there was such a place as Cardington in the State. Being answered in the affirmative he purchased a ticket and on arriving there recognized among the bystanders near the station a brother-in-law by the name of Cull, who took him in his wagon a distance of nine miles to his house, and the next morning Elder Riser walked a few miles to where his father and stepmother resided. He remained with them two weeks, baptized them both, and after ordaining his father to the office of an Elder continued his journey to New York, where he again met his traveling companions and set sail for Liverpool, England, where they arrived January 3, 1853.

Elder Riser was appointed to labor in Hamburg and the dukedom of Mecklenburg. In March, 1853, he visited his native country (Kornwesthime, Wurtemberg), 600 miles from Hamburg. He was compelled to leave after only six weeks' stay, and returned to Hamburg, from where proceeded to England.

He labored with much satisfaction in Yorkshire until Jan. 21, 1854, when he proceeded to Hamburg, and took charge of the mission; baptized 13 persons, published a pamphlet and was doing a good work till August 13, 1854, when he was arrested for having preached the Gospel, and incarcerated in the city jail with some of the most degraded criminals and finally compelled to leave the city. He left for Liverpool, arrived September 8th, and with a small company of Saluts from Hamburg sailed from Liverpool February 3, 1855, and arrived in Philadelphia March 5th following. He finally crossed the plains as captain of ten in Seth M. Blair's company, which, after suffering extremely from cholera, arrived in Salt Lake City, Sept. 11, 1855. Dec. 9, 1856, he was set apart to act as first Counselor to Bishop F. Kessler, of the Sixteenth Ward, a position which he occupied for twenty years and six months.

For some years past Brother Riser's health has been quite poor. His integrity to the work of God, however, never wavered, and he died firm in the faith.

THE FRAUDULENT BOND CASE.

The inquiry into the charges of forgery preferred against the well-known contractor for the city and county building, J. H. Bowman, an outline of the circumstances of which has already appeared in the columns of the NEWS, began yesterday, promises to be a searching affair.

Judge Bartch presided, with him being Selectmen Butter, Cahoon and Hardy. The City Council committee, Messrs. Anderson, Spafford, Lynn, Hyde and Young were also present.

County Attorney Murphy and City Attorney Hall represented the authorities; Judge Powers, Ogden Hiles and J. C. Colt appeared for the defense.

Judge Powers sought to show that the County court had no *locus standi* in the hearing of this matter, arguing that a case of this kind came under the jurisdiction of the Third District court.

County Attorney Murphy declined to argue the point but asked that under the statute the witness be made to give testimony or be proceeded against.

A motion was made and carried to the effect that the court should proceed with the hearing of the case, Judge Bartch saying that while he would not vote against the motion he seriously doubted the legality of the proceedings in this court.

W. S. Simkins, one of the bondsmen of Bowman, whose signature was alleged to have been witnessed by that good "Liberal," George Olson, was the first person put upon the stand to be examined by County Attorney Murphy.

"I will ask you," said Murphy, producing the Bowman bond, "if this is your signature?"

"No, sir, it is neither my signature nor my name."

"How is that?"

"It is not spelled right. My name is spelled S-i-m-k-i-n-s. That is S-i-m-k-i-n-s."

"Do you know J. H. Bowman, the principal of this bond?"

"Yes."

"Did you agree to go upon his bond?"

"Yes."

"What day did you agree to do so?"

"Some little time before the contract was awarded him."

"Did you sign any agreement in writing?"

"Yes; I signed what was purported to be his bond."

"When?"

"After he got his contract."

"Before or after the contract was actually executed and signed?"

"Don't remember."

"Was it before or after the daily papers noticed that the contract had been awarded to him?"

"It must have been before."

"Did the paper you speak of purport to be an agreement or a bond?"

"I could not say. He told me that it was to be his bond and I signed my name."

"This bond, then, is not the paper you signed?"

"No. It is neither my signature nor my name."

"Were there two columns of names on the bond you signed?"

"I do not remember."

"Did you sign more than one paper?"