

Mr. Lawrence puts it in his testimony, "you are compelled to have the man on hand all the time in order to have him when you do need him." Not only that, you must have a man familiar with the work, familiar with the property, familiar with its management; and, in order to do that, you must have a man who is at all times at hand.

The idea that a man is to be paid, in the handling of such a trust as that, by the mere amount of clerical duty that he performs, or the idea that a man who is capable of handling such a trust, and who has a sufficient standing in the community to give such a bond, shall sit himself down in his office and devote himself to purely clerical labor, is one, we beg to suggest, that must have been born in the mind of the commissioner.

This investigation, which has again served as another and further vindication of the acts of the receiver, has cost and will cost the fund at least \$2000, if not over, and in all this to save \$1550 of clerk hire. We submit to the court in all earnestness that the position of the examiner is not in the least sustained by the proof, and the exception ought to be sustained.

EXAMINER STONE'S REPORT.

Upon the assembling of the Supreme Court this morning—all the judges except Judge Anderson being in attendance—Judge Judd, one of the attorneys for ex-Receiver Dyer in the Church case, said he had before him the evidence, report, and exceptions thereto of the Examiner in the matter of the United States against the late corporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which was set for hearing this morning. His associates had already filed a brief. They would therefore like to know whether they would be allowed to present arguments on those exceptions. It was desirable to do so, from their standpoint; and the court, at the commencement of the present session, stated that if it desired to hear arguments, an intimation to that effect would be given. Of course if the court did not want to listen to arguments, counsel would not seek to trespass further upon its time.

Judge Zane—You can submit your briefs, and if the court still desires to hear any arguments you shall be so informed.

Judge Judd, continuing, said the briefs were handed in to the clerk of this court on Saturday, and in submitting the records he now wanted to say it would be found that the only matter of any consequence left open was the item of \$1550, for clerk hire. He had to ask the court, in the interests of his client, to give that a close examination. There was an immense mass of testimony; but he thought he had pointed out in the brief such parts thereof as bore directly upon it. He wished to make this additional suggestion, however: that from month to month the ex-Receiver had handed in his accounts. In each of these there was a charge of \$100 for clerk hire. No exception had been taken to it by anybody but the Examiner himself, who saw proper to take very strong ground, which the ex-Receiver bore with becoming dignity. This was the only matter of importance left on which, in argument, he would have desired to comment.

The conversation then dropped.

BOOK OF MORMON FACTS.

BY S. W. RICHARDS.

It is claimed that facts are stubborn things. Those which relate to the coming forth of the Book of Mormon are not only of that class, but are also marvelously interesting, relating, as they do, to the past, present and future of the human race. Some of these facts have been and others are still being disclosed which are destined to revolutionize both the faith and condition of our race.

My purpose in this article is to notice some facts which certainly have claim upon the faith of the Christian world, and to urge those claims upon their attention.

A little more than half a century ago an honest farmer's boy made the startling announcement that he had been visited by an angel of light who made known to him where there was concealed—hid in the earth—records of a large portion of the race of man who had lived upon this and other lands, and told him precisely where he would find them. This communication to him was a fact, a truthful disclosure, made by a truthful and trusty messenger. This farmer's boy, now a believer in spiritual manifestations, accompanied the angel, who led him to the spot and showed to him the plates containing this long lost record, which was the history of a great and wonderful people, and of God's dealings with them; for they were believers in God and in His Son Jesus Christ.

These plates having the appearance of gold were actually obtained by the now Prophet Joseph, and a cry was heard throughout the land, proclaiming the tidings of the find as "Joe Smith's golden Bible."

The fact that Joseph attached divine interference and inspiration to this ministration and message aroused the indignation, scorn and contempt of the universal Christian world. They had so long cherished and lived in the tradition of their fathers, that there was to be no more revelation, no more Prophets, no more interruption of their cherished faith—that the idea of another sacred record coming to light was scouted as most preposterous, an innovation not to be tolerated.

Joseph had, however, the plates in his possession. The record engraved upon them was written in characters of which he had no knowledge. He was uneducated in any other than his own simple English, and how was he to make known to the world their contents. This question might have given him some anxiety at first, while it gave occasion to the scoffer to laugh and mock at his pretensions. But this deficiency in the youth's ability to meet the emergency had been provided for long before. Interpreters had been provided and hid with the plates which were to be the means of revealing their sacred contents. This fact can only be considered as unmistakable evidence that the wisdom of God was displayed in this marvelous foresight of providing for all that might be required in the bringing forth of His work in the far-off generations to come.

These interpreters called "Urim and Thummim" were instruments of light. They had been touched by the finger

of God, and dedicated for and to that special purpose of translating the records with which they were deposited by that faithful and efficient recorder, Moroni—the same personage who came and revealed their hiding place to Joseph. Provided with all that was necessary for his task, in the midst of doubting friends and scoffing enemies, he employed a clerk to write for him, and engaged in the work of translation, which could only be accomplished by unshaken faith in God. This the angel, Moroni, assured him he must have, to be able to use the interpreters and be successful in his work.

True to their trust, as the needle to the pole, when he traced those unknown characters with the interpreters, he could read in his own language, word by word, the wonders it revealed. Still more wonderful, and evidence of more than human device, when a word appeared in the interpreters, it would remain there until correctly written by the scribe, and then pass away. Thus it was as impossible for the scribe to commit an error in his record as the interpreters in the translation.

The translator and the scribe then, and all the world now, have these facts before them as evidences that the Book of Mormon has come to the children of men by the "gift and power of God," is a sacred and divine record, brought to light for divine purposes, with God and angels as Authors of the work.

Not a word in that translation appears there without the approval of God and angels, endorsed by the action of the Urim and Thummim, which demanded that every word should be as correctly written as by the power of God it was correctly translated from those ancient characters engraved upon the plates, which were by the angel delivered to Joseph, and to whom they were returned after the translation was made.

Thus far I have only told of what relates to the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, nothing of the importance or interest of its contents.

Asked, as I often have been, when asserting these facts, what assurance I have of the truth of them my answer has been, and is, that I have been personally acquainted with the men who performed this work of translating and writing the Book of Mormon; I have seen, heard and lived with them and know that they were men of truth and veracity.

With the scribe Oliver I have lived in the same house, have eaten, drank, and slept with him, and sat and listened many an hour to his eloquent and soul-inspiring tales of their familiarity with the angels who ministered to them oft times as the work of translation progressed. How, as their faith increased while fervently engaged in the work committed to them, they were administered to by those who held the keys and authority of God in former dispensations; how, as they learned by the translation that it was necessary for all men to be baptized for the remission of their sins, and they had strong desires to be of that number, John the Baptist, as forerunner of God's authority, holding the keys of outward ordinances, came and laid his hands upon them and ordained them to the same ministry and calling, by virtue of which they