## THE DESERET EVENING NEWS.

### TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

## FIFTY-FIRST YEAR.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1900, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

NUMBER 275

THREE WITNESSES TO THE BOOK OF MORMON. 

#### THE TESTIMONY OF THREE WITNESSES.

Be it known unto all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people unto whom this work shall come, that we, through the grace of God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, have seen the plates which contain this record, which is a record of the people of Nephi, and also of the Lamanites, their brethren, and also of the people of Jared, who came from the tower of which hath been spoken; and we also know that they have been translated by the gift and power of God, for His voice hath declared it unto us, wherefore we know of a surely that the work is true. And we also testify that we have seen the engravings which are upon the plates; and they have been shewn unto us by the power of God, and not of man. And we declare with words of soberness, that an angel of God came down from heaven and he brought and laid before our eyes, that we beheld and saw the plutes, and the engravings thereon; and we know that it is by the grace of God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, that we beheld and bear record that these things are true; and it is marvellous in our eyes, nevertheless the voice of the Lord commanded us that we should bear record of it; wherefore, to be obedient unto the commandments of God, we bear testimony of these things. And we know that if we are faithful in Christ, we shall rid our garments of the blood of all men, and by found spotless before the judgment-seat of Christ, and shall dwell with Him eternally in the heavens. And the honor be to the Father, an I to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, which is one God. Atten.

#### OLIVER COWDERY. DAVID WHITMER, MARTIN HARRIS,

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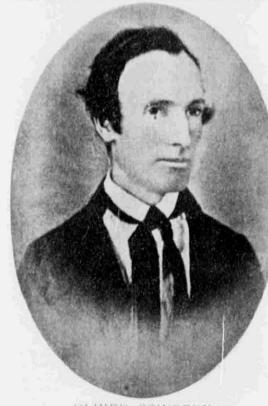
world by mortals. It is a direct state- became acquainted with the family o nent in support of the declaration Joseph Smith. There he heard of the repired record-a book that has at- deeply interested in ascertaining the reacted more attention among the particulars of their wonderful discovchristian nations than any other vol- ery. He visited the young man who me except its companion record and riaimed to have had heavenly visitasiness of the trath of Christianity, the | tions, making a journey into Pennsylsuble. The three men named declare | vania for that purpose. He was conthat an angel of flod came from heav- vinced of the truth of the cialms, and or, brought the gold plates contain. was called to assist in the work of ing the Book of Mormon record, translation acting as scribe. Later he and exhibited them to the testators; also received heavenly manifestations, that they saw the plates, and the engravings thereon, heard the voice of | to the Priesthood of Aaron, and by the God declare that the translation by the | Apostles Peter, James and John to the Prophet Joseph Smith was made by the | Higher, or Melchlsedek Priesthood. power of Jehovah, and were commandsbear witness of those things. Therefore they gave that testimony, from which they never varied.

OLIVER COWDERY.

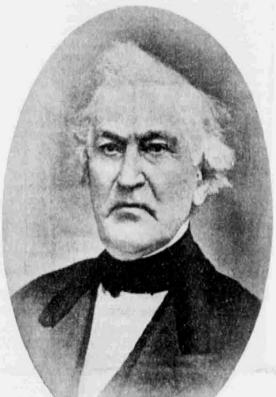
the first witness to affix his signature to "the testimony of the three" as to | tion April 6, 1830, Subsequently he was the divinity of the Book of Mormon was | valled to aid in selecting the names of Onver Cowdery. His was a peculiarly | the first Twelve Apostles of the Church, remarkable career. He was born in and performed other important work Wells, Rutland county, Vermont, in connected with the organization. To-October, 1805, being about two months | ward the year 1838 he fell away from older than Joseph Smith. He received the Church, taking issue with

The foregoing is one of the most sol- | It was while engaged in the latter call mn declarations over made to the ing at Manchester, New York, that he har the Book of Mormon is a divinely | Book of Mormon plates, and became and was ordained by John the Baptist

The exhibition of the plates to the three witnesses, as related, occurred in the month of June, 1829. Later, Oliver Cowdery was one of the six original members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, at its incorporaof its leading authorities. For this he

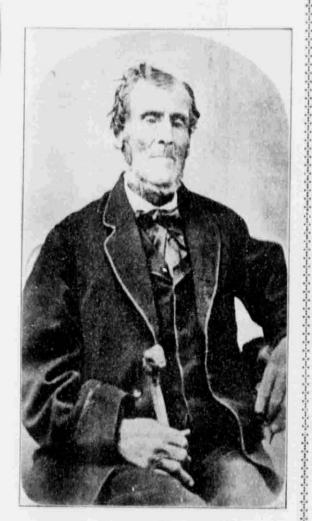


OLIVER COWDERY



is positive as man could be in assert-ing the truth of his declaration as one of the three witnesses. Finally, in 1848 he returned to the Church, with unshaken testimony, and was again re-ceived by haptism. He started west-vard with his family to ioin the body of the Church in Utah, and while wait-ing at Council Bluffs to begin the pur-ney from the Missouri river west, made ney from the Missouri eiver west, made this education, and a visit to the Whitmers, in Richmond, strict Presbyterian. County, Missouri, While there he aken ill and died, March 3, 1850. Just before his spirit took flight, real-

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#### MARTIN HARRIS.

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ns concerning the

is positive as man could be in assert- | mony here and a was bavid withof the finding of the gold paid little attention there and the latter's Subsequently, he received builds rom Oliver Cowdery, in one of which

he was asked to bring Joseph Smit. to the Whitmer family homostead, that being a command of the Lord. He did so, and found that what Cowdery had written about the record was true was then under way, was made at th Whitmer home, being completed about the last of June 1829. It was during convinced of the divine calling of Jo-seph Smith an a Prophet, and was buptized by him; and also became on al manifestation described in his tes-

David Whitmer was also one of the original members of the Church, did considerable preaching of its

in the public prints that he in the Richmond Conservator, March 25, 1881, he was nost positive in declar-

The only one of the three witnesses way to Salt

sociated with ion relievously. Three days before his death he called his family and friends around his bedside and solemnly deduced the irith of the during the translation of the Book of Mormon, reiterating his previous tes-tioned at testimony to the divinity of the Book of Mormon, and of the man of the Book of Mormon and the translation of the Book of Mormon and the translation of the man of the Book of Mormon and of the man of the Book of Mormon and the translation of the Book of the translation of the Book of Mormon and the translation of the Book of Mormon and the translation of the Book of the tr

locality in which he lived, and as a | was tried by a Church council and ex. young man followed successively the communicated. He then turned to the vocations of clerk and school teach. Denotice of taw.

Though outside of the Church, he was 1 second encoded and second encod

DAVID WHITMER

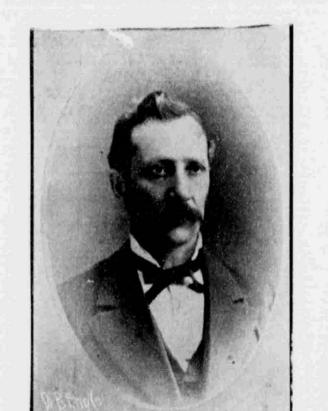
stations montioned in this brief Ho

was the oldest of the thr DAVID WHITMEE. The second subscriber to the factor The second subscriber to the second su The second subscriber to the testi- | toga County, New York, Later the fam. | mony was true.

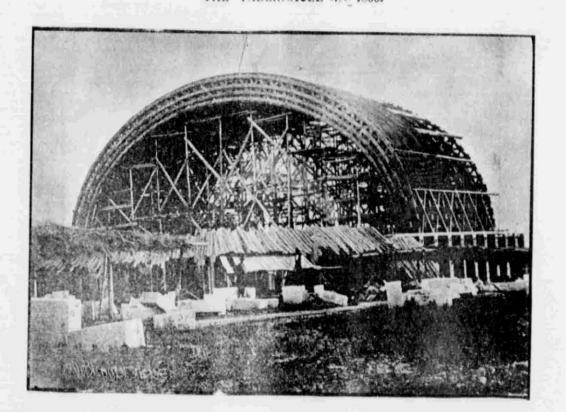
# THE TABERNACLE IN 1866.

was not until October 8, 1875 that it | tectural experts differ in opinion as to was dedicated and set apart with its , whether it is handsome or homely, All, then recently installed long sweeping | however, agree that it stands as a margallery and other accessories. Vel of acoustic triumph and a testi-

To describe this famous structure for monial to the genius of the great mind aders of the "News" would almost which conceived it-that of Brigham be a work of supercrogation. Nevers Young, in form it is elliptical and resis heless there are numerous inaccurate | upon forty-four buttresses of solid macomptions in the public mind con- sonry. Between these gigantic pillars eroing it, wherefore a brief recital of of support, which are of red sandtacts relating to its uniqueness, capa- | stone, three by nine feet in thickness ity and the purpose for which it was | and width, and from fourteen to twenty ull is not amiss or uninteresting, par- feet high, are twenty deers, most of icular, as this is a double anniver- I them nine feet wide and all opening



PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH. From a Photograph taken soon after his appointment as an Apostle Thirty-three years ago today. 



This picture is from a photograph by Carter, taken the year before the great structure was enclosed for meeting purposes. From the view thus presented a fair idea of the immensity of the famous self-supporting wooden roof is obtained. In this connection the fact is recalled that it was with much difficulty that enough shinglers were presured during the last few months preceding the first use to which the building was put to complete it in time. So scarce were they that all of the towns of Utah and many on the outside were industriously searched for them. So far as known there is no photograph of the Tabernache in existence luken in 1867.

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outward, making a speedy egress from the spacious inferior a very easy mat-ter. The building is 250 feet in length and 150 feet in width. The mighty and 150 feet in width. The mighty was born, dome roof, the contral portion of which Work the

and 100 feet in width. The mighty doma roof, the contral portion of which is seventy feet in peight of the largest self-supporting coverings in the langest self-supporting covering in the superior strengthy in the self-supporting covering in this content of some such building in this content of some such building in this content of some set in the bland the origin set in the content of the set in the set is the set in the

teresting though brief account of the musical exercises and chronicles the fact that sing a free i Springville, Spanish Fork, Payson nd Brigham City assisted the choir, while brass

ampass comprises if stops and in as the a dudes 2.648 pipes A unique feature of the Tabernacia well and est

for many years was the great canvas distant a partition that ewong from the ceiling distant to the floor directly through the center to the mor directly through the center of the building shutting off the eastern half of the grain additorium; for the western half immediately facing the rulpit was usually large enough to ac-comodate the congretations that gath-ered from Sabbath to Sabbath to wor-whin and recting and bathath to worship and receive such instruction as might be imparted to them. It was only down on "state" occasions that the curvas good was drawn up and the whole of the building used. THE DEDICATION.

The dedication occurred on the 4th day of conference. October 9.1875. The great building, the more recently added peritons of which had just emerged from the hands of skilled artigans, was provided in our skilled artigans, was crowded in every part. The people had come from nearby and remote sections of the farritory slike to be present on that auspicious occusion. The conference lasted five days. There were many speakers and the sublects treated upon overed a wide range. The deflicatory series

The deficatory savyless were held on a beautiful Saturday morning and wore presided over by President Young himself, who announced that Elder John Taylor would offset the dedi-catory prayer. The invocation was an extrest one and embraced special Dankfulness for the privilege of the thankfulness for the privilege of mu ing beneath the spacious dome of great building and a consecration of the fronture "as a of Thy Saints, wherein Thy people may as semble from time to time, to obser The commandment to meet often together to observe Thy holy Sabhath to tar-take of Thy holy Sachath to tar-take of Thy holy Sachath to tar-take of Thy holy Sachath to tar-take of the poly factoment of the Lord's Supper and wherein they may associate for the purpose of presse-purples and the poly poly of the same prolec and thanks: ing, for the it action of the busin-Church and kingdo ever Thy people shi name. And by vis Priesthond vested name of Jesus Chi living God we ded this Tabernacle as a us, and the Son Thy Saints unto the Most High and we consecute the group which it stands and dedicate the Lord."

City assisted the choir, while brass political, nave also not the state from its pulpit. Some of the state transmission of ticipated. The new organ, which was built from native wood and by hume workmen, under the direction of Jos. H. Ridges, the account nids, was not completed though it "gave music through 700 nouths." Since then it has under-gote numerous changes in the way of heiterment until it is one of the very taremost argans of the world. Its di-mensions are fixed and its height is 48 feet. Electricity has taken this place of man nil water power as a medium of inflaing the bollows. The compass comprises of stops and in-

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inlays, Man ailque supplies