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The Twelve Apostles

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So great, however, was the scarcity of provisions that many were compelled for months to subsist on raw hides, thistle roots and some other roots of the desert until the harvest of 1848.

Notwithstanding the Mormon Battalion was in the military service of the United States, and a great portion of their families located at Winter Quarters, the Indian Department compelled the Saints in the spring of 1848 to leave their cabins, and move across the river into Iowa, although, as was well known, they were only camped there until the return of the absent battalion.

In the month of January, 1848, some members of the Mormon Battalion first discovered gold on the American River, California, thus opening to the world an unparalleled source of wealth and adventure.

In March, 1849, a provisional gov-

ernment was formed, and a State Constitution adopted by a convention under the name of "The State of Deseret." A delegate was sent to Congress with a petition for admission into the Union. In September, 1850, an act passed the Congress of the United States, providing for the organization of the State of Deseret into the Territorial Government of Utah. The first Territorial legislative assembly met in Great Salt Lake City in 1851.

President Brigham Young was appointed the first governor, which office he filled to the entire satisfaction of the people for two consecutive terms, or until the time of the Utah expedition in 1858, when he was succeeded by Alfred Cumming, of Georgia.

(Utah's subsequent history will be published in future numbers of the magazine under different headings. Ed.)

THE TWELVE APOSTLES.

In a revelation, given through the Prophet Joseph Smith, at Fayette, Seneca County, New York, in June, 1829, the Lord made known that twelve Apostles should be called in this dispensation.

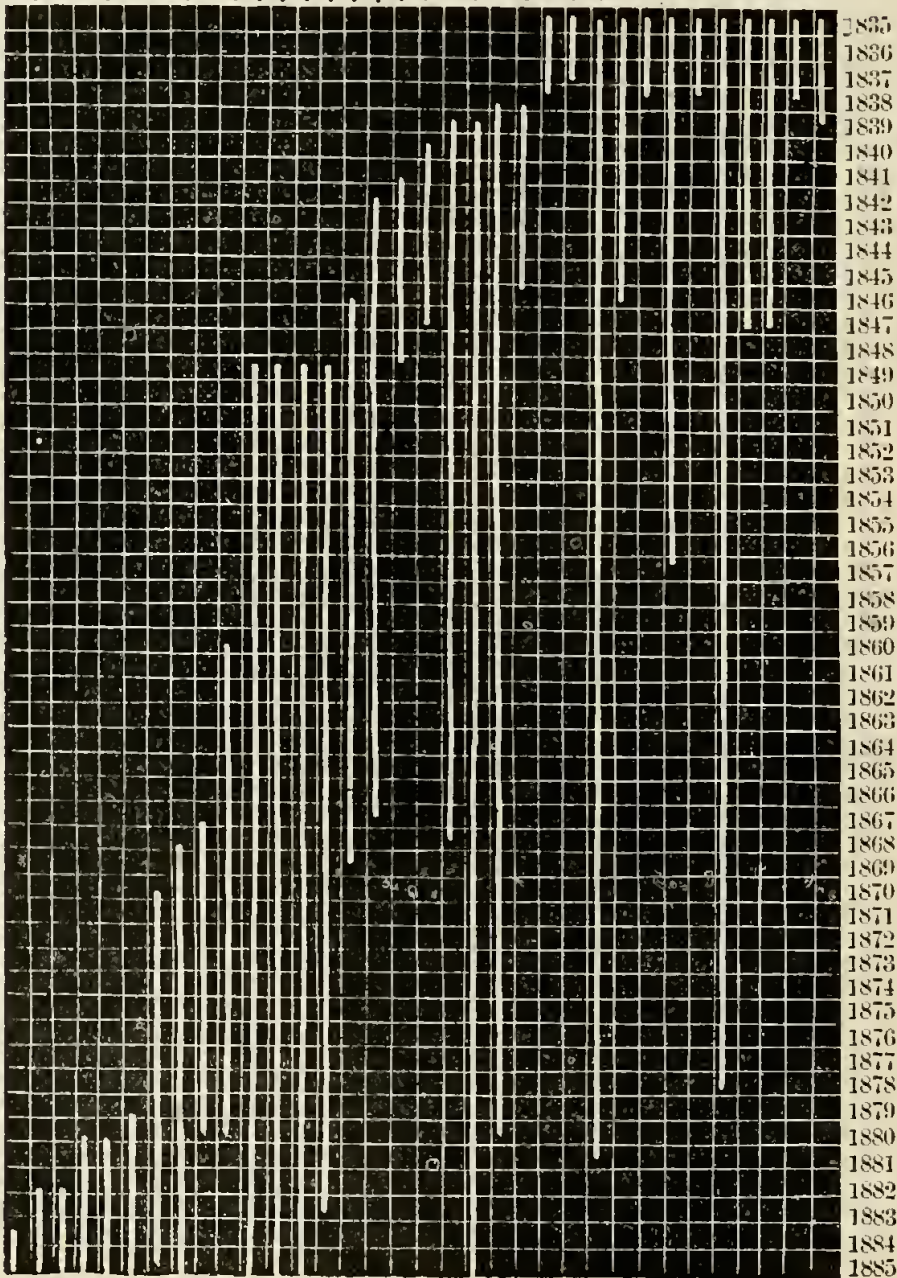
Nearly six years later, on February 14, 1835, at a special meeting, held in Kirtland, Ohio, twelve men were, in accordance with that revelation, selected by the Three Witnesses to the Book of Mormon, to constitute the quorum of Twelve Apostles. They were chosen in the following order: Lyman E. Johnson, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Hyde, David W. Patten, Luke S. Johnson, Wm. E. McLellin, John

F. Boynton, Orson Pratt, William Smith, Thos. B. Marsh and Parley P. Pratt. Most of these men had the previous year (1834) proven their faithfulness and integrity to the truth as members of Zion's Camp, which journeyed from Kirtland, Ohio, to Missouri and back, subject to much suffering and many privations. The brethren selected were ordained to the Apostleship by Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer and Martin Harris as follows: Lyman E. Johnson, Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball on February 14, 1835, Orson Hyde, David W. Patten, Luke S. Johnson, Wm. E. McLellin, John F. Boynton and William Smith on the follow-

DIAGRAM OF THE APOSTLES.

NAMES.

1. Thomas B. Marsh
2. David W. Patton
3. Brigham Young
4. Heber Chase Kimball
5. Orson Hyde
6. Wm. E. McLellan
7. Parley Parker Pratt
8. Luke S. Johnson
9. Wm. Smith
10. Orson Pratt
11. John P. Boynton
12. Lyman E. Johnson
13. John E. Page
14. John Taylor
15. Wilford Woodruff
16. George A. Smith
17. Willard Richards
18. Lyman Wight
19. Amasa M. Lyman
20. Ezra Tatt Benson
21. Charles C. Rich
22. Lorenzo Snow
23. Erastus Snow
24. Franklin D. Richards
25. George Q. Cannon
26. Joseph K. Smith
27. Brigham Young, Jun.
28. Albert Carrington
29. Moses Thatcher
30. Francis M. Lyman
31. John Henry Smith
32. George Teasdale
33. Heber J. Grant
34. John W. Taylor



ing day (February 15), P. P. Pratt on February 21st, and Thomas B. Marsh and Orson Pratt, who had been absent on missions, in April, 1835. (Pratt was ordained April 26, 1835.) At a grand council, held in Kirtland, Ohio, May 2, 1835, at which the First Presidency was in attendance, the Twelve were arranged according to seniority, after which they stood as follows, commencing with the eldest:

1. Thomas Baldwin Marsh.
2. David W. Patten.
3. Brigham Young.
4. Heber Chase Kimball.
5. Orson Hyde.
6. William E. McLellin.
7. Parley Parker Pratt.
8. Luke S. Johnson.
9. William Smith.
10. Orson Pratt.
11. John F. Boynton.
12. Lyman E. Johnson.

In 1837 and 1838 four of the Twelve apostatized, namely, John F. Boynton, disfellowshipped September 3, 1837, at Kirtland, Ohio; Lyman E. Johnson and Luke S. Johnson, excommunicated April 13, 1838, at Far West, Missouri; and William E. McLellin, excommunicated May 11, 1838, also at Far West.

On July 8, 1838, John Taylor, John E. Page, Wilford Woodruff and Willard Richards were called by revelation to fill the places of those who had fallen. Page and Taylor were ordained December 19, 1838, Wilford Woodruff April 26, 1839, at Far West, Missouri, and Willard Richards April 14, 1840, in Preston, England.

In the meantime other vacancies occurred. David W. Patten was killed in the Crooked River battle, in Missouri, October 25, 1838, and Thomas B. Marsh was excommunicated for

apostasy March 17, 1839, at Quincy, Illinois. To fill the two vacancies occasioned thereby, George Albert Smith (ordained April 26, 1839, at Far West, Missouri), and Lyman Wight (ordained April 8, 1841, at Nauvoo, Illinois) were chosen.

William Smith and John E. Page denied the faith and were both excommunicated. Smith was cut off October 12, 1845, and Page disfellowshipped January 9, 1846, at Nauvoo, Illinois. Amasa M. Lyman, who was ordained to the Apostleship as early as August 20, 1842, at Nauvoo, and Ezra Taft Benson, who was ordained July 16, 1846, at Council Bluffs, Iowa, were chosen to fill the vacancies.

In 1849 there were four vacancies in the quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards had in December, 1847, been chosen to constitute the First Presidency, and Lyman Wight was excommunicated for apostasy February 12, 1849, so at a meeting held in the Pioneer fort in Great Salt Lake City February 12, 1849, Elders Charles Coulson Rich, Lorenzo Snow, Erastus Snow and Franklin Dewey Richards were ordained members of the quorum of Twelve.

The next vacancy occurred on the 13th of May, 1857, when Parley P. Pratt was assassinated near Van Buren, Arkansas. George Q. Cannon was chosen to fill the vacancy, and ordained an Apostle August 26, 1860.

In October, 1867, Amasa M. Lyman was dropped from the quorum of the Twelve, and Joseph Fielding Smith who had previously been ordained to the Apostleship, was chosen to fill the vacancy, October 6, 1867.

On June 22, 1868, Heber C. Kimball,

first counselor to President Brigham Young, died in Salt Lake City, and Apostle George A. Smith was called to fill the vacancy in the First Presidency. Elder Brigham Young, junior, succeeded George A. Smith as a member of the Twelve October 9, 1868.

Ezra T. Benson died September 3, 1869, in Ogden, Utah, and Albert Carrington was chosen to fill the vacancy; he was ordained July 3, 1870, at Salt Lake City.

Orson Hyde, who had acted as president of the Twelve, from the reorganization of the First Presidency, in 1847, to October, 1875, died November 28, 1878, in Spring City, Sanpete County, Utah. At the annual conference, April 7, 1879, Elder Moses Thatcher was elected to fill the vacancy.

A reorganization of the First Presidency took place for the second time in the history of the Church October 10, 1880, at the semi-annual conference, held in Salt Lake City. On this occasion John Taylor, who had been sustained as President of the Quorum of the Apostles since October 6, 1875, became President of the Church, with George Q. Cannon as his first and Joseph F. Smith as his second counselor. This made three vacancies in the quorum of the Twelve, two of which were filled shortly after, October 27, 1880, by the ordination of Francis Marion Lyman and John Henry Smith to the Apostleship.

October 3, 1881, the death of Orson Pratt, the last surviving member of the first quorum of Twelve Apostles organized in Kirtland, made another vacancy, which, together with the vacancy left since October, 1880, was filled by the calling of George Teasdale and Heber J. Grant to the Apostleship. These brethren were called by direct revelation and ordained in Salt Lake City October 16, 1882.

Charles C. Rich died November 17, 1883, at his residence in Paris, Bear Lake County, Idaho, and the vacancy caused thereby was filled by John Whittaker Taylor, who was ordained a member of the Twelve April 9, 1884, in Salt Lake City.

The Twelve Apostles, as they stood in October, 1885, were as follows:

Wilford Woodruff, President,
Lorenzo Snow,
Erastus Snow,
Franklin D. Richards,
Brigham Young,
Albert Carrington,
Moses Thatcher,
Francis M. Lyman,
John Henry Smith,
George Teasdale,
Heber J. Grant,
John W. Taylor.

In November, 1885, Albert Carrington was excommunicated from the Church for lewd and lascivious conduct and adultery.

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The contents of the present number are designed as an introductory to what follows. Those who receive sample copies are kindly requested to use their influence in favor of the magazine, provided it meets with their approval.