

obliterated and the Saints themselves be trodden under foot as they would deserve to be.

Some of the most impertinent and unprincipled of the haters of the "Mormons" may flatter themselves that the action of President Woodruff, in announcing certain facts and giving counsel on a very important matter, was taken to meet their demands and quiet their outcries. If so they are very much mistaken. And their continued noise and dissatisfaction prove the point we have here advanced. What they have pretended to want affords them no content. It does not appease their wrath. It does not still their tongues. It does not decrease their venom.

The declaration of President Woodruff was published because he wished to make known his position on the matter that he explained, the course he had pursued, his firm intention, and his counsel to the Church over which he presides. It was not done with a view to placate the agitators or quiet the disturbers. It was done because he considered it right and timely.

Whatever is done by the Church, or its leaders, or its members, should always be done in this spirit. "Be sure you are right, then go ahead." Never mind what the world may say or do. Never think to gain their favor by yielding to their requirements. When a thing is right, do it. When it is wrong, or unwise, refrain from it. Let the wicked rage. Let the heathen imagine vain things. But be not swerved to the right or the left by what they may howl for, nor think for a moment that they will ever be satisfied.

WANTS TO BE MORE THAN A KING.

A dispatch from Washington, D. C., which will be found in another part of this paper, states that Governor Thomas has filed his annual report and that it contains a number of allegations and recommendations which, to say the least, are very peculiar. Not peculiar, however, to the Governor. His manner of dealing with the people whom he desires to rule with autocratic power is well known, and his adroit method of dodging round the truth while pretending to advance it, is quite familiar to the Utah public.

What he means by "meaningless words of double meaning" may be difficult for ordinary mortals to un-

derstand. But the meaning of his double dealing and cunning perversions is very easy to fathom. The object and intent and explanation of all his scheming, and misrepresentation, and tricks of speech, are to be seen in the closing paragraph of the dispatch which gives a brief epitome of his report.

Governor Thomas wants to have the power to appoint all the local and petty officers that are and of right should be elected by the people. To achieve the purpose of his ambition, he would utterly destroy the last remnant of local self government in this Territory. "The control of twenty-five counties," he says, "would be in the hands of men loyal to the government." It would be, actually, in the hands of one man—Arthur L. Thomas, who is loyal first, last and all the time to himself.

If any other people than the "Mormons" were thus proposed to be made a prey to a plotting politician of small calibre but large greed, the attempt would raise such a storm of indignation throughout the land, that its author would be glad to beat a hasty retreat and hide his diminished head from the public gaze and the general execration. The impudence of his proposition ought to arouse all who look upon it, and cause his bald assertions and intentional misrepresentations to be viewed with strong suspicion, while his open effort to grasp more than monarchical power should elicit universal disgust.

When the full report reaches us we will be able to point out more definitely the errors which the Governor designs to promulgate in aid of his own selfish designs, and we will now leave the matter until the complete document comes to hand. But the end he has in view ought not to be lost sight of by the press of the country, when commenting on the matters set forth in the dispatch from the national capital.

JUDGE ZANE AND THE MANIFESTO.

In another part of this issue will be found some remarks made Tuesday, October 7, in the Third District Court by Chief Justice Charles S. Zane. The occasion which called them forth was the application of one Thomas Jackson for admission to citizenship.

The question of the membership or otherwise, of the applicant in the "Mormon" Church was introduced. At this point the Judge ex-

pressed himself as bound to take judicial cognizance of the official declaration from President Woodruff on the subject of the discontinuance by the Church of the solemnization of plural marriages, and the acceptance of that manifesto by the General Assembly of Latter-day Saints at the recent Conference.

The position taken by Chief Justice Zane does credit to both his heart and judgment. He separated himself from those who unjustly and, we might say, brutally, refuse to attribute good faith to the "Mormons" in any position they assume. His honor, in unison with the genius of his high and honorable calling, assumes an attitude in line with the long established principle of law, that a man is deemed innocent until his guilt is proved. This axiom has still greater force in relation to the acceptance as genuine a solemn declaration regarding the honesty of which there is no evidence on which to base an imputation of bad faith. Hence the consistency of the stand taken by Judge Zane; he accepts the declaration as genuine, and announces that he can only be removed from that attitude by proof which would vitiate the manifesto. He states that his faith in human nature is a factor in leading him to the conclusion he has reached. But few men have had better opportunities of gaining an insight in that direction than the Chief Justice of Utah, and his experience in that regard in relation to the "Mormon" people has been specially ample. Although we have no means of knowing his views other than by an exercise of judgment, as to what must necessarily be the nature of his impressions regarding the "Mormons" as a rule, we believe he cannot think otherwise than that they possess traits that constitute them a community who will not disappoint those who trust in them.

Judge Zane's announced future rule of action in relation to the admission to citizenship of members of the Church, is the legitimate outgrowth of his views of the manifesto. We congratulate him on his consistency.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The sixty-first semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, convened at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4th, 1890, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, President Wilford Woodruff presiding.

There were on the stand: Of the First Presidency, Wilford Woodruff and George Q. Cannon; of the council of the Twelve Apostles: Lorenzo Suow, Franklin D. Richards, Moses Thatcher, Francis M. Lyman, John Henry Smith, Heber J. Grant, John W. Taylor, Mariner