

# DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - Nov. 7, 1877.

## THE POLICY OF DIVISION.

THE *Beaver Square Dealer* offers some suggestions to the "Mormon" people in regard to the political situation. Taking the ground that the development of the Territory of Utah into the State of Deseret, or its dissolution in death, is as certain as the growth of a boy into manhood, or his decease, the editor points out the path which he thinks it necessary for the people to pursue in order that they may avoid destruction and attain Statehood. The policy he recommends is in one word, division. To quote his own words, which he enforces in italics: "The Church party must be willing to divide its power, or lose it altogether."

This sentiment will be endorsed by the "non-Mormon" element. But while they applaud it as suiting their purpose, they none the less regard the unity of the "Mormon" people as the only safeguard the latter possess. The *Square Dealer* editor argues that the next Legislature ought to have "at least one fourth of the members Gentile."

Now, this may sound all very well to those who are anxious for the disintegration of "Mormonism," and desirous of obtaining an opposition seat in the Assembly, but as it is given as advice to the "Mormon" people it is simply absurd. In the first place, the opposition is not entitled by its numbers to one-fourth nor one eighth of the representation of the Territory. In the next place there is neither reason nor precedent for working purposely in the interests of the opposition. Would Democrats put themselves out of the way to elect Republicans, or Republicans to elect Democrats? And what benefits could the "Mormon" people expect to receive in return? The class of men who would be put forward as the candidates of the opposition, judging from the past, would have for their chief aim the destruction of that which the "Mormons" live and labor to build up. Their policy now is to prevent any "Mormon" from getting or retaining any office, however small, in the gift of the Government. And in this work they spare neither slander, nor bribery, nor perjury.

The *Square Dealer* admits that the "Gentiles" should not acquire representation "except by the increase of numbers." That settles the question. No one will offer the least opposition to any "outsider" who is fairly elected to office. But if their numbers are insufficient to effect a just election, why should the "Mormons" aid them in their warfare? Shall we put strength into the hands of men who are laboring with their might to deprive us of all political power whatever? Who aim at robbing us of the simplest and the dearest rights of American citizenship? Who would wrest from us the right to vote, to serve on a jury, or to hold any office of honor or emolument? Shall we put into the hands of our would-be political murderers the very weapons for our assassination? The "Mormon" people act very simply in many things affecting their well-being, but they are not such fools as to do this.

The true "Mormon" policy is union in all things, and the upholding of their true friends. No one knows this better than those persons who seek to create division among us. Whether it be by open warfare or seeming friendship; by denunciation and misrepresentation or quiet sophistry and plausible advice; all who seek to divide the "Mormon" people are their enemies, because they are the enemies of the system which is or should be first and foremost in the hearts of the Saints, for which they forsake home, country and kindred, and which is the centre of all their hopes, ambitions, labors and desires for this world and the world to come. The opposition may divide to their hearts content, but union should be the everlasting motto of the "Mormons."

## WOMAN SUFFRAGE AND THE MARKED BALLOT.

LAST evening we took occasion to handle some suggestions of the *Beaver Square Dealer* in regard to political division, which that paper urged as the true policy of the people of Utah. We now wish to make a few remarks upon other points connected with the same subject. The *Square Dealer*, in advising the "Mormons" to give the opposition a share in the legislative powers of the territorial Government, says:

"We are not going to say that they should acquire it by any other means than the increase of their numbers, but the legislature can cause this increase to proceed rapidly by repealing the law creating woman suffrage and the statute requiring a marked ballot."

Seeing that the opposition control all the executive offices of federal appointment in Utah, although it forms but a very small minority of the population, and that one officer—the Governor, in whose appointment the people have no voice, holds the power of absolute veto over the legislative acts of the whole Assembly, elected by the popular vote; or, in other words, that the wishes of an overwhelming majority can be swamped by the objection of a single individual imposed upon them by an arbitrary "one man power," we can find no reason why the opposition could claim, nor why the "Mormons" should concede, still further control over the affairs of the Territory.

And as to the means advised. Is it not a little peculiar that those who call themselves by the party name of "Liberal," should advocate the curtailment rather than the enlargement of the franchise? That instead of extending its privileges, they should seek to deprive of vested rights those already endowed with its prerogatives? How extremely liberal these "Liberals" are, to be sure!

Woman suffrage was once the hobby of the opposition in Utah. "Give the women the right to vote," said they, "and Mormonism is a doomed institution." A "Mormon" Legislature passed the "Act conferring upon women the elective franchise," it was signed by a "Liberal" Executive and became a living statute. And now those who clamored for its passage cry out for its repeal. What excuse could our legislators offer to the women of Utah, for depriving them of rights bestowed upon them by the highest political authority—an Act of the Governor and Legislative Assembly, confirmed by the tacit consent of the Congress of the United States? Nothing but a craven desire to pander to the whims and schemes of a small minority, whose object is to obtain complete control of the vast majority, politically, socially, financially and religiously. The right of suffrage having been conferred upon the women of Utah, we do not believe they can legally, and we are sure they cannot rightfully, be deprived of it, even if those who represent their fathers, husbands and brothers were stupid enough to wish to rob them of that right.

Now as to the marked ballot, the great bugbear held up by the "Liberals" as a "Mormon" monstrosity, to astonish weak minded Congressmen abroad, and scare ignorant citizens at home. The system of marked ballots is not a Utah creation, it was adopted from the Constitutions of experienced commonwealths in the Union, as the surest means of securing the purity of elections. Colorado has just incorporated the same system in its Constitution, and it has been accepted and ratified by the popular vote. The *Sacramento Record Union*, reviewing the Constitution of Colorado, notes its improvements to be commended, and its innovations to be condemned. Among the features which call for praise, that paper mentions the following—

"In elections ballots are numbered when deposited, the number being at the same time set down against the voter's name in the poll list. This renders fraud almost impossible, and in cases of contested elections affords a direct and easy way of ascertaining the truth."

This is the Utah method exactly. Its object is here clearly defined. Why, then, do the so called

"Liberals" wish to see it abolished? Simply to give them an opportunity to accomplish by fraud that which they cannot achieve by a fair and honorable contest. They are in a hopeless minority at elections. By square, honest voting, they cannot succeed at any election in the Territory. The marked ballot guards the way they would creep along to steal the power which the people will not confer upon them. "Ballot stuffing" is impossible under this plan. It exceeds all others as a protection against the cunning corruptionist. Therefore those who want not only all the executive but also the legislative powers of the Territory, make a terrible hue and cry against the marked ballot, and in the place of sound argument use misrepresentation and buncombe, and raise a din to confuse and deceive the multitude.

The object of retaining the marked ballot is, simply, as the *Record Union* puts it, to "render fraud impossible, and in cases of contested elections to afford a direct and easy way of ascertaining the truth." All the talk about examining the ballots and comparing them with the names of voters to ascertain how they vote, is nonsense and untruth. Nothing of the kind is permitted, except in case of a contested election, when provision is made for the protection of the citizen. According to the statute, representatives of both parties are permitted to be present at the counting of the votes. A maximum penalty of two hundred dollars is imposed on any person attempting to examine any ballot, for any such purpose as that insinuated by the opponents of the system. There is just as much freedom of the franchise in Utah as in any place on the earth. There is nothing to prevent any man or woman from voting as freely for the Opposition as for the People's Ticket, except their own private convictions and desires.

"But do not your leading men advise the people to vote all one way, and preach on the subject and send men round with the tickets they wish them to vote for?" Suppose that is so. Do not political parties take the same course? And does not the very fact of this persuasion prove that the people are free to take their own course? If they were under any compulsion to vote thus and so, or were in any fear of consequences, what need would there be for any such labor to advise and influence them?

The wish to abolish the marked ballot has no foundation in anything but a desire to obtain the same opportunities for subverting the will of the majority, that unscrupulous minorities resort to in many of the old States and cities of the Union. It is impressed upon the minds of persons who do not take the trouble to investigate, as something "anti-republican" and specially Usonian, and designed for the purpose of intimidation. We have shown that it is a borrowed plan, that it is considered by Republicans as an improvement on other methods; and the people know that, apart from the influence of advice, there is not the slightest restriction upon their voting, neither is there any exposure or danger of anything following their opposition to the majority.

The union inculcated among the "Mormons" is the main dread of their opponents, who strive with all their might to imitate it among themselves. To divide our power; to deprive the fair sex among us of the franchise; or to abolish the means of preventing our opponents from cheating us at the polls; would be the very utmost stretch of folly, and would brand us as the greatest simpletons that were ever entrusted with the powers and rights of political majorities.

## WANTED—THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

AN attempt which proved abortive a few months ago is now renewed, to raise funds for the benefit of three prominent "Liberals" who wish to make a visit to Washington. This trinity in unity of desire for a free trip to the nation's capital are, a defunct Judge, a would-be Delegate and a District Attorney. The latter has "resigned." Not because he has lost relish for the journey, or quit hankering for the donation dollars, but because orders from headquarters are rather strin-

gent against Federal officials taking part in political campaigns, or figuring prominently in sectional organizations; and because such officers have no right to leave their posts to spend in other places the time which is paid for with the people's money. This settles his jaunt, and leaves but a couple of candidate conspirators with a vacancy for another.

The Judge is the champion blunderer of the Bench, who came to Utah with a flourish of Methodist trumpets as the Grand Crusader, whose assaults were openly announced as directed against Brigham Young and "Polygamic Theocracy." To convict the one and demolish the other formed the object of his life and labors. True, he was sent as the representative of the law, but his course was inspired by religion. That is, what he and his confederates mis-called religion. Anything "Mormon" was like poison to him. It made him sick. Also angry. And there were so many things "Mormon" around him that he was sick most of the time. Billious. Cross, too; often furious, even in open court. He tried to punish the "Mormons" for one alleged offense, under statutes framed against a totally different offence. He failed in his wickedness through the intervention of the highest court in the land. He sought by illegal juries, selected to convict to carry his crusade forward with the high hand of bigotry, and the judicial sword which should be only wielded in justice. And he failed again through the exercise of the same august authority. His career was a succession of failures, the consequence of his blunders, which were caused by his blind intolerance and his zealous sectarianism.

In aiming a tremendous blow at that creature of his disordered imagination—"Polygamic Theocracy," he struck the air and fell. Down into the mire he went, to mingle with the low fellows of the baser sort, to howl against that which he failed to injure, and complain against the authority which deprived him of the power to turn the court room into a conventicle, browbeat his superiors in legal attainments, and wage religious warfare from the seat dedicated to calm and impartial judgment.

Gradually he has drifted downward, until he is now glad to take his third of a dollar subscription, that he may go to Washington and look for something to "turn up." Pity the poor Judge! A dollar for the original crusader! Pass around the hat! Send Pierce out with the plate!

The would-be Delegate is much the smarter fellow of the twain. But his former attempts in this same direction have been as complete failures as the Judge's. Gather dollars for him, too! What for? Why to junket among the delights of the capital, and accomplish for those who send him another nothing as valuable as his previous achievements.

Choose one more "Liberal," according to the recommendation of the "committee!" The batch will be cheap enough. Only \$3,000 for the lot. Three Brummagem delegates for half the price of one of the genuine kind! All ye who have dollars to throw away for naught, remember these objects of charity. True, the winter is near at hand and cash is not as plentiful as the signs of coming need. But these men want to go to Washington for the season, to look out for chances of bread and butter, and three thousand dollars must be raised by hook, crook, persuasion or intimidation. So, unless you think more of personal and family wants than of the favor of rascals who will try to bespatter your good name if you refuse, hand out the dollars.

Half of the amount is expected from the merchants of this city. If they do not fork over, they know what they may expect in the shape of slander, defamation and abuse. And the people ought to know who among those that live and grow rich on their patronage, spend the profits of their trade in sending men to the seat of government for the avowed purpose of depriving them of the commonest rights of citizens. "Self-preservation is the first law of nature." Foolish people, unreasoning souls, may foster in their midst the serpents which when warmed with prosperity turn and sting the hands that cherished them. Senseless folk may spend their cash with those

who will use it for their political destruction. But they who have common sense will stand by their friends, and, while they throw not a straw in the way to the injury of their enemies, will abstain from strengthening the hands which are gathering force to strike them.

Go on with the dollar dodge. Let us see how many simpletons there are in the Territory who will waste their cash to make fun for three excursionists. And also let us see how many there are who live with "Mormon" business, that are joined by their unscrupulous enemies in working for their overthrow. For though the dollar donation really means an "out" for three schemers and 0 for the result, the declared object of their three thousand dollar mission is to deprive the vast majority of our citizens of any chance for right and justice, or, in other words, to cut the political throat of the Territory of Utah.

## DEATH OF A GREAT MAN.

OLIVER PERRY MORTON, United States Senator for Indiana, departed this life at half-past five o'clock this morning, in presence of his family and physician, at his residence in Indianapolis.

This distinguished man was born August 4, 1823, in Mayne County, Indiana, and was consequently a little more than fifty-four years of age at the time of his decease. He was educated at Maine University, Ohio, where he graduated and received the title of L. L. D. He practised law in his own State for several years, and was elected Circuit Judge in 1852. He was originally a Democrat in politics, but left that party on the issues of the slavery question. He was the Republican candidate for Governor of Indiana in 1856, but was defeated. However, he was subsequently elected Lieutenant Governor, and on the elevation of the Governor, Henry S. Lane, to the United States Senatorship in 1861, Morton was inaugurated as Governor, by which title he was generally called to the last, by his intimate friends.

During the civil war Governor Morton rendered efficient aid to the cause of the North, and in the midst of great difficulties, financial and political, preserved his State to the Union and brought it through the war in full loyalty and in a vastly improved financial condition. He was re-elected Governor during this time, but being attacked with paralysis, which disabled him from active duties, he sought repose in a foreign tour, remaining some time in Italy. On his return he was elected U. S. Senator for six years from March 1867.

His Congressional career is well known. He was one of the pillars of the Republican party, and occupied a similar position in the Senate to that of Blaine in the House. He was a Radical in his views, and a strong and bitter partisan, aggressive and bold, cautious but uncompromising. He was re-elected to the Senate, his second term expiring in 1879. He was a firm supporter of the Hayes administration, and his party have met with a great loss in his death, while his native State is plunged into real grief at being deprived of one of her most illustrious sons. Morton was a powerful man, of extensive influence, and though we could not endorse many of his views or approve of much of his policy, we admired his strength of character, his brilliant legislative abilities, and his courage and determination in spite of serious physical disabilities.

His earthly record is now completed, and his virtues and faults are open to the judge of all the earth, who will temper justice with mercy, and render to all men of every race, age, creed and dispensation, according to the deeds they have done in the body, their circumstances and their opportunities.

District Court.—Friday, November 2nd.

J. L. Garner vs. L. J. Herrick; appeal dismissed.

E. and H. T. Anthony vs. C. R. Savage et al.; verdict for plaintiff, \$1,718 55. Thirty days given defendant to file and serve notice of motion for a new trial.

Wm. Gill Mills vs. Rodchell Gill & Co.; trial before the court in progress.