

Mormons by lying and abuse, uses them to secure its own ends, and when it gains control of the Territory will tell them to go, as they have been for years telling the Mormons.

What now is the danger, if any, arising from the existence of the Mormon Church, towards our government?

There is none. The theory of the Mormon Church is that in time the wickedness of the nation will destroy it. That general statement is accepted as prophecy. It might be made at any time in reference to any nation on earth. It has been true in the past, it will be true in the future. The Mormon conception is that if the Latter-day Saints remain true to their faith in and practice of righteousness, when, by its own wickedness, the nation has been broken, the Mormon people will take the ruins and restore the government. There is nothing in Mormon theology (I do not mean the violent sermons that were preached by excited men when an army was on the borders threatening the people with destruction, but the theological tenets of the Church), that can be construed as meaning that the Mormon people will ever attempt, by force of arms, to obtain control of the nation. They believe that if they are faithful they will be the means of restoring the government when factions have dismembered it.

Take this belief in conjunction with my demonstration that the Catholic and Protestant sects are striving for control of the government and must inevitably in time precipitate a religious war over it, in which this free, constitutional government will be destroyed, no matter which party wins, and it becomes apparent that the general prophecy of the Mormon faith may be at, least in part, fulfilled.

But the Mormons are the only sect in the world that is satisfied with our Constitution as it is. They are the only sect in the world that sees God already in the Constitution. They are the only sect in the world pledged by its creed to the maintenance of liberty for all mankind. They are the only united body of people in the world pledged by their faith to uphold the Constitution of the United States. They are the only sect that has not made threats against the equal rights of the atheist, the infidel and all un-churched people.

Now, supposing the time had come when the Catholic and Protestant sects are pitted against each other in an internecine strife for control of our nation and the un-churched masses saw, as they must, that they would lose their liberties whichever side won, and, at the same time, they saw standing aloof, taking no part in the strife, the Mormon Church pledged to restore constitutional liberty when the warring factions had destroyed it, what would they do? If they were not the veriest imbeciles they would throw their power into the scale with that of the Mormon people and help to restore the freedom that had been overthrown by the warring,

sectarians. That, too, is what they will do. That is the destiny of Mormonism and Freethought on this continent. Seeing that today, I refuse to become a party to the treasonable scheme of "Utah Liberalism;" refuse to give my aid to build up a power that will disfranchise me as it seeks now to disfranchise the Mormons; refuse to encourage any jesuitical conspiracy to destroy the grandest government the world has ever known, and I appeal to all un-churched voters to stand with me on this true American platform. If, in the future, when we have been able by and with the Mormons to restore and perpetuate a free government, the Mormon priesthood should show any disposition to deprive us of our liberties, we can then consider that question. Today the Mormons are the only organized people on the continent who will or can aid us to restore our liberties when Christian priestcraft has torn them from us. Let us understand the situation and refuse at once and forever to be either whipped or blackguarded into talking, working or voting against our best friends. CHARLES ELLIS.

#### ANTI-TAX SUIT.

As is generally known throughout the city, a large number of the heaviest taxpayers of the Seventh Ward have united in an action to prevent the collection of the special school tax. Yesterday the following complaint was filed:

Benjamin G. Raybould, James R. Walker, M. H. Walker, Alonzo H. Raleigh, L. H. Farnsworth, W. A. Needham, Ann M. Howells, Eliza M. Wilson, Joseph W. Wilson, John Tullidge, James Anderson, James Anderson as executor of the estate of Isabella Dunning, Henry E. Taylor, Mrs. Francis K. Anderson, John S. Scott, Wm. Ayrton, John E. Callister, administrator of the estate of Edward Callister, deceased; William McLaughlin, W. A. Lyon, Martha J. Lyon, David McKenzie, Joseph R. Walker, No. 2, John Horlick, Lewis Shaw, M. A. Cheeseman, Morton J. Cheeseman, John Lollin, Clara Snell, Walker Brothers company (a corporation), George H. Kelley, administrator of the estate of John B. Kelley, David M. Evans, George Hnil, Clotilda S. Dennis, David M. Hatney, J. W. Powell, John Swenson, Jane Findley, James Chesney, Elizabeth Rowe, Henry T. Bull, Noble, Wood & Co. (W. P. Noble and H. R. Wood), Jarvis Joslin, Boyd Park, John Snell, Nancy H. Salisbury, William Thorn, Joseph R. Walker and M. H. Walker as executors of the last will and testament of S. S. Walker, deceased, vs. Leonard G. Hardy, as tax collector of Salt Lake County and of Salt Lake City school district.

Said plaintiffs complain of said defendant and allege:

1—That they bring this action in their own behalf, and in behalf of all others similarly situated; that is, all others having real estate charged with the special school tax of 1890, in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, hereinafter described, and who shall join said plaintiffs in the prosecution of this action, and file herein a verified description of their lands affected, and the amount of said special school tax charged thereon, and pray to be included in the relief herein sought.

2—That said plaintiffs are severally the owners of lands and real estate situated in Salt Lake City and County, Territory of Utah, as set forth in the schedule hereto annexed which is made part of this complaint and marked exhibit A.

3—That said defendant is tax collector of said Salt Lake County, and as such pretends to be tax collector for the Salt Lake City school district, constituted and organized by and under Article XV. of the act passed by the legislative assembly of said Territory, entitled, "An act to provide for a uniform system of free schools throughout the Territory," approved March 13, 1860.

That said defendant has in his hands for collection a tax roll made in the usual form heretofore for years in use for the collection of district school taxes, and on which are borne as charged on the lands herein described, school district taxes voted in the month of December, 1889, to be raised in such of the late school districts of Salt Lake City as voted for a tax; that all of said school districts were abolished by the act above mentioned, and went out of existence on the last day of June, 1890. That in the month of December, 1889, there existed in said Salt Lake City twenty-one school districts in operation, before then duly organized under the statutes then in force; that in two of said school districts, those numbered thirteen and eighteen, no tax was voted in said month. That in said tax roll in the hands of said defendant there are no special school taxes charged on the property in said two districts last mentioned. That there was voted in the other school districts, respectively, at meetings called therein for that purpose and held in the month of December, 1889, or by the trustees thereof, taxes to be raised for various local school purposes as specified in their several votes, to be expended during the current school year 1890 and 1891, as follows:

In district No. 17, 1½ mills on a dollar of valuation; in districts numbered 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 14 and 20, 2½ mills on a dollar of valuation; in districts numbered 9 and 10, 5 mills on a dollar of valuation; in districts numbered 2, 16 and 19, 7½ mills on a dollar of valuation; in districts numbered 1 and 11, 10 mills on a dollar of valuation, and in district numbered 18, 12½ mills on a dollar of valuation. That in said district No. 13, the aggregate value of taxable property is \$9,227,571, and in said district No. 15, \$2,030,142. That all the property in said nineteen districts so voting a tax is included in said tax roll, and a special school tax extended and charged thereon, in accordance with said votes respectively, including all the property of said plaintiffs hereinbefore described.

That the property of said plaintiffs is described in said tax roll located in the late school districts, valued and charged with said district school tax as stated in said schedule A hereto annexed. And said schedule also shows the personal property and money of said plaintiffs, for which they are severally assessed and charged with said district school tax.

4—That the payment of said special school taxes is being demanded by said defendant, and the same are in terms declared by the words of the statutes applicable thereto to be a lien on the lands assessed therefor, and if valid said taxes would be a lien on the lands assessed.

That all of said school districts voting said taxes, and also the districts not voting any taxes, and not charged with any tax in said roll, having been abolished, said taxes are now being collected to constitute, with the Territorial school tax, the exclusive fund for the support of schools during the year 1890 and 1891, in the said new district embracing the whole of Salt Lake City, organized as aforesaid under the act of 1890, the title of which is above quoted.

5—That no part of said special school tax is being collected or authorized to be collected for the purposes for which the same was voted in the said several school districts, but for the sole benefit of said new district. That only a part of the property of said new district is taxed, and the property herein which is charged with said taxes is taxed unequally and by no uniform rule, therefore the said tax and the whole thereof is void; that the same purports to be a lien on all the lands as well as personal property assessed, and is a cloud on the title to said lands, and the said defendant threatens to enforce the payment of said tax when the same becomes delinquent.

6—The whole of said tax being void for the reason aforesaid, and the objection being the same as to all property taxed and equally available to all the owners of the property so taxed in said roll, the subject of this action is one of common and general interest to them; that the persons interested are very numerous, including several thousand persons. Hence this complaint is filed in behalf of the plaintiffs above named and all others who may join the said plaintiffs as aforesaid in the prosecution of this action.

Wherefore said plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:

1—That it may be adjudged that said special school tax is invalid and not collectible, nor a lien on said property.

2—That said defendant be restrained by the order and injunction of this court from taking any step or proceeding against the owners of the property taxed in said tax roll, to collect said tax, or to sell the said