

adulation, stated that such was the case. The incident simply did this much—it forced Mr. Thomas into the open, because it disclosed what he had been doing in the dark. Indeed his proceedings as a whole wear such a double-shuffle aspect, as to reflect no credit upon him from any standpoint.

In the interview already referred to the Governor had something to say in relation to the bill recently introduced by Senator Edmunds, and whose purpose is to constitute him Arthur I, King of Utah, with the Utah Commission as an auxiliary force in the shape of a cabinet. We quote:

"The bill authorizing the Governor to appoint certain county officers is still in the hands of the Judiciary Committee. I did not hear a single reference to it in Washington, and I do not think it will be pressed pending the consideration of the test-oath bill, though its fate will be decided by Mr. Edmunds, and I don't know his purpose in the matter."

Doubtless the assertion in relation to Mr. Thomas' blissful ignorance regarding this later measure will be received with a grain of salt. There are several reasons for this being the case. One of these is his usual *modus operandi*. Another is that the bill is based on a recommendation made by himself and that it almost embodies his own language. A third may be noted, in the fact that he left Washington immediately previous to its introduction, thus a very slender appearance of ignorance was given to the general aspect. Still another fact may be cited in this connection; he being the author of the measure aims to construct at his own suggestion, how could he possibly know anything on the subject?

It appears from Mr. Thomas' statement in relation to the probable future of this latest measure that he regards Mr. Edmunds as the entire Senate Committee on Territories, if not indeed the Senate itself, because speaking of the bill in question he says "its fate will be decided" by that astute politician and statesman."

Some public interest will be taken in the approaching report of the Governor to the Chamber of Commerce, in relation to his doings while acting as its agent at Washington and the use of the five hundred dollars paid him by that body to meet the expenses of his trip.

AMIANCE, Ohio, May 23.—Geo. Patterson, wife and two children, of Sallenville, were killed by lightning while standing under a tree.

OPPOSING DISFRANCHISEMENT.

SINCE the monstrous character of the proposition to disfranchise the class of citizens in this Territory which embraces about three-fourths of its population, has become more fully understood, and since opportunity has been had to reflect upon the inevitable results of an act of Congress that would do this, many non-"Mormons" in Utah who formerly favored such a plan, have withdrawn their moral support of the Cullom and Struble Bills, (which are practically identical,) and hundreds of them are signing protests against the passage of what they characterize as so unjust and un-American a measure.

The non-"Mormon" antagonism to the disfranchisement proposition, which seems to be rapidly developing and spreading, proves what we have heretofore insisted upon, that a clique, limited in numbers, but holding, as its members think, the control of the policy of the "Liberal" party, is working to secure place and power for its leaders, that they, in turn, may distribute patronage among its adherents. To formulate some scheme which, if successful, will put power and pelf within the grasp of the plotters, is the object sought. The conditions in this Territory happen to be such as seem to offer the highest success to some plan which, while having for its real purpose what has just been stated, shall ostensibly aim to cripple or injure the "Mormons." If it shall be of a character to work serious harm or injustice to them, so much the better, provided its nature in that regard does not militate against the mercenary motives of its movers.

Go back twenty years. Take in, succession, as they came to the surface, the plots which the "Liberals" of Utah have formulated for the ostensible purpose of antagonizing "Mormonism." Examine the conspiracies carefully, and in every instance, without exception, the prime motive of each will be found to have been some sort of selfishness on the part of the plotters. It is not the intention to here deny that hatred of the "Mormons" has been an element in the plots formed against them; but it has generally been subordinated to a desire for power or profit which the schemers have hoped to gain.

The conspiracy—for such it is—to secure the disfranchisement of the majority class in this Territory, is no exception to the rule just stated.

The movers in it believe that they will be able to attain positions of power at the first election held in Utah after success shall crown this scheme. The pretense that they are working in the interests of social order and good government are utterly hypocritical.

A feature characterizes this disfranchisement plot which has commonly attended the anti-"Mormon" concoctions of the past. The schemers say to the non-"Mormons" of the Territory: "Support us, or we will, by means of the organ we control, represent that you are pro-Mormon sympathizers." With consummate cunning they so shape the situation as to make it appear that any non-"Mormon" who withholds his support from them, is a partial or complete convert to "Mormonism," or, for some wrong motive, favors it. The dread of meeting or weltering under such a charge as this, generally brings the threatened victim to time, and thus by a blackmailing process, endorsement of "Liberal" moves, which many of the endorsers are in reality opposed to, is procured.

So large a number of the more influential and intelligent members of the "Liberal" party have taken a stand in opposition to the disfranchisement scheme, as to threaten a split in the party too serious to be overcome by any blackmailing or lashing method within the power of its leaders to apply. The result of this development is to project upon the screen of current events, with remarkable distinctness, and before the gaze of Utah, Congress and the country, the leading figures in the conspiracy, in such a manner as to indicate their actuating motives.

IN RELATION TO SUNDAY'S FIRE.

MAJOR STANTON, chief of the fire department, has suddenly become an object of interest. Sunday's fire, which was, as is well known, deplorably mismanaged, has brought him conspicuously into bass relief. His incapacity in the sudden emergency is now beginning to be acknowledged by his most ferocious and unreasonable friends, who admit that "some property might have been saved." Such an admission from that quarter means that a great deal of property might have been placed beyond the reach of the flames under a more competent director. However, extremes of attack and hyperbolic and untenable defense of the chief of the fire department belong