

the People's Party before. That party has always looked upon the Federal Constitution as "a sacred charter of human liberty," and has declared its "unwavering allegiance to the government and the laws made in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution." The *Globe-Democrat* has not happened to notice the utterances of the party on these points before; that is the difficulty.

That paper is also mistaken when it says:

"Every citizen of the Mormon faith who observes the law against the practice of polygamy enjoys freely all the rights and privileges extended to citizens of the other Territories."

In the other Territories there are not special congressional enactments designed to shut out citizens of a peculiar faith from jury service, and requiring them to take a test oath as a qualification for voting and holding office. But in Utah a citizen to be thus qualified must swear not only that he is not "in the practice of polygamy," but that he does not aid or abet its practice, and that he both does and will obey certain statutes against designated offenses. In Utah, citizens are barred from jury service in a given class of cases if they believe in the rightfulness of doctrines the practice of which is forbidden by law.

Examination of the report of the Utah Commission will show the *Globe-Democrat* that there are other "rights and privileges extended to citizens" which are denied to law-abiding "Mormons." The Commissioners frankly state that they have intentionally selected "Gentiles" and refused to appoint "Mormons" wherever they could do so, as registration officers, and that in appointing judges of election they have selected two "Gentiles" to one "Mormon" on each board, although the "Mormons" are in the immense voting majority.

In Idaho citizens of the "Mormon" faith who observe the law against the practice of polygamy, are shut out altogether from voting and office-holding because they are members of the "Mormon" Church. And this discrimination is sought to be extended into Utah. It is not for any alleged infraction of law that this denial of the rights and privileges extended to other citizens is enforced, it is simply because they are "citizens of the Mormon faith."

The *Globe-Democrat* is wrong, too, in stating that "the continued discrimination against the Mormons is

justified by the facts of the situation," either "as proven by the report of the Commission" or otherwise. The statement of that body about the alleged "practice of polygamy" is not proof. It is not even to be dignified by the title of evidence. It is nothing but rumor, of which that body offers nothing in support.

It is clear from the further remarks of that paper that it justifies the withholding of "the rights and privileges extended to other citizens" from the "Mormons" because of their alleged belief or recognition of a tenet. This is not in accord with the statement that "every citizen of the Mormon faith who observes the law against the practice of polygamy" is protected in the rights and privileges of citizenship in the same manner as other citizens are protected.

The conclusion of the *Globe-Democrat* as to the consequence of admitting Utah as a State is as unwarranted as its "facts" are incorrect. It says,

"We would have the spectacle in an important community in a Christian land of the practical supremacy of a Church which is hostile to our laws."

There is nothing substantial on which to base this conclusion. It is founded on the fallacy that in Utah Church and State are combined. This untruth has been repeated by editors so often that it seems useless to contradict it, so far as they are concerned. Utah as a State would not be under the supremacy of a Church, because the Church does not claim the right to dominate the State, but on the contrary repudiates any such supremacy or connection. And, further, the "Mormon" Church is not "hostile to the laws" but is a strong and earnest supporter of the laws of the land, making obedience to them mandatory upon its communicants.

This may be "a Christian land" in theory, whatever it is in practice. But it is not conceded that the system of government here established is specially "Christian" in form or designed to promote the Christian or any other religion. Mahometanism, Buddhism, Confucianism or any other ism is just as free in the United States, if the spirit of the Constitution prevails. But whether this be so or not, the question of the "practical supremacy" of the "Mormon" Church is not involved. That organization can only gain supremacy by the potency of its principles, and the

"spectacle" presented by such supremacy should have no bearing upon the question of Statehood.

We notice that the *Globe-Democrat* continues to repeat the error that "Mormons openly sided with the Gentiles at the recent municipal election and gave that element-victory." As there has been no recent municipal election and no open "siding with the Gentiles" on the part of members of the Church, the St. Louis literary luminary is very much in the dark. What a pity it is that the writers for so important a paper do not use a little more caution in stating what they allege to be facts, and in uttering what they wish the public to think are cogent arguments.

#### DESERET SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The general meetings of the Union was held in the large Tabernacle on Sunday evening, October 6th, 1889, Ass't General Superintendent George Goddard presiding.

The choir, led by Bro. Thomas McIntyre, sang: "Lord accept our true devotion."

Prayer by Stake Superintendent Wm. Fotheringham, of Beaver.

The choir sang: "Let the Holy Spirit's prompting."

The roll of Stakes was called and responded to by representatives of Bannock, Bear Lake, Beaver, Davis, Emery, Juab, Maricopa, Oneida, Panguitch, Parowan, Salt Lake, Sanpete, San Juan, Sevier, St. George, Tooele, Utah, Wasatch and Weber.

General Superintendent George Goddard said that he was pleased to see so large a congregation, and to behold so many of the "Hope of Israel" in attendance.

They had decided to call upon brethren to give short addresses.

Superintendent Goddard gave a sketch of his life from the time of his baptism into the Church, 53 years ago, and testified to his abiding faith in the Gospel. He also referred to the magnitude of the Sunday School Union, saying that there were about 60,000 children of the Latter-day Saints enrolled, and that the instruction of this host was a great and mighty work. Our future Presidents of quorums of the Priesthood, Bishops of wards, Presidents of Stakes and Twelve Apostles are now being instructed in our Sabbath schools, and it is of the greatest importance that the best men and women in Israel be selected to train them. Ours is the greatest and most important work in the Church, and every Bishop and leading man of the wards and branches of the Church should encourage the children and the superintendents of these schools by their presence and counsel.

It is to be regretted that these schools are interrupted so much by funerals and other meetings, for it curtails their usefulness and retards the progress of the Sunday