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CHARLES W. PENROSE, . . . EDITOR.

Saturday, . . . May 17, 1890.

PETITION FAVORING DISFRANCHISEMENT.

AS a matter of record we here preserve the following petition which was offered for signatures on May 5th. The chief "Liberal" organ claims that it was freely signed, and it is here given, with the matter appended, as both appeared in that sheet of May 6th:

To the Congress of the United States:

We, the Americans of Utah, irrespective of party, most respectfully petition the great law making power of the government to make a statute of the bill now pending in the Senate of the United States, designed to work disfranchisement to members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

We make no warfare on any religion, or any religious belief. We would not trench in the slightest degree upon the consciences of men. But this Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a dual institution, in which under the yielding folds of a religious cloak is worn the invulnerable armor of a temporal kingdom. It is a perfectly organized theocracy, and holds each follower a slave, bound by obligations from which he cannot extricate himself.

It aims at nothing less than universal, temporal dominion. For forty years its chief priests have nominated every officer in Utah; its rank and file have voted solidly for every officer so nominated, without regard to fitness of the nominee, and every law passed by the Legislature of Utah—though that body is paid by the government of the United States—has first been approved or permitted by the heads of the church. In political assemblages of the Mormons the rank of each individual in the church designates his place in the assemblages. The first and only true allegiance of the whole Mormon people is to its priestly power. This holds even with Mormons who have been educated at West Point. The order of the president of the church is more binding than any law of Congress, even when the validity of the law has been declared by the court of last resort. To the priests of the church the people have surrendered their consciences, and the rank and file are mere machines to execute the bidding of their superiors.

Every Mormon is not only an alien, but he is bound to teach his children to become aliens—that is, the Mormon power is a fully equipped political government in the midst of this Republic, hostile in every fibre and attribute to free institutions, and working with the avowed purpose of overthrowing the Republic, and hence membership in the body is equivalent to an open confession of being an alien.

To destroy that political power is only an act of reasonable self-defense and self-preservation on the part of the Government of the United States, and carries with it no more hardship to Mormons than is inflicted upon any other class of aliens who may be denied the privilege of voting or holding office in this country so long as their real fealty is given to the Government of some other country.

The great crime of the Mormon Church is its assumption to a divine right to rule in temporal affairs; its right to rule through its Priesthood, received in regular succession from Joseph Smith, and supplemented daily by pretended revelations from Almighty God.

This makes it necessary for the Government to extract its political fangs. This assumption made the presence of the sect intolerable in Missouri and again in Illinois. It makes friction and contention always where there are men who believe in the American Republic. It is an absolute theocracy, which is being daily strengthened within the Republic. It is a perpetual menace to free institutions and government, and it should be stricken down as an act of justice and self-preservation on the part of the Government, as an act of mercy to the Mormon people themselves, for if left on its present footing, so soon as it shall become strong enough, there will be repeated in Utah what was done in Missouri and Illinois.

And your petitioners will ever pray.
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, May 3d, 1890.

The above petitions can be found for signatures at the following places:

1. Clift House.
2. Walker House.
3. Cullen Hotel.
4. Continental Hotel.
5. Metropolitan Hotel.
6. Uintah Hotel.
7. Greenwald's cigar store.
8. Hogle's saloon.
9. Silver Dollar saloon.
10. Tribune office.
11. Times office.
12. W. H. H. Spafford's office.
13. Colorado Headquarters.

THE COLORADANS SOUND.

The Colorado Association, at an enthusiastic and largely attended meeting last evening, adopted the following pertinent resolutions:

WHEREAS, The members of the Colorado Association are permanent residents of the city and county of Salt Lake; and

WHEREAS, The material interests of the said city and county are felt to be the interests of the members of the said association; and

Whereas, The growth and prosperity of any city or county are closely connected with the character of its local government; and

Whereas, Those politics are best in which there is the freest participation by the whole people, and in which the public welfare is exalted above the claims of party; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this association views with disfavor the attempt to divide the voters of the city and county of Salt Lake into any other parties than those commonly known as the Liberal party and People's party.

Resolved, That the mutual interests of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County, for the immediate present, require that the "Liberal" organization should be preserved intact, and all judicious nominations supported in August, 1890.

Resolved, That this association will support good men in their claims to

office without regard to questions of democracy or republicanism.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this association that a residence in Utah for a long term of years is not essential to qualify citizens as public servants; that a residence respectable and reasonable in point of duration, and identification with material business or other interests, and the possession of suitable educational and moral qualifications, are all that ought, to be required of citizens to serve the public in official positions.

THE MORALITY OF THE CITY.

SINCE the "Liberals" were enabled, by fraud, to seize the reins of government of this city, vice has flourished and blossomed to an extent never before known in this municipality. The members of the Ministers' Association are entitled to a modicum of credit for the efforts they have lately put forth to stem the torrent. The gloss is taken off from the Christian endeavor, however, by the fact that in their anxiety to join church and state together they gave material aid in placing in political power the party which nourishes vice and points the finger of contempt and derision at virtue. Of course there are many members of the opposition who do not take this reprehensible stand, but as a whole it is undeniably the party of loose morality. One thing that specially obliterates the gloss from the recent efforts of the reverend gentlemen of the association is that they themselves belong to the party in power. One would suppose from the turn matters have taken of late that they would take a humble seat on the stool of repentance and then hasten to "come out of Babylon."

Whatever may be the shortcomings of the gentlemen to whom we refer, we certainly sympathize with any effort they may put forth in favor of the maintenance of good morals and the suppression of vice; hence our desire for their success in the attempt made by them to preserve the sanctity of the Sabbath by seeking to prevail upon the City Council to enforce the ordinances against certain late encroachments in that direction that have become notorious.

Some of the insinuations thrown at the delegate of the association when he appeared before the Council were by no means generous, especially that embodied in one special remark—"We have got rid of one hierarchy and don't want to erect another"—but all men are liable to be contemptuously treated when their endeavors are directed in the higher channels.