

tion as a ticket to be nominated, whether from "headquarters" or any other quarters.

Your whole contention is founded on falsehood, and your whole intent is to malign and deceive. You claim that a large number of young men recently "broke away" from this kind of dictation which you falsely claim to have been exercised. You also claim that

"Where a man has dared to break over he has at once been called to account to answer why he refused to obey counsel."

Now where is there a young man who has thus "broke away" and who has been "called to answer why he refused to obey counsel." Give us some facts and names or stop your bluff and falsehood.

#### MORE ANTI-"MORMON" SOPHISTRY

"The *News* says, "A Priesthood meeting would be composed of persons holding the Priesthood." Exactly; and so an American election should be carried on exclusively by Americans. By Americans we mean men who have given their only true fealty to the government of the United States, something which no Mormon possibly can do; something which no good Mormon ever pretends to do."

The foregoing is a little more of the same sort of sophistry as that already exposed in these columns. People who are in possession and use of their senses, will see that there is no parallel between the two cases and no connection between the two propositions. The reasoning which concludes that, because a "Mormon" Priesthood meeting would exclude persons not ordained to the "Mormon" Priesthood, therefore no "Mormon" should be permitted to vote, is so utterly absurd that it would not find place in any publication but the Salt Lake *Tribune*.

That was the argument advanced in that paper. Now we have the same thing with a little lame explanation. Nobody disputes that American citizens only should vote at American elections. But no rational person would admit that a bitter partizan should be the judge of an opponent's claim or right to American citizenship and the exercise of its powers and privileges.

The shallow cosuist who has aired the sophism repeated above till he is perfectly charmed with his bubble of folly, attempts to make it appear solid by an equally thin cloud of falsehood. A good "Mormon" who lives under the Government of the United States must give true fealty to the Government in all things

which belong to it. We say "must" because he cannot be a good "Mormon" without doing so. It is part of his creed. It is commanded in the revelations which he believes were given of God.

He gives his fealty to the church in that which is ecclesiastical, to the State in that which relates to secular government. He does not believe that the State should interfere with his religion, he does pretend that his religion should interfere with the State.

There has been some dispute as to the place where the line should be drawn which rightfully limits the power of the State in reference to "the free exercise of religion." But for all practical purposes that has been decided by the judicial tribunal of last earthly resort. And while the decision remains unchanged it is the supreme law of the land which the vast majority of the "Mormons" obey.

With the exception of that disputed enactment, there is no law of the United States which the "Mormon" people, or any class of them can be accused of disregarding. They are far more loyal to the government and institutions of the United States than the conspirators who have been plotting for years for the overthrow of local self government in Utah and the establishment of the rule of a minority. And they are immensely more law-abiding than the maligners who accuse them of lack of fealty to the nation. The conscientious "Mormon" is true to his Church. He is also true to the State. He recognizes their authority in their respective spheres. It is only when his religion is encroached upon that he can be placed in apparent antagonism to national authority. And in using the term "religion" we do not refer to anything connected therewith that is forbidden by the law.

The legislation proposed and which the *Tribune* sophistry and falsehood are designed to support, is directed against citizens of the United States who have obeyed the laws, who have sworn to obey the laws, who are as good and true American citizens as can be found in any part of the Union. To disfranchise them because they belong to a Church, some members of which have broken a law which they have never violated themselves is not only shamefully unjust but is anti-American in every sense of the term.

There is no other object in view in this proposed legislation than the

control of this Territory by a small minority of its people. This cannot be effected except by depriving the majority of the political powers of citizenship. It cannot be said that this majority are violators of the law. They cannot be disfranchised on that ground. Therefore it is charged that they do not give "true fealty to the government" whatever that may mean. The charge is not substantiated by any proof. It cannot be, for it is not true. It is simply scandal. It is the unsupported word of the very conspirators who want to strike the ballot from unsullied hands that the few may rule over the many. And the best argument they can offer to excuse their anti-American proposal, is the miserable and attenuated balderdash we have clipped from their organ. Their cause is no better than their logic, their "fealty" rises no higher than selfish greed for place and power that can never come to them by American methods.

#### GLOOMY FOREBODINGS OF THE POPE:

THE *Irish Catholic* asserts, according to a Dublin dispatch, that the Pope takes a gloomy view of the future prospect of the great organization of which he is the head. In response to the congratulations of visitors, the Pontiff expressed a strong belief that severe punishment was about to descend upon society at large because of its disregard for and indifference toward the Catholic Church. The following are given as his exact words:

"The Lord will come no longer with a sweet and peaceful face, but with an angry one, to strike and purify the church. I am neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I feel in my heart sorrowful presentiments that a sea of evil is about to beat against the rock on which the church is founded, and will leave nothing to be seen on the horizon but the threat of the anger of God. Prayer will not suffice to appease the Almighty."

This disclaimer in relation to his being a prophet or closely related to one may be correct, but who can say that the gloom which envelops his mind regarding the near future is not caused by events casting their shadows before? Perhaps it has not occurred to a good many people even of that class who have perused the contents of the Book of Mormon, that the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th chapters of first Nephil embody an epitomized history of the Roman Catholic Church, from inception to collapse, including the phase whose