

he asserted was a disease deep-seated in the vitals of his commonwealth; and the mutilations made by him in its organic structure were of a character to produce permanent deformity. Next, the quacks who dispense judicial remedies from the Territorial bench, but who are wholly lacking in the qualifications necessary to fit them for treating constitutional disorders, tore wider open the wounds and gashes Sawhous had made. The case was sent to Washington, where a hand seized and wielded the judicial lancet close to the heart of the subject. That hand was deemed to be that of one greatly skilled in dealing with such cases, but the result indicates that the brain which at that time controlled it was laboring under a hallucination, to such an extent that the seat of the alleged disease was not touched, and the cutting and probing were all done in a wrong direction. It is strange but true that the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States relative to the test oath did not touch the real point at issue. A cloud must have obscured the mind that formulated the opinion.

During these attempts to cure an imaginary social disease, the very heart of the American Constitution has been cut and mutilated. The right of a man to believe with impunity such religious doctrines as seem to him to be true, and to enjoy public honors and emoluments without enduring an odious religious test, is denied. Can principles more vital to the life of the Constitution than these be named?

No. And yet but few American editors have a word of regret to utter over their destruction. They can only express gratification at the invention of such an effective weapon for assaulting and destroying "Mormonism" as they imagine that decision will prove to be. They do not inquire whether or not the parchment has been torn upon which is written the words that guard the churches in which they worship; they only discuss the best method of suppressing religious worship and of applying religious tests, conformably with this famous decision. In order to obliterate a certain church in the Rocky Mountain region.

#### HE SETS THEM UP.

AMONG the few heads of American newspapers who think for themselves on the "Mormon" question and are not carried like corks on the surface of the stream of

popular prejudice, is the gentleman who presides over the columns of the *Times of Albany, N. Y.* Under the head of "Gentile Sharks in Utah," his paper presents the following pungent article:

The *Express* is pained to notice that the *Salt Lake Tribune* refers to the articles on territorial government which occasionally appear in the *Albany Times*, as "trash and falsehood."—*Albany Express*.

When it was found some years ago that the labor and energy of that remarkable sect of crazy religionists known as Mormons, had converted a howling wilderness into a fertile and rich territory, a great many enterprising persons were seized with a desire to rob them of their property. Robbery is all right enough to such people, if it can be accomplished under cover of law and religion. These persons known in Utah as "gentiles," established the *Salt Lake Tribune*, as their organ, with robbery in view.

It was, and is, a singular combination—this Utah "gentile" party. There are keepers of disorderly houses and retailers of bad liquors, whom the Mormons had vigorously suppressed, hand in hand with excited missionaries, who, finding no sexual uncleanness at home in the eastern States, journeyed to the Salt Lake to hunt out and extirpate polygamy. Add to these a number of land speculators and quarter section jumpers, sundry merchants aggrieved by the co-operative stores of the Mormons, and the miscellaneous gamblers, roughs and cowboys of a new community, and you have the party of which the *Salt Lake Tribune* is the exponent and mouthpiece. Of course, while nominally "independent," its politics are republican, of the most extreme pattern. The paper speaks for a small fraction of the population of Utah, but it can appeal to a party sympathy outside the Territory, and as a religious and social test has been imposed by act of Congress upon the infatuated Mormons, the small minority which the *Tribune* represents, rule, or soon will rule the Territory.

Of course any disclosure of the acts and purposes of the "Gentile" gang who hold under President Harrison, all the offices, gag all the public meetings, stuff all the ballot boxes, and tyrannize over the majority of their fellow citizens because of the obnoxious religion of that majority, is "trash and falsehood." The people of the United States have no relish for polygamy, nor any tolerance of it, and want it to die out and disappear. It would have died out long ago, had this Gentile conspiracy not provoked the obstinate adhesion of its votaries. Persecution has just this result, all over the world. But the object of the "Gentile" republican officials is less a triumph over polygamy, less a triumph over the control of the public offices of the Salt Lake Valley than it is robbery of the property of these fanatical religionists. Already under the forms of law a million or more has been seized and confiscated by them. That sort of "trash" the *Tribune* don't like to hear about. But it is something more than trash to rob religious institutions, as is done in Utah. The government which robs the Mormons today may rob the Methodists, or the Catholics or the Shakers tomorrow.

LONDON, March 10.—Robert F. Lincoln authorizes the denial of the report that he intends to resign in consequence of the death of his son.

#### COMMENTS ON CODMAN'S VIEWS.

UNDER the caption of "The Idaho Outrage," the *New York Advertiser* has the following:

"No one can read Captain Codman's letter in yesterday's *Commercial* without being made vividly aware of the infamy of the political engineering by which Idaho is being prematurely granted Statehood. The Senate and House committees have reported in favor of its admission to the Union, and the rest is soon to follow. Nothing can be plainer than that this action is due not at all to the needs of that Territory, but altogether to the needs of the Republican party. It is among the first fruits of the Reed autocracy. The population of the Territory consists of 25,000 Mormon agriculturalists, industrious, frugal, thrifty, and perhaps eighty odd thousand roving shepherds and cowboys and equally migratory miners—neither of whom are in any sense permanently settled in the country—both classes being ready to strike their tents at a moment's notice and hurry off to pastures new.

The only really settled portion of the population is the Mormon contingent. And the Mormons are disfranchised. Disfranchised, too, not because of any criminal conduct on their part, but because at one time their religious leaders preached polygamy. The presiding officer of the Idaho Mormons has issued orders to his clergy not to preach that doctrine any longer—nor has a new case of polygamy been reported among the people. But, be that as it may, these 25,000 Mormons are disfranchised. And, such being the case, there is no propriety in counting them in the census. But since they, the only permanent portion of the population, cannot take rank as citizens, the admission of Idaho at this time adds but another to the list of Republican usurpations. The Mormons are not good citizens enough to be entitled to the protection of the Government; but they are good enough citizens to swell the Republican majority in the national legislature. To such devices is the G. O. P. reduced!

#### THE WAY IT CAN BE DONE.

O. W. POWERS is reported by the "Liberal" organ as saying:

"With staunch Liberal workers in office it will be easy to win in August."

Exactly. It does not require a majority of "Liberal" legal voters. All that is necessary is to put staunch "Liberal" workers to manipulate the election machinery. By fraudulently preventing hundreds of People's legal voters from taking part in the election, and putting the names of hundreds of illegal "Liberal" voters on the lists; by the various tricks, subterfuges, obstructions and villainies which the recent city election showed certain staunch "Liberal" workers to be perfectly familiar with, the election in August can of course be carried for the same party. But is not Powers a little incautious in his blunt admissions and sanguine prognostications? Or doesn't it matter at all how he gives the whole scheme away?