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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Saturday, . . . March 25, 1892.

DECLARATION.

As rumors have been circulated and published, accusing the Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with interference in political affairs, so as to control elections and to direct members of the Church as to which political party they should support, we hereby declare these rumors to be false and without foundation in fact. We emphatically deny that we, or either of us, authorized Mr. George F. Gibbs or any other person or persons to use our names so as to influence citizens to vote the Republican ticket, at Logan or elsewhere. If our names have been used in any such way, it has been entirely without permission from us, and we hereby condemn it as wrong and reprehensible. If we have any desire in this matter it is that the people of this Territory shall study well the principles of both the great national parties, and then choose which they will join, freely, voluntarily and honestly, from personal conviction, and then stand by it in all honor and sincerity. Each party should have the same rights, privileges and opportunities as the other. If any man claims that it is the wish of the First Presidency that a Democrat shall vote the Republican ticket, or a Republican the Democratic ticket, let all people know that he is endeavoring to deceive the public and has no authority of that kind from us. We have no disposition to direct in these matters, but proclaim that, as far as we are concerned, the members of this Church are entirely and perfectly free in all political affairs. But they should not indulge in ill-feeling or personalities. President George Q. Cannon is absent, but we are sure that if he were here he would sign this declaration with us.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

Of the Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

No good purpose can be served by keeping up a feeling of irritation over the dispute between the Governor and

the Legislature. And it certainly will not be any benefit to either to misrepresent the facts whether they are likely to cut one way or another. It is wrong to abuse the Governor, to attribute improper motives to him without sufficient cause, or to misrepresent him in any way. The same remarks apply in reference to the Legislature.

The Governor has vetoed several bills which, in the opinion of the majority of the people and of their representatives, were excellent measures. It is possible that the Governor honestly differed from the views of the people in regard to them. We believe that in some respects he was mistaken; notably as to the metropolitan bill, the elections bill, the World's Fair bill and some others. In the matter of the sheep bill we believe he was right. So with some other measures which were amended at his suggestion. He should have credit for his action in those matters. And where he can be accredited with proper motives, even if he erred in judgment, justice should be done, and he ought not to be berated or maligned.

On the other hand, the legislators endeavored to perform their duty according to their best understanding. It would be unfair to say they made no mistakes. The differences of opinion between the two Houses show that neither was infallible. We believe they passed some measures that had better have been killed and killed others that ought to have been passed. What then? Other legislative bodies have done the same, and perfection is not to be expected on this planet at present.

But the great bone of contention between the Legislature and the Governor, was the World's Fair bill. This involved a principle, and therefore the mere matter of making a show at Chicago fades in importance before the greater issue. Representation can be had if the people want it. Money enough can be raised by private subscription, no doubt, unless the question of who is to expend it looms up again unfavorably in the way. But the right of the Legislature to appoint the spenders of money appropriated for a special purpose, is one that ought to be maintained even at the expense of a desirable but minor matter.

The long fought issue over section seven of the Organic Act was settled by the court of last resort. All Territorial officers are to be nominated by the Governor and appointed by him and the Legislative Council. No one now disputes that. The Legislature appropriated \$50,000 for Utah's representation at the World's Fair and named the persons who were to expend the money. The Governor vetoed the bill because he was not left free to make these appointments. The question was, were these commissioners to spend this money officers under the laws of the Territory. Lawyers, judges, legislators, men of understanding in all classes united in saying "no," when the question was put to them. But still the Governor persisted in claiming the right to appoint the commissioners, and would not sign the bill.

To say, then, that the Legislature killed the bill is rash and reckless

falsehood. The responsibility rests upon the Governor. We believe he made a big blunder. We do not think he had the slightest ground for his position. But he conceived the idea, or had it put into his mind by bad advisers, that the Legislature intended to insult him by naming these commissioners, and he determined to resent that action. If such feelings inspired his veto of the bill, the motive was wrong. In any event, the veto was ill-advised and inconsistent with his approval of the appointment by the Legislature of a board to spend money appropriated for the Agricultural College buildings.

We think the Governor has power enough under the Organic Act—too much on democratic or republican principles, without trying to stretch it to cover new ground and encroach on the rights of the people. If the Legislature had felt any doubt as to the Governor's rights in this matter they would have given him the benefit of it. But they had none. Neither have most men who have looked up this matter with a real desire to arrive at the truth. And if he could waive his claim in one case for the sake of peace he could have done it in the other. If the appropriation for the Agricultural College is legal although the men to spend it are named by the Legislature, then the appropriation for the World's Fair would have been legally expended on the same principle.

It is of no use to call names and try to make out that the Legislature killed the World's Fair bill. The Governor killed it with his little veto, and is not able to bring forward anything like a valid legal argument to sustain his action. The bill was assassinated, not lawfully slain. Let the responsibility rest where it undoubtedly belongs.

THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR.

THE organ of the Governor and of the "Liberal" faction is in a terrible state of fury. That is, terrible to itself but impotent as to the public. Its ravings over the stand taken by the Legislature in regard to certain appropriations are pitiable, and denote a "powerful weakness" of mind equal to the conspicuous insubstantiality of its cause of anger.

The old insane cry of "disloyalty" and "rebellion" is raised against the Legislature, now defunct. On what ground? Why, the majority decided that for the expenditure of money appropriated for representation at the World's Fair, and for the erection and improvement of buildings for the Agricultural College, certain persons, designated by the Legislature, should be appointed who would be sure to handle the funds as designed by the appropriators. And that is "treason," "rebellion," "disloyalty."

The Tribune's notion of "disloyalty" has always been, disagreement with the dictum of the Governor when his decree was that of the Tribune. "Rebellion" and "treason," in its vocabulary, have the same signification. The late Legislature has all these hard words thrown at it, because the majority of its members would not submit to be