

place." How long will that be, if religious prejudice and religious belief are made to figure in the detention? Is the Church to be considered out of its proper place until it makes a "confession of faith" suitable to its religious opponents in and out of Congress? Is not the minority report a striking object lesson for the education of Utah in the relations of religion to politics?

The argument that if Utah is ready for this "Home Rule" measure, it is ready for statehood, is admitted at once. It is admitted in the majority report. The committee give reasons why they do not recommend statehood. One of them is the prejudice existing which is prominently exhibited in the minority report. The minority want neither statehood nor "Home Rule." But why do they oppose the latter as a partial relief from existing thralldom here? Why, they say in one place it would "withdraw the Federal authority and leave in undisputed power the party opposed to the government," and in another place they declare it "would transfer to them many of the honors of a State government, and yet leave them subject to an Act of Congress at any time, that shall withdraw those honors and place them on such other territorial relations as Congress may provide."

This is singular obliquity and astonishing inconsistency. "Home Rule" must be opposed because it would set the people free, and it must not be allowed because it would tie them up! The several parts of the minority report do not harmonize and the whole is suggestive of "Liberal" logic (?). It is a re-roasting of ancient chestnuts and a stringing together of exploded anti-"Mormon" missiles.

We have never advocated the Home Rule bill, chiefly because we considered statehood the proper remedy for existing wrongs, that this was but a half way scheme, and that it might hinder that full liberty which is desirable. But if its active opponents can find no stronger objections than those urged in the minority report, we think the public will conclude that there is more merit in the measure than has heretofore appeared.

CITY COUNCIL.

The City Council met in regular session April 5th. Mayor Baskin presiding. The following members responded to roll call: Rich, Folland, Hardy, Karriek, Horn, Loofbourrow, Lawson, Ewing, Evans, Heier, Simcndi, Wantland, Beardsley, Bell and Moran.

Absent—None.

PETITIONS

were read and referred as follows:

George Stringfellow and others asked that Daniel Dunn be retained as city sexton. Committee on cemetery.

John T. Lynch and others requested that Green street be opened to full width. Committee on streets.

J. S. Grow and others asked that the Great Salt Lake and Hot Springs Railway company be compelled to comply with the conditions of its franchise. Committee on streets.

Thos. E. Jeremy asked to purchase one half of lot 5 in block 60, plat C. Committee on public grounds.

The same petitioner asked for an

extension of watermain on Sixth West Street between North and South Temple streets and thence west to North Temple Street. Committee on streets.

The Brighton and North Point Irrigation Company asked for certain improvements on Redwood road. Committee on streets.

Hyman Harris asked the city to refund \$50 on account of having laid acceptable sidewalks in front of his property. Received and filed.

Joseph Muir, supervisor of road District No. 11, asked permission to lay a two-inch pipe in the Jordan and Salt Lake canal for the purpose of sprinkling Twelfth South Street. Referred.

William Ridd and others asked that an electric light be erected at the corner of Fourth North and Third West streets. Committee on improvements.

Jefferson Clarke asked for a rebate on saloon license. Committee on license.

Henry Harrison and others asked that they be allowed to make certain improvements on Capitol hill. Committee on public grounds.

J. S. Bills asked that he be not compelled to change the location of his tinker's van, now at 69 South West Temple street. Referred.

Daniel F. Porter asked the city to release certain property sold for unpaid taxes. Referred.

Annie E. Farmer and others asked for an extension of watermain on Windsor avenue. Committee on water-works.

HEAVY DAMAGES.

A lengthy communication from Joseph H. Smith, G. G. Symes, H. A. W. Fabor and J. W. Graham was referred to the committee on claims, with the Mayor associated. It sets forth the following: That in February, 1891, in accordance with advertisements inserted in the daily newspapers of the city, for sealed bids for the construction of the Parley's canyon conduit, Dubois and Williams, of Denver, Colorado, came to this city and examined the plans and specifications; that Mr. Dubois, for himself and partner, examined the plans; that the city engineer represented to Dubois and other bidders that the conduit would be built over the line and way as shown by stakes marking the course of the conduit, and that it was also shown and appeared that it would require but little or no stone masonry of any class or kind, and that no tunnels would be required; but that the conduit would be constructed throughout its whole length by the excavation of an open trench not exceeding from six to eight feet in depth and over comparatively level ground of easy and inexpensive access for both tools, material and work; that the proposed conduit was so located with reference to public and other roads and bridges that all the material could be hauled on the ground without the necessity of the contractors constructing or building any additional roads.

Messrs. Williams & Dubois put in a bid for the work and fixed the price of the proposed work with direct reference to constructing the same over the ground and the line at that time staked out, surveyed and examined as aforesaid.

After describing various changes

made in the original plans and programme, the petitioners further show that the contract further provided that the contractors should do such extra work as the city engineer and board of public works might direct, and if it should be of a nature for which no price was stated in the contract, then the city engineer was to fix the price for said work. After the conduit had been constructed and built in the open trench for over four miles, the route was materially changed from comparatively level ground, or a water grade, in such a way as to require its construction through deep ravines and hills, which required extensive tunneling and the lining of such tunnels with concrete masonry, and the construction of large and expensive cut-stone culverts, all of which is of a nature for which no price is stated in the contract and which must be paid for at its reasonable value.

Other extra work is detailed at length, and the petition then avers that the city engineer, disregarding his duty under the contract, has refused and still refuses to fix any reasonable price for such extra work done in connection with the contract under the stipulation detailed, and declares that such work is reasonably worth as follows:

Extra cut stone masonry.....	\$24,555.20
Extra rubble masonry.....	1,289.75
Extra tunneling.....	28,471.50
Extra stone and concrete dam.....	26,464.88
Change in cement.....	10,774.61

The petition further avers that they were compelled to advance a large amount of money over and above the amount they received from month to month on the partial estimates made by the city engineer, and the city is still indebted to them in the sum of \$100,857.11; that there has been paid on a so-called final estimate of the city engineer the sum of \$116,430.46, leaving due and unpaid the sum of \$100,857.11 less \$262.50, cement sold to old City Council.

In view of the facts presented the petitioners pray the said city to pay them that amount.

Referred to the board of public works.

STREET MATTERS.

The committee on streets recommended that the bill of Burton, Gardner & Company for 77 loads of rock spraws be paid; that the city attorney be requested to furnish an opinion as to the power of the Council to enforce the paving of private alleyway; that the petition of Ives E. Cobb and others concerning cost of constructing a retaining wall on State street be referred to the board of public works, with the city engineer and the city attorney associated; that regarding the matter of paving, curbing and guttering on Richards street it be done in accordance with the recommendations of the city engineer. Received and filed.

IT HAS NO RIGHT.

The city attorney submitted an opinion in the matter of the resolution relating to the occupancy of certain portions of South Temple Street by the railway tracks of the Union Pacific and the Saltair Companies. He represented that he had been unable to find anything in the city records that the city at any time granted the Union Pacific a franchise whereby it was given any right to use or occupy any portion of the street, and upon