

and race. It was expected that both would sustain him. The church did not, and at the elections he was roundly denounced by the priests from their pulpits. It is said, however, that the church support of the conservatives was the result of a contract, by which the Roman Catholic schools in the North-west will be protected. The Conservatives gained a complete victory, and their supremacy in Canada for many a day is now assured.

Mereier does not yet regard himself as vanquished. He contemplates making charges against church authorities which will be investigated in Rome. The Quebec elections may yet be the prelude to some queer political complications.

### NO USE TO DENY IT.

It is useless for the "Liberal" organ to try to defend its Washington correspondent from the consequences of his mingled folly and mendacity. Attacks on the DESERET NEWS or the Ogden Standard will not help his cause a particle. Calling them or "Kentucky" Smith hard names will not alter the facts, nor blot out the damning proofs of his falsehood furnished by the "Liberal" organ in its own columns.

We need not recapitulate them. We copied the statements he wired from Washington and contrasted them with the stenographic report he sent by mail, and showed beyond dispute from his own evidence where he had falsified the record. If he did not wire the falsehoods, they were invented by the Tribune. That they were published in that paper and that the refutation of them subsequently appeared in the same columns is beyond contradiction.

Foul expressions and accusations which "Kentucky" Smith was alleged, in the wired dispatch, to have uttered in his speech were not found in the stenographic report of that speech published in the same paper that printed the telegram and purporting to come from the same person. Any denial which he may make will not affect these facts, but may convey the impression that his dispatches were garbled and tinted, by the paper that published them.

We have no disposition to endorse any error or apologize for any extreme course of "Kentucky" Smith or any other advocate of "Home Rule." But that he and others have been grossly misrepresented in dispatches from Washington and published in the Tribune has been made so clear that no other person in the world but writers for that paper would attempt to deny it or do anything less than tender an apology.

### THE ONE MAN POWER.

It used to be the fashion among anti-"Mormons" to make a great outcry against "the one man power," by which was meant the authority vested in the Priesthood of the "Mormon" Church. This was very much exaggerated and, in some respects, entirely misrepresented, for the purpose of arousing hostility against the "Mor-

mon" people and preventing their exercise of the rights of American citizens.

But waiving all argument in relation to that authority, and leaving out any denial as to its existence in the form alleged, let us look at the actual "one man power" now in operation and its effects on our Territorial affairs. And if it does not appear that it is worse in practice and results than anything that occurred under so-called "Church rule," we have failed to see both aright.

In Utah alone of all the States and Territories of the United States, exists an autocracy that exceeds the imperialism permitted to any King or Queen or Governor or President under a modern monarchical form of government. The power of absolute veto is an outrage upon the people where it is permitted to be exercised. It is contrary to every principle that gives life to a republic. It is not only anomalous but utterly opposed to the institutions of our country.

Of course the existence of this brand of bondage, this sign of serfdom, this standing mark of autocracy over citizens of a republic, is not the fault of the officer appointed by absolute authority to wield the imperial power. It is in the law and can be removed only by the legislative hand. But with it there is a discretionary power by which it may be so used as not to gail its subjects, like a chain wound too closely around them or a yoke that bends their necks unbearably. Wisdom and independent judgment are essential to the proper use of this discretion and that authority. Unfortunately, in too many instances, neither of these has been displayed in the relations between the Executives and the people of Utah. There has been too much animus, often, in the holders of this imperial power, and too little freedom from the influences of a faction inimical to the community.

During the present session of the Legislature this autocracy has been exhibited to some extent. Leaving out of consideration minor matters, there are two measures of great importance that at the present writing seem doomed to failure because of its exercise. One is the metropolitan bill for the government of cities of the first class, the other the World's Fair bill for the representing of Utah at the great exposition and the appropriation and expenditure of funds for that purpose.

The first particularly affects only Salt Lake City at present, directly. The bill was prepared by a committee of the late City Council, and a committee of the Chamber of Commerce, with an attorney of undisputed ability, experience and knowledge of the wants of the city. It was carefully compiled and adopted after close criticism. Both Houses of the Legislature examined and approved it. The Governor vetoed it, but expressed his willingness to sign it if some designated changes should be made in it. On investigation it appeared that these changes would be incongruous to the whole theory and purport of the measure, and defeat the great purpose it had in view—the separation of certain departments of the city government and their measurable independence of each other. The changes proposed would

largely turn the plan back to present methods and could not be adopted consistently with the general purpose and tenor of the bill. All that the Legislature could do under the circumstances was to table it. The one man power thus crushed the efforts of the representatives of this city, of the combined commercial interests, and of the entire Territory, and no redress is left.

The World's Fair bill appropriated \$50,000 to give Utah proper representation at the great Chicago exhibition. It also provided for the proper expenditure of the money and named the persons who were to be Commissioners to manage the matter. This expressed the views and desires of the whole Territory, or an overwhelming majority of its people. The Governor vetoed it. Why? Because it did not leave him free to choose and nominate these Commissioners. The Legislature tabled it. "One man power" again, and no remedy.

In this instance there is a conflict between the Legislature and the Executive on a legal point. Section seven of the Organic Act—an old ground of dispute, is the occasion of it. The Governor claims the right to nominate these Commissioners as "officers" of the Territory. If these ladies and gentlemen, designated by the Legislature to spend this money, are officers under the laws of the Territory, it is his right to nominate them. If they are not officers, in the meaning of the law, he has not that right. There is no disposition on the part of the Legislature to deny the Governor's authority or prevent its exercise legitimately. But it is claimed and it seems with good reason, that these persons are not called to act as officers of the Territory, as that term is legally understood.

But why should there be any dispute over so small a matter, apparently? Because there is great dissatisfaction with nominations already made by the Governor in this connection, and the wishes of the people have been more than ignored. Persons have been appointed as representing the Republicans and Democrats who are recognized as neither, but as rampant representatives of a faction, obnoxious to both parties and to the great bulk of the population, and the Governor's action is regarded by many as an insult to the community and an exercise of this one man power in its most arbitrary and unpleasant form.

This is the truth in regard to present difficulties, and it exemplifies the wrong that is being done to this Territory by the continuance of the arbitrary, autocratic, shameful and un-American power of absolute veto, exercised to defeat the will of the people, and humiliate them for the gratification of one official and his friends, who are a small minority of the citizens. If there is one argument stronger than others why statehood or "home rule" should be given to Utah, it is this "relic of barbarism that has been imposed upon her and from which may the Good Lord soon deliver us!

PARIS, Ont., March 15.—A public meeting tonight favored political union with the United States by a large majority.