

**DESERET EVENING NEWS**  
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CHARLES W. FENNIS, EDITOR.  
CITY.—MAY 29, 1891.

**"ROUND" POLITICAL LIBERTY.**  
In virtue of political circumstances occasioned by the launching of local party lines, a great deal of business is interest by various partisans. Above some interests are set forth as undisputed and undebatable facts. This is perhaps to be expected when we consider the origin and the character of some of the speakers.

Among these errors is the unkindness story about "Mormon" Church administration in political affairs. It seems to present the facts. The notion that the "Mormon" people are under some kind of compulsion as to voting, that they are told what ticket they must vote and that they dare not disobey, is unfoundedly disseminated, and it is not strange that many new converts who do not care to investigate believe the groundless statements made concerning it.

Suppose then, as past hours are being put before the better portions of the community and living questions are taking their place, we let the statements about what has been, no matter how foolish and false, stand in the grave of past quibbles. How about the situation today? That is the question. Does the "Mormon" Church assume to dictate and control its members in political affairs? Does the Church make the right to control the State? What are the views of its leaders on these matters?

President Willard Woodruff is the recognized head of the "Mormon" Church. His official utterances must be regarded as authoritative. His Declaration on the polygamy question taken by responsible people and journals in good faith. He has spoken in an uncertain tone in regard to political affairs. He has said publicly that the fact that he never interferes with the free agency of the people, that he never told men how they should vote, and over his own signature as the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he affirms and declared before God, in his letter to the *Illustrated America* published February 11, 1881, that the articles of faith and discipline which he quoted are the true doctrines of our Church. These included the article on "Government and Laws in General" contained in the Doctrine and Covenants, from which we quote the following:

"We believe that governments are instituted of God for the benefit of man, yet that he holds most accountable for their acts in relation to them; either to make laws for administering them, or to make laws for abolishing them, or to make laws for changing them."

"We believe that all governments necessarily require civil officers and magistrates to enforce the laws of the same, and that such as will administer the same in equity and justice should be sought and upheld by the voice of the people as a regulation, or the will of the majority."

"We believe that every man should be honored in his station; rulers and magistrates as such, being placed, for the protection of the innocent and the punishment of the guilty, and that to the laws all must owe respect and deference; as well as those peace and harmony which are essential to the safety and welfare of human beings; but that for the express purpose of regulating our interests as individuals and nations, between man and man, and driving base given of man, we permitting rules in spiritual matters, for health and worship, both to be answered to man by his Maker."

"We do not believe it just to mitigate religious influence with civil government, nor that it is a legitimate duty, to interfere with the exercise of civil power in spiritual matters, and the individual rights of its members, as stated, above."

Assent of individuals interested in the principles of state and otherwise and the maintenance of old strictures, that the "Mormon" leaders either exercise or claim the right to control the conduct of men or curtail their freedom in political or other matters, should be treated as the vaporings of delusions, the wild harangues of stamp collectors, the blared editorials of unscrupulous writers. They are unsupported by facts or by any effort at proof. There is nothing in them but words, and they attempt to derive.

Whatever may be believed of the past, today the "Mormon" people are as fervent citizens of the United States, and they hold the lawfulness of marriage, may rule for any man or woman, according to their personal preference and convenience of wife, to the right thing as do. No law can be cited in support of this. Let us see how foolish will be the designs of the scheming and party-seeking disreputables who have the "Mormon" people and their interests at heart. But let the document itself of all parties weigh well the facts and the patriotic declarations of "Mormon" authorities today, and refuse to place themselves under the baneful of a party founded in greater fanaticism than is charged upon the "Mormons," and championed by persons who are greater tyrants than any so-called priests distant who ever sprang as a "Mormon" leader.

#### HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

This house to house registration close this week. On Monday, June 1st, and throughout the week registrars officers are required to visit their offices to register those legal voters whose names have been omitted.

Have you registered? That is an important question. If not, be sure to go to the office of the registrar and see that your name is placed upon the list. If you cannot properly register, you must vote at the next August election, which will be one of the most important that has ever taken place in this Territory.

The office of the registrar in this city will be at Independence Hall. It will be open every day during the week commencing on Monday, June 1st, and the hours will be from 9 to 12 a.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. Do not forget and be late to vote.

#### THE SELF-MURDER MANIA.

A general mania has swept over Utah during the last few days. The reason is appalling and unprecedented. Not many years since in this territory was there so much self-murder as was rare that, when discovered, it was often the case that different persons for weeks, and even months, made a series of references for months afterwards. Such an event is now as common that it scarcely occasions more than a passing remark, and it is soon lost sight of by public attention being directed to other exciting matters.

For the past two days there has been an average of one case of actual or attempted suicide in Utah every forty-eight hours. This is most deplorable.

A person in contemplating this ghastly and sombre calamity, instinctively attempts to discover a cause. Even a cursory investigation renders one conclusion inevitable—that the multiplication of cases of self-murder is largely due to the growth of various classes of insanity. Intemperance and sexual sins are leading causes of this disposition. Some are, of course, insane when they commit the act, but even then, the cause of that condition is often traceable to one and sometimes both of the two besetments named. Delirious and sexual狂者, whether separated or combined, unman the individual. The physical and mental effects are such as to frequently drive those who indulge in them to despair until they finally seek in end their earthly abode in death.

Financial embarrassment and domestic troubles sometimes cause people to destroy themselves, thus showing that they lack the energy and courage necessary to meet with a stout heart the trials and trials of mortal existence. Hence it is a mistaken idea that people who take their own lives are courageous. The rule runs the other way.

Physical and mental health are preventive against the spread of the suicidal mania. As these conditions decrease, life will seem to a certain class of unfortunate people not worth living. They have no conception of the object of mortal existence, since they would never, in their surroundings at least, seek to outdo others shortly by the illustrious talents of sin or the swiftest process of self-murder.

#### CONFISCATION CAUTERIZED.

We publish in another part of this issue of the *Deseret News* an article which appears in the American *Sentinel* under the title of "The New American Revolution," over the signature of A. T. J. It is worthy of careful reading. It shows an acquaintance with the subject of the strike upon the property of the "Mormon" Church, and the quite remarkable fact that the strike was organized entirely without the knowledge of any persons regulating our interests as individuals and nations, between man and man, and drives base given of man, we permitting rules in spiritual matters, for health and worship, both to be answered to man by his Maker.

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Whatever may be believed of the past, today the "Mormon" people are as fervent citizens of the United States, and they hold the lawfulness of marriage, may rule for any man or woman, according to their personal preference and convenience of wife, to the right thing as do. No law can be cited in support of this. Let us see how foolish will be the designs of the scheming and party-seeking disreputables who have the "Mormon" people and their interests at heart. But let the document itself of all parties weigh well the facts and the patriotic declarations of "Mormon" authorities today, and refuse to place themselves under the baneful of a party founded in greater fanaticism than is charged upon the "Mormons," and championed by persons who are greater tyrants than any so-called priests distant who ever sprang as a "Mormon" leader.

We believe it is the right, and should

be the privilege, of every man to fully develop to the capacity of his own conscience.

"We believe in us as we desire to be every useful and honorable means to prevent religious legislation for the civil government; that we and our fellow-men may enjoy the blessings of freedom and liberty."

#### EXCLUSIVE POLYGAMISTS.

Two dispatches from Washington, which appeared in this paper on Thursday, in regard to the extension of polygamy laws existing on the shores of the United States, is rather indefinite. No account is given of the specific charges against Peterson and his wife, who is said to have been Peterson, and about whom some difficulties have been made. On what ground is it claimed they are polygamists? Is it because they believe in polygamy? It is very unlikely that they are practical polygamists. There is some mystery about this case that future information will probably dispel.

The ruling of Secretary Foster appears to be merely a repetition of a clause in the immigration law passed at the last session of Congress. It excludes polygamists as well as paupers and convicts from entrance into the ports of the United States.

But how is the term "polygamist" to be understood? Clearly, it must mean those who practice polygamy. If so, Paupers, Convicts, and many other points, where the recent rains have made wonderful improvements. The rain of the 10th inst. was worth hundreds of millions to the country for extensive droughts several years. Trade at Western cities is quite hopeful. At the South end, reports are satisfactory, but trade is here rather depressed. The recent heavy rains benefited the cotton, sugar and rice interests of the region tributary to New Orleans.

Industries flourish for the week in the United States was \$14 and in Canada, \$1. For the corresponding week of last year there were 130 failures in the United States, and 32 in Canada.

Quebec Victoria will probably accept the invitation of the city of London to send a delegation to the International Exposition of the Empire of Germany.

The Office of Water, Price-Sorrells of Wales, the Duke of Clarence, Prince Henry of Prussia, Prince George of Hanover, and the Duke of Cambridge will also be there.

The judgment tax case against Governor James A. Allred of Texas, Oregon, aggregates \$20,000,000 and the collector of internal revenue, who is the receiver, has never remitted since he became the tax assessor several years ago. The case was well settled up, and when Mr. Allred appeared in the U. S. Circuit Court to argue his case, the judge ruled that the property of Allred's wife, Mrs. Allred, in the state of Texas, would be a sufficient amount of objection to the levying of any judgment. If suits to collect taxes were to be提起 into, the law certainly was never intended to prevail in any such absurd fashion.

We shall look for some further particulars in regard to this case, indicating that neither the emigration officers nor the Administration will attempt to exclude people from these shores on account of a belief they may entertain upon any question.

#### A MARVEL OF SCIENCE AND ART.

The latest invention of Mr. Edison entitles him more than ever to the name of wizard. This new wonder of his is called the "kinoScope." He has been working on it for three years. He is now convinced that he has principle is correct. In this machine the photographic and photographic cameras will work together. The picture of what passes before it will be copied as well as the sound. It will reproduce an opera, and also the performers, so that every muscle of their faces will be seen to move. This was done by taking a series of instantaneous photographs, so that the series in reality become one continuous picture. The camera will take forty-five impressions in a second. These are recorded on a long roll of gelatine paper, fastened to a spindle, which passes over a photoelectric lens. The process can be kept up for thirty minutes without pause, so 2,000 photographs can be taken every half hour. After this part is completed Mr. Edison says "the reproduction part of the machine will be taken care of, and by means of a carbon light, the whole effect will be reproduced the whole effect will be reproduced in life size on a white curtain in front of the audience. The original will always be used as base life. The pictures will be seen, and their movements and gestures will appear as if actually on the stage. The colors will not appear, but otherwise it is as if the theatres. Is not the ingenuity of man rapidly approaching the might of the divine?"

The personal property in dispute, which is sought to be confiscated, belongs to the unincorporated body or association known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it stands in the name of its members.

We believe that the property of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in its members' names, would not have been denied, if it were not for the unpopular and unorthodox character of the creed commonly called "Mormon." And that is greatly misunderstood that neither the people who believe it, nor the Judge who have been influenced by their claims, can give a correct explanation of its principles.

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The article to which we direct attention is valuable, not only as a strong legal argument in defense of justice and equity, but as an able exposition of true American republicanism. Col. A. T. J. for this valiant defense of our country, if for nothing else, deserves to be highly commended.

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