

who are to some extent responsible for the muddle, to help straighten it out in the interest of justice and right. They have officially announced their desire and intention to secure a fair and impartial election. They can aid the Board of Canvassers in arriving at correct conclusions as to which set of election judges were the legal appointees, and thus the proper returns will be canvassed and the legal votes be counted.

One thing must be clear to every impartial mind: The lawful voters of Box Elder precinct should not be robbed of their rights at the polls through any oversight, omission or irregularity, whether of the Commission or any of their appointees. Also it is evident that, to reverse the will of the majority in the county in favor of the minority, through the wrong or blunder of officials acting in the interest of that minority, would be a political outrage of the most flagrant character.

Section 263 of the Compiled Laws of Utah says:

"Any omission or irregularity of any assessor [registrarr] or other officer, pertaining to election matters, shall not invalidate any election or authorize the rejection of any legal votes cast, except to the extent that such omission or irregularity shall have prevented a fair vote."

The public will look to the Board of Canvassers to act legally, fairly and with the object of learning and announcing the number of legal votes cast for all candidates, and will expect that party interests shall not be permitted to interfere with justice and the sacred right of the elective franchise. The gentlemen comprising the board have too high a character to risk in taking any other course, and all concerned in this matter should beware how they lean from the upright position of strict impartiality, at the behest of "Liberal" election manipulators or "Liberal" bulldozers. The public demand what is right, and will not quietly submit to palpable wrong.

#### RELIGIOUS SELF-PRESERVATION.

It ought to be somewhat fresh in the minds of the local public that some peculiar circumstances existed in connection with the initial effort to establish a Methodist university in Utah. The boom craze was rampant at the time, and as the promoters of the proposed institution were on the lookout for what is commonly called the "main chance," they hunted for substantial inducements to cause them to

select a site in the city offering the most profitable ones to those connected with the enterprise. Heavy subscriptions were offered by more or less prominent Latter-day Saints and other attractions were tendered for the purpose of securing the site for a leading town south of Salt Lake.

We took occasion at the time to express an opinion to the effect that the members of the Church who were indicating their anxiety in the direction referred to were assuming an attitude that could not properly be claimed to be consistent, as the institution in question was evidently intended to be a feature in carrying out the declared policy of its promoters—the breaking up of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Of course we are aware that this is an impossible feat, but this being so does not affect the intention of those engaged in the religious crusade. It was clear enough that the proposed institution was intended to operate in the process of invading the ranks of the Church by reaching the young. This is the declared mode of attack, the people of experience and matured judgment being beyond the point of susceptibility to be caught by Methodistical chaff.

From this standpoint it appeared anomalous that Latter-day Saints could aid in the establishment of an institution whose genius and intent were to make war on the "Mormon" Church and procure the deprival of its members of their political rights and privileges as citizens.

The position assumed by this journal was met, on the part of those whose course was questioned, by a statement to the effect that their action had a purely business basis, the belief being that the town would receive a financial benefit by the establishment there of the Methodist University. The natural reply to this was that the interests of business should not, with people who believe in God, supersede those of religion. Otherwise there would be an appearance of mammon worship.

The subscribers had been informed by the ministerial promoters of the proposed institution, however, that it was to be purely educational, non-religious and by no means sectarian. This was asserted and insisted with all the surface appearance of truth and frankness. The claim looked absurd on its face. The idea of a non-sectarian, non-religious Methodist University was a clear as mud, and

only put forth for the purpose of procuring money. Of course this implies that the solicitors were pious hypocrites, but if the truth proves this it cannot well be helped. That the facts make this demonstration is beyond the region of doubt. We propose to show that such is the case.

If the position assumed on the subject by the News in the first place needed any support, it is found in the proceedings, a short time ago, associated with the laying of the foundation stone of the Methodist Episcopal University at Ogden, that town having been chosen as the locality for its establishment. Mr. Arthur L. Thomas appeared in the dual capacity of Governor and Methodist. The character of his remarks showed that he kept his official role in the rear and devoted himself entirely to the work that might be expected from a narrow-gauge and heartless sectarian religionist and popular clamor political caterer. As a result nine-tenths of his speech was set apart for an untruthful, unchristian assault upon the religion of the Latter-day Saints. The method he adopted was back-handed, as he attributed features to that religion that have not the remotest connection with it, and then proceeded to demolish his mud and straw mannikin. His peroration, if such it could be called, was devoted to a eulogy of Methodism, in order to show its pre-eminent superiority. And yet this man holds the position of Governor of the Territory! What a spectacle he presents! It is such a picture as inspires with ineffable disgust, even men of his own party. We know this for a fact. The poor man does not know that a course of injustice and an unreasoning, persecutive spirit has its legitimate result. It leads inevitably to the ultimate total loss of every spark of influence possessed by those who follow that path. Wait and see.

Rev. Sam. Small's address was of the same stripe, with the exception that it was disfigured by the most ridiculous highfalutin expressions, as well as being impregnated with anti-Christian animus. This conceited bigot evidently does not know that the position of real Christians is never that of assailant and persecutor, history placing it beyond doubt—including the example of the Great Master—that they naturally, owing to their unworldly character, are thrust into the position of the persecuted.