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IS THIS REPUBLICANISM?

THIS bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Edmunds for the purpose of making most of the local offices which are now elective, the property of the Governor and the Utah Commission, to fill as they may determine, was somewhat changed in committee, and was reported to the Senate on June 12, as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the existing election districts and apportionments of representatives concerning the members of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah are hereby abolished; and it shall be the duty of the Governor, Territorial Secretary and the Board of Commissioners mentioned in section nine of the act of Congress approved March twenty-second, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, entitled "An act to amend section fifty-three hundred and fifty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States in reference to bigamy, and for other purposes," in said Territory, as soon as practicable after the result of the census of said Territory to be taken in the year eighteen hundred and ninety shall be made known, to redistrict said Territory, and apportion representatives in the same in such manner as to provide, as nearly as the same may be, for an equal representation of the people, excepting Indians not taxed, being citizens of the United States, according to numbers, in said legislative assembly, and to the numbers of members of the council and house of representatives, respectively, as now established by law; and a record of the establishment of such new districts, and the apportionment of representation there-to, shall be made in the office of the secretary of said Territory and such establishment and representation shall continue until Congress shall otherwise provide.

Sec. 2. That the offices of territorial auditor, treasurer, commissioners to locate university lands, probate judges, county clerks, selection, assessors, recorders and superintendent of district schools in the Territory of Utah are hereby vacated; and all such officers shall hereafter be appointed by the governor of said Territory, by and with the advice and consent of the board of commissioners mentioned in section nine of the act of Congress approved March twenty-second, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, entitled "An act to amend section fifty-three hundred and fifty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States, in reference to bigamy, and for other purposes." Provided, That where any officer above named shall now hold his office by virtue of appointment or

commission from the President of the United States for a definite term the provisions of this section shall not apply until the expiration of said term.

"Sec. 3. That the board of commissioners mentioned in section nine of the act of Congress, approved March twenty-second, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, entitled "An act to amend section fifty-three hundred and fifty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States in reference to bigamy, and for other purposes," is hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion to cause new registrations of voters in said Territory of Utah, or any part thereof, to be made instead of revisions of previous lists, as now required by the laws of said Territory; and said board is also hereby authorized and empowered to make and enforce rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of the United States for the conduct of registrations and elections in said Territory.

If this is republicanism it is of a very peculiar sort. Nothing like it has been known before in these United States. That is to say, when a body of people numbering scores of thousands have been organized as an incipient commonwealth, to grow into the full stature and powers of Statehood, there was never established within it an authority so antagonistic to every principle of American freedom as this now proposed for Utah.

Is it possible that any of our Gentile citizens, outside the little clique of conspirators against the peace and welfare of the majority, can look upon this measure within any degree of complacency? Do they want the Governor and Utah Commission, whose bill that Senator Edmunds has fathered this is said to be, to hold the autocratic power it proposes to place in their hands. Do the non-"Mormon" residents of Utah understand the purport of this anti-republican bill? Do they realize that if this becomes a law they will be reduced almost to the condition of political slavery?

We should think the non-"Mormon" citizens of Utah would resent this encroachment upon their liberties, this overthrow of the rights of self-government, just as much as any "Mormon" is likely to do. If the bill should become a law, we confidently predict that they will become sicker of the conditions that will result than will any of the "Mormon" people.

That there is not the slightest reason for such a law, and that it has not the remotest connection with the polygamy question, must be clear to everybody who understands the situation. And yet it is made an amendment to the Act of Congress in reference to bigamy. Like the other new Edmunds bill, this attachment is made to throw

dust in the eyes of members who are affected with the anti-polygamy mania.

Well, it will have to go through both houses and then become subject to the scrutiny of the President before it becomes a law, and many things may happen before that takes place.

A BAD SIGN.

THERE was a disgraceful row in front of a Catholic Church in Schuylerville, N. Y., on Saturday last. The members of the church resisted by violence the erection of poles by the workmen of an electric light company in front of the edifice. Missiles were hurled by the combatants at each other, pistols were drawn, and it looked as if a bloody tragedy would be precipitated, this sanguinary result being prevented only by the action of the sheriff.

This affair was disgraceful to both sides of the controversy, especially the religionists, who exhibited neither a love for law and order nor a leaning toward a practical application of the precepts of Christianity.

The spirit of retaliation leading to the use of brute force is abroad and increasing. It is becoming far too common everywhere for people who think they have reason to presume that their interests are being invaded to resist the imaginary or real encroachment by a resort to violence. This is a bad sign of the times, evincing a departure from intellectual civilized methods of settling disputes and a tendency towards the phases of barbarism. Sometimes the most trifling causes of difference culminate in violent outbursts of the worst passions of men.

ROBBERY BY ACT OF CONGRESS.

THE Edmunds bill for the distribution of the property of the "Mormon" Church after it is confiscated, and which the reputed author "rail-roaded" through the Senate on June 21st, as announced in the DESERET NEWS of the same evening, was slightly amended from the original. The full amended text is as follows:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any and all funds or other property lately belonging to or in the possession of or claimed by the corporation mentioned in section 17 of the act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend section 5552 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, in reference to bigamy, and for other purposes," approved