

continue and keep in his possession all of the property, real and personal, set out in the finding of facts, except the realty exempted, that is, the Temple Block, until final action and determination concerning the accounts, proceedings and transactions of said receiver.

The real estate thus declared not to belong to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is: The Tithing office and grounds, valued at \$50,000, the Gardo House and grounds, at \$50,000, the Historian's office and grounds, at \$20,000, the Church Farm at \$150,000 and the Grass Creek coal lands at \$100,000. Of course values have increased since October, 1888, when the decree was rendered, and may change again before the litigation concerning these properties is concluded.

The personal property escheated is thus described in the findings of fact: One large safe, one medium-sized iron safe, twenty-five arm chairs, eleven rotary chairs, ten upholstered chairs, two desks, one letter press, 800 shares of \$100 each of the capital stock of the Salt Lake Gas Company; 4,732 shares of \$100 each of the capital stock of the Deseret Telegraph Company, one promissory note dated March 2, 1887, due and payable to John Taylor trustee-in-trust, or order, two years after date, calling for the sum of \$13,333.32, bearing 6 percent interest from date, signed by Sharp and Little; one promissory note, dated March 2, 1887, due and payable to John Taylor, trustee-in-trust, or order, two years after date, and calling for \$1666.66, with 6 per cent interest from date, signed by Le Grand Young; one promissory note dated March 2, 1887, payable to the order of John Taylor, trustee-in-trust, two years from date, calling for \$4833 33, with interest at 6 per cent from date, signed James Jack; one promissory note, \$5000, with 6 per cent interest, signed H. B. Clawson; 30,158 sheep; \$237,666.15 money, proceeds of sales of miscellaneous property. Since said personal property came into the possession of the receiver heretofore appointed in this cause he has collected as rent from the said real estate, \$2850; as dividends on said gas stock, \$4900; as interest on said money, \$2233.60."

It should be understood that the decree of the Supreme court of Utah, which has been affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States, forfeits and escheats to the United States all the personal property above mentioned, but does not so order in regard to the realty. The

disposition of these parcels of real estate will have to be severally adjudicated. This involves more litigation and further expense. The end is not yet. Until the full text of the decision of the highest legal tribunal is received, the course needful to be pursued cannot be determined.

However, our readers can now see what property, real and personal, is claimed to be forfeited by virtue of the Edmunds-Tucker act, and thus correct any mistakes that may have been made in that connection. Exaggerated ideas concerning this matter have prevailed, the facts are as we have related.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is not affected by this decision, and will not be if robbed of all the realty mentioned herein, any more than an individual would be if so deprived of his property. The disincorporation of the Church does not signify its disorganization, as some persons seem to imagine. No edict of man can disorganize the Church. That has not been attempted. The Church was incorporated by act of the Legislature simply to enable it to transact business under the laws. Its disincorporation by legislative power, whether right or wrong, does not affect its existence as a religious body. That existence is recognized, even by the courts which declare its disincorporation. Its ecclesiastical powers are and will remain unimpaired.

It has been supposed that its strength was in its property and therefore an attack was made upon it to despoil and weaken it. If stripped of every dollar's worth of realty and personalty it would still be the Church of Jesus Christ, embodying the power of God unto salvation to all who receive and obey its teachings and ordinances, committed to it by Almighty God through His Only Begotten Son and administered by the Holy Priesthood.

If any effect is produced upon it by acts of injustice and wrong, whether on the part of individuals or nations, it will be simply to purge out the unfaithful and false, and strengthen the convictions and deepen the devotion of the faithful and true. All that is done against it will turn out to be for it, and if less wealthy in material things, it will become richer in spiritual things, and thus the well-springs of its abiding and actual power will be enlarged and increased.

We care very little for the

amount of property involved in this great wrong perpetrated upon an unorthodox Church, but we do regard with great concern the violation of simple justice, property rights and constitutional guarantees which has been sanctioned by the national judiciary, because it is a false step which must lead to more, and we know that as sure as God lives such acts cannot be done and escape His righteous retribution.

#### THE SCHEME NOT POPULARLY ENDORSED.

IT WILL be remembered that a short time ago, Oakes Murphy, secretary for Arizona, appeared before a Senate committee with a project for the admission of that Territory to the Union with a condition of disfranchisement of the "Mormon" citizens. The only basis upon which he rested his plea for the proposed infliction of a political outrage upon that class of the people was that they affiliated with the Democratic Party. The News gave the details of the situation at the time. Fortunately, Oakes Murphy and the clique to which he belongs have but a small following. The Phoenix Gazette, one of the leading and most ably conducted journals of Arizona, has this to say on the subject:

"Religion is as old as the earth, and advances only as mankind progresses. It was intolerant when it was dominant—or, rather, when the church ruled, its rule was that of a tyrant; but with civilization and all of its accompanying and elevating influences, religion endeavored to keep pace in the procession. We do not mean to decry the civilizing and beneficent labors of the church, as it has covered the world with its mantle of love, and brought solace and relief to the tired heart of mankind; yet, with all its virtues, the best minds contend that it is not a proper source in which to lodge civil government, and any and all legislation looking to this end very justly arouses the suspicion of the free people of this nation.

"The framers of the Constitution very properly provided against religious belief being injected into the governmental affairs of the country; yet, we see men—or partisans rather—using their influence both as citizens and officials of Arizona, to have Congress overstep the bounds of the Constitution and the limits of decency, and disfranchise men because of their opinions in matters of religion. The Gazette has no sympathy or respect for a church nor for a man that teaches or believes in plural wives, with its disgusting and revolting consequences; and any man or men that practice it should be dealt with as law-defiers and criminals; but when a set of demagogues, whose ideas of morality are measured only by its results upon their party, and their ability to obtain office, seek to disfranchise men who do not practice or indulge in the evil sought to be remedied—their motives ought to be inquired into, and their objects exposed.