

most important officers in the counties of this Territory should be taken from the people. He advised that local self-rule should be substituted by an autocracy. In other words, that the officers heretofore elective should be made appointive by "some federal authority."

Everybody believed when the recommendation was made that Arthur L. Thomas was the "federal authority"—or the leading constituent of it—to which he referred. A reference to the measure introduced in the Senate by Mr. Edmunds—an outline of which appears in our columns elsewhere—gives strong evidence that the Governor has managed to push his recommendation into a shape which he doubtless hopes will crystalize into a statute that will constitute him a king—unless the prevailing idea that Mr. Lannan would, in that event, in the shade, occupy that position be correct. The Utah Commission would constitute for him a species of cabinet.

This latest measure of which Senator Edmunds appears to assume the parentage, bears, as can readily be seen, the ear-marks of Mr. Thomas. So far as can be learned from the condensed sketch of it, it embodies in places almost the exact language of his recommendation. It ought to be entitled "A bill for a law to establish despotism within the domain of the United States, and to perpetuate in office and increase the powers of an appointed and imported set of Federal officials, namely: a governor and commission."

It might, on the surface, seem anomalous to presume that the Governor should give support to both the prominent anti-Republican measures now pending in Congress—the proposed disfranchisement, and autocracy bills. It will be seen, however, that Mr. Thomas' official platter is hollow on both sides, so that whichever measure may pass, if either does, he may expect to catch plums or porridge. Of the two, however, he doubtless would prefer the passage or enactment of the latest measure introduced, as it would constitute him king of Utah—the head of an *imperium in imperio*. In showing his hand openly in favor of disfranchisement, he very probably expects, in the event of the latter measure passing and Utah—with the great majority of her best people deprived of their political rights—being admitted into the Union as a State, to have his service in that re-

gard recognized by an award of a large plum from the political pie. This, we presume, might be properly termed political hedging.

The probabilities of the bill for disfranchisement becoming a law are getting gradually dimmer. The Gentile sentiment of this Territory is largely antagonistic to it. Any person entitled to the least credit for good judgment can see, at a glance, that it would be destructive to the prosperity of this Territory. No more fatal blow could be delivered at the weal of this community. This view is taking shape. The rumblings of popular disapproval are beginning to roll. They are likely soon to reach the capital of the nation and break like a thunderclap.

The next consideration is, what ought to be the popular sentiment regarding the later measure, which aims at the accomplishment of a similar object under cover of a subterfuge? If the Gentile sentiment is and ought to be opposed to disfranchisement of the "Mormons," what ought it to be towards the process when it includes themselves? That would be the effect of the full success of Governor Thomas' pet recommendation.

After the last municipal election in this city—which we contend was fraudulently carried by the other side—what was the cry that went up from the throats of the leaders of the opposition, and was shouted throughout the rank and file? Look up the remnants of the speeches that were then made and the fact will be discovered that this statement was uttered and reiterated: "In August we will carry the election in this county."

Now, gentlemen, suppose that you should succeed, by any process, even the questionable methods applied in the municipal election, in gaining in August a victory of a similar character, what would be its results providing the measure recommended by the Governor should pass? You would stretch out your hands to grasp the fruit of the contest to find—it like dead-sea apples—resolve into dust. You would have the exalted privilege of electing perhaps a sheriff, a few precinct officers and a coroner. It is not improbable, however, that even these insignificant officers would be absorbed by the bill for an act to establish an autocracy in Utah should it become a national statute. If this is to be the result of a boasted victorious "Liberal" campaign after the election of next August in this county, the carpet-bag hoisted over

the stars and stripes, the emblem of the party, will continue to be, so far as official result is concerned, an empty grip-sack.

If the Gentiles of Utah can stand such enactments as these, formulated in deceit, steeped in hypocrisy and advanced by treachery and double-dealing, the "Mormons" can afford to do it with a good deal better grace. But it shall never be said concerning the latter that such infamous blows were ever directed at the liberties of the sovereign people without their earnest protest and efforts being put forth against them. Those who would accept of such a situation without endeavoring to stop the flood of demagogueism and tyranny are unworthy the name of freemen, be they "Mormon," Jew or Gentile, for the vital spark of patriotism has been extinguished in their hearts, if it ever there had lodgment.

Probably in no civilized nation of modern times outside the Russian empire—which is semi-barbarous—does such a despotic condition exist as that contemplated by the pending legislation against Utah and popular liberty.

ANOTHER ANTI-"MORMON" PLOT.

AS THE most prominent objective point of plots, conspiracies and diabolism, the Czar stands pre-eminent upon the continent of Europe. But the corresponding position in the New World is unquestionably occupied by the "Mormons." The temperature is exceedingly low on the day which sees no scheme in process of formation or development, having them in view as intended victims.

The latest anti-"Mormon" conspiracy which has come to the surface embodies a proposition to prevent "Mormon" immigrants from landing in the United States, on the ground that their coming is in violation of the law of Congress which prohibits the entrance of foreigners who have embarked for this country under a contract to labor. The plan is to make a showing to the effect that arrangements are made in advance, by the leaders of the "Mormons" in Utah, to give employment to converts who come from abroad. If proof to this purport can be adduced before the officers of the government who have supervision over the landing of immigrants at Atlantic ports, it is the expectation of the schemers that the tide of "Mormon" immigration will be effectively and permanently checked.

There is only one difficulty in the