

While nobody then wants to see proclaimed and shameless a victor of good morals as Cannon is old a representative office, nobody on the other hand wants to see him deprived of his office by injustice and by a straining of technicalities. An examination of the Governor's decision will show that this flaw in it, and at a time when the tendency to play fast and loose with the ballot box is a special ail of our politics, people will find it hard to justify an act which vitiates completely an election conceded to have been conducted fairly and in accordance with territorial law. The result of the argument in favor of doing evil in the hope of ultimate good, is a most vicious one in political affairs, and a precedent like that of Utah, looks to perilous extremes of partisanship and injustice. In sheer contrast with the course of Governor Murray, is that of the Republican Committee of the Maine legislature, whose coming report in favor of Mr. Plaisted emphasizes as a just finality the verdict of the ballots fairly cast and fairly counted at an election.

This is taken from the *Millford Sentinel* of January 12th, which is not by any means a "Mormon" paper.

"Governor Murray has at last rendered his decision in the contest suit and has deprived George Q. Cannon of his certificate of election. The certificate of election is only a mere point gained by Campbell, and will eventually, in our opinion, amount to nothing. Mr. Murray may have acted in good faith in this matter, but he had no power to go behind the returns and give this certificate to Mr. Campbell. Cannon will immediately challenge his seat in the House, and will cause a loss of time by that assembly and the finale will be that he will secure the seat which is rightfully his and which is the wishes of the people of Utah. A contested seat with this body will be of no great benefit to the victorious party, whoever he may be, as he will be under obligations to the men who had defended and voted for him, and will be compelled to cast his vote for any bill that may arise in the House, just as he is dictated by these men who defended him. His citizenship and plurality of wives, on which the Governor has based his objections, have been decided at one time heretofore by the House, and the same rulings will undoubtedly be made again. It is not the object of this paper to stand by Cannon because he is a Mormon, but because he is the choice of the people of this Territory, and such being the case he should and will receive his seat in Congress, without the little sheet of paper that our Hayes-appointed Governor may see fit to distribute to other parties not entitled to the same."

**NOT WITH THE LADIES.**

The Cincinnati *Times-Star* says: "One week from to-day the Women's Suffrage Association will swoop down upon Congress and make an effort to coax our legislative lambs into passing a female franchise law for the Territories. Campbell, who holds the certificate from Utah, is with the ladies."

Either a great mistake or the individual has changed his principles—if he ever had any. The only thing for which he has been at all remarkable is the attempts he has made at what western people call "jumping." He tried to "jump" the iron claims of Bishop Thomas Taylor in Iron County, and failed. He is now trying to "jump" Delegate Cannon's seat in Congress—and will fail again. He will also fail if he tries to "jump" into the position of a woman suffragist, because he endeavored to procure the disfranchisement of all the woman voters of Utah, and, while here, was on the opposite side of the fence. He is not with the ladies and if he pretends to be in Washington, his pretence can be convincingly proven a palpable fraud.

**STILL THEY COME.**

We have a few more extracts from exchanges, which we offer to our readers, on the subject of the folly and villainy of the Utah Executive. It should be noted that these, as well as all the paragraphs and editorials we have reproduced on this question, are from the columns of anti-"Mormon" journals. They are expressions of the views of all people in this great country who wish to see

law upheld and the common rights of citizens kept above the tyranny of unprincipled officials, and who will not countenance a great wrong even when committed for the alleged purpose of putting down a smaller evil. Just people who dislike polygamy, hate such iniquities as that of which Governor Murray has been guilty, and the voice of the press expresses the sentiment of the country on this important matter.

The St. Louis *Republican* of Jan. 11th, has the following editorial, headed "The Utah Affair."

"Governor Murray has played what is called 'a sharp trick' upon the Mormons, which, while it reflects credit upon his shrewdness, is not particularly complimentary to his sense. Whether Cannon is or is not 'an unnaturalized foreign-born citizen,' it is certain that he has more than once been admitted to Congress as Delegate from Utah, and that he has been recently re-elected by an overwhelming majority. To refuse him his certificate on such a plea is a piece of injustice which would never have been thought of if he were not a Mormon; and the cry of the Gentile organ at Salt Lake, 'put none but Americans on guard,' is a fitting supplement to the action of Governor Murray. We recognize the importance, the necessity, of getting rid of polygamy as soon as possible, and are prepared to indorse all honorable means for the accomplishment of that desirable result. But this is not honorable—quite the reverse; and its only effect will be to complicate and aggravate a problem already sufficiently difficult and dangerous. Let us suppose that the new House gives the seat to Campbell—which it may be foolish enough to do—will Campbell or any other Gentile be elected two years hence? Of course not. The Mormons will be more solid than ever, and if allowed to vote at all will elect a man of their own faith. Meanwhile their hostility to the federal government will be increased and intensified by what they are justified in calling an act of persecution."

"We take it for granted that the object of all Federal dealings with the Mormons is to abolish polygamy without driving the polygamists out of the country. If the Mormons are worthless citizens, their wholesale expulsion would be the easiest and cheapest way of settling the polygamy question; but it is generally conceded that they are very valuable citizens, and therefore ought to be kept in the country if possible. Consequently the policy pursued toward them, while firm in its opposition to their peculiar institution and tending to its speedy extinguishment, should be conciliatory, and above all things rigidly just. Gov. Murray's trick, like all others of its class, is as destitute of justice as of conciliation. It rouses the very feeling which it is for the interest of the government to remove entirely: the feeling that Mormons have no rights which the government considers worthy of respect. It is just such a 'masterly stroke' as those who want to buy Mormon property at forced sale, or under an edict of confiscation, might be expected to applaud, and which all honest and honorable people will be likely to condemn. If this is a sample of Gov. Murray's statesmanship, the sooner he is dismissed the better."

The annexed paragraph is from the Louisville *Courier-Journal*:

"It occurs to us that this question of Cannon's naturalization was passed upon by a republican Congress some years ago, and Cannon was admitted to his seat on the strength of that investigation."

Quite correct. And this is from the San Francisco *Bulletin*:

"Until there is a law which disfranchises polygamists, it is difficult to see how his (Cannon's) claim can be invalid, unless it can be shown that a very large number of votes cast for him were illegal. As to the question of his citizenship, that was raised a long time ago, and, according to our recollection, decided in his favor."

The New York *Tribune* of Jan. 10th, says:

"It is not strange that the Mormons are indignant at the refusal of the Governor of Utah to give a certificate to Delegate Cannon. If Cannon is really an alien it is strange that nobody has found it out before. He is now serving his fourth term in Congress. According to his biographical sketch in the Congressional Directory, he is of English birth and came to this country with his parents at an early age. The proper way to determine a question as to his citizenship would be by a con-

test in the House and not by an arbitrary decision of the Governor."

The Cincinnati *Commercial* of January 11th has a communication on "Cannon's Case," and after quoting liberally from our Delegate's reply to the protest, and attributing the wrong done to the "ignorance and prejudice of Governor Murray," closes with these words:

"The election was perfectly fair. Nothing in the history of fraud and false counting in the South equals this, for Cannon had 18,000 votes, while but 1,300 expressed a preference for Campbell. Cannon is now serving his sixth year in Congress. He is a naturalized citizen. There is nothing really against him, except that he supports four wives and is one of the most popular men in Utah, as his successive elections show."

The Philadelphia *Ledger* discourses in this wise:

"The Garcelon method will not do in this case. The Governor of Utah is no judge of anything but the count, and his province is to certify accordingly. A Territory cannot usurp the right of a State in determining qualifications; nor are the qualifications of a Delegate like those of a presidential elector, subject to the Governor's scrutiny. At the same time, there will be a large number of persons unable to distinguish between an illegal act and a legal act, who will take great comfort in the fact that Cannon must endeavor to unseat Campbell, rather than have the advantages of the inside party in the struggle."

That is the crumb which the Utah conspirators are chewing just now with so much satisfaction. But they will find it very small and cold "comfort" before they get through with it.

In an article headed "Singularly Obtuse," the Sacramento *Record-Union* returns to the attack in the subjoined explicit and convincing style:

"Governor Murray appears to be singularly obtuse. He continues to state to reporters that Cannon is not a citizen, and that therefore he could not give him a certificate. He talks diffusely about the records of the Courts, and the proofs of naturalization required, with an entire absence of realization that the question of Cannon's citizenship is one with which he had nothing whatever to do, and which he possessed no authority either to consider or to adjudicate. The law told him plainly that he was to issue a certificate to the candidate having the largest number of votes. It was none of his affair who that candidate might be. It was nothing to him whether that candidate was or was not a citizen. No law empowered him to sit in judgment upon the qualifications or eligibility of Congressional Delegates. All he had to do was to issue his certificate, and he has issued it in defiance of the law, to the man who was defeated instead of to the man who was elected. The more nonsense he talks about the case, and the more foolishly he endeavors to justify a course which is indefensible, the plainer does it appear that he ought to be removed from an office his unfitness for which is so glaringly conspicuous."

The Omaha *Bee* of Jan. 14th, comes out emphatically against the outrage in this style:

"The sober-minded and unpartisan people of the country will not support Governor Murray, of Utah, in his refusal of a certificate to Delegate Cannon on grounds purely technical. The fact remains that an overwhelming majority of the popular vote of the Territory was cast for Mr. Cannon, whose seat heretofore has been unquestioned. The *Bee* opposed the Garcelon steal in Maine, which was of the same character as Murray's shrewd trick. It condemns equally this latest dodge to defeat the popular will and to substitute political chicanery for honesty and fair dealing even towards opponents."

The Omaha *Herald* fires another shot on the side of right. Here it is:

"The action of Governor Murray, of Utah, in refusing a certificate to the legally elected delegate from that Territory to Congress, smacks of the returning board infamies which so recently shocked and astonished the country. The Governor is evidently seeking notoriety, and he is not very particular what kind it is."

The Governor will get notoriety enough, but it will be of that kind which would overwhelm with

shame any man with brains enough to understand the situation. If he had acted so vilely towards any other people but the "Mormons" his official head would have paid the price of his official crime.

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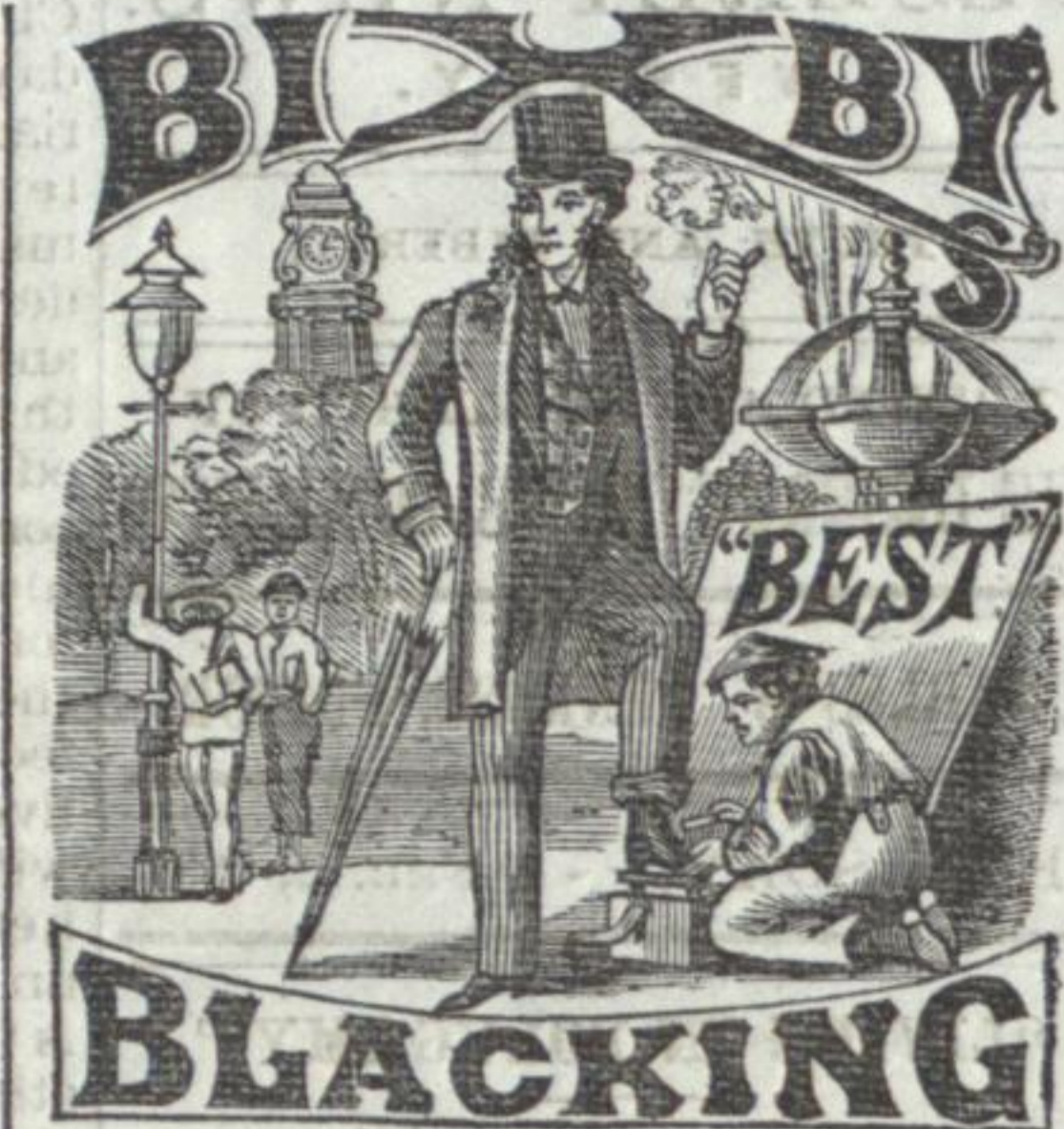
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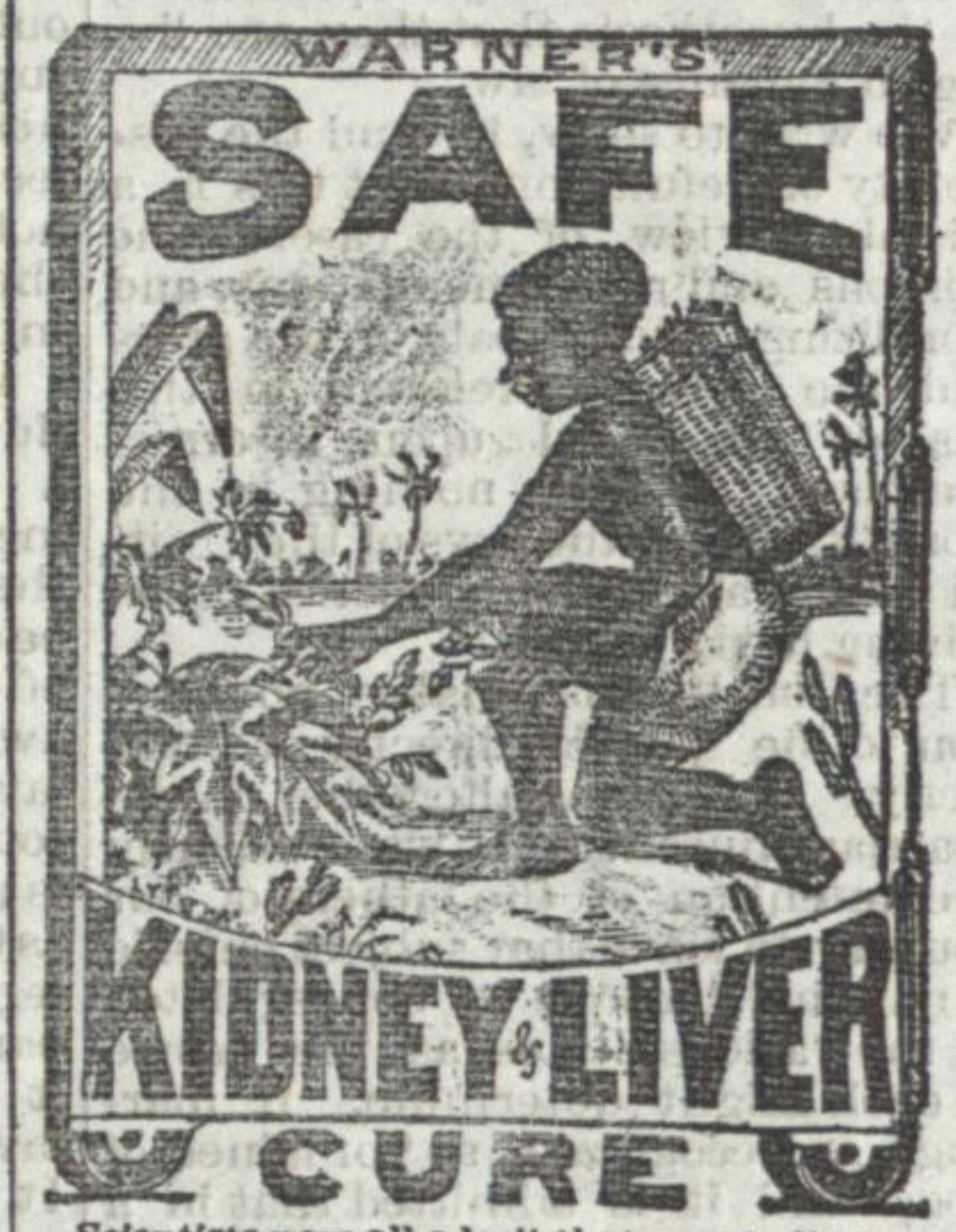
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