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THE REPUBLIC OR THE DESPOTISM, WHICH?

In one hundred and fifteen years our country has advanced from a fringe of settlements along the Atlantic coast to the front place among the nations of the earth, why? It has been solely because it has been "a government of the people, by the people, and for the people." The stock of men who headed this onward march was precisely the same as that north of the St. Lawrence and the lakes, but the young men and women of the Dominion have made a steady, increasing procession, across the line to the United States through all those one hundred and fifteen years, because over their old homes has been, all the time, the shadow of a throne, behind the throne a standing army and the rule of a king beyond the Atlantic. On the south is Mexico, a fairer, richer land than ours. It was settled by as brave a race as ever drew sword, but up to twenty-five years ago, there was increasing squalor, ignorance, brutality, crime and a steady national decay because there had been the despotism of kings and the tyranny of a priesthood that had become so corrupted that they used the forms of a church to the more effectually degrade, debase and impoverish the people, until man's integrity and woman's virtue became themes for jest.

Our land has prospered as no land ever did before, solely because all men have stood on an equality before the law, every man's mind has been free to speak, write and vote as he pleased, to worship God as he pleased, to do any legitimate thing unhampered by any friction of the laws. The opportunities for acquiring wealth or winning honors and promotion have been open to all alike, to the humble poor as well the more favored rich and of all the Presidents of the Republic, from Washington to Roosevelt, every one sprang from the ranks of the common people,—some of them from abject poverty, and worked their own way to honor and fame.

Utah has just elected a United States Senator. His brother fanatics in a delirium of joy supported him. Perhaps they are not to blame. It is only twelve years since the wisest of them began to study the principles on which our government was founded, or to read the history of the events which make up American history, or to try to comprehend how, through peace and war, our flag has been kept "full high advanced," without one stain upon its shining folds; how all the time the hopes of the people have been kept exultant.

All the time a superstitious fear has been upon the souls of the majority in Utah that has benumbed their higher selves, that has blinded their eyes to the fact that the aim of those who

keep their minds in thralldom and who rob them of their earnings without an accounting, is to insidiously disintegrate the foundations on which this Republic rests, this government of the people, and to substitute in its stead such a government as has kept Western Asia at war, in ignorance and poverty and shame since a thousand years before the tragedy of Calvary.

But Gentiles voted to make this man Smoot Senator; some through personal friendship, some through the hope of bettering their business affairs, some through nursing the delusive hope that possibly the vote would eventuate in bringing honors to themselves.

But we ask all such, now that the work is done, to reflect what the result would be were twenty-two more states to follow their example.

The real government of the United States would not be in Washington, but would be on the corner of South Temple and State streets, in this city, where the American Pope holds his Court, for while the man they voted for is now Senator-elect and an Apostle, he dare not disobey an order made by the President of the Kingdom to which he has, with terrible oaths, given his only real allegiance.

Then would follow the boycott and persecution of all who did not subscribe to that rule; promotions would only be through the Church; the vote of the people would be a unit as commanded by the head of the Church; polygamy would be given the authority of a national statute—for the revelation stands as binding as ever and the practice has only been partially suspended. No one claims that it has been abolished! No pledge from those in power would be any more binding than was that given by the then President of the Church and the present President that there should be no interference by the High Priests with the politics of the people; the old reign of terror immensely intensified would be re-introduced. Then would begin the dry rot of the nation which never falls when a people are so enthralled; every purpose of the immortals who framed our government would be defeated or civil war would rage in every state. Every Gentile who voted for Reed Smoot voted for this change.

It is said that Reed Smoot is an amiable man and good business man. Granted. It is not on this account that he is opposed; it was not for those qualities or qualifications that he was elected.

He was elected solely because of his priestly office in the kingdom, hostile in every attribute to the government of the United States. It is for that reason that he is opposed and should be denied a seat in the senate, for not only is his fealty all to another government, but he is a slave to a master that can absolutely control his mind, his soul and, if admitted, his voice and votes in the senate of the United States.

WHY UNFIT.

It comes from authoritative sources that the Hon. Reed Smoot in his brief life of about forty years has advanced, step by step, from deacon in his church to priest, to elder, to a seventy, to high priest, then to counsellor and finally to the apostleship.

He doubtless, in thought, quotes McBeth and says: "The greatest is behind." The lesser of-

ices are but, "as happy prologues to the swelling act of the imperial theme."

But it is not unjust to consider whether those promotions have led the Apostle's mind up an incline which fits him to hold the office of Senator of the United States or not. As a youth, he heard or read the prayer delivered by the then Apostle Woodruff, at the dedication of the St. George Temple, in which he prayed God to "sweep this nation with the besom of destruction," and approved the prayer.

He heard President John Taylor's declaration that "God rules this world through his priesthood and all other so-called governments are usurpations," and approved it. He saw how Moses Thatcher was dismissed from the apostleship because he dared to aspire to a political office without the consent of the First Presidency, and approved of the tyranny.

He read what B. H. Roberts said when, inveighing against the tyranny of the Church, he declared that the action of the Church "would place the control of the respective parties under the Church officials, and would give political affairs into their hands," and knowing that it was true, still had not one word of protest against making the state but a creature of the Church. Rather being himself an Apostle he wanted it that way.

He heard the late Hon. George Q. Cannon declare that "vox populi vox Dei was all wrong," that it should read "Vox Dei vox populi," and approved of the words. For years after he was of voting age, he voted the People's Party ticket, asking nothing, thinking nothing except that it was the ticket dictated by the Church chiefs and hence must be voted. He knows what pledges were made in order to obtain statehood, but he was last summer a party to the arrangement to fill all the so-called Republican conventions with elders, priests, seventies, presidents of stakes, high priests and apostles to use all their priestly power to nominate men who, if elected, would vote for him for Senator, and approved the work.

In addition he and his church brethren only know how many times he has taken the oath of hostility to the government of the United States, how often he has sworn "to avenge the death of the prophets."

What would a Thomas Jefferson think of such a schooling for a Democrat, or what would Abraham Lincoln think of such a training for a Republican?

If Reed Smoot has not over and over expatriated himself and given all his allegiance to another government, to this Imperium in Imperio, which is growing up here within the government of the United States, will some friend of his explain by what process he could expatriate himself? Had he placed himself under such allegiance to the French or German or British government, would he be a fit Senator of the United States?

Still those governments are not plotting for the overthrow of the government of the United States and this government here is. Not by force of arms in open battle, but by ambuscades, by seducing Gentiles here and there, by vague and insincere promises of business or political benefits, by holding over Senators in adjacent states an implied promise of the support of all Mormons within their states if they are but willing tools, and the withholding of those votes if they dare to be Americans and do their duty, and so