intact that sacred inspired charter of hu-
man rights, under the just provisions
of which millions will rejoice long after
usurpers and traitors shall have been
buried in oblivion. And right here in
this connection I desire to repeat what
I have said in public once before. In re-
viewing the tribulations through which
the Saints have passed, and while con-
templating the wrongs which they have
endured at the hands of despoilers, I
have felt and said, rather than be robbed
as my father on several occasions was,
on account of his religion, I would en-
deavor to have facts plainly submitted
to the President of these United States,
so that he might fully understand the
situation, and then, before I would per-
mit my possessions—the hard earnings
of year’s of toil—to go into the hands of
those who covet our property, and who
would rob us, as our fathers were robbed,
I would deed it to, and make a present,
if he would accept it, of all the property
I have to the President and his succes-
sor in office forever, as a perpetual re-

minder, that here, in free America, whole
communities of citizens have been plun-
dered, persecuted and deprived of the
peaceful possession of property without
cause and without redress.

It is said "there are no persons in
Utah who desire the property of the
"Mormons" except upon the fair basis
of purchase." I would be glad if this
were true, for I wish to think well of
all men, and especially of fellow citi-
zens, but I fear recent movements and
present indications will scarcely warrant
belief in the statement, and if future
developments of the plot of conspira-
tors do not demonstrate that polygamy
was the chosen pretext with which
to excite and blind the public mind,
while unscrupulous tricksters sought
to transfer the revenues of the Territory
and virtually the property of the major-
ity of the people through increased and
excessive taxation, to the control of the
insignificant minority in this Territory,
then I am neither a prophet nor the son
of a prophet. The passage of the Ed-
munds bill and the means used to make
it law, are but a part of the plot con-
cocoted in this city and endorsed by cer-
tain parties east against the rights and
liberties of the people of Utah. The pecu-
liar mathematical calculation by which
Governor Murray succeeded in counting
about 1,300 votes for a person almost un-
known here, a greater number than over
18,000 cast for Hon. George Q. Can-
non, the people’s choice for Delegate to
Congress, was but another part of the
program, and one which has, thus far,
deprived us of representation in the Na-
tional Legislature, and rendered nuga-
tory, to the majority in this Territory, the
sacred right of franchise. The late Pres-
ident Garfield, in a public State docu-
ment, declared, in effect, that as a person
who plotted against the life of the king
in a monarchical government committed
treason, so one who tampered with the
ballot-box and thereby deprived the citi-
zen of his right of franchise also commit-
ted treason. If this be sound doctrine and
authoritatively enunciated, what crime
has the Governor of Utah Territory com-
mited? If the canvassing of those votes
and the issuance of a certificate of elec-
tion to a man who received only about
one-fifteenth of the whole number, fore-
shadow the future action of our chief ex-
ecutive, what have the people of Utah
to expect, by way of justice, from him?
Being neither of, nor from among us—
depending upon others for the tenure of
his office and the amount and payment