that under the circumstances it will be
better for me or for you to leave this
place; you can take your choice. They
had their homes down here which they
now inhabit; which were quite comfort-
able. So I said to them, you can go there
and I will stay here, or you can stay at
the Gardo House and I will go there or
somewhere else; for I wish to conform to
this Edmunds law as much as I can."

I am always desirous to let every-
thing have its perfect working. We
talk sometimes about patience having its
perfect work. If we have laws passed
against us I like to see them have a fair
opportunity to develop and see what the
result will be. These were my feelings
then, and they are my feelings today.

Well, do you think, then, that the peo-
ple have been outraged? I most certainly
do. The usage has been in all legal trials
among all civilized nations to presume
that all men are innocent until proven
guilty; but we now have test oaths intro-
duced, which is another violation of the
Constitution and by which an attempt is
being made to hold all men guilty until
they prove themselves innocent. Again:
there is a usage which has existed among
the civilized nations, and in this nation
also, that a man must be tried by a jury
of his peers, selected from the vicinage,
but the juries selected for our courts are
composed today of our bitter persecutors
and our most relentless enemies, and in
many instances selected from the low-
est and most debased men who can be
found or picked up from the gutters. We
also have another class of courts impro-
vised for the occasion in the shape of
"U. S. Commissioners' courts," which are
operated and run after the order of the
ancient notorious "Star Chamber." Such
institutions provoke the contempt of all
honorable men, and the parties assum-
ing such offices place themselves in a po-
sition to be despised of their fellows. I
might enumerate many other outrages,
but time will not permit on this occa-
sion. No man's liberties are safe under
such administration. What will be the
result? The result will be that those that
sow the wind will reap the whirlwind.
When men begin to tear down the bar-
riers and tamper with the fundamental
principles and institutions of our coun-
try, they are playing a very dangerous
game, and are severing the bonds which
hold society together, and the beginning
of these irregularities is like the letting
out of water. The next step that followed
the Edmunds Act, was the introduction
of a test oath. The legislation already
provided was not good enough for some
of our officials here and another portion
of the Constitution must be broken to
introduce a test oath without any au-
thority. I think this was introduced by
our Governor. Then comes another class
of men called Commissioners, rather a
new idea in American Government. Yet
it was thought necessary that extraordi-
nary operations should be entered into in
relation to the Mormons. Why? Because
it is necessary that they should be dealt
with differently from anybody else.

Now, I have seen some of my brethren
shot to pieces in cold blood and un-
der the protection of the State Govern-
ment, and the promise of the Governor
made to myself and Dr. John M. Bern-
hisel, who is sometime ago dead. In
Missouri a great deal of that thing was
done. In Georgia lately, and in Ten-
nessee acts of the same kind have been
perpetrated. Now, I want to know if