

that the commission had finished its work, exercising all the power which the law gave them ; that he suspected, notwithstanding, that the Mormons would succeed at the election in August. The election took place on the 6th of August, and every member of the legislature is a Mormon. Under this faithfully executed commission, all, both men and women, were disfranchised, who had ever married a second wife while the first was living, or who had ever taken a husband who had another wife. In this way, all polygamists were excluded from the polls, to the number of twelve thousand. The Mormons of Utah are a hundred and thirty thousand.

No doubt there is some difficulty in dealing with the Mormon question. Mormon obedience to Church authority is absolute : the Church is the tribunal to which all their disputes are submitted. Their readiness to make any sacrifice, or suffer any privations, in support of their creed, has been attested. Their prosperity under trials has largely increased ; and the idea that if let alone they will disband, and become dispersed, belongs only to those who are ignorant of the facts, of past history, and of human nature. Their priesthood has concentrated power, and through their tithing-system commands great wealth. Outside of any fanaticism, this gratifies their able leaders, and most of their believ-