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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

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PLAIN TALK FOR THE UTAH CIVIL COMMISSION.

THE Edmunds act, which created the Utah Commission and defined its duties, requires that elections in Utah should be conducted under the laws of the United States and of this Territory. The Commission is to appoint the registration and election officers, and they are to perform the same duties under the same regulations as the officers who were formerly elected by the people were required to perform.

The law provides for a correction of the registration lists at stated periods. This correction is to be done in a house to house visitation by the proper officers, and consists of striking from the lists the names of all persons who have died, or have removed from the precinct, or are otherwise disqualified as voters therein, and adding to the lists the names of all qualified voters whose names are not therein.

Under the Utah statute this duty devolved upon the assessors of the various counties, or office as the case might be, and their deputies. Under the Edmunds act it is to be performed by "proper persons" appointed by the Utah Commission. The Assessor of the County is a responsible officer, under bonds for the faithful performance of his duties. Under the appointees of the Utah Commission the registration officers have not, usually, been "proper persons," but persons chosen chiefly for their pronounced hostility to the majority of the voters, and their fidelity to a faction seeking to gain control of public affairs. And they have been irresponsible persons, not placed under bonds, who have done pretty much as they pleased, and in some instances have defied the power that appointed them, ignored the rulings of courts, and openly worked for the special interest of the faction from which they were intentionally chosen.

These are facts that the Utah Commission cannot truthfully deny, although some of its members may object to our blunt way of putting them.

What has been the consequence? This: That the work required by law has not been done, but the appointees have been paid for it, nevertheless, out of the treasury of the United States. The proof of this has been furnished many times, but the Commission apparently has taken no notice of it. Now, however, it comes from a source which should arrest its attention, because it is furnished by the party which the majority of the Commission seem to have chiefly labored to support. The Salt Lake *Tribune*, whose influence is continually felt in the office of the Commission which reposes under its shadow, has published a list of hundreds of names of voters claimed as "Liberals," who could not be found in the precincts where they were registered. There are many hundreds more which were not given in that list, but the *Tribune* selections answer every purpose just now.

No matter what may have been the intent of leaving these names of persons on the lists who have died or removed from the precinct, the fact remains that the registration officers have not done the work which they were paid to do. And if they have sworn to vouchers in order to get their pay, they have committed perjury.

This neglect, to call it by no worse name—though we think the evidence is clear that it deserves a harsher word, more significant of criminal act and intent—has been continued ever since the Utah Commission has exercised the appointing authority in place of the electing power of the people. The blame reflects upon that body, while the evil results that have followed are felt by the community. The wrong can be rectified and the power to correct it is with the Utah Commission.

How can it be done? Simply by a compliance on the part of that body with the letter and spirit of the laws under which they are required to act. Let "proper persons" be appointed, and let each county and city registrar be put under bonds and thus become responsible for his own acts and those of his deputies. A man without character or standing and who could not get bondsmen for a full annual, is not a "proper person." The fact that he is a "Liberal" and will do dirty work for his party does not make him a "proper person" in the eyes of the law or of fair men, even if the majority of the Commission have viewed the matter in that light.

We are to have an important election in this city next February. The registration lists will have to be revised. There are several hundred unregistered citizens who are claimed as "Liberals." There are many hundreds more who have given their names as Democrats or Republicans and anti-"Liberals." Many of those have been passed by purposely, by the "Liberal" registration officers, who did not want such names on the lists. In addition to the neglect in striking improper names off, it can be proved that there has been further and worse neglect in not putting proper names on.

Is this shameful state of things to be perpetuated? Will the Commission cease to be so grossly partisan, and appoint capable and proper persons who can be sued on their bonds for wilful neglect or other illegal conduct? Or will they continue to play into the hands of a faction that has resorted to all the vile tricks known to degraded American party politics and stopped at nothing which gave hope of success?

The proofs of shameful neglect are indisputable. They are before the Commission. What are they going to do about it? Will they continue to ignore the requests of the majority of the citizens? Or will they work the reform which is within their lawful power and which is their official duty to effect?

Let substantial, responsible, impartial persons be appointed to revise the registration lists as the law requires. Let them be required to place the residence of each voter on the registration list. Let a complete copy of those lists be filed and posted for the use of all parties, not the exclusive inspection of a faction. Let their vouchers be required if they have not done their work. Let them be removed and others be appointed in their places if they fail to act as the laws and legal regulations require.

And let us have registration lists that will answer the purpose the laws have in view, that only registered voters can cast a ballot, and that the taint of fraud which has been on all the elections in this city and county since the Utah Commission has existed, may be effectually and entirely removed. This can be done, is there any earthly reason why it should not be done?

THE OUTLOOK.

AS THE election returns come in the fact is made clear that the late counters of the People's party, or the "Mormons" if that term is preferred, have been faithful to their allies and true to their party pledges. It is also evident that wherever the Republican vote has not come up to the expected figure as warranted by reliable data, it has failed because of "Liberal" defection; that is, the return of professed Republicans to their old, true love, the "Liberal" faction.

The Salt Lake and Ogden falling off is plainly attributable to this. The treachery has not extended very far. It is not formidable enough to be alarming. But it exists where we have indicated and nowhere else.

We do not believe that members of the late People's party who formally united with the Republican party have been untrue to their promises. That is not their way. They could always be relied upon. They can be trusted now. It is beyond dispute that they have not shown preference to men of their own faith. The figures tell the story.

The Republican vote of the Territory, notwithstanding all the obstacles in the way of the party, faces up between 5000 and 6000. This we regard as a very fair showing. It is conceded, we believe, that the "Liberal" faction is at least two-thirds Republican in its political leanings. While this has worked materially against Republicanism in Utah, the people connecting it in their minds with "Liberalism" and refusing to support anything with such a tendency, yet when the "Liberal" faction dissolves and its death is certain and not remote, the future Republican vote will be something surprising to national politicians as well as to a great many people nearer home.

There is a sufficient number of undeclared voters, however, who will cast in their lot with the other party to make a walk-over by the Republicans very improbable. But the Democrats will have to put in heavy work when the "Liberal" faction dies, or its victory at this election will not be repeated.

The two parties have a fair field before them. Neither should abandon its efforts to educate the Utah public in political doctrine. National politics only will be the issue of the future in this Territory. One more election, we firmly believe, will prove the end of local factionalism. Then will come a time for "burying the hatchet" and cultivating the plant of peace, so far as home questions and interests are concerned. And there will be sufficient encouragement in the support given to each national party to make national politics interesting and justify the best efforts of its best men. On either side it will be found that the "Mormon" support can be depended upon wherever it is pledged, that henceforth it will be divided, and that neither party can ever make it solidly Democratic or entirely Republican.

ONE OF THE "BIG BLUNDERS."

THE notice we gave Dr Will Talmage yesterday has attracted the attention of several persons, who think the lecturer ought to apologize to the ladies of Salt Lake for his gross libel upon them in his "Tan Table" talk. We will not print their letters today. We think the extract we published is sufficient. It tells its own tale. It shows that the jumping jack of the Brooklyn pulpit is coarse as well as venomous, and slimsiy as well as untruthful. It could not be expected that a person professing to be a Christian minister, who desired to "thunder into" "Mormons" men the ideas he entertains, by the force of gunpowder and artillery, would be very tender towards women, or refined in his language concerning anybody who differs with him. The sinner we cannot call him a gentleman—who lectures tonight may have learned manners since he wrote his false and foul description of the women of Utah, and may have grown enough in refined blasphemous and cities them among the "Big Blunders," but we do not think he is that kind of a "Christian." If nature ever made any blunders we would be of the opinion that the biggest blunder she ever perpetrated was the production of the Rev. (?) De Witt Talmage.

"LIBERALISM" IN OGDEN.

A SOMB devout type of Tribunism is not among the results of the election in Weber County. The Republicans there started out with a good fighting chance to win, and as the figures show, their hope might have been realized had not the Power-Corinthian coterie gone up there a short time before the election and foisted once more the standard of hate which had been all but abandoned and forgotten under the new order of things.

If the Republicans of Weber were as sure of winning their next ticket as they are of never again bearing from *Tribunism* in that county they might be with their armor and be happy. It is not in the nature of men of the *Tribune* cast of mind to follow martyrdom for a business. It has come to be spoils with them or else no work. When they launch their craft again it will be in a dead calm and with no cargo or destination.

That sort of a voyage is not inviting to the professionally lazy or the professionally ambitious office-seeker, of which the Ogden Liberal of today is one, if not both.

SECRETARY NOBLE.

THE country has much cause to regret the resignation of Secretary Noble from the cabinet. He is the exact sort of man that is needed above all others in the kind of positions he has occupied for the past two and a half years. With such men in such places, with the money will and be unexhausted, if will always be safe and prosperous.

It has been evident from the first that Secretary Noble's idea of capability in office was the conscientious discharge of duty. He has had no time for concerting schemes to advertise his brilliancy. The time that the average office holder is called upon to spend in running about the country and making speeches he has occupied among his subordinates and at his desk, attending to his official business. This is an example to American office holding more rare than gentle and a thousand times more profitable.

The brilliant men to whom we frequently make the mistake of entrusting public duty, are usually so conscious that the salvation of the country is dependent upon their continuation in office, that the labor of keeping themselves there demands a far larger proportion of their energies than the public duty entrusted to them. The record of Mr. Noble has been a perfect contrast to this sort of official worthlessness.

J. S. Clarkson is now talked of as his probable successor. Mr. Clarkson is too brilliant a politician to be a useful servant of the people as a cabinet officer. Mr. Clarkson occupied the position of assistant postmaster general under Mr. Wanamaker for the avowed purpose of turning Democratic postmasters out of office because they were not of his political faith, and replacing them with men pledged to vote the Republican ticket. His extraordinary achievement in this capacity have given him the name of the political boodleman. Mr. Clarkson is a brilliant and useful party worker, and a very capable man, but we do not think the country would view with favor his appointment in the place of so patriotic a public servant as Noble. Besides, we do not see how the Republican party can spare him as the head of its central committee, where he would render it greater service and be completely at home.

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED STATES.

CENSUS bulletin 99, relating to paupers in United States almshouses in 1890, is a document of much interest to all American citizens. The aggregate number of inmates in poorhouses in 1890 was 73,065, as compared with 66,628 in 1880. The total number of males was 45,741, and of females 27,324. Of the males 3354, and of the females 3115 were colored.

The population of the United States in 1890 was 62,622,250. The ratio of almshouse paupers to the total population at that time, was 1 to 857, or 1169 to the million. The population in 1880 was 50,155,783. The total number of paupers in almshouses, except in New Hampshire, which has both the county and the town system. In Vermont it is usual for several towns to form among themselves an "association almshouse." In Pennsylvania several counties unite and form a "district almshouse." In Arizona, California, Colorado and Nevada, almshouses are termed "hospitals." In Ohio, "infirmaries," in Indiana, "asylums," and in North Carolina the names of most almshouses were changed by a recent act of the Legislature to "homes for the aged and infirm."

The tabulation according to color shows 60,629 white, 5,195 pure negroes, 305 mulattoes, 13 Chinese, and 23 Indians. Of the colored paupers Utah has one Chinaman, one negro, and 63 white paupers. There are 22 counties of Utah in which it is reported neither paupers nor almshouses were in existence. In 1880, nine persons were receiving outdoor relief in Utah, while in 1890 there were 55.

Of the 63,629 white paupers in the country 30,893 are native born, 25,646 foreign born, and the place of birth of 5,274 is unknown. The foreign population of this country contributes, directly or indirectly, in the persons of the foreign born or of their immediate descendants, very nearly three fourths of all the paupers supported in almshouses.

In the western division Montana shows 132 paupers, Wyoming none, Colorado 97, New Mexico 1, Arizona 13, Utah 62, Nevada 44, Idaho 26, Alaska none, Washington 31, Oregon 98, California 2000. The aggregate is 2533.

The North Atlantic division gives an aggregate of 31,175. This comprises the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The South Atlantic division gives an aggregate of 8166, the North Central division 26,016, and the South Central division 3049.

It is impossible to obtain through the machinery of the Census Office any approximation to a complete enumeration of the outdoor poor, meaning by that phrase the poor who are permanently supported at public expense at their own homes or with private families.

The number of outdoor poor returned in 1880 was 27,936, in 1890 it was 24,228. This added to 73,065 the number in poor houses makes less than 100,000 in the United States.

A DEMAGOGUE SCHOOL TEACHER.

MR. FITZPATRICK, whom Omaha has seen as substitute as to select in the office of Superintendent of Schools, seems to have an itching to get his name in the papers. Either that or ignorance of the state of public opinion all over the country has led him to the trouble of announcing his intention to drive women superintendents out of the public schools of that city.

It is plain that Mr. Fitzpatrick is determined at any hazard to make an individual record. How much the Omaha people will endure of his spotish innovations in this line may be inferred from the expressions of the *World-Herald* on the subject.

Dr. Miller may be assured that he is backed by the overwhelming public sentiment of this city in his protest against the proposed substitution of men for women as principals of our public schools. Superintendent Fitzpatrick may be very much prejudiced against female principals in the public schools, or he may be very enlightened and progressive. It is inconsistent which. It is not necessary to question the sense of his extreme position. It is sufficient to know that women are as competent as principals in the schools of Omaha, just as they are as teachers. There is nothing experimental about their employment. They have been tried and approved. The high standard of Omaha schools shows their excellence out their success.

That our friend Dr. Miller's chivalry should be aroused by this absurd proposition is what we might have expected. It is simply one among numberless other evidences of his manliness on which we have had so many occasions to congratulate him and the people among whom his influence is most felt. We trust he may be successful in squelching this schoolmaster demagogue as effectually as has many other specimens of the demagogue species before him.

PUGILISTS AND PRESIDENTS.

HENRY WATTERSON, the famous Kentuckian of "clear-eyed goddess" renown, has the following on the decline of the prize ring:

"The era of the pugilist is waning. There is no doubt about it. Sullivan or other he does not command public attention quite to the extent that he used to. It is no longer necessary to issue daily bulletins concerning the health and movements of Mr. John L. Sullivan of Boston. It is not considered advisable to consult Mr. Mitchell of England before assuming the Triple Alliance, and doubtless we will have a Presidential election next year despite the threatened absence of Mr. Blaine from New Zealand and Mr. Hall of Australia. In time, if this unfortunate progress continues, the President of the United States will become as conspicuous a figure as the champion pugilist of the world. We will hail the appearance of a first-class novelist with the same appreciation that we show for a phenomenal light-weight fighter. The time of the little poet shall not be inferior to that of a Dempsey or a Paddy Ryan, and the painter and the poet may share some of the profit and the glory that have hitherto awaited the victor at the ringside."

The New York *Recorder* replies as follows:

"It is a curious coincidence that Mr. Watterson should lose confidence in prize fighters and in Grover Cleveland simultaneously. What can it mean? The prize fighters of this section are to a more enthusiastic degree in favor of Mr. Hill for President, and nearly all of them are members of Tammany Hall, certainly devoted followers who do an immense amount of "knocking out" for its election day. Tammany Hall sent the late John Morrissey to Congress, and only a few years ago the Democracy of Brooklyn sent John L. Sullivan a candidate who would do honor to them on the floor of the House of Representatives. Either Mr. Watterson or Western Democracy must be desperating. In all the history of the party there has not been a period when the champion of the prize ring was not, in the opinion of the "unterrified," a power sure than the President, even when the democracy claimed to have one. A contemporary recently proposed that the great Kentucky editor is becoming a Democratic "back number." His reputation of the "fancy" would seem to imply that it has a basis of truth."

NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

A Chicago clergyman says that there should be no Sunday amusements. Whereupon the New York *Recorder* asks "Would he drive Mr. Talmage from the pulpit?"

Natural gas has proved a failure at Fort City Plate Glass Works near Pittsburg. The use of coal has been again resorted to. The company had an immensity of capital trying to push the natural gas scheme but it proved so irregular that coal is cheaper in the end.

Dr. Cronemark, director of prisons in Egypt is about to marry an American girl named Miss Comfort, of New York. The affair is looked on as an international event. But the lady would be likely to find more comfort in a Hinsdale from Massachusetts, than in a crooked shack from Egypt.

Jude Linberg, aged 17, of West Superior, Wis., was charged by Mrs. Falling of the same place with having poisoned the latter's daughter. Mrs. Falling threatened all kinds of punishment, and then Miss Linberg became so frightened that at the appearance of a policeman she ran away and drowned herself.

President Harrison has detailed Lieutenant McCarty Little, one of the brightest officers in the navy, to go to Spain at once and superintend the construction of a fac-simile that is to be made by the government of the caravel "Santa Maria," in which Columbus sailed on the greatest voyage of agos, for exhibition at the World's Fair. The little vessel will be manned by Spanish sailors dressed in the costumes of the time and its masts will be rigged just as were those to which Columbus clung.

The Countess of Caithness has been selected to succeed Miss Ravalaty as high-priestess of theosophy. She is a singularly gifted and accomplished woman, possessed of a fortune that brings her an income of more than $100,000 a year and a widow of one of the most blue blooded earls in the British peerage, she has for nearly twenty years set the pod of social conventionality in England at defiance and become one of the most interesting, most run-after and most talked-about women in England.

Major and Mrs. McKinley are in Pittsburg at present. The Major is taking a rest before the Ohio battle commences. He says "The Democratic claim that importations have increased since the duty went into effect is false. They have decreased. Fourteen Republican speakers will come to Ohio, but I cannot name them now. The next legislature will undoubtedly be Republican, and I am sure it will be the best possible thing for the people. I don't know that there is a fight between Sherman and Foraker. I have seen neither of them for some time."

Mrs. Frank Stuart Parker of Chicago has appeared at Chautauqua in tailor-cut garments as Kate Field would say. Chautauqua has now four styles of dress, namely, no shirts, old shirts, divided skirts, and trousersettes. Miss Willard, of temperance fame, favors the trousersettes for regular wear. The women interested have formed a central committee for the purpose of popularizing the trousersettes. The committee is composed of such women as Mrs. Parker of Chicago, Mrs. Russell of St. Paul, Anne Jenness Miller of New York, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Dr. Mary Jacobi, Miss Grace Dodge and Margaret Sangster.

An Alliance leader says that Garter Harrison would be turned from membership in their order upon constitutional grounds. No one can join who lives within the limits of a city or incorporated town, and "if Harrison wants to become an Alliance man or candidate for the Presidency on the Alliance ticket he will have to quit Chicago and live outside the limits," that is leave the present corporate limits of Chicago would practically drive him out of Illinois. If Cudee sees a chance for leadership in the Alliance he can soon become a farmer, for he owns a large farm in Illinois and another in Kentucky.

Dora Ancelotti sued her husband Max in the New York court of Common Pleas for alimony. She was awarded ten cents a month and $1.60 counsel fee. The award is the lowest on record in that court. The judge allowed the husband thirty days in which to make the first payment under the order. It appeared by the papers in the case that Max married to escape a trouble of promise suit. He admitted affidavits declaring that, while he was penniless, his wife earns $9 a week as a tailoress, and that her father is a well-to-do wine merchant. Judge Pryor said he had no discretion in the premises. The law had not been adjusted to meet a case where the husband is a pauper and the wife a millionaire.

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