

hard in some cases to discover what would constitute an awakening process.

With regard to the disputed twentieth district, the people feel greatly exercised and indignant. They claim that an attempt was made to defraud them out of their rights. In other words that the People's Party was clearly in the majority at the first meeting held, but by the fraudulent manipulation of certain Liberals present and actively participating, there was not a fair election. The voice and will of the majority of the voters present were suppressed and ignored by the person who acted as chairman and his Mephistophelean prompter.

Those upon whom this wrong was inflicted did well to hold a subsequent meeting, and transact the business of the election fairly and properly. We understand that they propose to hold the fort, and if necessary contest the election in the courts. This is proper. It is wrong to submit supinely to fraud, and any attempt to deprive the people of their rights should be contested and fought inch by inch. In such matters to timidly yield is base cowardice.

MORE LIBERAL TACTICS.

THE proceedings at the Ogden school election, July 8, afford another example of Liberal unscrupulousness in the conduct of political affairs. Similar tactics were employed there as in the Twentieth district of this city, with some extras thrown in. The tumult and din which prevailed were, according to the *Standard's* account of the election, uproarious, deafening, not to say disgraceful. We here quote from the *Standard's* editorial comments upon the scene.

"Pursuant to the programme outlined in McDaniel's 'confidential' circular to the Liberal cohorts, Captain Ransford Smith was last evening chosen a member of the Board of Trustees of Ogden School district. It was very likely in accordance with the same programme that 'Kentucky' Smith took the chairmanship of the meeting. If so Mac as a manager and Smith as an 'executioner' deserve neither praise nor endorsement from sensible, civilized people who enjoy in politics other methods than those which obtain among ward 'heelers' and brawling partisans.

"Our readers are referred to the report in our local columns for particulars of the meeting. Mr. Scowcroft's decision as to the vote of the assemblage was roughly set aside in favor of Captain Smith's decision. The former, with the true courtesy which should animate

every man who puts a question before an audience, was willing that his decision should be appealed from and decided by the house. Captain Smith showed no such delicacy; he declared his partner elected, and that retiring partner, protected front and rear by valiant friends and officers of the law, fairly clove the stream of voters in his haste to mount the stand. Mr. Stanford, who was declared chairman by Mr. Scowcroft, in vain attempted to contest the riotous procedure. He was forbidden to speak, and was threatened with arrest or ejection if he persisted in renewing his claim to be heard. If others were not subjected to the same indignities it was because they subsided more readily. Even one of the Liberals, who seemed to advocate harmony was summarily called to order.

* * * It was an exhibition better suited to the prize ring in Mississippi than the peaceful choice of a trustee to labor in the cause of education among the young."

A statement made to us by a reliable eye-witness fully bears out the report of and comments upon the proceedings made by our contemporary. One incident of the affray was specially marked for its effrontery. So soon as the balloting was over and the box unlocked, A. R. Heywood, a Liberal and one of the secretaries, thrust his hand in and took up a quantity of ballots. His arm was seized and he was forced to desist, but whether he dropped the whole of the papers from his grasp is not quite clear. To attribute this act to want of information would be to set Mr. Heywood down as a first-class ignoramus; to ascribe it to an intent to perpetrate an election fraud would be to write him down a knave. The reader is at liberty to take his choice.

Unscrupulous "active politicians" are at every turn taking advantage of the meekness of those whose rights they are seeking to trample under foot. The presumption that advantage can with impunity be taken of the people who constitute the more stable and honest portion of the community can be carried beyond the limit of endurance.

THE OHIO CAMPAIGN.

THE Democrats of Ohio have held a conference the object of which was the establishment of harmony and uniting upon some man as a leader who would receive undivided support. There is quite a protection element among the Buckeye Democracy, and to placate these without giving offense to the great bulk of the party was the

work that was laid out and, as it seems, accomplished. The candidate decided upon was Judge Virgil P. Kline, of Cleveland, an able lawyer, excellent speaker and a very popular citizen.

The Ohio election occurs on Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and being the first of considerable consequence since the Presidential election will be looked for with close interest. It is naturally a Republican State, but the Democrats manage to carry it now and then, in fact often enough to have one of the two United States Senators right along and about every third time to capture the Governorship. This rule maintained would give them a victory in the coming contest, as Governor Foraker, Republican, is now concluding his second term and is re-nominated, this being the fourth consecutive term; the first one, six years ago, he was defeated by Governor Hoadley.

THE DEADLY ELECTRIC WIRES.

FROM New York and other large cities of the east come complaints of the effects of the electric wires. Every now and then a death results from contact with them, and so serious has the matter become that the press have unanimously taken up the cry, and the demand now is that something be done to abolish or at least mitigate the evil without delay. On Tuesday of last week, in New York City, several men were injured more or less severely by live wires. One man's hands were so badly burned that he had to be taken to a hospital, where he still is; another was prostrated by a contact, and as he lay upon the ground helpless, a Newfoundland dog ran to his assistance and, touching a wire, was instantly killed.

This kind of thing, it would seem, should call for immediate action; yet it is dallied with as though the officials were indifferent or the companies operating the wires were too powerful to be attacked successfully. Perhaps both conditions figure to some extent, in which case we should say it was about time for the people in their sovereign capacity to arise and settle the matter at once.

It is idle to talk of abolishing the electric light because its wires are a constant menace to life and limb; on the contrary, its good offices and general usefulness should be extended and invited. But surely the mind that was bright and fertile enough to make of