

and thus withholds hundreds of millions of acres of lands from entry and settlement. The Senate, after a lengthy debate, inserted a clause in the sundry civil appropriation bill, providing for the repeal of this objectionable law, but the House disagreed to that amendment and the matter will have to be settled by a conference committee.

DANGEROUS SYMPTOMS.

COMING so soon after the mutinous outbreak of the Grenadier Guards, the seizure of a boat by and the abrupt desertion of over a score of British tars, at Rhode Island, is a significant incident. One is prepared for the outcroppings of mutinous disaffection and disobedience to orders among the military and in the apology for a navy of our own country, but such exhibitions in the forces of an old and powerful monarchy like Great Britain are decidedly striking. They are, together with many other manifestations in the same direction, indications that a general relaxation of authority and defiance of its control are increasing throughout the world. If this tendency continues and gathers strength as it rolls, armies will be in danger of degenerating into mobs, and navies will, so far as their sphere will admit, follow suit. This will be a dangerous condition in combination with the growing elements which are working toward social and political disorganization, as in case of popular uprisings the powers that be would be without a reliable means of suppressing them. The facilities for wiping out revolts have given monarchies an appearance, as a rule, of greater stability than republics. Take these away and the latter would be blown like chaff before the wind of popular fury.

WE WANT WHAT IS RIGHT.

WE do not expect impossibilities of the Utah Commission nor any particular favors to the People's Party. But we think we may consistently ask of the gentlemen composing it a little more regard for the equities than they have manifested in the past. We do not claim that they can make the election officers do right in every case. But we believe that all appointing authority has some power over the appointed, and can exercise it in a proper direction.

It is a shame and disgrace to the administration of election affairs in this Territory, that citizens, whose

right to vote is beyond question, should be put to the trouble and expense which have been entailed upon many during the past year, and in so many instances in vain. And, considering that these defrauded and misused citizens are invariably members of one political party, the shame and disgrace are increased.

We think the Utah Commission could, if they would, select responsible men instead of irresponsible for the offices within their appointment. We think they might, if they chose, pick out men who are not such offensive partisans, to discharge the important duties required. We think they could give instructions and directions to their appointees in a manner likely to gain respect and obedience. We think the Commission could if they desired, show these appointees that they are not entirely independent of the power that appointed them. We think also that when such persons fail, or neglect or refuse to perform a plain duty, that they could be and ought to be summarily removed, at any time while they are in office, and more fit persons put in their place.

It is our opinion that if some of the appointees of the Utah Commission had been People's Party men and had acted as the "Liberal" officials did, they would have been thrust out in the twinkling of an electric spark, and prosecuted into the bargain.

We believe that a large number of voters have been robbed of their rights through the perversity and insubordination of "Liberal" election officers, who thought they could defy the law and that their criminal conduct would meet with nothing more than a mild remonstrance from the Utah Commission. Also that they could have been "brought up standing" in a hurry by energetic directions from the appointing power.

It is childish to assume that there is no power to regulate a registration officer when he is prostituting his office to the needs or wishes of his party. If a central committee is more powerful in regulating the conduct of officers of the law than the body that appointed those officers, there is something rotten under the Edmunds law that needs dragging out and exposing, if not abolishing entirely.

There is generally a way to do things when there is a will. We trust the Commission will find both, to ensure justice to voters in future. Give us officers picked not for their

partizanship but their fitness. Let all parties be fairly represented if parties are considered at all.

Why should a shameless and thoroughly exposed political wire-worker have tools supplied to his hand, by authority acting under the Government of the United States? Why should gentlemen of standing and reputation in the country move in line with the known manipulators of one party against another, and expose themselves to suspicion of being afraid of a clique of conspirators? Why should all the advantages be given to one party and all be denied to another? Why should frauds of the most shameful character be possible under the auspices of the Utah Commission, which were impossible under the regulation of Utah Territory?

We have no desire to attack the Commission, to make any charges against them, or to impute improper motives to any of them. But the People's Party, as they know, have had substantial grievances to complain of, and we believe the Commission can prevent a repetition of these evils.

We shall have another election in November. Can we not have a fair and impartial election at that time? We ask for decent men to perform the work preliminary to that election and as judges on that day. We want to see every man's name on the registration list that has a right to be there, and to have the law carried out in spirit as well as in letter.

It depends to a very great extent on the Utah Commission whether this shall be done or not. For their efforts to have injustice corrected in many instances in which it became clear to them that wrong had been done, we commend them. We do not want to find fault without cause. We simply want what is right. Let the Commission exercise their legitimate powers in that direction, and though we may not see through their eyes, we will not say one word in condemnation of their course. Let justice be done though the heavens fall."

A PECULIAR PROVISION.

ON Tuesday, August 5, the City Council passed an ordinance on an important subject—the prevention of fires. It provides that a person who stacks hay, straw or other inflammable material at a closer distance than sixty feet to any building in