

## A GOOD WORK, SO FAR.

A VERY good selection of delegates to the convention, to be held next Saturday, was made Monday, July 21, at the primaries held in this city. All the Wards attended to this duty. The delegates were left to their own discretion as to making up a county ticket. The disposition was shown to sacrifice merely local interests and proclivities for the general welfare. That is right. The interests of the whole county should be considered, and it matters not in what part of the county men live who are the best suited for the offices to be filled, they should be chosen for their fitness rather than their locality. A strong ticket is wanted, one that will meet the approval of every fair-minded citizen. With that, and thorough work in getting out all the voters to the polls, we may confidently look for a victory for the People's Party, which shall give confidence to all who desire the maintenance of good, honest and capable government in this county, for the public benefit and not for the enrichment of office-seekers or reward to political "strikers and spoliemen."

## COMING TO AN ISSUE.

THE taxpayers of the Eleventh School District have filed a petition with the county court, setting forth their grievances in reference to the special school tax assessed in that district and asking for a reduction of the rate from one per cent to four mills.

The grievances set forth are serious and call for a remedy. Whether that remedy lies in the direction sought is extremely doubtful. The levy of one per cent upon the taxable property of the school district, under the extreme valuation placed upon the property, will produce three times as much revenue as is necessary for the purposes of the tax. The levy was made on the valuation of 1889. But the valuation of 1890 is so exorbitant that instead of about \$5,500 being raised by the one per cent. tax—the amount required, no less than \$16,424 will be collected.

It must be evident to all that this is wrong and oppressive. The taxpayers should not be compelled to furnish revenue that is unnecessary. Neither should large amounts be forced from taxpayers in one district, and given to the Board of Education, to be expended as much for the benefit of districts where little or no

special taxes are raised as for the district thus imposed upon. The evil is obvious; but where lies the remedy?

The Eleventh District people, through the former trustees, ask the county court to supply the remedy. We do not believe that body has the power to do so. Its functions are not judicial to the extent desired. In our opinion the matter will have to be determined by the District Court. We know of no authority vested in the County Court to reduce the rate of a special school tax, assessed by the majority of the taxpayers at a meeting duly called and conducted according to law. It is possible that the same taxpayers may at a meeting, legally called, rescind the tax formerly levied. But that is very questionable, as nothing of the kind is provided for in terms in the law.

We are still of the opinion that the District Court has authority, as a court of equity, to enjoin the collection of this excessive special tax, on the grounds that a mistake was made in its assessment; that when compared with other assessments, all of which are to go into a common fund, it will be unequal and therefore unjust; that under the change in valuations it will be oppressive; and that it is unnecessary for the purposes designed, in view of the large amount that will be raised under the general assessments for school taxes.

The easiest, best and most effectual way out of the dispute arising between the old school trustees and the new Board of Education in regard to these special school taxes, is clearly a case in the District Court. If an injunction can be obtained against the Collector, there will be no special school taxes to turn over to the Board of Education. The difficulty that troubles the old trustees will be dissipated, and the board of Education will have plenty of funds through the regular taxes to carry on their work for the ensuing year, and then if needs be they can levy a sufficient tax to cover all requirements.

The Seventh Ward taxpayers seem to have done the right thing. They have authorized the turning over of the real school property of the District to the Board of Education, but have determined to resist the collection of the special school tax and have appointed a strong committee to act in their behalf. This will no doubt bring the matter to a definite issue and deter-

mine what can be done with the full sanction of the courts under the law. It is to be hoped that the movement to resist collection of the special school taxes will be general in this city.

## VOTED DOWN.

NOTWITHSTANDING the orders of the "Liberal" organ, the Board of Education did not disgust the public by appointing as their clerk the person whose appreciation of public morals rises no higher than his own standard. The "organ" worked very hard for the candidate after its own heart, but failed signally. The lash of the *Trib.* is losing its sting, and it will not be long before the decent portion of the "Liberal" element will utterly refuse to be whipped into line, submit to its arrogance, or pay attention to its assaults on truth and decency. "Nine-hundred-and-ninety-nine" only counts for one, scarcely that, and he is out. We concur.

## "MORMON" LIBERTY AND UNITY.

THE annexed pieces of anti-"Mormon" nonsense are from the *Vancouver, B. C., Telegram* of the 10th inst.:

"The Mormon Church is in reality a great socialistic community, ruled with absolute authority by a few scheming ecclesiastics. The socialist principle was taught by Brigham Young. He said he had a revelation commanding that all things be held in common by the brethren. Hence in the Mormon Church, when a man becomes possessed of a farm of land he must assign it by deed to the Order of Enoch; that is to say, the Church becomes the owner. So also with other property. If a Mormon owns sheep, or cattle or horses, he must deed them to the Order of Enoch. If he refuses he is excommunicated and becomes a pariah in the Mormon community."

"If a man leaves the Mormon Church, and is permitted to escape with his life, he may perhaps take such of his family with him as are willing to go; but that is all. He cannot take his property or sell it; that belongs to the Church to which it has been deeded. And this is not all. When a man's property belongs to the Church, he is not his own master; he must do what his ecclesiastical superiors command him to do; his vote is no longer his own, it belongs to the Church, and ballot papers will not protect him."

It will perhaps surprise the writer of the foregoing to learn that in the "Mormon" church the right of property is held as sacred as in any church or other institution on the globe. "Mormonism" is not socialism. It does not teach a community of goods. No "Mormon" is required to deed either his real estate or personal property to the Church, or to any "Order" or individual.