

that process favor the introduction of corruption.

Doubtless the managers of the People's Party will direct the attention of the Commission to the fact that the application of their latest suggestion will tend to prevent what they express themselves as desirous of assisting to produce—a fair and honest election on Monday next. That is all the People's Party insist upon, and the best way to reach it is to adopt measures that will prevent the perpetration of fraud and not open the way for its easy commission.

"LIBERAL" FALSEHOOD AND ABUSE.

THE "Liberals" who are "on the stump" are nothing if not untruthful. When they are not telling direct falsehoods they are engaged in misrepresenting facts and figures in such a way that the effects are of a similar character. Perhaps it is unnecessary to take the trouble to refute anything they advance, for, after all, their efforts amount in the main to a hullabaloo and the making of night hideous, by the discordant yells of a lot of rowdy urchins and a few adults whose part of the programme is to shout when the vituperative orators stop to catch their breath. It is not likely that the election will be materially affected by these noisy and abusive proceedings.

But there are some statements made and inferences drawn which may need explanation lest it be said that they are unanswerable. And as challenges to reply are as numerous almost as the errors advanced, an answer now and then will be perhaps the proper thing. For instance, one "Liberal," noted chiefly for anti-"Mormon" fanaticism so bitter that it affects his whole character and appearance, warps what might have been a legal mind and disfigures what might have been a pleasant countenance, has been reading to his audiences some extracts from a debate in the Legislature of 1882 in relation to delinquent taxes of counties, and after doing so has referred to this as proof that the People's Party are responsible for "robberies as bold as ever were perpetrated on the public highway." Also that many thousands of dollars have been "taken from the public treasury" of Salt Lake County. And further that in Summit County "they stole it."

Now we draw attention to the fact that neither the debate, nor the figures mentioned in it, nor any-

thing else produced by the speaker prove that either the People's Party, or any public official or anybody else had "stolen" a dollar. The "delinquent taxes" referred to could not have been "taken from the public treasury," for the simple reason that they had never been in the public treasury. The explanation is simple:

Under the Territorial laws the total amounts of the taxes assessed in the several counties are charged up to the collectors. Whether they succeed in collecting them or not, they owe them after a certain date. The county courts are required to make regular financial reports to the Legislature. From these it has appeared from time to time that the full amounts of the taxes assessed have not been paid in. Why? Not because anybody had "stolen" the money, but because it had not been collected. How a man can steal that which he has not received, and how a party can have "stolen" funds that nobody has handled, remains for "Liberal" logic to explain.

Taxes have been not only uncollected but in many instances were uncollectible, through the removal of the property owners from the Territory, for instance. A disinclination to sue and sell a man's home for taxes has worked in this dereliction. Such sympathy and dereliction of duty may be wrong. But it is not stealing. "Liberals" have been very abusive of People's Party collectors who were compelled to levy on people's property for non-payment of taxes. If the officers enforce payment, the "Liberals" call them "brutes;" if they do not enforce collection they call them "thieves." In either case they are the subjects of "Liberal" vituperation.

The debate read from was not over money "stolen" by anybody, but as to the disposition of old accounts called "delinquent taxes" which it appeared could not be collected, and not a scintilla of proof appeared therefrom that any officer had "stolen" a dollar, either from the "public treasury" or from any other source. The recommendation of the committee was that those old, uncollectible taxes that had been assessed before the revenue law of 1878 was passed, should be remitted. Not because any one had stolen the money, but because it had not been collected and under the law of 1878 could not be collected. And this is seized upon by soured and venomous anti-"Mormon" stump speakers

as proof of embezzlement by the People's Party! Truly they must be hard up for campaign sheet-iron thunder!

The course pursued toward the Legislature by a county clerk who refused to render such a specific and detailed account as a committee of the House required, is cited by the same speaker as proof that the People's Party had been stealing the public funds. What are the facts? Why, that the Legislature passed a vote of censure against the clerk for his improper conduct, that his party repudiated him, and that he suffered from that rebuke to the day of his death. But there was no element of stealing or embezzlement in that act of discourtesy, neither was anything dishonest alleged to attach to it.

The same speaker mentioned the names of two collectors of Salt Lake County who were short in their accounts and whom he described as "defaulters," and also declared that their bonds were worthless and nothing was recovered. The term "official plunderers" is used against the leaders of the People's Party in this connection. The truth is that both those officials were proceeded against for not paying up the full amount of the tax assessments, and that they had involved themselves through not enforcing collection. In each case their private property was turned over to satisfy the claims against them. In one case Judge Snow was appointed as referee, and received a deed of trust from the delinquent collector as security for his bondsmen. In the other case the bondsmen were proceeded against and did make a settlement with the county court.

Thus a little fact is mixed up with a good deal of fiction, and the usual "Liberal" tactics are resorted to in order to convey a false impression and draw conclusions which are totally unwarranted by the premises.

The remedy for unsatisfactory conduct in a public official is to drop him and see that he does not have the opportunity to offend again. This has been done by the People's Party. It is the only consistent political course. To go over to the enemy because a friend has not fulfilled one's expectations would be suicidal and idiotic. Yet that is what the "Liberal" orators want People's Party voters to do. The party can correct its own errors if there are any to correct, and need not go to men who belie it, and falsely ac-