

a Mount Nebo among the conspicuous inexactitudes which have been created, like a mountain chain, along the lines of the late contest, by the "Liberal" leaders and managers. The ordinary "monumental lie" of a political campaign in the east, be it remembered, is as a grave-stone to a mountain when compared to some of the statements promulgated by "Liberals" in regard to the recent election in this city.

But Powers' memory failed him when he undertook to recount to the *Chronicle* reporter the manner in which the "Liberals" secured a victory. The yeoman service rendered by the doughty David Webb, in having the names of People's Party voters stricken from the lists, the rulings of the mighty registrars, who exercised supreme authority to which the highest court in the land was required to bow, and even the registration car and contingents of voters from P. V. Junction, Pratt's Sliding, Castle Gate, Grand Junction, Col., etc., were all unmentioned by Powers. Yet all these elements of "Liberal" success are matters of notoriety here, and no account of the election could be even approximately complete or truthful which omitted mention of them.

By way of closing Powers' remarked:

"In August we expect to carry the county with hands down and obtain control of the county government, and we have more than a fighting chance of carrying the Territory next November and of electing a Gentle delegate to Congress. We are going to make a strong fight and we propose to win."

When the first emotions of astonishment subside which this boast of intended capture of this county and Territory by the "Liberals" inevitably occasions, the question recurs, "Why not?" If the minority can win a city, why not a county? Likewise a Territory? If the "Liberals" can muster a population of 40,000 against a People's Party population of 160,000, in the whole Territory, why should not the former elect the next Delegate to Congress? Such questions will be asked by unsophisticated persons, who are unfamiliar with "Liberal" tactics. But the history of the contest lately waged in this city shows how easy it is to create a "Liberal" majority when the courts, registrar and all the machinery of elections are completely subject to the manipulation of men to whom success will bring ten thousand dollar "presents."

HYPNOTISM AND CRIME.

A STARTLING theory in relation to criminal jurisprudence has recently been put forth in France, and has been a subject of widespread discussion in Europe and America for several weeks. Some months ago there occurred in Paris a peculiarly shocking murder. The victim was a man named M. Gouffe, who was strangled by means of a noose flung over his head, in an apartment into which he had been enticed. The police learned and surmised enough to construct the following theory: A man named Eyraud had acquired a strong and evil influence over a young woman named Gabrielle Bompard. Eyraud is represented as a man of fantastic character, who, for some reason, desired the death of M. Gouffe. To compass his murder Eyraud compelled Mile. Bompard to lure him to the room where the crime was consummated.

This theory was formulated soon after the murder was done, and a celebrated hypnotist of Paris announced his belief that, if Mile. Bompard were placed in his charge he could take her to the room where the crime was committed, compel her to re-enact the part she took in the tragedy, and narrate all other particulars connected with it. He made this declaration on the theory that the young woman was a hypnotic subject whom he could control.

The advisability of trying such an experiment was for some time questioned and held under advisement, but, as we gather from one of our exchanges, it was at length attempted. The room in which Mr. Gouffe was strangled was placed in the same condition as when the crime occurred. Two detectives acted the supposed parts of M. Gouffe and Eyraud. The one representing the former sat in an arm chair and the young woman, who was present and under the hypnotic influence, coolly seated herself in his lap. The detective who was personating Eyraud then threw a noose over the other's head, and the young woman went through the motions of seizing his hands to prevent him from removing the cord from his neck. She gave, at the same time, a verbal narrative of the tragedy, and said that while she was sitting in the lap of M. Gouffe she saw Eyraud preparing to throw the noose over the victim's head, from behind, and that M. Gouffe noticed an expression of terror in

her face and tried to calm her. A moment later, she said, she was thrown to the floor by the struggles of the murdered man as Eyraud jerked the cord.

The results of this experiment have been astonishing in their confirmation of the theory the police had already formed of the tragedy, and the question now agitating the French courts and bar is, Ought hypnotism to be admitted as an element of proof in criminal prosecutions? This question involves the further ones: Is hypnotism a science, and is it possible for one person to obtain so strong a hypnotic control over another as to compel the latter to commit crime?

It is asserted that many French savants believe fully in hypnotism, and in the theory that Mile. Bompard acted under a form of compulsion which she was powerless to resist. So strong is the hold which this opinion has gained upon the public mind of Paris, and indeed of all France, that the officials show a marked reluctance to prosecute the young woman. The case is one of the most noted in modern criminal annals, and some of its features illustrate certain remarkable tendencies peculiar to recent years.

AN IMMENSE BRIDGE.

ENGLISH papers announce the opening, on the last of January, of the bridge over the Firth of Forth, on the line of the Midland Railway, near Edinburgh. The first test was made on January 25, when two coal trains, each consisting of three large locomotives and fifty coal trucks, the whole aggregating about 2400 tons, moved slowly on to the bridge, and after stopping over each of the great arches, moved to the other side. The construction of the Forth bridge is regarded as one of the greatest scientific and mechanical achievements of modern times. The plans for the structure were adopted in 1882. The total length of the viaduct is 8296 feet, or nearly one and five-eighths miles; there are two spans of 1710 feet each, two of 690 feet, fifteen of 168 feet girders, four of 57 feet, and three masonry arches of 25 feet each. In the centre of each of the 1710 feet spans is a clear headway for vessels for 500 feet wide and 150 feet high. The extreme height of the structure is 361 feet above, and the depth of the foundations 91 feet below high water—a total height of 452 feet. In the viaduct there was