

A MONSTROUS MEASURE.

In the dispatches we are informed that Congressman Stewart, of Vermont, has introduced an anti-"Mormon" bill into the House of Representatives. It is after the pattern of the Idaho test oath measure, but goes further even than that infamous act. It provides that no member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints shall be eligible to vote at any election or hold any civil office in the Territories of the United States, or to be naturalized as a citizen, or to settle upon any public lands.

The active anti-"Mormon" politicians, who have, in this Territory, been working up toward a scheme for complete spoliation of the Saints, have been threatening for some time the pushing of a measure that would attack their right to settle upon public lands. They have also endorsed the Idaho test oath law. Indeed the measure introduced by Mr. Stewart bears all the ear-marks of having been formulated here. The marks of certain particular pairs of ears are somewhat glaringly conspicuous upon it.

The bill is a blot on modern civilization and an unmitigated disgrace to those connected with its formulation and presentment. We do not think that the national legislature is so far lost to justice and humanity as to pass such a legal enormity as the measure introduced by Mr. Stewart, and which was suggested by political schemers in Utah.

CARPET-BAGGERS' COMFORT.

ONCE in a while an editor strikes a correct view in treating upon a question with which the "Mormons" are associated. The gentleman occupying that distinction in connection with the *Rome, N. Y., Sentinel* has done that very thing in relation to Governor Thomas' proposition for a political financial bonanza and autocracy in Utah. He speaks thus of his recommendation for centralization and carpet-bag rule:

"It has remained for Governor Thomas of Utah to propose what he regards as a solution of the Mormon question. He thinks that once their political power is destroyed in the Territory, Mormonism will disappear. After much study of the elective offices in the troublesome Territory, he has concluded that 'about half the county officers should be appointed by Federal authorities' instead of being elected. It is probable enough that these ideas of the Utah Governor fall like honeyed words on the federal authority or authorities, who would have the appointments to

make, and a hungry and thirsty army of office-seekers will straightway hope for the speedy working of the scheme. It may appear strange to some that any full-fledged politician should consent to be appeased by a county office in Utah. But Governor Thomas has doubtless figured on those offices worth having on account of the salaries, and, really, the office-seeker is not as particular as he appears at first sight. The man who went to Washington for the position of clerk of the House of Representatives, and when he lost that gradually descended in his demands till he reached the bed-rock of a common messenger, is a type of the average office-holder."

A proposal or recommendation to change from a process of electing public officers to be entrusted with the transaction of business for the people to appointing them, by some "Federal agency," is so strongly suggestive of political jobbery and so pronouncedly anti-republican, that anybody ought to understand the "honeyed words" as well as the editor of the *Sentinel*. The latter concludes his article by intimating that serious doubts ought to exist as to the reliability of the persons who would fill the local offices in question, providing Governor Thomas' plan should be adopted. Such a doubt may well exist. It has a solid foundation.

THE OPPOSITION TICKET.

THE "Liberal" ticket is now complete. As a whole it could scarcely be weaker. The name which heads it, that of Mr. Scott, is the strongest in the array.

There is a feature about the ticket that is worth a special note—it embodies all of the registrars except one.

If there had been any possible doubt as to their having been placed on the ticket as a reward for party services while acting in the capacity of registrars, it was dispelled by the blunt statement made in convention by Mr. McCallum. There appeared at one point of the proceedings to be a probability of another candidate receiving the nomination for assessor and collector, when the gentleman named put in a plea for E. R. Clute, on the ground that he ought to get it because of the manner in which he had conducted the registration of the Second Precinct.

This, then, is a reward for Mr. Clute's notoriously unfair manipulation of an official duty that should be performed without partizan spirit, and as in his case, so in that of all the other registrars who have been favored with nominations. Is this the reward of official corruption? That remains to be further proved,

as it, doubtless, will be before a great while.

Under the instructions of the Utah Commission, the registrars are made the judges of cases of challenge of voters for cause. It will be seen from this how cunningly and unscrupulously this business has been managed. These four men are made the judges of matters of direct personal interest to themselves. They can pass upon the merits of a case of challenge of parties who are to be accorded or denied the privilege of voting for or against them. This is not only unfair; it is outrageous.

Are men who do unjust work in behalf of a political party such persons as should be trusted with the management of the public business of this city? This is a question in which respectable "Liberals" ought to be as much interested as the members of the People's Party. Take for instance the office of assessor and collector. The person holding it has directly to do with the property interests of all the citizens. In his jurisdiction is the tax-manipulation of the homes of the poor, as well as the property of the rich. Is Mr. Clute such a man as can be trusted with such an important duty? If he has been guilty of doing unscrupulous partizan work he is not.

He gave, after his nomination, excellent ground for the presumption that he is an unfit candidate for the office for which he is named. This evidence consisted of a declaration from himself, to the effect that if he had to assess a piece of property of a friend and a piece of the same value belonging to an enemy, he would not discriminate unjustly. A square man never needs to make such an assertion. He does not presume that anybody would suspect that he would do otherwise than honestly. Judges of human nature know well that a man with a weak spot is always on the alert to defend it; sometimes before it is attacked.

With a fair field and a clear registration list, the People would gain an easy victory. But by the manipulations, undercurrent work and what we claim to be illegal and unjust discriminations of men who are being rewarded for that kind of labor, the struggle will be necessarily more formidable than it would otherwise have been. But if the "Liberals" imagine they are going to make an easy steal of the government of this city, they have reckoned without their host.