

to this city for "colonization" purposes and under contract to vote the People's ticket. Inquiry demonstrated the fact that in no case was there any truth in the report. The young men who were citizens—some were not—had made no contract with anybody for any purpose, and most of them had been in the habit of going away from home for work after the spring's plowing and planting were done, and the names of their employers at previous seasons were given to us. The whole story was false except that the men had left the town where they had lived to work elsewhere.

Then some vacant-headed reporter saw a notice that lodging places were wanted for students at the L. D. S. College here. They were mostly young ladies, but some of them young men under age. The idea rattled about in his cranium that this meant "colonization" for the People's Party, and straightway a warning was issued against this contemplated horror.

It is all done to throw dust in the eyes of the People and divert attention from the "Liberal" schemes and tricks now in process of incubation. Also to scare new-comers to this city, if possible. But it will not work. Neither false "cries" nor attempted intimidation will succeed. The People's Party only want what is right and lawful, and that they mean to have, or blazen the wrong to the world and seek redress to the utmost possible limit.

We here state, most emphatically, that only citizens who can truthfully take the election oath, which includes residence for a given time in this city, will be entitled, or find it safe, to vote at the city election. We mean this for persons of all parties and affiliations. Residence means what it says. Transients, people here on a mere visit, or those who sojourn here temporarily, whether it be for education or otherwise, while their homes are elsewhere, are not residents in the meaning of the law. They do not thus acquire the right to vote.

But citizens who have come into this city to reside, no matter what may have been the cause of their removal from their former residence, if they dwell here for the period required by statute and ordinance, and can honestly take the election oath, have as much right to vote here as though they had made this their first abode on arriving in the Territory. And they need not be afraid of "Liberal" pluster and empty threats. If they

attempt anything unlawful they will have cause for dread for they will be in danger. We promise them that. But while they observe the law and keep within its limits and intent, they are safe notwithstanding all the howling and noise and obstruction for which the "Liberal" party is chiefly noted.

With a purged registration list, and no voters but *bona fide* citizen residents within the meaning of the laws, a fair legal test can be made of the question, who should control municipal affairs. If the question was simply as to the majority of the citizens, which ought to be the issue, there would be no room for a contest; the People's Party would have an undoubted majority. But the test must be according to existing laws, by which many resident taxpaying citizens have been disfranchised. They are therefore "counted out." And the struggle is between persons legally entitled to vote.

If the legal majority, then, is shown to be of the opposition, the result will be acquiesced in and the successful candidates will be sustained by the minority, with as good grace as could be expected. But we don't want any Ogden villainy and will not submit to it in silence.

And if the fair-minded, tax-paying, *bona fide* citizens of Salt Lake who vote with the so-called "Liberals" will aid in securing an honest registration and a fair election, we will do our part towards the same end, and in obtaining the support of the whole people for the elected officers, no matter to which party they may belong.

PROSPECTS FOR A FAIR ELECTION.

THE Utah Commissioners appear to be desirous of securing, as far as lies in their power, an honest and fair election next February. For this purpose they have issued a circular of instructions to the registrars who are to revise the lists preparatory to the election. We do not see what more they could provide for than appears in this circular.

It must be remembered that the powers of the Utah Commission are very limited. They are not empowered to formulate oaths, to frame regulations, or require conformity with laws relating to elections. Their efforts in these respects are therefore chiefly advisory. And yet a great deal is expected of them, and anything improper in the conduct of election affairs in this Terri-

tory would inevitably reflect upon them unfavorably.

It is generally conceded that the registration of last spring was not thoroughly attended to by the deputies, at least in this city. The Commission now intimate that neglect in this matter will subject the officer to removal. That is direct to the point and, we believe, is within the legitimate authority of that body. They urge the erasure from the lists of the names of all persons who have died, or removed permanently from the precinct, or have otherwise become disqualified. And they say it is "the earnest desire of the Commission to eliminate from the lists the names of all persons who are not residents of the city and not legally qualified under the law to vote."

This is what we and the People's Party generally have also earnestly desired. We are gratified at this expression of the wish of the Commission, and we hope to see it faithfully carried out. Hundreds of names now appearing ought to be purged from the registration lists.

The proceedings necessary to have the name of an unqualified person stricken from the list after the regular registration, should be thoroughly examined by the People's local committees that they may be ready to act, if necessary, and in due season. The suggestion as to notices from the registration officer to persons declared disqualified is fair and timely.

It will be seen that the oath prepared for the use of the registration officers is in the usual form, adopted since the passage of the Edmonds-Tucker Act, and is in accordance with the provisions thereof. An attempt has been made to procure a change in the oath, to suit the ideas of certain "Liberal" extremists. But the Commission appear determined, as before, to stand by the law, and to discharge their duties as required, "under the existing laws of Congress and of the Territory of Utah."

But the most important recommendation of the Commission, it appears to us, is contained in the closing paragraph of the circular. If the residence and occupation of the voter are named on the list, and also in case of removal the place of former as well as present residence, this will afford a strong barrier against intended fraud, and help to make the lists a table of the legal resident voters of the city.

We are in for a vigorous contest and a fair election. We want no fraudulent votes on either side. We