

The morning organ of the "Liberal" party made a promise yesterday. It was that today it would regale its readers with a sensation. Naturally the subject matter was believed to be the election. An examination of the paper this morning caused considerable surprise, and surely created a sensation among the exclusive readers of the sheet. The article was very brief, but it was the first truthful statement yet published in that paper's columns regarding the present political proceedings. It is in the shape of a telegram from Chicago, and says:

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—B. H. Roberts of Salt Lake City, Elder in the Mormon Church, and a stout defender of the teachings of the Prophet, is on a visit to Chicago for a few days. His mission here is to tell the "Mormon" side of the story with reference to the coming municipal election in Salt Lake City. Mr. Roberts speaks fluently and well, and gives voice to his ideas in a connected way.

"The pending election in Salt Lake City," said he, "is attracting wide attention and becomes more exciting as the day of election, February 10th, draws near. Outside interest is aroused because the fate of 'Mormonism' is supposed to be connected with it. In Salt Lake the contending parties are known, respectively, as the People's party and the 'Liberals.' The 'Liberal' party is made up of non-'Mormons,' many of them apostate 'Mormons,' carpet-bag officials, clinging with desperation to the very last political seat within their reach, and adventurers bent on booming the city for the purpose of speculation. So far do the 'Liberal' party acknowledge the transient character of their settlement as to adopt the carpet-bag for their political badge. This motley crowd is making desperate efforts to steal Salt Lake at the approaching election, and have wonderful facilities at command to accomplish the scheme. The first of this is a returning board, known as the Utah Commission, appointed by the President of the United States, and, of course, all are non-'Mormons,' baptized with the deepest prejudice against the people of Utah. This returning board has the management of all election affairs, the appointment of registrars, judges of election, and canvassers of returns. They have invariably appointed non-'Mormon' registrars and have given the same class a majority of the judges of election. The five registrars of voters for the coming election were all non-'Mormons' and two of them officers in the 'Liberal' political clubs of the city; that they would work in the interest of their party was to be expected, and that they did so is a fact, in hunting up and registering 'Liberals,' not only in the city, but going outside and avoiding the People's party voters. As the reward for services rendered, four out of the five registrars have been nominated for office on the Liberal ticket—two for aldermen, one for recorder and the other for collector. The registrars are made the judges of their own work. Each sits as a judge to hear objections, and

late decisions in the district court located at Salt Lake declare there is no appeal from the decisions of these registrars; so that these men may strike off and retain what names they please on the registry lists in an election where they themselves are candidates.

Hundreds of People's voters are summoned before these registrars to show cause why their names should not be stricken off the lists, scores that were born in the city are challenged on the ground of being aliens and non-residents in the city; a number of bachelors are challenged on the ground that they were polygamists; the names of men who were polygamists once, but not now, and whom the Supreme Court of the United States decided have the right to vote and hold office, are being stricken from the registry lists by these registrars. Jesse B. Barton of Chicago, lately admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Utah and holding credentials of admission to the bar of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois, was peremptorily denied the right to appear before one of these registrar's courts as attorney for voters who were objected to, such is the power of these interested registrars in Utah.

Grand and petit jurors in Utah are drawn entirely from the non-'Mormon' population, who may whitewash their friends, while members of the People's Party are entirely at the mercy of their avowed enemies, and recently sensational charges were trumped up by one of these non-'Mormon' juries against city and county officers for political effect.

The People's Party having every reason to believe that a gigantic fraud would be practiced upon them on the registration of voters, employed detectives from this city to ferret them out. They have succeeded in doing it, unearthing the most shameful cases of violation of the registration laws, finding non-residents have been plentifully enlisted to swell the "Liberal" vote, one achievement being to take a special car equipped with whisky and cigars down the Denver & Rio Grande railway and register a host of men to corruptly swell the 'Liberal' vote. This and many other corrupt acts are being so completely unearthed that there remains not a rag or label to cover them.

The cry is raised in Salt Lake that the wicked 'Mormons' are seeking to inveigle these good, pure Liberals into gambling dens and brothels, and thus the people of the East are made to believe that the 'Mormons' are engaged in corrupting the righteousness of these innocent carpet-bag officials and adventurers. It is a sufficient answer that Mr. Bonfield says he is in Salt Lake only to ferret out cases of false registration.

Under the disadvantages which these circumstances place them in, the people, old and *bona fide* citizens of Salt Lake, are contending for the control of the city which they and their fathers founded. They are trying to keep from their throats political vampires who would steal

from the city and curse with a moral blight their community. Hence I say that in seeking to keep control of their chief city the people are not only trying to beat off a set of political robbers, but also striving to preserve their city from a moral blight and curse which no temporary business booms would repay."

There was another article in the same paper on the election business, but it was so full of gross misrepresentations that it must have been, to old-time readers, a rehash of the long ago. There is hardly a sentence in the whole two and a half columns that has a shadow of truth for a foundation. In one place it suggests that a fellow named Arnold is employed by the People's Party, and that others who are numbered from 1 to 7 are also so engaged. The fact is that the parties alluded to are entirely unknown to the People's committee or anyone acting with them. The statement that they are is wholly untrue, and is in line with the whole article in which they are contained. But such desperate straits do the would-be election thieves indulge in that they publish anything that they believe will in any degree attract attention away from them while they carry out their plot. The eyes of the people are upon them, and the honest voters of the community are fired with a determination that the great fraud shall not prevail.

PEOPLE'S RATIFICATION.

Never in the history of Utah have there been such enthusiastic and well attended political assemblages as those at the People's rally last evening. Long before the hour announced for commencing, the Theatre was crowded from top to bottom, every available standing space being occupied and the stairways jammed. The thousands who were unable to gain admission to the Theatre turned to the outdoor meeting where the marching clubs had assembled, near the Social Hall. At the hour for beginning the exercises over ten thousand people were present, and sent up cheer after cheer, while the air was filled with music from the bands.

The Theatre was handsomely decorated with the Stars and Stripes and banners of the People's clubs. When the curtain rose there were seated on the stage the members of the People's Municipal Committee and the nominees of the ticket, who were greeted with cheers.

Hon. F. S. Richards called the meeting to order, and nominated

HEBER M. WELLS, ESQ.,

as chairman. Mr. Wells was endorsed with a cheer, and thanked the convention for the honor. I am always proud to serve the People's Party. I feel sure that I will act as chairman of this meeting tonight, and after Monday next I feel just as sure that I will act as recorder. The population of this city a few days ago was about 40,000. With the Colorado contingent, the Iowa contingent, the Nevada contingent, and the Kansas contingent and the