

this foreshadows and he cautiously gets out of the way to avoid the humiliation which is impending.

Utah has no cause to admire George F. Edmunds. He has shown on all occasions, for many years, that he was fanatical in his dislike to everything "Mormon." He had become thoroughly saturated with the anti-"Mormon" virus that had been injected by malignants from this Territory. And the success which the measure that bore his name achieved, in harrassing and oppressing families whose marital relations were in opposition to the general rule, spurred him on to further efforts in the same direction. However, these have not added to his personal popularity nor to his influence in the Senate, and will not give lustre to his career when he passes to his eternal reckoning and existence.

That he is cold and unsympathetic is known throughout the nation. At the same time that he is intellectual, and of great brain force and legal ability must be acknowledged by friend and foe. He possesses many of the qualities of true statesmanship, but has too little heart to balance with his brain. In debate he is cynical, cutting, unmerciful and ready to take any advantage of an opponent, and his cool, unimpassioned nature renders him apparently impervious to any shaft directed against himself.

He will be missed in the Senate but not mourned. In the judiciary committee and other important committees his absence will be a loss, because of his thorough familiarity with public affairs and his acute legal talent and long experience. Senator Edmunds is one of the celebrities of the country and is closely identified with its history for the past half century. We believe, however, that his step is the beginning of the end of his public prominence and career.

THE ALLEN CASE.

THE verdict of acquittal in the case of W. J. Allen—the "Liberal" judge of election with a super-abundance of aliases—was not unexpected. It is, however, generally denounced. Those who condemn it do not by any means all belong to one party. Any number of fair-minded "Liberals" are much more pronounced in their denunciation of the result of the trial than any other class of the community.

A glance at the evidence justifies, in our view, the existence of this indignation. The testimony for the prosecution was positively to the effect that, at the city school election, in the Fourth Precinct, Allen's conduct was

suspicious in many particulars and that he was actually seen by two competent witnesses—Mr. Blair and Mr. Winters—failing to put the ballots of People's party voters in the box and dropping "Liberal" ballots into the receptacle in their stead.

In order to offset this, an attempt was made by the defense to discredit the testimony of Mr. Winters, who is a member of the Salt Lake bar, by seeking to show that he was actuated by motives of revenge, because he failed to receive a "Liberal" nomination for office. The persons who were chiefly used for this purpose were Allen and McCallum, the former being the defendant and the latter the county registration officer who selected him for the office of election judge, and whose conduct in connection with the crime charged against Allen was severely commented upon by Judge Zane when his Honor decided the contested case of Young vs. Williams on the basis of fraud having been committed.

Here, then, were two persons who swore that they saw Allen committing the fraud charged against him, and this damaging evidence was met by a feeble attempt to impair the testimony of one of the witnesses who so testified. Another method of the defense was to introduce a number of witnesses who asserted they were at the Fourth Precinct on the day of election and did not observe anything wrong in Allen's conduct. This reminds us of the story of a noted thief who was charged with breaking the law. Several witnesses gave damaging evidence against him, the parties having seen the defendant commit the act of which he was accused. He thereupon offered to bring a hundred people who had not seen him *perpetrate the deed*.

It had been proved by the prosecution that Allen was a foot-racer, a bar-terder, etc., and that he had assumed a number of aliases in different places. In one locality he was W. J. Allen, in another Dick Murphy, in some other place Lincoln, and in still another section he figured as a party by the name of Williams. The defense arose to explain this suspicious covering up of identity by introducing Mr. Jackson, the sporting editor of the Salt Lake Tribune, who stated with much meekness that it was common for a professional to take another name than his own. This flood of intelligence seemed to be very satisfactory, and sufficient to throw the blanket of explanation over all the aliases of Dick Murphy William Jarvis Allen Williams Lincoln. The willing witness did not once allude to the fact, however,

that honest professionals have, as a rule, but one professional name, while such cognomonic economy is not characteristic of another class of persons.

The alleged arguments of counsel for the defense were of that type of speech which savored more of a go-as-you-please political mud-slinging seance—with the abuse-dealing facilities confined to one side of the contest—than anything pertaining to a court. There was a plentiful display of legal clap-trap and explosions of rhetorical fireballs. The abuse heaped upon the witness Winters was shameful. In our view the court would have shown much more dignity by putting a stop to such a hullying process than it did by allowing it to have untrammelled scope. The flights about the sacredness of the ballot from such a source was in the nature of a howling farce.

After Mr. Powers had effervesced on the need for the preservation of the purity of the ballot, he indulged in a flight of eloquence on his own account, showing the spotless whiteness of his own soul—or liver. The whiteness of something about himself anyway. He said, with deep pathos:

"I do not believe in conducting elections dishonestly; and whatever may be said of me, I have a clear conscience on that score!!!"

Seeing that it is unusual for an attorney to, sentimentally at least, take the position of the man he is defending, can it be possible that for the moment he had some idea that such an assumption would be appropriate? Perhaps, however, his expression may have been caused by a suspicion that his political funeral was approaching and he was seized with the notion of pronouncing a glowing tribute to his own memory in advance.

To a large extent the verdict in this case is believed to be but another evidence of the fact that, through political intrigue, trial by jury has been practically abolished in Utah.

OGDENITES, DON'T BE IN A HURRY?

A LARGE number of the citizens of Ogden have been greatly excited and naturally indignant over a scheme, manipulated by some attorneys of that city, to bleed them to a considerable amount on the pretence that the title to their city property was insecure, and that only by paying the money could the defect be cured.

These attorneys had obtained from the original holder of the land, since subdivided, a quit claim deed to the whole property. He had long ago sold it to the city, and the present owners had received their title from