

of election. Only *bona fide* residents of the Territory for six months and of the precinct thirty days next preceding the registration, have the right to be registered. Transients, persons whose actual home is in another Territory or State, have no right to register. These things should be watched and all wrongs rectified.

It may be asked, is there any reason to believe that improper registration, either of omission or commission, will be attempted? The answer is, such things were not only attempted but successfully accomplished at Ogden. What has been, may be; what has been done, can be done. We are therefore justified in giving this hint to voters. At Ogden a number of old residents who had voted at every preceding election for years and who were legally qualified, were robbed of the franchise because of improper registration; and others who had no right to vote deposited their ballots in spite of remonstrances and protests. We therefore say, take time by the forelock and prevent fraud. See that every qualified voter's name is registered; see that no unqualified person's name is suffered to stand on the list.

No person who cannot lawfully take the registration oath should attempt to register. If any non-resident or other disqualified person fraudulently registers he should be prosecuted. And a registration officer who wilfully neglects or refuses to do his duty, or who connives at fraudulent registration, should be proceeded against under the criminal law.

The sanctity of the ballot is contended for by every one who seeks the welfare of the community. It should be guarded at every hazard. If in any precinct, municipal ward, county or district, the "Liberal" faction have the majority of lawful voters, they are entitled to the rights that belong to majorities and should be protected therein to the uttermost by the People's Party, no matter how much of a calamity their preponderance may be considered. We must accord and help to secure to others the same political rights we claim for ourselves.

But on the other hand we should resist by all lawful means every attempt at fraud and imposition in election affairs. The rights of citizens must not be denied or imperiled by the tricks and dodges of which we know certain schemers are capable. Some open boasts and some

covert hints have been made as to what may be done at the next election day in this city. Forewarned ought to mean forearmed. This general registration will be the basis for the municipal election. Let us have now a fair, full and legitimate registration of all male resident citizens who can lawfully take the registration oath. And let every live citizen aid in the matter and take care that there is no improper registration, and also that those who attempt crimes against the election laws are brought to justice.

It is a matter of deep regret that many of our able, business and active men take but a passing interest in these important concerns. They should be alive to them, for they affect our property, our lives and our liberties. Politics should not be relegated to the office-seekers, the agitators and the adventurers. Our best men should take hold of them with a will. Experience has taught us many lessons; and among them is that which was comprehended in the language of the patriot Patrick Henry: "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty!"

#### THE UTAH COMMISSION.

PRESIDENT HARRISON has now at least two places on the Utah Commission to fill. A vacancy has been created by the appointment of Commissioner Thomas to the Governorship. Another has now been made by the resignation of Commissioner Carlton.

A change in the Utah Commission has been expected ever since the inauguration of the Republican President. The law requires that both political parties shall be represented in that body. There are at present three Democrats in the Board. Previous to the Cleveland administration it contained three Republicans. It was generally conceded that there would be at least one removal, in order to make a Republican majority again. And it was also thought that Judge Carlton would be the victim of party exigency. It was known that Indiana politicians were pressing for the appointment of an Indiana man, also that other Republican office-seekers were anxious for the place, because of its fat salary and limited labors. And Judge Carlton was the oldest member of the Commission and therefore the most likely one to go.

It is also known that strong efforts have been made to prejudice the President against Commissioner

Carlton, because he would not wear the collar of the clique that aims to control the Territory, and has been firm in resisting unlawful measures and oppressive propositions designed to deprive the majority here of undoubted rights. For this he has been assailed in that brutal and blackguard style, in which the organ of slander usually expresses its opinion of those who dissent from its policy and will not cringe to its libelous lash. But, so far as we know, he has never swerved on this account from what he conceived to be his duty.

There has been nothing in the official course of Commissioner Carlton which can be construed into favoring the "Mormons." We have had occasion to criticize many things done by the Commission in which he took an active part. But his legal and judicial experience has saved the Commission on several occasions from serious blunders, and his dissent from some inproprieties of the majority has appeared more than once in print. And while we have disagreed with him in some things, we have not regarded Judge Carlton as a bitter nor unreasonable antagonist, but rather as disposed to be fair and just while occupying entirely opposite ground from our point of view.

We are gratified to know that the attempts which have been made to injure Commissioner Carlton, with the former and the present Administration, have signally failed. His official course has not been condemned by the national authorities, nor has any exception been taken thereto, neither have the personal friendly relations between him and President Harrison been in the least disturbed. Our information on these points is definite and reliable. Party necessity and party policy have been the causes which have led to the change now being made, and the following letter to the President will best explain the matter:

"Dear Sir—I have just received from the honorable Secretary of the Interior, a letter informing me that 'by direction of the President, I am advised that in the reorganization of the Territorial government he anticipates that a change will be necessary in my office, and that the President desires that I may be informed of the fact in order that I may act thereon as I may see fit.' Thanking you as well as the honorable Secretary of the Interior for the delicate courtesy with which the intimation is conveyed, I hereby resign my office as a member of the Board of Registration and Elections, commonly called the Utah Com-