

abusive cotemporary, and added a little more to the article which embraces the *fac simile* of the handwriting of the Liberal candidate for assessor and collector.

A PHENOMENAL WINTER.

NEVER, since white men lived in these valleys, has there been such a winter as the present one. Scientific comparisons can be made as far back as 1874, in which year the signal service was established here; and since that time no record of precipitation will compare with that of the present winter. Up to last night (January 26) the downfall for this month amounted to 3.07 inches, with the record of five more days to be added to the total for the month; whereas the normal or average downfall for the entire month of January in this city is only 1.91 inches.

The downfall for December was 4.37 inches, which was 2.95 inches above the normal or average. By far the greater part of the downfall, in fact very nearly all of it, has been in the mountains, in the form of snow; for when it has rained in the valleys snow has nearly always fallen in the mountains. Not much of this snow has melted yet, as the average temperature has been lower than usual, the deficiency for the present month being 121 degrees. This means that the snow in the mountains has been preserved from waste, and that most of what has fallen there still remains.

The above figures were obtained this morning from Sergeant Fitzmaurice, in charge of the local signal station, who, by the way, appears to be a thoroughly competent incumbent of the position. Aside from the curiosity which most people have in regard to weather statistics, the figures here given are of importance to many people in these mountain regions, whose homes and farms are necessarily located, in thousands of instances, near natural streams. The above statistics mean that, during the spring and summer, a greater amount of water than was ever before known to do so will flow from the mountains to the valleys. The inevitable inference is that there will be damage from floods. Should the spring advance slowly, with cool nights and a gradually increasing temperature, this damage may not be extremely great. But should warm weather come suddenly, should we have copious spring rains, there will

be many disasters from high water. Bridges will be swept away, dams will be torn out, farms will be submerged and extensive injury to and loss of property must ensue.

It is scarcely to be hoped that the weather of spring will be of a character to prevent floods. There is too much snow in the mountains to expect this. The wise course, therefore, is to take such precautions as are necessary and practicable against them.

GIVE THE REASONS.

It will be seen by a statement in our issue of February 1st, that City Registrar Page has changed the location of three out of five of the polling places. In the case of the Second Precinct, the removal is from the County Court House to the Continental Hotel, and the number of polls is increased from two to four. Speaking of these changes the chief "Liberal" organ says:

"Heretofore the voting places in the Second, Third and Fifth Precincts have been at the Court House, Sixteenth Ward schoolhouse and City Hall, respectively; but Colonel Page had good reasons for making the change, and he has done so, notwithstanding the Saints will be sure to raise a howl over the new order of things."

If there are any valid reasons existing in the mind of the city registrar, the public are entitled to know what they are. It is a matter of notorious report that the registrars placed hundreds, not to say thousands, of transients upon the lists to give work for "Liberal" personators on election day. If Col. Page does not give his reasons, color will be given to this claim, the polling place having been removed from a public building to one more convenient for the carrying out of such a scheme.

The Third Precinct polling place is taken from a district schoolhouse to a sectarian one, and that of the Fifth from a building used exclusively for public purposes to a schoolhouse. If these changes are for the convenience of the people and in the interest of a fair and not a fraudulent election, the people would like to be furnished with reasons in the premises.

MORE OBSTRUCTION TACTICS.

As the day of election approaches, the opposition become more brazen and shameless in their methods. They make it more and more manifest daily that, failing in the requisite voting strength to assure them

of victory, they propose to resort to every species of unfair means to gain their point, by defrauding the majority.

As was noted in the News a few days ago, over 700 notices have been issued to voters of the People's Party to appear and show cause why their names should not be stricken from the registration list.

These citations have been served at the instance of Mr. Webb, of the "Liberal" committee. One of the allegations against the parties is non-citizenship, yet many of those on whom service has been made are native born. Another is non-residence, yet numbers of those against whom this objection has been raised have never lived outside of this city. Many persons who are unmarried are alleged to be polygamists.

That this is but a part of an obstructive policy adopted by the other side from the beginning of the campaign is too manifest to need assertion.

There is a feature of this phase of "Liberal" tactics that is particularly glaring. After the "Liberal" ticket was completed the News directed attention to the fact that all of the names of the precinct registrars had been placed upon it, as a reward for party work done in an official capacity, except one, as follows:

Louis Hyams, for Recorder; E. R. Clute, for Assessor and Collector; J. E. Morris, for Alderman of the Third Precinct; R. D. Winters, for Alderman of the Fourth Precinct.

According to the instructions of the Utah Commission, the registrars were made a board of reference to decide all questions relating to the eligibility to vote of persons whose names were on the lists.

The inconsistency and wrong of having men sit as judges on questions arising upon a matter in which they are interested parties were pointed out. Col. Page, the city registrar, announced subsequently that he and the solitary registrar who was not nominated and placed on the "Liberal" ticket would act as referees in relation to disputes arising in relation to the question of the right to vote. Even the chief "Liberal" organ refers to the registrars who are nominees as "ex-registrars."

In the face of all this the 700 and over, members of the People's Party, legally entitled to vote, are cited by those precinct registrars to appear before them and show cause why their names should not be stricken from the registration lists. The notifications are issued over