

for instance, since the days of Chaucer and Spenser, but literature and the classics still survive.

It is not probable that a strictly phonetic system can be at once inaugurated. The best that can be reasonably expected is a gradual approach to it by the omission of some utterly useless letters. And even so much reform cannot be effected without union of purpose and effort.

If the newspapers of the country would enter into an agreement that certain superfluous letters should be omitted in all their issues, a big stride would be taken in the right direction. Human beings are in some respects very much like sheep, and if the bell wethers of the press were to break through the gap of custom, and go on the other side of the fence of spelling reform, the multitude would follow them in a hurry, no doubt, and there would be so much reform accomplished.

It is strange that so rational a movement as that for reform in the method of spelling, has made so little advancement in this fast age and these times of general improvement and progress.

#### A POLITICAL ANOMALY.

A COMMUNICATION in this issue from Woodruff, Rich County, indicates a lack of information on the part of the people in some places regarding their privileges that is astonishing. In the precinct named a primary was held for the purpose of electing delegates to a convention of the People's Party. It appears that at this primary there was a preponderance of Liberals. The chief peculiarity consisted of the fact, that the latter were permitted to vote, the count being sixteen to fifteen. They selected all the delegates to the convention except one.

The members of the People's Party, according to the statement of our correspondent, were not aware that Liberals had no voice in that primary and yet it was accorded them, and that gave the opposition a voice in the county convention of the People's Party. The whole proceedings from inception to conclusion should have been strictly confined to the party of the people. They were matters with which no others had anything whatever to do.

We observe that in a precinct in Cache County the same political anomaly was presented as in Woodruff, and for aught we know it may have occurred in other places as well.

If members of the People's Party were to go into a primary called by the opposition and attempt to take an active part in the proceedings of the gathering, they would perhaps receive a lesson in relation to the subject of political privileges in that regard that would be forcible and lasting.

The fact that political primaries and conventions are assemblies in which members of the parties which call them have the exclusive right to participate has been frequently stated in these columns, but many people seem slow to comprehend what is for their own good. As proof of this unwelcome truth we have but to point out that it was repeated over and over again by the News that persons who had registered for the last municipal election only, must register again in order to entitle them to vote at the general election yesterday. Notwithstanding those frequent repetitions of this important fact a large number of members of the People's Party neglected to act upon the statement. The consequence was that the party lost a considerable number of votes, and thus people who failed to inform themselves upon so simple a matter were unable to exercise the franchise. By this omission the liberties of the people were endangered.

#### OBSTRUCTING ELECTIONS.

THE judges of election should be above partisanship. When in the discharge of their official duties they ought not to be influenced by any kind of party considerations. Challenges are allowed at the polls under the law. But this is not designed for the purpose of obstructing an election nor to encourage factious opposition. When judges see that challenges are interposed by emissaries of one party for the purpose of hindering voters belonging to another, they should not assist in the nefarious work but quickly decide the challenges on the evidence presented.

It was apparent to everybody present on Monday, when the callow youth who had registered certain citizens and taken their oaths as to their qualifications, challenged them as aliens because they belonged to the People's Party and he was a "Liberal" fadgeling, that the challenging was not in good faith but for the purpose of obstructing the election. He ought to have been sat down upon instead of being encouraged. Any voter who honestly believes that a person attempting to vote is disqualified, may challenge the vote, and the judges ought to decide there and then, after hearing both sides, whether the challenge shall be sustained or not.

In every part of the United States,

when a voter is challenged as to his citizenship, his affidavit is taken as evidence. If he commits perjury he can be punished for his crime. To compel citizens to go to their homes and search for naturalization papers that may be mislaid is, in many instances, to deprive them of their right to vote. Particularly is this the case when the time for closing the polls is approaching. There is no law requiring a naturalized citizen to produce his certificate at the polls. His name on the registry list is evidence of his citizenship. He has taken and subscribed to an oath to that effect. If it can be proven that he has sworn falsely, he can be prosecuted under section 27 of the election laws. The law provides the manner by which the citizenship or other qualifications of voters may be tested. It is to be done before the senior justice of the peace for the precinct where the voter resides. Objections in writing by a qualified voter must be heard up to the fifth day before the election. And after hearing both sides, the justice must send to the judges of election a list of all persons found to be unqualified, within three days prior to the election, and the judges must strike such names off the registry list.

The Utah Commission published a rule in August, 1883, that voters challenged in regard to naturalization, if of foreign birth, shall either produce their papers or prove that such papers have been loaned and lost or destroyed. Of course this is not law. It is not binding either upon the voters or the judges of election. But it shows that the Commission recognized the right of the voter to make affidavit when unable to produce his naturalization papers. On Monday, a well known citizen who is a voter and a candidate for re-election to the office of Commissioner to locate University lands, was challenged as to his naturalization and required to produce his papers. His office and status were self-evidences of his citizenship. He went home and searched for the papers two hours without finding them. The City Attorney went with him to the Utah Commissioners who, after investigating the matter, gave it as their opinion that he should be allowed to vote on his affidavit certifying to the facts. He voted. Others should be allowed to do the same under similar circumstances.

It would be well enough for naturalized citizens to have their certificates ready for use when needed and to make a practice of taking them with them when they go to the polls on election days. One citizen obtained a certificate from the clerk of the district court that he had been naturalized, or perhaps would have lost his vote. That is all wrong. Suppose a man cannot remember the date of his naturalization, or that a large number of persons have to apply for certificates, or the clerk is not at hand when needed, or that the citizen was naturalized in another State or Territory, is any citizen under such circumstances to be prevented from voting when he is properly registered as a citizen duly qualified? Certainly not. The law does not contemplate any such absurdity.

What are challenges to be allowed for, then? A non-resident may personate a resident; a citizen may have become disqualified after registration; he may have been bribed or have offered a bribe to a voter. Challenges for such cause would be proper. But it is evident that the law, by providing the means for testing the ordinary qualifications of voters before the justices of the peace, did not contemplate such challenges as were interposed on Monday for the purpose of obstructing the election and hindering lawful voters from casting their ballots.

When the judges of election see by the antics of obstructionists and the animus of partisans that electors are being hindered in the exercise of the suffrage, they should not become parties to the offense. It is a misdemeanor under Section 28 of the election laws to interfere with any voter in the free exercise of the franchise, and it is a felony for an election officer to neglect or fail to discharge any duty of his office.

These points should be well considered and understood by voters, and especially by men of influence and standing among the people. We should profit in future by the lessons of the past, and be prepared through experience for greater usefulness and more efficient service to the cause of liberty and right.

#### TAKE TIME BY THE FORE-LOCK.

At the election just over, quite a number of citizens were unable to vote because their names were not on the registration list. They had registered for the municipal election last February, but not for the general election this August. If they had taken notice of the reminders which were published in the daily papers they would not have found themselves in this condition.

We now call their attention to the fact that another election will soon be held. A Delegate to Congress will have to be elected in November. The law provides that registration for that election shall commence on the second Monday in September, every other year.

This is the "other year." It continues during the week. Therefore every citizen desiring to vote and who can take the registrar's oath, if his name is not now on the list should bear this in mind.

Due notice will be given by the registration officer when and where citizens can register for the November election. Some, no doubt, will reach their majority before that time. Others have never registered, for some reason or other, or through negligence and without any reason at all. Changes of residence will occur. There will be an opportunity for all who want to vote at the delegate election and are not barred by statute, to become qualified.

We speak of this in time so that preparations may be made in season. It is important that a full vote be polled in November. There are many reasons for this. Among them are these:

A "Liberal" candidate will be put forward. Every possible effort will be made to back him with a large number of ballots. He will probably be one of the bogus Democrats who figure as the genuine article once in four years. For political purposes all the support possible will be gained for him, to make a show at the national capital. Republicans, Greenbackers, Prohibitionists, Whiskeyites, tag, rag and bobtail will fuse, and all be counted as Democrats because of their votes for the "Liberal" candidate posing as one of the Democracy. Well, the People's Party should come to the front and show up such a majority that the vote of the opposition will be nothing to brag of or bank on, but will be too insignificant in comparison to make any kind of capital out of.

Then, the People cannot afford to throw away any chances. Apathy, negligence, the idea that others will vote in sufficient numbers to carry the election, have cost the People some school districts and some precincts. This ought to be experience enough in that direction. All the votes of the party are needed at every election of every kind.

Also it is proper that when a man has a vote he should use it. Whether there appears to be any special reason for vigilance or not, it is expected that the suffrage will be exercised. It is not conferred as an ornament or a form. It is for use. It is a power that is of no value unless in operation. Every voter who does not cast a ballot at an election is guilty of a neglect of duty. And in these times such neglect is a betrayal of trust and of public and party interests.

And it is a good thing to get into the regular habit of voting. There are good habits and bad habits. When we form the habit of doing our duty its performance becomes easy, as a matter of course. Electors ought to form the voting habit. Every live citizen must take some interest in politics, at any rate in the politics of his locality. He is part of the body politic and is affected by every public measure. He should make himself acquainted with the merits of every public question and the qualifications of every candidate for public office, that he may cast his ballot intelligently.

No citizen should suffer himself to be led away by clamor, by misrepresentation, by false enthusiasm or by any influence that appeals to passion, prejudice or personalities. "Freedom and reason make us men." Let us use them for the public good. That which benefits the community benefits each citizen as a constituent part thereof. The welfare of the whole body is what we should study, and good and wise men we should aim to uphold. Every man cannot have his own way, unless his way is that of the majority. Union and good counsel are both essentials to the maintenance of the power of the People, and anything and anybody that works against either is hostile to the People's interests.

Now is the time to begin preparations for the fall election. The sub-committees of the People's Party should make themselves acquainted with all the weak spots, as exposed in the election just concluded, and fortify them for November. And the first thing to do is to find out who should be and are not on the registration lists of the counties, and then take steps, in time, to see that they are duly registered. Let us take time by the forelock.

FROM WEDNESDAY'S DAILY, AUG 8, 1888.

#### CITY COUNCIL.

After the Oil Company.—The Franchise Question.

The City Council met in special session last evening at 7 o'clock, Mayor Armstrong presiding. C. Cramer & Co., florists, asked permission to lay a 1½ inch pipe from the mains on Second South Street to their premises, at petitioners' expense. Referred to the committee on waterworks.

W. H. Remington stated that at the time he applied for a franchise to lay a tramway along certain streets in this city, he supposed that his application was sufficient evidence that the road would be built should the franchise be granted. Since then, however, others applying for such franchise, had offered to deposit a forfeit to secure the building of the road, and he was willing, should the Council desire any security, to give bonds in the penal sum of \$10,000, which should be forfeited if the

road was not built in a reasonable time or if the

#### FRANCHISE SHOULD BE SOLD.

He would be one of the principal stockholders in the company, which would build the road and operate it efficiently. Filed to come up with Mr. Remington's petition.

The People's Forwarding Company, W. Yates, T. J. Brown and others represented that the buildings of the Continental Oil Company had not been built in conformity with the ordinance, which had resulted in the depreciation of the value of the petitioners' property. They stated that there had recently been two fires on the premises of the oil company, and that their oil was stored much nearer to buildings in that vicinity than is allowed under the ordinance. They also claimed that the oil company's petition for a building permit had been granted on account of

#### MISREPRESENTATIONS MADE

by them to the Council. They therefore asked that the marshal and superintendent of fire department be instructed to inspect the buildings. Granted.

The Telephone Company stated that they had been notified of the action taken by the Council upon their petition asking permission to erect poles in the middle of the streets, which was granted on condition that the city be furnished with such telephones as might be needed free of charge. They asked that the number of telephones be fixed definitely, and on motion of Councilor Dooley the number was fixed at six.

H. Raddon, J. B. Kimball and others asked for an extension of the mains on Fourth Street east to Second Street, thence South to First Street. Referred to the committee on waterworks.

W. N. L. Allen and others asked for an extension of the mains on Fourth Street. Referred to the committee on waterworks.

C. O. Whittemore, J. E. Evans and others asked for an extension of the mains along Fifth South Street. Referred to the committee on waterworks.

W. D. Owens and others protested against the extension of the mains on E Street. Referred to the Board of Equalization.

O. H. Pettit and others protested against the proposed extension of the mains along Fourth South Street. Referred to the Board of Equalization.

Six other protests of this nature were, on motion, referred to the board without being read.

Jos. R. Morris represented that he proposed to establish in the central part of the city,

#### A SANITARIUM

where the waters of Salt Lake and the Hot Sulphur Springs would be used, and he asked for a franchise to lay pipes through the streets of the city for the purpose of conveying the waters. Committee on streets.

The street supervisor reported that the cost of repairing both sides of First South Street, from Main to First East, with a top dressing of asphaltum would be five cents per square foot. Referred to the city attorney to ascertain whether the property owners could be made to pay for such improvement.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Mrs. Ferguson and Mrs. Burton, asking that they be reimbursed for damages done their property by the grade in front of their premises being lowered, recommended their prayer be not granted.

The committee on streets recommended that the petition of Bamberger & Bennett and others asking for the adoption of plats of their property be granted. Adopted.

The same committee recommended that the petition of John Shepherd and others, asking that the ditch on Fourth Street be bridged and flumed be not granted. Adopted.

The report of the committee on streets upon the petitions of W. H. Remington, E. Wilkes and the Salt Lake and Fort Douglas Railway, asking for franchises, came up as unfinished business, and all of them were read.

Councilor Sowles moved that the report of the committee be laid on the table and the petitions considered.

Alderman Sharp said he did not wish to antagonize the motion, but suggested that the chairman of the committee was absent.

Councilor Sowles said that he made the motion so that some action might be taken on the petition, and for no other purpose.

Councilor Dooley said that numerous petitions had been filed since the committee had considered the original petition, and the report was

#### VIRTUALLY A REFUSAL

of Mr. Remington's request. He believed that the ability of the parties to construct the road and their intention to do so should be investigated, and the franchise sold to the highest bidder. He did not think it would be doing the committee an injustice to table the report and consider the reports as a committee of the whole.

Alderman McCormick offered as an amendment that the petitions and all accompanying documents be referred back to the committee.

Councilor Young offered an amendment to the effect that the committee be instructed to grant Mr. Remington a right of way through the eastern part of the city on some feasible street. The amendment did not receive a second.

Councilor Clark stated that the com-

mittee were opposed to granting any company a franchise along streets already occupied by the Street Car Company, and he did not wish to see them forced to do what they were opposed to doing.

Councilor Roberts stated that the report of the committee made no reference to the petition of Mr. Wilkes. It would hardly be possible to prevent the existing road from being paralleled for short distances.

Alderman McCormick's amendment to refer the report to the committee was lost, and the original motion to consider the report and all petitions was carried.

#### ON MOTION OF ALDERMAN SHARP,

##### THE FRANCHISE QUESTION

was made the special order for this evening at 7:30.

Alderman Pyper's bill, for an ordinance in relation to persons remaining on the street and sidewalks, came up on its third reading and was passed.

The resolution introduced at the last session in regard to natural gas was taken up, amended and adopted.

Five thousand dollars was appropriated to meet the expense of constructing the new canal, and \$1,000 was appropriated to the supervisor's fund.

The recorder stated that a corporation note for \$5,000, held by John C. Cutter, and one for \$1,500 held by T. W. Ellerbeck, would fall due this month, and the treasurer was authorized to pay them.

Councilor Sowles called up the bill in relation to uniforming the police. He stated that the bill was introduced away back in April, and action on it had been deferred from time to time. It was an important measure, and he hoped that it would be either taken up at once or else made special order for next Tuesday night. As there seemed to be a general feeling in favor of considering the bill at the earliest opportunity, Councilor Sowles withdrew his motion.

The idea of placing some sort of a design on the bonds was discussed at some length, and it was finally decided to have a canon scene placed on them.

The recorder reported that the city assessor had returned a plat and file of the several assessments ordered on N Sixth, South Temple and Sixth South streets. The assessment was confirmed and the assessor ordered to

#### COLLECT THE TAX.

Referring to the protests heretofore filed to the extension of the water mains, the recorder reported as follows:

Extension along Second South Street from Eighth East to a point midway between Ninth and Tenth East streets:

Valuation not protesting.....\$14,440

Valuation protesting.....7,150

Total valuation.....\$21,590

Extension along Third South Street, from Eighth to Tenth East Street:

Valuation not protesting.....\$18,600

Valuation protesting.....17,750

Total valuation.....\$36,350

Extension along Seventh East Street, from Third South to a point midway between Fourth and Fifth South streets:

Valuation protesting.....\$20,125

Valuation not protesting.....6,800

Total valuation.....\$26,925

The protests against the extension along West Temple and North Temple streets were so overwhelmingly in the majority that no comparison was made.

The first two extensions were therefore ordered to be made, while the last was lost.

The Council then adjourned until this evening.

#### Railway Accidents.

Yesterday a U. P. brakeman named J. Gallagher, was knocked from a passing freight train at Bridger and badly hurt, the spout of the water tank striking him on the hip as the train moved past. He was brought down to Ogden last evening and taken to the U. P. hospital and placed under the care of Dr. Perkins. His injuries were not as serious as at first anticipated, though his hip pained him a great deal, and he was unable to walk.

Last Monday night a wreck occurred on the Union Pacific about six miles east of Evanston. The fast freight was coming west when a coupling pin broke and the train pulled apart. It is said that instead of going on, and thus getting out of the way, the engineer stopped the train. The other half came crashing into the first section, ditching six cars and smashing them badly. From passengers it was learned that the wreck was being cleared away when last evening's No. 1 passed the scene.—Ogden Standard, Aug. 8.

#### Correspondence Wanted.

Our Sandwich Islands correspondent, "Homespun," sends the following for publication, with the statement that it is authorized by the Lale Missionaries:

"Wanted! Utah correspondents who will show sufficient regard for absent friends to answer letters once in six months. Once a year will even be acceptable."

#### INVENTION

has revolutionized the world during the last half century. Not least among the wonders of inventive progress is a method and system of work that can be performed all over the country without separating the workers from their homes. Pay liberal; any one can do the work; either sex, young or old; no special ability required. Capital not needed; you are started free. Get this out and return to us and we will send you free, something of great value and importance to you, that will start you in business, which will bring you in more money right away, than anything else in the world. Grand night free. Address Page & Co., Augusta, Maine.