

# THE DESERET WEEKLY,

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Saturday, . . . February 20, 1892.

## COMMISSIONERS' CONSISTENCY.

THE "Liberal" organ on Sunday, February 7 announced: "The signs all point to an unprecedented Liberal victory tomorrow." As one of these signs it printed the annexed:

"The Utah Commission has made the following ruling;

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 6, 1892.

On this day, for the first time, the following question has been propounded by voters of Salt Lake City to the Utah Commission:

"If a man has taken and subscribed the proper electoral oath and has been and is properly on the registry list, and on the day of election proposes to vote and is challenged at the polls upon the ground that he is not a legally qualified voter; in that case upon whom does the burden of proof rest, the party challenged or the challenger?"

In reply, the Commission is of opinion that the burden of proof rests on the party making the objection, except as to disqualifications arising upon grounds not included in his registration oath.

R. S. ROBERTSON, Chairman."

This is evidently regarded by the "Liberal" organ as "a ruling" in favor of the hobos, the colonizers and the aliens who have been herded in this city till election day. The intent is to protect those "Liberal" hordes from challengers at the polls. The acting chairman of the Commission may not be posted in the history of the doings of that body, for he is a comparatively new member, for if he were he could scarcely commit himself to the statement that this question had "never before been propounded by the citizens of Salt Lake City to the Utah Commission."

About two years ago when the People's Party demanded that the burden of proof should be on the objector, when investigations were being held, the Commission at first ruled that this was proper. But on hearing from the representatives of the "Liberal" faction, that body went back on its own judgment and fell in with the views of the "Liberal" leaders to the contrary.

"Twas ever thus." The majority of the Commission have played into the hands of the "Liberal" conspirators, winked at their frauds, prevented investigations which could have exposed their trickery, and blown hot or cold as it suited the "Liberal" interest.

It is the course of the Commission that renders the passage of some measure that would effectively dispose of that un-American, unnecessary, expensive and partizan body, an essential movement for the relief of Utah and for its progress as a part of this republic. The very existence of such a body is un-republican, and its actions have been a constant proof that Utah is without a republican form of government.

Of course the "opinion" of the Utah Commission, when it is contrary to law and good sense, will not count for anything with any but "Liberals" on this occasion. When it did not suit "Liberal" judges and registrars on other occasions they paid no attention to it, whatever it was. And now if a hobo or colonizer who has succeeded in getting his name on the registration list, is challenged on the ground that he is not a citizen, or not a resident, we suppose the judges, notwithstanding the opinion of that part of the Commission that is here, will require every voter to be sworn, or produce his papers, or prove his residence, instead of requiring the challenger to prove a negative.

The consistency of the Utah Commission is an unknown quantity except in this: A majority of its members may always be counted on to do just what the leaders of the "Liberal" faction desire them to do. If that kind of consistency is a "jewel," these Commissioners are shiniingly adorned.

## MR. VARIAN AND THE "NEWS."

MR. C. S. VARIAN, one of the speakers at the "Liberal" rally at the Walker pavilion, on Saturday, Feb. 6, paid a high compliment to the integrity of the DESERET NEWS, which we duly appreciate. He made, however, a rather illogical application of a paragraph from its columns, which he read for the benefit of his hearers. The gentleman said:

"First I will refer you to the newspapers of this city. I will take the DESERET NEWS, the official organ of the Mormon Church. I must say that it has been always true to its principles. It has never stooped to the gutter of journalism. It has never sent blackmailing postal cards to business men, in order to get advertisements and patronage. I will now read to you the advice that paper gives to persons desiring to vote."

He then read the following paragraph which appeared in the NEWS of Saturday:

"If you want the advice of the DESERET NEWS, here it is: Go to the polls on Monday without fail. If you are a Democrat, vote the Democratic ticket without scratching. If you are a Republican, vote the Republican ticket without scratching. If you don't know what you are, look at both tickets—the

Republican and Democratic—and take your choice, but vote it straight."

Mr. Varian laid particular stress, in reading, upon the closing part of the paragraph and said:

"This shows that the Church and the DESERET NEWS are in the same position now as in the past, and that the people are not qualified to use the franchise in the manner desired by American citizens."

While we appreciate Mr. Varian's compliment to this journal, we fail to see any logic in his application of the quotation he made from our columns. It would appear from his expression that "American citizens" are opposed to electors voting the tickets of their respective parties straight. As a matter of course, if this be his real position, if the "Liberals" vote their ticket without scratching they are not American Citizens.

## THE MEDICAL BILL.

THE House passed the medical bill on Saturday by a considerable majority. But the most objectionable feature was stricken out. Five allopaths out of seven physicians forming a Board of Examination, would have been a little too much partizanship for the people to stand. That was the most obnoxious feature of the bill and that is killed.

So far, so good. Now let the Council consider this matter thoroughly before they pass on it. They should decide whether people may or may not choose their own medical attendants, even though their choice should fall on a person who has not graduated in some orthodox medical college.

There are persons who are dubbed "quacks" who know as much of anatomy, physiology and therapeutics, as a doctor holding a diploma from a recognized institution, but who have studied in an other kind of establishment. We do not think they should be made criminals for practicing medicine according to their own school.

We have no desire to protect incompetent practitioners and charlatans, but we do not want to see the people of Utah bound in the chains of medical orthodoxy, nor deprived of the freedom to choose who shall attend upon them in times of sickness.

## IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION.

ASSOCIATED press despatches from Washington contain a synopsis of the investigations made by the Immigration Commission which visited Europe last year. The report of this commission has been submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury. Judging from