

record of promotions from one responsible position to a higher one, and still a higher, which he has made in the branches of railroad service with which he has been connected, nor would he occupy in the banking business the position of which he is now an incumbent. Before he was nominated, a member of the "Liberal" city committee declared that, of all the men in the People's Party, he was the one whom Clute would fear most. What property-owner of this city can be in doubt as to the best man for assessor and collector, Rumel or Clute?

The only possible objection that can be urged against McLean for Marshal is that he is not as well known as some other candidate who might have been chosen. But he is by no means an obscure man. He is president of this division of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and has repeatedly represented that order in national assemblies. He has an extended social acquaintance, and nearly every man of his party who knew him said, as soon as they heard his name suggested, "The very man for marshal!"

Compare names on the tickets, the tickets in their entirety, the platforms and records of the two parties. All of these comparisons will reflect damagingly upon the party of carpet-baggism and throw additional lustre upon the pioneer class, the People's Party; and if made conscientiously must give Spencer Clawson and the ticket at the head of which his name appears a rousing majority.

#### A SHAMEFUL RULING.

It will be remembered that when the charge was first published that the name of Ernest F. Warner had been unlawfully placed on the registration list, the organ of the "Liberals" made haste to declare that the putting of it there was an accident, a mistake, an inadvertence, etc. In proof of this it triumphantly exclaimed that no oath, subscribed by Ernest F. Warner, could be found among those administered by the registration officer. It is thus incidentally shown that the "Liberals" have access to the oaths.

This is all right; they are entitled to the privilege of seeing the oaths. A few days ago representatives of the People's Party made application to the Utah Commission for an order permitting them to examine the oaths. The decision of the Commission is as follows:

"And application being further made by the said representatives of the People's Party for an order by the Commission directing that they have access to the oaths taken during the course of registration, the Commission, after due consideration, is of the opinion that it would at present be incompatible with the proper discharge of their duties by the registrars to grant such request.

Respectfully,

G. L. GODFREY, Chairman."

This ruling is an outrage, not only upon the rights of thousands of citizens, but upon common sense and common justice, and even a provision of the very law which requires the oath to be taken. The reason assigned as the basis of the ruling is twaddle of the most abject sort. "It would at present be incompatible with the proper discharge of their duties by the registrars to grant such request." Where the incompatibility lies is not explained. It cannot be. It does not exist.

The oaths are bound in books or tied up in bundles. Suppose the registrar is busy, why might not he hand those books and bundles to some person and allow the latter to see such signatures as he might desire to examine? Not more than a moment of the officer's time need be consumed and the oaths need not be taken from his immediate presence at all. How could his duties be interfered with by such a procedure?

Has not the Commission, or a majority of it, lent itself to an infamous scheme to corrupt the ballot-box and rob the people? It is a maxim of the law that "secrecy is the badge of fraud." In this ruling and in the course taken by the registrars, the law of Congress is directly and flagrantly violated. The Edmunds-Tucker law says, in section 24:

"Such registration officer is authorized to administer said oath or affirmation; and all such oaths or affirmations shall be by him delivered to the clerk of the probate court of the proper county, and shall be deemed public records therein."

The registration oath, from the instant at which it is administered and signed, is a public record. Any citizen has a right to examine at any time during business hours. That citizens may conveniently exercise this right, the oath is required to be filed in a usual depository of public records. But instead of doing this, the registrars are retaining, in their private and personal possession, the oaths subscribed before them, and denying applicants the right to examine them. All this is in furtherance of a brazen and wicked scheme to rob the people. The character of

the plot, and the reasons why the registrars are violating the law of Congress, are too palpable to be concealed. It seems impossible that the Utah Commission can fail to understand both perfectly well. And yet that body, or a majority of it, sustains the iniquity. Why are the oaths concealed? Is it not because an examination of them would reveal the signatures of hundreds of men who never were nor pretended to be residents of this city; of men who live from ten to three hundred miles distant from it and who never at any time had their domicile here? Would not signatures of citizens of P. V. Junction be disclosed? Would not oaths be found that were administered and signed at Sunnyside, Green River, and other points far distant from this city, by men who never even imagined their home was here?

One of the foulest plots ever hatched in the midst of a free people is in process of development in connection with the coming city election. The conspirators comprise the active workers of the "Liberal" party, but their ultimate discomfiture and defeat are as certain as that right will outlive wrong.

#### THE PLOT THICKENS AND DEVELOPS.

THE conspiracy in progress to defraud the majority of the people of Salt Lake City out of their rights takes on so many unblushing and unparalleled phases that no language is adequate to express the detestation in which the plotters should be held by every honest man. Except through the columns of the leading and unscrupulous organ of the opposition, scarcely a semblance of an attempt is made to defend the operations of the schemers. Law, precedent and the decisions of the highest court in the land are set at open defiance.

The "Liberal" registrar-auditor, in sitting in judgment upon the cases of voters of the People's Party cited to appear before them and show cause why their names should not be stricken from the lists, set themselves up as superior to the highest safeguards of organized government. Orlando W. Powers unblushingly, and with the unmitigated effrontery for which he is noted, takes the position that the registrars are supreme in their jurisdiction, and the courts have no power to interfere with them, and he is tacitly and otherwise sustained by the powers that be