

A CLEVER CANDIDATE IN SAN MIGUEL.

Vincent St. John, who has been nominated for sheriff by the Democrats of San Miguel county, is a remarkable young man. As president of the Miners' Union during the Smuggler-Union strike he developed characteristics which, combined with a strong personality, made him one of the most marked as well as picturesque men among the miners of the state. He is not more than twenty-seven years of age, beardless and of youthful appearance, yet he maintained such absolute control over the thousand striking miners of the Telluride district that his slightest word was irrevocable law. When the attack was made on the mine by 500 men armed with Winchesters he rode half a mile along a steep mountain trail under the fire of the strikers until they recognized him, and through his efforts alone they were persuaded an hour later to cease all violent demonstrations. From that moment until the strike was settled not a single act of violence was committed. The miners trusted him implicitly, delegating to him full power to make any terms he believed advisable with the Smuggler management, and when the agreement was made he accepted it in behalf of the Miners' Union and not a murmur was heard.

Probably the most wonderful demonstration of the love of the miners for him and his control over them was on the day of the funeral of the union miner killed in the Smuggler riot. Six hundred brawny bearded men of many nationalities formed in double lines along the sun-baked main street of Telluride. On their unhappy faces were lines of sullen hate. Each man believed he was grievously wronged; that a Boston corporation was forcing his family to possible starvation. When the coffined body was borne between these lines to the music of a dirge played by the Telluride band a spark would have ignited such a flame of indignation that not a Smuggler-Union building would have remained standing. St. John went among the men all that afternoon and evening and there was no disturbance of any sort, nothing but the most perfect order. The Smuggler mine was heavily guarded in expectation of riots; the manager did not show himself on the streets, but the precautions were unnecessary.

The corporation influence in this election is, of course, against him, but he can depend upon the labor vote, and should be elected.—Denver Post.