MISSOURI'S POLITICAL METHODS.

St. Louis, March 10.—The personal and political controversy which has raged with more or less animosity for some time past between Gov. Marmaduke, of this State, and Major C. C. Rainwater, a prominent citizen of St. Louis, and possible Democratic candidate for Mayor, has just assumed another and very bitter phase.

Yesterday Gov. Marmaduke gave to the reporters at Jefferson City an affidavit bearing the signature of Robert C. Pate, a well-known horseman and keeper of keno rooms in this city, alleging that in 1875 he paid money for the privilege of running keno rooms here, and that his understanding was that the money was for the benefit of L. Harrigan, Chief of Police of this city, and Major Rainwater, who was the executive officer of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Today Major Rainwater publishes an open letter to Gov. Marmaduke in which he denounced the affidavit as an infamous lie, and believes that those who read it will agree with him that the man who becomes a party to the circulation of such outrageous statements, on such a basis, is a trifle worse than the scoundrel who originated the story, be that man a gambler or a Governor. Major Harrigan, who is again Chief of Police, also pronounces the affidavit a lie, and states that a written acknowledgement that it is a lie is in existence.