

the politics of Idaho cannot now be affected by the "Mormon" attitude, whatever it may have been in the past.

September 20, we had the pleasure of meeting President William Budge, whose name has been made prominent in recent press dispatches, and who is known to be as good an authority on "Mormon" affairs in Idaho as can be found. On questioning him closely we learned these facts:

There is no "Mormon" in Bear Lake County acting as a registration officer. The registrar at Paris had informed him that though he had been ready, at his office, to register applicants according to law, not one "Mormon" had appeared for the purpose. That a deputy marshal had requested him to make a clean sweep of the registration list by expunging all the names therefrom. This he had refused, because that would have been contrary to law. But he had signified his willingness to do what the law requires; that is, to strike off the name of any person from the list who could be shown to have no right to vote.

President Budge said the "Mormons" are not registering or attempting to register. They do not intend to vote or attempt to vote. He had emphatically expressed his views on this matter to all with whom he had conversed or communicated; namely, that after making every legitimate effort to preserve their civil and political rights, of which they had been deprived through statutes of which the whole country will yet be ashamed, there is no further reason for contention or interference in political affairs by, or in behalf of, any member of the Church in Idaho. As to the "Taxpayers' ticket" he explained that the delegates who were rejected at the Boise Democratic Convention were bona fide taxpayers and property owners, and on their return they started the Taxpayers' ticket. Not one of them is a member of the "Mormon" Church, nor are there any members of the Church in the local party they have organized. Some of them were once members, others never were, and there is no good reason for saying the "Mormons" have anything to do with that or any other ticket, as they are taking no practical interest whatever in this election.

We have received private information on this matter, from which we learn that some at least of the "Taxpayers' party" are so opposed to

the pretended Democrats who have betrayed them, that they desire the defeat of the party even if it seats Dubois.

In further conversation with Mr. Budge, he expressed the opinion that the Republicans would carry the State, and that the chances for Dubois are good, but that it depended upon the strength with which the North pushed its claims to one Senatorship. Governor Shoup, he said, is pretty sure of election, both as Governor of the State and then as United States Senator. He thinks the gentleman eminently fitted for either position, as he is able, honorable, highminded, opposed to trickery and fraud, and the tool of no man or party. And this he said was the prevailing sentiment among the "Mormons" in Bear Lake County.

In answer to the question as to what was the motive of this outcry about the "Mormon" vote, he said there could be only two causes: One, that notwithstanding the facts, perhaps some Republicans were really foolish enough to believe that because the "Mormons" had made such persistent efforts to maintain their rights at the polls for several years, they intended to make another struggle. And the other, that foreshadowed in the expression in the special dispatch—the desire to combine all the anti-"Mormon" elements in support of the Republican ticket. "But," he repeated, "there is not the slightest foundation for the idea that any member of the "Mormon" Church in Idaho intends to vote at the coming election."

We consider the arrests that have been made and others that are intended, and the outcry which is being made, are both for political effect and for a malicious purpose. Seeing that there is positively no ground for believing that the "Mormons" will attempt to take part in the election, the trouble, expense and disturbance caused by this new assault upon them is without excuse. And we believe it is prompted by the same devilish and anti-Christian spirit which has burned in the bosoms of many sectarians and some infidels, against a people whose faith they cannot comprehend and whose virtues they will not emulate. However, we are comforted by the conviction that such a people as the Latter-day Saints cannot long be kept under the heels of oppressors, nor long remain without recognition as good citizens, worthy of every right and privilege that can be enjoyed in this free land.

### FILLING THE EMBLEM.

This is from the Eagle Rock (Idaho) Times:

"It is indeed a bad state of affairs Salt Lake is being brought to. Six months ago the treasury was full of money, and today she is busted. Things look rather shaky down that way, and possibly she may pull out, but it is rather doubtful."

The Times editor overlooks the fact that the depleted treasury is to be replenished by means of the recent extortionate tax assessments. When the proceeds of the infliction of the present popular burdens disappear, as they will with astonishing rapidity, the people will still be here to be victimized, to refill the empty "carpetbag," the emblem of the "Liberal" party.

In the campaign which preceded the municipal election in February, when the carpetbag was carried by marchers in the "Liberal" parades on poles, on the backs of the men, or in the shape of hand-satchels, or in miniature on the lapel of the coat, the significance of the symbol was said to be, "When we get into office we will fill these receptacles from the pockets of the people." The prediction has been largely fulfilled, so far as the "Liberal" officials are concerned, offices having been multiplied beyond all reason or necessity to reward party men for political work, much of it of fraudulent character.

True, as the Times asserts, the city treasury has been more than cleaned out, a deficit having been incurred in addition, but victimization by excessive taxation places the rapacious administration of municipal business once more in funds.

### AN ENGLISH CRITIC ON THE BOOK OF MORMON.

THE Book of Mormon has recently been subjected to the criticism of a "learned and able" gentleman, Dr. Duncan, in England. The *Millennial Star* gives a short extract of a lecture delivered by the doctor, from which it appears that the critic advances chiefly two objections to the genuineness and the authenticity of the sacred volume. The first is thus stated:

"The outlines (of the Old Testament history and the Book of Mormon) was (were) the same. Though the details were varied, there was yet a parallelism found nowhere else in any of all our literatures. We look in vain for any two nations having the same outline history. The thoughtful student of the Book of Mormon could not imagine it to have been written, if the Old Testament had not been written before it."