

THE IDAHO STATE MOVEMENT.

A late dispatch from Boise, Idaho, which has been widely published, as news, like many others sent by the Associated Press concerning the "Mormons," is misleading and intended to deceive the public.

The "Mormons" of Idaho have always been consistent and straightforward in their support of the party to which they were attached when permitted to exercise the right of suffrage. They did not change their politics. They never "went back" on their political associates. If those whom they had supported had been as true as the "Mormons," the infamous test oath would never have disgraced the statute books of Idaho.

There is no "element" in the alleged "Mormon" colonization of Idaho that is "dangerous" to the peace, the good order or the general welfare of the Territory. In Governor Stevenson's official report, direct evidence to the contrary is given. He admits that in all the settlements where the "Mormons" are in the large majority, the social evils that afflict other places are unknown, and the best public buildings and private residences are to be found there as well as other proofs of the thrift, enterprise and progress of the "Mormon" people.

A desperate effort is being made by the anti-"Mormon" elements, which are the really "dangerous" forces in the Territory and out of it, to incorporate the un-American, un-republican and unreasonable test oath in the Constitution to be framed by the present Convention. We do not care whether it is made a part of that instrument or not, except that we shall be sorry to see any considerable number of people of the north commit themselves to so shameful a measure.

If this proposition prevails, it will be the means of defeating the object of the Convention. We do not believe, from what we know of the prevailing sentiment among our national legislators, that there is any likelihood of the acceptance of a Constitution from Idaho, containing a provision excluding a large number of citizens from all participation in the local government, simply because they belong to a Church some of the members of which hold to opinions and practices that meet with popular disfavor.

We are not sure that the defeat of the State movement is not the object of the bigots and ruffians who advocate this political outrage against

the most valuable citizens of Idaho. The ways of the politicians are devious and their intentions are often to be taken in an opposite sense to that of their words. It is very doubtful whether Idaho will obtain recognition from the coming Congress with any kind of a Constitution. But with the provision now advocated, it may be considered dead from the beginning. We do not think Idaho is ready for Statehood. With the anti-"Mormon" plank in its platform it will proclaim its own unfitness for the powers and privileges of republican government.

There is no need for any "Mormon" to fight the present test-oath proposition. Let the fanatics and roughs, the adventurers and office-hunters who are raising the anti-"Mormon" howl have their way. They will plant tuberculosis in the lungs of the organism they are creating, and rapid consumption will kill it out of hand.

A GREAT ENTERPRISE.

It is hardly probable that the majority of people on the western side of the Atlantic ever stop to think, if even they have been informed, that the magnificent Exposition now in the full tide of successful progress in Paris, is as much theirs as it is the people's on the eastern side, at least so far as representation is concerned. It might properly be said that if there be any exclusiveness in the matter, France and the United States are entitled to it, as the former created the enterprise, while the latter is its chief and most favored patron. It is, in the fullest sense of the term, a world's exhibition; nothing so comprehensive and far-reaching, nothing so nearly typifying every nation's people, customs and growths, has ever been opened to the public before. To see it is almost to behold our world in miniature. Only one exception of consequence, and it not a particularly honorable one—is recorded. Germany failed to respond to the general invitation to be represented, and by so doing has not advanced her moral or material standard among the nations of the earth.

The last previous show of 1878 was a grand affair and largely attended, but the number of people visiting the present Exposition is almost twice as great as then. It is recorded that during the month of May, in which it opened, the number of paid admissions was 2,208,000,

the number for the same time in 1878 being 1,209,000; the first two weeks of last month, 2,002,000 people paid for entrance, against 1,104,000 in 1878. A uniform rate of half a franc, or about ten cents, has been adopted as the admission fee, and 30,000,000 tickets have been issued, the majority if not all of which will be taken before the season closes. Of course this has no reference to the accommodations obtained within the great enclosure, all of which, it is fair to presume, are costly because of the immense and unfailing demand, and in all these receipts the government undoubtedly participates either through ownership, rentals or royalties, so that it looks as if the great Exposition of 1889 would go on the record as not only the most complete but also the most profitable one in history.

The revenue from the Eiffel tower, much as it is criticised, must be very great. The most irreconcilable faultfinders are the Parisians themselves, one of whom—a poet at that—when it was opened, said, "*C'est enorme, ce n'est pas grande*" (It is enormous, it is not grand); and yet the average of visitors to it is 30,000 daily. It costs a franc to go to the first station, five francs to the second, and twenty francs, or about \$4, to the third, which is practically the top, though not more than ten per cent of all visitors have the nerve or the inclination to climb so high.

The French are a wonderful people—wonderful in war and more wonderful in peace. In war they are seldom prepared for peace, and in peace seldom ready for war. It was the shameful lack of preparation on the part of the French armies when Napoleon III issued his proclamation of war, which made them all but powerless in the presence of the grand battalions of Germany and brought the war practically to a close with the capitulation of Paris in a few months; but when all was over as between the Germans and French, the latter were not prepared for peace and went on fighting among themselves until what little of Parisian grandeur the shot and shells of the invader had not demolished was laid in waste by those who had fought to protect them. So it is now; all is as peaceable and calm as a June morning and the French are not prepared for war at the hands of a foe from either within or without. The actual sudden commencement of hostilities would witness such a