

elections in which they were as greatly concerned as anybody than to "look wise and be silent." Possessing every requirement of their more fortunate neighbors, except that of belonging to some other church than the Mormon or to none at all, they have been invidiously singled out as a special mark for disfranchisement. They have not in any case, we believe, been deprived of that privilege of the citizen which the Constitution of the United States impliedly says shall not be imposed unless the other is granted along with it—paying taxes. To say that all along they have willingly "borne it with a patient shrug, for sufferance is the badge of all their tribe," would not be stating the case correctly, albeit they have made less complaint than we believe any other class of people similarly situated would have done. They have petitioned, remonstrated and complied with one requirement after another as long as there seemed any hope of success, only to be disappointed and denied if not derided.

In a country like this such a state of affairs cannot last very long; in any case it is only a question of how long. The spirit of equality and fairness throughout the land and which is the best guaranty of the perpetuity of the American system, will eventually break through or over even such barriers as that enclosing the "Gem of the Mountains." Seclusion from the outside world and newness, not to say ignorance, in the matter of administering local affairs, are all that such a relic of the earlier colonial system subsists upon. Under the influence of improved communication with the government itself by means of the boon of statehood, with an influx of population fresh from quarters where proscription is unknown, and the other and still greater advantage which comes of free schools, a free press and free discussion, exclusiveness and partiality became doomed features of the Idaho social system. They had to go, and having gone will never return.

On Saturday the legislature of the state passed a bill restoring to our people all that had been taken from them in a political way. The rest they do not care for. It has been no mercenary or meretricious spirit in which they have conducted their "plan of campaign." They wanted the right that other taxpayers and men of intelligence enjoyed, of voting and holding office—the latter not necessarily an object but rather an incident in the struggle. They have worked as became upright, progressive, law-abiding people—through the courts and other avenues of justice, never in any instance breaking into disorder or making any other demonstration with each successive disappointment than such as any citizen may properly make, by protesting and remonstrating. At last they are rewarded for their patience, persistence and good behavior; at last they are as sovereign within their sphere as any of their neighbors, as any citizen anywhere, as the President of the United States himself. It is well, and we hasten to congratulate.

Let us now enjoy a realization of the belief all along entertained that the Mormon voters of Idaho would not only equal the others in the matter of

intelligent and patriotic political action, but go beyond them if possible. To hold the right of suffrage in any state of the Union is the greatest secular privilege which any man can have, and because of that it is invested with the gravest, greatest and most far-reaching consequences. It is not the mere act of voting but the discrimination exercised and the purpose and intelligence accompanying the act which are to be principally considered. The clown, the dolt, the one whose mind is wholly free from the "corruption of books," the hireling who willingly or protestingly does the will of another—all these may perform the simple act of voting and by so doing neutralize the vote of a philosopher, a trained publicist, a man of affairs, a statesman. But which is the loftier position to occupy? The freeman armed with a ballot intelligently selected and cast without the influence of intimidation or corruption, is one of the noblest spectacles this side of divinity, and grand as it is, consequential as it is, few there be that cannot fill it. We look to see our friends in Idaho fill it to a man, and promise those who joined in the act of striking the political fetters which have encumbered the limbs of their neighbors so long, that they have made no mistake.

ONE OF THE COMING STATES.

The territory of Arizona is a promising section of the public domain. It has most of the advantages of the tropics with but few of their more serious detriments. Its population is not large, but is mainly intelligent, progressive and prosperous, and is growing with a steady growth. Its legislative assembly is now in session, and on the 14th inst. the message of Governor Murphy was sent in. It is described as quite as an elaborate document. He spoke in favor of removing the penitentiary from Yuma and the working of convicts outside the prison. High license for saloons and the prohibition of gambling, which is now licensed, were advocated. The governor favored the enfranchisement of women, and suggested that all conductors and brakemen should be allowed to arrest tramps and turn them over to the nearest authorities, concluding with the recommendation that a joint resolution should be sent immediately to Congress urging statehood. It is generally considered the ablest message ever delivered in Arizona.

On the same day a committee was appointed in the council to investigate the actions of the territorial loan commission, which recently secured \$1,500,000 to refund the public debt. Just what this signifies is pronounced difficult to determine. Committees from both houses were appointed to investigate the territorial institutions and report on their condition.

It may be that Arizona will have to wait a year or so before her prayer for statehood is answered; but as she seems to be doing very well without it and will probably be much better prepared by the time it does come, we suspect that the good people down there are not grieving much over the situation. It will make a great state when it does get in.

NO WONDER.

An anti-silver journal makes merry over the following statement:

Out in Montana they propose to pass a law establishing a mint to turn out Montana silver dollars of the standard weight and fineness which shall be full legal tender within the state and will circulate at par. Under this stimulus it seems to be expected that the silver mining industry of Montana will blossom like the rose.

It then proceeds to state that "A perusal of the Revised Statutes of the United States, however, will teach the promoters of this scheme that by putting it in operation they will render themselves liable to a fine of \$3,000 or to imprisonment for a term of five years, or to both penalties. We guess those Montana gentlemen will conclude to desist."

We think so, too. And yet does it not seem a little hard that men having an abundance of the material out of which money is made and which the Constitution says shall be used for that purpose, are forbidden by Congress so to use it? It may be very pretty to look at and very ornamental and durable when put to service; but those who spent money and labor to get it did not do so for the purpose of having something to look at or for manufacturing purposes, but for the purpose of having more money. No wonder they get fretful and inconsiderate at times over the dictation and domination of their Eastern masters

THE SCANDAL BECOMES SCANDALOUS.

A few days ago the dispatches announced the leaking out of a previously occult but quite interesting morceau named the Panama scandal; this was that General Grant was approached, when the scheme commenced to take definite shape, and offered an annuity of \$25,000 for the use of his name in connection with the enterprise, and that he peremptorily declined the tempting bait. It was very much like him to do so; and this but adds to the emphasis with which we of the United States now ask the question—how far-reaching has that business been? Is it a great octopus whose tentacles have permeated many lands?

Speaking of the resolution recently introduced in the House of Representatives at Washington some days ago authorizing an investigation of the expenditure of \$2,500,000 of the Panama corruption fund in this country, the *World* at once said that it ought to be pushed, and the committee on rules set a day for it without delay. "There is no soundness in the answer that the committee already has before it more business than the House can possibly attend to," says that paper. "The consideration of the resolution need be merely formal, because the only question of moment is that referring to the expenditure of money for corruption. Some one has expended a good deal of money in this country for the purpose of preventing hostile action to the Nicaragua canal, and it is the duty of Congress to try to find out who is the corrupter and who are the corrupted."

Similar language was employed by many other powerful and influential