

practically viewed. Not but what the resolution is proper, as before stated, but because it does not seem to be fitting just now. Its mere presentation has, as already shown by our telegraphic reports, caused a decided flurry in France, not, we presume, because of any expectation of a collision, but because words of reproof coming from a friend when we are not conscious of wrong doing toward him, have an effect the reverse of soothing. Of course the object and intention is to complete the canal some time, but it does not appear that they have had in contemplation the intentional injury of this country or any country by so doing, any more than they intended to injure Egypt by constructing the Suez Canal. They took upon a project whose successful outcome would be the revolutionizing of the world's commerce as too broad and grand a conception to be viewed with the eyes of a mere politician, or through glasses of national envy. And there is much of truth and justice in their position as well.

It is not at all likely, judging from present appearances, that the canal across the isthmus can ever be completed; certainly not in its founder's day. It has already absorbed the enormous amount of \$300,000,000 and can only be said to have fairly begun. The French nation would seem scarcely able to sustain such a drain upon its financial resources, and until something more promising than at present appears is developed, it is not at all likely that other powers or people will care to invest to any extent. This, however, would not relieve France of culpability in the matter if there were any, because we all know what it would do if it could. But it may be taken into consideration on this side, and there would seem to be some indications that the Democratic Senators do consider it and are thus unwilling to act in the premises at present.

OVERDOING THE THING.

A RATIONAL system of prohibition that would prohibit men who use alcoholic liquors as a beverage from using it at all, would be a great boon to any community; and in quest of this laudable purpose political parties and societies have been organized. In some instances, however, where they have attained the mastery, they have not used their power wisely, and this is to be regretted the more from the fact that

it has put the cause of temperance back instead of ahead. An instance in point is to be found in the law of Vermont, which provides that "it shall be the duty of any sheriff or his deputy or any constable to search *without warrant* any wagon, carriage, cart, sleigh, sled, * * * trunk, box, hand-bag, satchel, bundle or clothing" conveyed or "worn along any road or street in the State for intoxicating liquor" if he thinks there is a chance of finding any by so doing. This was approved by the Governor and became legally operative within the last few days; but it is not only practically inoperative, but, if enforced, would be outrageous. On mere suspicion, or to gratify a personal resentment, or what not, an officer, on his own motion, could stop a gentleman, or a lady either for that matter, take his valise and break it open, search it, then make an examination of his or her entire person! This is going beyond decency, as well as law, and very few there be who would submit to such an outrage. The sorrow, misery, and crime which the demon drink has wrought, are sufficient to justify many, particularly those who have directly suffered, in demanding and upholding severe measures; but these should be confined to the sphere of respectability at least, and a due regard for the rights of others ought to be maintained under all circumstances.

THE IDAHO MEMORIAL.

THE memorial to Congress protesting against the admission of Utah as a State, adopted by the Idaho Legislature, is one of the most scandalous documents of its class ever penned. For that reason it should cover those who take any part in pushing it with eternal infamy. In addition to the Idaho Assembly directly interfering with the affairs of another Territory with which it has no legal business, the memorial is a tissue of misrepresentation from beginning to end. Upon that false basis it asks not only that Utah be not admitted into the Union, but that Federal legislation be enacted which would deprive this Territory of every vestige of home rule or self-government. What a spectacle is thus presented by a body of alleged law makers of one section of the country, requesting the legislative branch of the general government to deprive the people of another section of their rights and reduce them to political serfdom!

The reason for this ridiculous as well as perfidious attitude of the Idaho Legislature is perfectly clear. It is only a piece of a political plot, and is operated under conditions of reciprocity. The aims and movements of the "active politicians" of Utah are well understood. A legislative commission has been one of their chief hobbies, that being, according to their ideas, the stepping-stone by which the majority could be trodden under foot of the minority. These "active politicians" want to seize the reins of local rule and hold them exclusively in their grasp, so that their proposed victims may become a prey to them. Hence the clamor for a commission of the kind in question. In the late struggle in Idaho the "active politicians" of Utah gave all the aid in their power to those who compose the majority of the Legislative Assembly of Idaho. This memorial business is a portion of the return payment. The one faction aids the other in the furtherance of its schemes; hence the reciprocal act on the part of the Idahoans.

This is parallel with the avowed intention of Delegate Dubois, published a short time since. He acknowledged the services of certain Gentiles of Utah in the recent election, and in return he expressed an intention to pay them back by working for them. The character of the labor he proposed was to do his best to obtain Congressional legislation against the "Mormons." This admission makes it perfectly clear that there is not a moiety of honesty in any such endeavors. The good of the Territory cuts no figure. It is the furtherance of political schemes alone that is sought. Their consummation would be fraught with the greatest disaster, being opposed to every principle and feature of the institutions of the Republic.

The statements contained in the protesting memorial are false on their face. The acts of the protestors in some respects refute them. The document says that the Mormon Church "is composed, by a large majority, of the lowest and most densely ignorant classes of the old world peasantry." Nothing that was ever penned could be more unqualifiedly untrue than this. The majority of the "Mormons" are native born and the balance are from various countries, and only a comparatively small number are from the ranks of the peasantry. In the aggregate they include more people who are