

Chronicle says "No"; with a voice of thunder. It wants the government to hold on to the lands and develop irrigation to the utmost in its own way, only to do it as quickly as possible. The land may then be opened for location and settlement as other public lands have been. Whether the process of development is carried on by the general government or by State and Territorial enterprise the success will be in exact proportion to the honest and prompt effort given to the work. It is not a question of power but of honesty and energetic action that is most to be considered.

WILLIAM AND ALSACE-LORRAINE.

SINCE the late Franco-German war Alsace and Lorraine have been little different from a military garrison in which the people were guarded as rigorously as though they were exiled convicts. Of course this was not the theory of the situation. It was simply Bismarck's way of making Germans out of Frenchmen. It has not been a habit among the people of that nationality to be frightened or disciplined into loyalty to a foreign sovereign.

While there has been no rebellious maneuvers among the Alsace-Lorraine people, it is doubtful whether they are any better Germans today than when handed over to Germany by their overpowered country. Nevertheless the young Emperor has suddenly softened toward them and abolished one of the most obnoxious features of his rule there. All passport restraints have been removed and free intercourse once more exists between them and their former countrymen.

This espionage system having been kept up, as there is cause to believe, more in the spirit of vindictiveness than of distrust, its removal must be regarded as a wise stroke of policy. It is looked upon by some as an olive branch from William to the French Republic. This is hardly probable. The act is more likely to be an olive branch to Alsace-Lorraine, to act as a sort of anchor of peace if not loyalty in the event of a rupture between Germany and France. In any case it is the best certificate of sagacity which has come from Emperor William since he ascended the throne.

THE TEST OATH AGAIN.

SOME of the extremists and fanatics who succeeded in placing an anti-"Mormon" test oath on the statute books of Arizona, are moving in the same un-American direction again. Under Governor Zúlick's administration the obnoxious provision was re-

pealed and political liberty was once more extended to the citizens of Arizona, without respect to creed or party. But Arizona is about to knock at the doors of the nation for admission as a State with very good prospects of a welcome, and some of the irreconcilables are striving to incorporate the test oath in the State constitution. We copy here some extracts from Arizona papers on this subject, pro and con.

The *Bulletin* says:

"A test oath in the constitution would probably leave the Republicans in the majority in Arizona. It is needless to say that Republican politicians are a unit for the test oath."

To this the *Tucson Citizen* responds as follows:

"The test oath, so called, is an oath that no good citizen will refuse to take. The editor of the *Bulletin* is a Democrat but he is a good citizen and would not hesitate to take the test oath, however administered. The editor of the *Citizen* is a Republican and would take the test oath in like manner, so, we repeat again, will any good citizen. It is only those who violate the law and fear it, that refuse to take the oath in question. If these law-breakers constitute the Democratic majority, as the *Bulletin* implies, it must be a disreputable party that will not purge itself of its iniquities. The test oath is the bugbear of the Democratic party in Arizona, and they dare not countenance its adoption at the expense of their political power in the Territory. If the adoption of the test oath would leave Republicans in a majority in Arizona, the thinking members of the Democratic party must stand aghast at the element that gives it place and power in the Territory."

Then the *Bulletin* comes back with this pointed reply, and we leave the matter without further comment:

"Brother Brown, much obliged for your good opinion of us. But does the *Citizen* believe any man would be made better or more law abiding by the incorporation of a test oath in the constitution? We do not think so, neither do we believe that a majority of Arizona Republicans want a test oath, no matter what the individuals who have their hands on the political machine may desire. The *Citizen* would have people believe that no one outside of the Democratic party was opposed to a test oath. There's where you are off wrong. Republicans and Democrats alike in Graham county are opposed to the test oath as the record will show. In the Republican convention which nominated candidates for delegates to the Constitutional convention in this county last spring, in which were seated the local leaders of the party, an emphatic expression was given in opposition to any test oath being put in the Constitution. On that expression they asked for Mormon votes. The *Citizen* does the Mormons a great injustice when it speaks of them as a class of criminals. With an exception here and there, as with frail man in all lands, they are an honest and hardworking people, and it can be said for them here that they have done more to advance our agricultural interest than all other classes put together.

"We maintain that every man who commits crime should be held to account before the bar of injured justice, but we do not believe any man should have his rights abridged before he has been convicted of a violation of some law of the land in which he lives, no matter

what his private opinions and beliefs may be. All Mormons do not believe in polygamy, and a very small percentage of them ever practiced it, but because a man belongs to the Mormon Church he is to be excluded from the polls whether he believes in polygamy or not. The precedent of a test oath might be carried to a degree that would endanger the very foundation of our government, by surrounding the ballot box with obnoxious oaths and thereby requiring the voter to surrender all of his American rights before casting his ballot. Every man convicted of crime is now excluded from the polls and that covers the ground. Convict your Mormons, Brother Brown, before you cinch them."

METEORIC BOULANGER.

THE career and end of 'General Boulanger form a dramatic fraction of the civilization of modern times. He was a remarkable man—brilliant and meteoric. He had not the solidity of character necessary to enable him to reach the aims of his vaulting ambition.

Notwithstanding his eccentricity and unscrupulousness, he was the undoubted possessor of ability. This is proved by the nature of some of his achievements. His military genius enabled him, within a brief period, to organize and equip the army in such completeness as to place the forces of France in a more advanced condition than they had ever heretofore attained. The present effective situation of the military department of the republic is due to his efforts. In a secondary way the perfection of matters military in Germany is also due to what Boulanger did for France, whose strong warlike position gave an impetus in the same direction in the Teutonic empire.

The erratic General whose tragic end was noted yesterday gave the initial direction to the recently developed alleged friendship between France and Russia. The present attitude of the two powers toward each other is but the growth of the seeds planted by him. By his undisguised advocacy of a war with Germany Boulanger attracted the eyes of the whole civilized world, because there was no knowing how soon he might, by his uncertain and somewhat stogy method, precipitate a bloody struggle that would involve other nations besides the two principals. He created revolutionary symptoms in France in his efforts to catch and retain the breeze of popular favor, through which he hoped to be wafted to the goal of his ambition, by affecting to work for the material changing of the French constitution in favor of the greater freedom of the people.

Fortunately for the existence of the present form of the French government, and perhaps the peace of Europe,