

Now, than to run the risk of destroying them through the campaign and at the election.

If such a sentiment as shame were known to the parties who have been instrumental in getting up the anti-State petitions which were forwarded to Washington, and which we have published in our columns, they would be overwhelmed by it in reading the statements which have been published by many of those whose names were appended to those petitions. A more contemptible and disgraceful attempt, among the many which have been made, to blacken the characters and slander the motives of the citizens of this Territory, has never been brought to light. Letter upon letter have been forwarded to us for publication, explaining the disreputable means which were resorted to, for the purpose of obtaining signatures to this petition, so replete with false statements. "Mormons and non-Mormons" have alike joined in exposing the deception that was practiced upon them to obtain their names. Children's signatures were attached to the petition, who are incapable of understanding the merits of the case in which they are made contestants. How some of these were obtained has been explained by our correspondents. But how the names were obtained of those who deny ever having signed the petitions, but whose names are appended thereto, is not yet explained. The public are left to imagine the process by which they were signed. It is safe to say that had the persons who were active in getting up this petition and affixing names to it, ever thought that it would have been published here, there would have been a much shorter list of signers, unless, indeed, they had considered that "the end justified the means," and that it would be no wrong to attach bogus names to such a petition.

A person, who styles herself one of the committee to forward the women's petition to Washington, has evidently been galled at the exposures which have been made here respecting this petition, and has rushed into print in the Washington Evening Star to defend the position and to assail the DESERET EVENING NEWS. The Star contained an article, which gave to the public an explanation of the manner in which some of the names were obtained for the petition. It was a truthful article, and, therefore, severe. We published it. The committee woman saw it. She also saw an opportunity to advertise herself. She wrote a letter containing mis-statements, which the editor of the Star courteously published, though he corrects some of her assertions. In the letter she tells falsehoods about the DESERET EVENING NEWS. These we would not have noticed, did we not wish to inform the Star that what was said about that petition was but a small portion of what might be said. There have been many new developments about that, as well as the men's petition, since the Star's article upon the subject was published. It would be difficult to exaggerate the disgraceful means used to obtain names for these petitions. New evidence of their character comes to light every day. In our Friday's issue a letter upon the subject appeared from a gentleman at Providence. It shows how the names were swelled.

The explanation this letter has to offer for some of the denials which the Star alluded to, is terribly lame. The "Mormon" women who signed the petition were visited, she says, by teachers. They were told they must choose between withdrawing their names and being cut off from the church. Eight or ten chose the former; but some others stood firm, she says, and were excommunicated. How the denials of the non-Mormons, whose names were attached to the petition, were obtained she does not explain. Whether they, too, were waited upon by "Mormon" teachers and threatened with excommunication from a church of which they were not members, we are left to imagine.

If the members of an orthodox church were to assail the church, to defame its ministers, to falsify its principles and to conspire with its enemies, would their fellow-members sustain and hold them in fellowship? Certainly not. It would be an unheard of proceeding. The petition sent from Utah was a mass of falsehood. The people whom it assailed had the right to say that they would not hold in church-fellowship the members of their church who signed it. The teachers only did their duty in waiting upon those whose names were appended

to the petition, and asking them if it contained their real sentiments. Those who signed the petition and were ignorant of its contents had a right to say that they were deceived. They did say so. Those who signed it, knowing its contents, and still remained connected with the church which it assailed, were guilty of an act of infamy and ought to be excommunicated.

The facts are: women were induced to sign this petition who knew nothing of its contents, others were deceived by false statements into signing it, others whose names appeared never signed it at all, and children whose names are attached to it are incapable of understanding its merits. These cannot truthfully be denied. Other women may assert that they signed it in good faith, that they believed its statements; but this cannot conceal or justify the iniquitous means used to obtain other names. Most of this kind cannot blind the eyes of reflecting people. This committee woman cannot bolster up this lying petition by any such statement, nor make the public believe that it is a crime for a church to excommunicate its members for telling lies. Such an explanation to the Star is entirely too thin.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, JUNE 20.

COLLED.—Hons. W. H. Hooper and F. D. Richards stepped in for a few minutes to-day. The captain seems in good health and better spirits, glad to be among home-friends again, and rejoicing in the confidence that the political course of things is in the right direction, and that the prospect for Utah is highly favorable.

SURGICAL OPERATION.—Mr. Robert Snaddon, of Ogden, called this morning, and exhibited a piece of diseased bone, taken from his wife's arm. He informs us that it was completely enclosed in a casing of new bone, which had grown around it, and had been a source of extreme annoyance for eleven years, causing frequent gatherings and the most excruciating pain. His wife determined at last to come to this city and undergo the operation for its removal, which was accordingly done after a tedious operation, by Dr. Anderson, assisted by Dr. Vollum, U. S. army, and Dr. Richards. Mrs. Snaddon is doing well, and bids fair for a speedy recovery.

TOOELE CITY, June 18, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir.—Having seen my name attached to that infamous petition in the News of the 12th, I most emphatically deny having any connection with such a slanderous piece of humbug. Your inserting as above in your columns will very much oblige. Most respectfully,
Yours, &c. JAMES RUSSELL.

CAR BURNED.—Last evening, as a freight train on the Utah Central was coming from Ogden to this city and had reached the down grade from the sand ridge between Ogden and Kayville, one of the cars was discovered to be on fire. When the fire was first perceived the train was some distance from any water. At great risk the men in charge succeeded in uncoupling the engine and tender and hind cars from the one in flames. The brakes were applied to the hind cars to check their progress, the engine and tender pushed ahead out of the way, and the burning car moved down the grade with its own momentum until, reaching the level, it fortunately stopped near a slough. By active exertions then the fire was extinguished, and a portion of the contents of the car, which was loaded with merchandise, was saved. Had it not been for the gallantry of the young men in charge, the loss might have been much more serious. There were two barrels of alcohol on the car, and as it moved down the grade in flames, night having closed, the sight was a grand one.

THOSE SIGNATURES.—A noticeable feature connected with the anti-State petition is the frequency with which some names occur on the list. This is indicative of another of the many dodges resorted to to give it the appearance of a huge affair. Nobody is simple enough to suppose that this duplication was caused, except probably in a few instances, by there being so many people of the same name in Utah. Sign "early and often" must have been the rule of conduct adopted by some parties with regard to this peculiar document. But then, what could be expected from a crowd that would sign the names of dead men to a petition.

There may be persons who signed that memorial who think a people should be debarred the privilege of self-government, as guaranteed by the constitution of the country, because of their religion, for there are nut-shell men who are so contracted in feelings and views as to be utterly incapable of grasping within the narrow limits of their understanding a single liberal conception. Still it is no compliment to such creatures to suppose they are so hedged up with

prejudice as to believe in religious proscription; and yet there they are, quite a number of them, originating and endorsing a religio-proscriptive petition. On the other hand should it be granted that they knew better—that they were aware that their course was diametrically opposed to the true principles of constitutional liberty and religious toleration, then they cannot be said to be honest, for if they know anything of liberty and the rights of man, their connection with such a miserably illiberal and misrepresenting document as the memorial alluded to shows that they went in opposition to their knowledge of right in forming such connection. Here then is a quandary; we like to put people on a good and respectable platform if we can do so consistently, but "facts are stubborn things." If it be put that the memorial endorsers did not know any better than to do as they have done, then it would be argued that their mentality is surrounded by impenetrable incrustations, and if they did know anything about religious toleration and the rights of free citizens they were not consistent with their intelligence.

Were the list attached to the petition stripped of all but the legitimate signers and endorsers thereof we presume there would be but a comparatively slim showing. The pruning would, of course, commence at the names of people who were dead before the memorial existed; then might come the little innocent children who were utterly incapable of understanding even the purport of the words, petition or memorial. Really the amount of infantile element on the lists connected with the petition alluded to and the one published a short time since would justify entitling them to the name of the babe and suckling petitions. Then in the process of pruning the lists, would come the grown people whose names were put down for them without their knowledge or consent; then the small boys who signed "for the fun of the thing;" then the formidable array of those who, having no interest or concern in the matter of the memorial, signed it because they are always willing to "turn any color" for a drink of whisky. It may not be amiss to state that drinks were passed freely around at the same time as the petition in some quarters. There were also numbers of people who, according to their own testimony, signed because it was represented to them that the object of the memorial was directly opposite to its real one. Next knock off those who had "axes to grind" by the accomplishment of the object of the memorial and after doing all of this there are thousands of people who honestly believe that the memorial would be left almost totally destitute of endorsers or signers.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, JUNE 21.

IMPROVEMENTS.—A plank sidewalk will shortly be laid on the street along the front of the Theatre. Some improvements will also soon be made on the front of the building, inside the portico.

SOUTH.—A gentleman who has just arrived from Sanpete speaks in glowing terms of the crops there and all the way north to this point. The only place where grasshoppers have appeared to any extent is in the Nephi south field, and it is expected they will fly from there before doing very great damage, being likely to take wing within a week.

The waters, which have been exceedingly high in Sanpete and Sevier Counties, are now receding.

Several minor accidents had occurred at the Sevier Bridge, in Juab County, besides the fatal one recorded by us a few weeks since, among them one which happened to Brother M. B. Shipp, by which he came near losing his mules by drowning.

The bridge at the forks of the creek in Salt Creek Canyon was recently carried away by high water, making travel that way very dangerous.

The Sanpete people are busily engaged putting up new bridges to replace those carried away by the floods in the County, and repairing those damaged by the same cause.

Telegraph Extending—Crops, &c.

Beaver, June 20.—The line to Star district is up and we will open an office there to-day.

The crops everywhere are promising for a fine yield. Full crops here. Water for irrigating is abundant in all the settlements and the streams are going down.

There have been several days of very severe gales from the south, and the dust has been blinding.

The Sevier Bridge is still standing, and the approaches to it are becoming easier every day, as the river subsides. Many of the signers to that anti-State petition are very much mortified at seeing their names attached thereto, many of which are direct forgeries. Others say they never saw the petition at all, and knew nothing of its contents.

Certain Salt Lake wool buyers have been unwarrantably using the names of prominent Salt Lake, to induce the people to sell them their wool for exportation, while our factories would be more or less crippled by such transactions.

FOUNTAIN GREEN, June 21.—There are about 150 Indian lodges, numbering about nine hundred Indians in all, here. They

are friendly and seem well disposed towards the whites. The people of Sanpete have furnished them with some provisions, for which they feel grateful. They say they will visit Juab and Utah counties and Salt Lake City this summer.

How it is Done.—The following interesting letter from Mr. Stratford, of Cache Valley, discloses some stubborn facts, which, with the hundreds of other things, connected with the same matter, that have been brought to light, show the dishonesty and general contemptibleness of the parties who originated the anti-state petition and conducted the obtaining of signatures to it:

PROVIDENCE, June 17, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

In your paper, of June 15th, there are 45 names, purporting to have been signed by residents of our town, to a memorial against the admission of Utah as a State. Of these 17 are the names of children, from 2 years old and upwards. One is the name of a person who never lived here, Jacob Henry; two Godlieb and Susan Augenstein, were never citizens of Utah, and were, with another signer, John Neeser, living in one of the Eastern States when that document was presented to Congress.

Again, there are 17 names from Millville, a neighboring town, of these 9 are boys and children. One of them, George S. Palmer, "laborer," is a boy of 5 years, and another, "William Tion," (which should have been written Sion) also described as a laborer, is about 8 years old. It is a pity the memorial did not state the particular branch of industry these youthful petitioners were engaged in. Had their friends signed their professions as laborers we would all have known that petition making was their peculiar forte, but it is rather hard to determine the kind of labor a boy of 5 years old performs. Thus, out of 62 names from these settlements 30 are those of children and non-residents. These are facts and I am personally acquainted with the parties named. Respectfully, Yours, &c.,
EDWARD STRATFORD.

TOOELE CITY, June 18, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Sir.—The name of Thomas Lee, miner, appears in your daily paper of Thursday, the 15th of June, as signed to a petition to Congress against the admission of Utah as a State.

I never signed said petition, and never empowered anybody to do so for me, neither was I standing by when any one else signed for me, as I at that time was in the city of Cincinnati on a mission.

Although I have been a member of this church for 39 years, persecuted and driven in common with the rest of my brethren, I cannot say that I have a very good relish for the love which our enemies have for us.
THOMAS LEE.

SALT LAKE CITY, June 21st, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Sir.—The name of William Bird has appeared in your paper, as signed to a petition against the admission of Utah into the Union as a State. Please publish that the name, if it is mine, is a forgery, for I never signed that nor any other petition and never heard of the one in connection with which my name has appeared, until it was published in your paper, and my sympathies and sentiments are not and never have been with the memorialists.
Respectfully,
WM. BIRD.

How is This?—An individual who was interested in and who gave aid in getting up the anti-State petition was asked recently how he could explain the appearance on the list of memorialists, of the name of Jack Trainer, who had been dead and buried before the petition was in existence. He replied that the only way he could account for it was that Judge Bradner, of Little Cottonwood, had obtained the names of all the workmen in the mine with which he was connected to a former petition, the object of which was to retain Judge McKean in office, and Trainer's name was supposed to have been among the number. The McKean endorsement petition, however, had been forwarded to Washington before the arrival in this city of Judge Bradner's list of signers. This being the case it is the opinion of the person to whom the above question was put that this list was appended to the anti-State petition.

Of course this places the matter in beautiful light for the petition framers. By what name shall their work be called? Is it anything short of gross forgery? If the explanation of the person alluded to be correct, the work was wholesale, for here was a whole batch of names of different persons attached as signatures to a document for which the signers never intended them. We do not know whether any lists arrived too late for the anti-State petition or not. If so however, according to this explanation of the appearance of dead men's names to it, it will not matter a great deal, they can be kept on hand for a future emergency. When another petition is got up by the same parties, such lists can be stuck on to it, for it appears that lists of names do not spoil by keeping; let them "be continued in our next."

ANOTHER BIG FESTIVAL.—The British singing societies are to have a grand time in the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, on the Fourth of July. Among them will be a choir of 500 voices from South Wales, consisting exclusively of miners, fishermen, colliers and their families.