

livering public lectures against Utah and her people, citing as authorities the notorious Jarman and Mrs. Stenhouse's publications. It seems, however, as though that particular disposition in man which prompts him to say that thus and so is so upon insufficient information, or none at all, is not quite as active as it used to be. It is the rule rather than the exception for people who speak against the Latter-day Saints to have passed through in Utah and stayed long enough to see the towers of the Temple and the Tabernacle to hurriedly write a pamphlet or mount the rostrum and "enlighten" the public as to the entire situation! Some go further and enlarge upon the lies written by others. A reverend gentleman of the Baptist persuasion recently undertook to excite anger against us by attacking our characters. Aside from some little truth he told in his lectures, they were a cowardly slander from beginning to end and we were compelled to meet this by challenging him to a public debate in order to prove from United States and other authorities that he had not only relied too much on hearsay and stories circulated by those whose reputation would not bear close investigation, but that he had wilfully slandered an innocent community; but needless to say, the would-be fame seeker refused. Our meeting since then have been attended by more strangers than heretofore. In my district five persons have applied for baptism.

It is not all smooth sailing traveling as an ambassador of the meek and lowly Savior. The Saints are few, and, as a rule, too poor for us to accept of their hospitalities to any extent. My present traveling companion is Elder Parley P. Parrish of Centreville, and where we are laboring there is a rough element—mostly coal miners or pitmen. We are well and in conjunction with all the Elders laboring in this conference I wish the good, old DESERET NEWS every success.

ALFRED SMURTHWAITE.

LADIES AND SILVER.

The large attendance at the Theater last evening was another indication of the widespread and earnest feeling on the silver question, and the universal demand in the West for the restoration of the white metal to its former position as money. In the mass meeting the program was well arranged and carried out in a way that was eminently satisfactory. The musical part of the exercises deserves special mention for its excellence.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. George A. Lowe, and Mrs. Emmeline B. Wells was called to the chair. Mrs. Ellsworth Daggett was named as secretary, and after Mrs. Wells had briefly stated the purpose of the meeting an address was made by Mrs. B. A. M. Froiseth. Mrs. F. W. Norris then read the following memorial to Congress, which was unanimously adopted:

To the Honorable Senators and Members of the House of Representatives:

In the face of unparalleled disaster the women of Utah, in mass meeting assembled, appeal to your honorable bodies.

We respectfully petition that at the ensuing special session of Congress legislative measures be adopted to increase the use of silver as money and

enhance the price of silver bullion. We do not assume to speak of the theory which should be adopted or the means which should be used to attain these ends, but we speak from a knowledge of the distress and business disaster which have already fallen upon our Territory and this whole intermountain region from the partial cessation of silver mining, and which must increase when this industry is more completely abandoned. Silver mining is almost the only source of revenue of this whole intermountain region. The miners consume the agricultural products, laborers and merchants are paid by the products of our mines, and with the cessation of mining there will be common and widespread disaster. Already hundreds of working women as well as men have lost situations, thousands of skilled laborers have been discharged from our mines and with no occupation and no capital, will soon have no food for themselves or families. A few mine owners are still working their mines, but with reduced force and wages, and without profit, and this is only to avoid the waste and damage resulting to machinery and mines from closing and stopping pumps; even this work continues only because of the hope that the price of silver may increase so as to enable a resumption. Unless this advance of price comes soon the industry must cease, and other thousands of helpless laborers will be discharged. If this were only temporary, or affected only one of our industries, we would bear bravely, but the foundation upon which our entire business structure rests is silver mining, and failure brings universal disaster.

The people of the East are assured that in these appeals we are not actuated by selfish motives, or making a false cry when asking that the bitter cup be turned aside. They, too, are also directly and indirectly interested in our welfare, not only as citizens of a common country, but in a pecuniary way; our merchants buy of them and obtain credit in proportion to the prosperity of our country.

Our railroads are built, our mines opened and our improvements largely made on credit. Our railroad, state, territorial and municipal bonds, our principal loans and much of our mining stock are held in the East, therefore they cannot ruin our one great industry and inestimably lessen values without damaging their own interests.

The development of this country and the investments in property here have been undertaken and accomplished when the laws of the country and the platforms of its political parties pledged the nation to maintain the parity between gold and silver, and gave investors the greatest pledge of security in the world, and while we do not understand why this pledge has failed, we see and know the effects of its failure. We are loyal women. With you we have an intense affection for and pride in our native land, and we cannot believe that an appeal which directly affects the happiness and prosperity of the people of one-third of this republic can be listened to with indifference by you, and we most respectfully submit our memorial.

Telegrams of sympathy and encouragement from Mrs. J. H. Ferry, Park City; Mrs. P. H. Emerson, Ogden; Mrs. J. W. Guthrie, Corinne, and Mrs. George Sutherland, Provo, were read, after which Dr. Ellen Gage, Mrs. C. Paddock, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. M. Isabella Horne and Mrs. Ferguson made addresses. The speakers were frequently applauded. After a vote of thanks to the Theater management and those who furnished the musical exercises, the meeting adjourned.

UTAH MERCHANTS ON THE SILVER QUESTION.

The following circular has been prepared by the business men, after careful consideration, and copies will be sent out to all who have patronage of the merchants of this city:

BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION, SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, July 22, 1898.

To the Merchants, Manufacturers and Capitalists East and West:

Gentlemen—Through the Business Men's Association of Salt Lake City, the merchants of Utah beg permission to call your attention to some serious facts, important to your interests as well as theirs.

We live in a region that is blessed with a delightful climate, and which holds within its mountain arms resources prolific, diversified and inexhaustible beyond description; and during the past few years the developments we have made have excited the wonder and amazement of all visitors.

Our cities contain all that is modern; our manufactures give employment to thousands of people in the development of home industries; our railroads have been made great by the patronage given them in the interchange of local and foreign products; the output of our coal mines, our gold, silver and lead mines, of our quarries, and the yield of our farms and ranges have given prosperous employment to thousands of people, to supply whom we, as merchants, buy from you each year with steadily increasing demand.

We point out to the manner in which our banks and other institutions have weathered the greatest financial storm that this country has ever known.

These results could only be possible among a proud, high-minded and sensitively honorable people, and what we have done is an evidence of the manifest desire on our part to meet every demand and obligation in the full sense of business integrity, and with exact promptness.

But a crisis is upon us. We stand immediately in the shadow of a danger which is aiming a fatal blow at the very basis of our development and prosperity and threatens to sweep out of existence the industry on which all other industries depend in this region. It has been through silver mining that this region has been developed to its present greatness, and our coal mines, manufactories, farms, ranges and commerce generally lean upon silver mining as their respective source of profit.

We believe that the action of eastern financiers in their attempt to establish a single monetary basis and to destroy silver as money has been most injurious to the country at large. It has paralyzed business in our region and threatens to utterly destroy property values and the usual industries on which men depend for a livelihood here.

As it is, it has resulted in locking up all the money of this region. All mines have been shut down. Already thousands of people have been thrown out of employment. Our money supply has been dammed at its very source. Collections are most difficult to make. Factories have had to shut down and merchants had to countermand their orders.