

cure a better charter of the liberties of his subjects is decidedly to his credit.

THAT PROTEST.

THE anti-statehood protest forwarded to Congress is highly misrepresentative on its face. It purports to be accompanied by 13,000 genuine signatures, and claims to represent 55,000 Gentiles. This is exceedingly transparent. It has been stated repeatedly that the document has been industriously and indefatigably circulated in every part of Utah. This being the case, all Gentiles had access to it; yet considerably less than one-fourth of their alleged number signed it.

In addition, it is well to take into consideration that the protest asserts that "many Mormons" signed it. Suppose that the word "many" should be construed to mean, say, 5,000, this being small in proportion to the bulk of that class, the Gentile endorsements would be reduced to about 8,000 or, in round numbers, about one-seventh of what is stated to be the whole; yet all were informed of the movement and could have reached the document.

If the fact be also taken into account that in almost all matters of this kind lots of people can be persuaded into signing anything, the document is not so proportionately strong. It is about as the *Chicago Times* stated—that it is the "active politicians" who assume to speak for the Gentile population of Utah. It must be admitted, however, that the estimate which places the non-Mormon population of Utah at 55,000, or one-fourth of the whole, requires the use of fancy figures. It is exceedingly doubtful whether they will reach one-seventh, and those who rate that class of the people so high ought to throw off a few thousand for us, for old acquaintance sake, if not for the sake of truth.

A large portion of the protest is devoted to laudation of the class it claims to represent. There can be no special objection to this self-laudation in relation to intelligence, honesty, and enterprise, as enunciations of that character emanating from and returning to the parties in point, are generally taken with a little salt. Statements, however, that throw discredit, by means of falsehood, upon another class of the community exhibit the cloven foot. According to the representations of these "active politicians," there was nothing here till they

came. Fortunately for the truth, this Territory was blooming with beauty and alive with active industry long before they ever set eyes upon it. The fame of Utah as containing an enterprising and heroic community had already spread among the people afar off. But these late comers have done it all, according to their story, and the people who made it possible for them to live here are only fit to be trampled under their active political feet.

The protest throughout is a misrepresentative paper, formulated to push the political schemes of those who have been conspicuous in the movement which gave it birth.

THE "Q" STRIKE OVER.

IT OUGHT to be as gratifying to the public at large as it is to the parties immediately interested that the long strike on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad system is practically at an end. The story of this protracted struggle is too well known and thoroughly understood to need repetition. What it has cost in dollars and cents to employers and employed can never be told, nor can the sum total be even approximately stated. To say "millions" leaves the question as open as ever, since all know that it ran many degrees beyond one million, and it is, for the sake of making a statement of some kind regarding it, proper to say that it has even gone beyond tens of millions and entered the division of numerical finances described by nine figures. The burden of this great loss has been borne by the railroad workers of the United States, chiefly the engineers, but they have, of course, received sympathetic assistance from the others. Those who were actually out of work had to be maintained, and those who were at work on that or any other system had necessarily to contribute to that end. This cut down incomes all along the line, and tended to stimulate the stubbornness of those who were not at work—the strikers themselves. By such means they have been able to hold out until the company came to terms, or at least met them half way, a conference at Chicago convening a few days ago as the result.

For a while it looked as if nothing would be accomplished, but this was a perfectly natural development and to be looked for. At first each side would make its greatest demands, of course, and thus they would begin

their deliberations, widely apart; but as they progressed, and one concession after another was made on the part of each, they came nearer together, and at last, according to the dispatches, a conclusion was reached or at least agreed upon. This was on Jan. 4, and the formal adoption of that conclusion was to be made next day.

It is no less a happy outcome for the company than for the men. While they have managed of late to keep most of their trains running on time, the schedule has had to be changed continually and part of the time indifferent and inexperienced men employed, by means of which numerous wrecks more or less serious occurred. Life and property being thus rendered insecure would naturally cause patronage to drift from the Burlington to other routes, a loss in itself, and in many cases of course a permanent one. Add to all this loss of prestige and influence, and the distressing position of the company can be more nearly understood.

As before set out, it has been a losing game on both sides. The understanding just arrived at might as well have taken place one month as one year after the outbreak, since it must have been apparent to even the most indifferent observer that each of the disputants was so well backed one way and another that protraction meant increased and increasing losses. But, as the old adage has it, "Better late than never," and perhaps it may have a useful purpose in serving as a warning to others hereafter.

THE NEWEST YET.

NO ELECTION law can be made so explicit or exact as to fit every case; in fact, almost every election develops some new point, to settle which precedents must be resorted to. But it has been left for New York City to produce something altogether at variance with anything in recorded history, so far as political complications go, and the novelty of the situation provokes as much humor as it does speculation.

In the election of November 6th, Edward F. Reilly, a hold-over State Senator from that city, was elected to the position of county clerk, thus leaving a vacancy in the legislative delegation, which Governor Hill ordered a special election to fill. The Democrats at once nominated Ex-Senator Thomas Francis Grady for the position, and for a while it was announced that no