

### BOIL IT DOWN.

Whatever you have to say, my friend,  
Whether witty, or grave, or gay,  
Condense as much as ever you can,  
And say in the readiest way;  
And, whether you write on rural affairs,  
Or particular things in town,  
Just a word of friendly advice—  
Boil it down.

For, if you go spluttering over a page  
When a couple of lines would do,  
Your butter is spread so much, you see,  
That the bread looks plainly through.  
So, when you have a story to tell,  
And would like a little renown,  
To make quite sure of your wish, my friend,  
Boil it down.

When writing an article for the press,  
Whether prose or verse, just try  
To utter your thoughts in the fewest words,  
And let it be crisp and dry;  
And when it is finished, and you suppose  
It is done exactly brown,  
Just look it over again, and then—  
Boil it down.

For editors do not like to print  
An article lazily long,  
And the general reader does not care  
For a couple of yards of song.  
So gather your wits in the smallest space,  
If you'd win the author's crown,  
And every time you write, my friend,  
Boil it down.

### A TIME FOR SELF-CONTROL.

THERE is apparently no intention on the part of the present Federal officials to ease up in the work of the anti-"Mormon" crusade. On the contrary, they evidently propose to pursue their inexcusable and cruel course more rigorously and remorselessly than ever, if that be possible. The fact that but few if any changes of officials of Utah are likely to be made before the adjournment of the Senate, which has the confirming power, leads many to suppose that no removals will occur for at least many months. This, however, is a matter of uncertainty, as changes are liable to be made by the Executive when the Senate is not in session. Relief from the present oppressive regime would probably result from the supplanting of the present officials by a new set, for it would be unreasonable to expect that a more unscrupulous lot could be got together, either by chance or design. Of course we refer to those who are actively engaged in the one-sided prosecutions that are being conducted against members of the Church. Seeing that there is no immediate prospect of a change for the better, the victims have no alternative but to round up their shoulders and bear the afflictions heaped upon them as best they can, taking, in the meantime, every precaution for their protection that wisdom and discretion may suggest.

There is a truism that has often been expressed that appears to apply in the present situation—"If you know what your enemy wishes you to do, take a course the opposite of it." Now and again those who are in sympathy with the inexcusable assault upon the liberties of the Saints express their true sentiments. They are aching for them to resent the disgraceful operations of the official crusaders by committing some overt act that would bring them into violent contact with the representatives or agents of the government, and in that way practically with the government itself. Those who are wronged should, under the circumstances, for the good of the community, hold all feelings of resentment in check, and do nothing that would in any way jeopardize the interests of the people.

It is needful always that the people should be prudent, forbearing and circumspect, suffering wrong rather than to do it, but no time has demanded a greater exercise of self-control than the present. Circumstances may become still more unendurable than they are now, but still the oppression must be borne without a murmur against the Providence of a just and wise God. No means must be resorted to for the purpose of throwing off the yoke, however galling it may become, except measures that are strictly pacific. The element of violence must not be introduced. This is not a policy dictated by cowardice, but of prudence. It requires more bravery under some circumstances to refrain from resorting to violence than to use it. The bravest people on earth are those who are under the greatest degree of self-control.

If there are Saints who cannot see the brilliant outcome of the present afflictions that are heaped upon an upright and honest people, let them seek to behold it by the power of faith. Times may be a good deal closer than they are now, and as the storm thickens, beats and blows, the houses that are built upon the sand will be swept away, while those that are built upon the rock will stand firm and unshaken. All those things that are now occurring have been more or less clearly defined by the voice of inspiration, through the servants of God. After the storm passes over, and the hand of Omnipotence rests heavily upon the nations, "The Lord will comfort His people."

The Ameridan National Rifle Association has decided to open the season's programme Sept. 16.

### A CONTEMPTIBLE SUBTERFUGE.

THE decision of the Church Authorities to hold the General Conference at Logan in place of in this city has been the subject of much comment. The organ of slander held up the awful threat a short time since that certain business men purposed calling a Conference of the Church to convene here anyway. The ridiculous character of this proposal was self-evident. The idea of the locality of a Conference being determined by business considerations was absurd to begin with, but the suggestion of a gathering of that character being convened by unauthorized persons reached the sublime point of nonsense, if there be such a pinnacle.

The same sordid sheet shifts from one subterfuge to another on this subject, over which it is sorely worried. Its latest explanation, given this morning, of the reason for holding the Conference at Logan, is, if possible more gauzy than any of its former fine spun theories on the matter. The latest mare's nest is to the effect that Z. C. M. I. has a large number of bills due and unpaid, and some scheme had to be arranged to enable its management to get hold of the needful cash with which to meet pressing obligations. It has also a lot of hard stock of which it must be unloaded. The Logan Branch of the Institution is the medium through which the old style goods must be worked off. Hence the decision to hold Conference there. This is the new fabric upon which the Salt Lake Tribune stands upon the Conference question. It is hard to imagine how a professedly intelligent person could formulate such silly stuff, and it is remarkable that a person possessing the smallest degree of good judgment should give people so little credit for penetration as to believe them incapable of perceiving the untenable character of the position assumed. It is one of the clumsiest attempts to injure the chief mercantile house of Utah of any that ever was made. The weakest mind ought to be able to perceive that it is as much to the interest of Z. C. M. I. to sustain the reputation of its several branches as to uphold that of the parent from which they have sprung. The Logan Branch gets no goods from the Institution in this city except those it orders to keep its stocks complete—pending the arrival of its own shipments from the East—when the articles are wanted in quicker time than they can be had from more distant markets.

Z. C. M. I. does not owe any bank a dollar, neither has it a dollar of discounted paper anywhere. All its bills are paid up to date, and a flourishing business is being done. Notwithstanding the general stringency of the times the sales for the month just expired were considerably larger than those of the month of March 1884. These are matters of fact and figure, of which any person can satisfy himself by inquiry. They are learned by us from Gen. Eldredge, the superintendent.

The real object of the publication of the Tribune's phantasmal reason for the holding of the General Conference in Logan was evidently to work an injury to one of the soundest and most reliable business houses on the American Continent. It was a cowardly and clumsy assault, and will have no effect of the kind desired.

### "MAN PROPOSES BUT GOD DISPOSES."

ACCORDING to the dispatches published elsewhere in this issue, the Utah Commissioners have had an interview with President Cleveland, who listened to a verbal report of their proceedings in this Territory and a statement of their plans for the future, and not only fully approved of the same, but promised all the help the Administration can afford in the efforts being made "to root out the practice of polygamy." It is also asserted that the Attorney-General has given them similar assurances.

From this and the fact that the Senate has adjourned without any changes being made in Utah officers, it would seem that the unhallowed system of persecution which has been waged against the Latter-day Saints for some time past, under cover of law, but in opposition to the Constitution of our country, as well as justice and the common rights of humanity, is to be kept up until a higher Power than that of man shall intercede in behalf of this oppressed people.

It does not yet appear that the President or Attorney General have ever thought to inquire, or considered it necessary to do so, whether there is another side to the story they have heard, or whether there is a possibility of the clamoring of the populace for harsh and extra-judicial measures in dealing with the "Mormons" being but a repetition of that which greeted the ears of Pontius Pilate when the death of Jesus was demanded—a call for vengeance upon the innocent. Possibly they have had no very serious thoughts in connection with the loosing of the victim, or the withdrawal of the protective power that they might extend to the same, in response to the popular clamor. We prefer to think that such is the case to believing that they have deliberately taken the course

accredited to them with a full knowledge of the situation and imagined they could wash their hands and free themselves from all guilt in the matter. Realizing the condemnation that such action would involve, we still, for their sake at least, cherish the hope that they will see the injustice being done this people and use their power to avert it.

The Latter-day Saints, however, are not relying upon the power of man to deliver them. They look unto God, the Author of their religion, the Being whom they worship, to afford them the necessary succor in the hour of trial, knowing that "man proposes, but God disposes," and that He will suffer their enemies to go no farther than is necessary to subserve His righteous purposes. It has been decreed that "it must needs be that offences come; but woe unto that man by whom the offence cometh."

Understanding that perfection is only to be attained through the endurance of trials, and that "our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory," the Saints calmly and confidently await the issue.

### THE FRENCH DEFEAT.

FRANCE will get little sympathy from other nations in the defeat which she is now suffering at the hands of the Chinese. Her course in connection with the Chinese ever since the Tonquin troubles commenced has been so arrogant, and so little regard has been paid to the rules and proprieties of civilized warfare, to say nothing about the respect to which such a powerful nation as that of China is entitled, in the repeated onslaughts of the rapacious French upon the submissive Mongols, that the general verdict of the world over the recent reverse in the tide of war, will be that it serves the French right.

The French have sneered at and ridiculed the Chinese for the fear they have manifested and the meekness with which they have submitted to the invasion of their empire, but it now seems that they have presumed a little too much on the non-combative disposition of their opponents. It now appears that the Chinese have had a purpose in submitting to the aggressions of their enemy until the army of the latter advanced to a position in which they could be resisted to the best possible advantage, and the resistance then offered with such telling effect was evidently a complete surprise, not only to the French army but to the French nation.

Their present humiliation and chagrin must be fully equal to their former arrogance and braggadocio. There are probably no more effective warriors in the world than the French while they are successful—they are dashing, impetuous, desperate, but when once defeat overtakes them, a sort of harkari spirit is apt to take possession of them, under the influence of which they are as likely to injure one another as the enemy. The principal destruction in and about Paris during the Franco-Prussian war was caused by the French people themselves—the Communists, who, Vandal-like, destroyed without discrimination. As a nation they are very mercurial—up one hour, down the next; easily elated and very readily panic-stricken and demoralized; and if the reports that reach us by telegraph are to be relied upon their condition is approaching the latter phase not only in Tonquin but in Paris also, where the excitement over the despised "pig-tails" turning the tables upon them is intense. The resignation of the ministry at the critical time, when the defeat was announced, made it almost appear as if another revolution, for which that nation is so notorious, were about to occur, but the later dispatches seem to indicate that President Grevy is getting the government into working order again. Indeed, it is now reported that the Chinese Government has concluded to accept M. Ferry's proposal for peace, though we think this rather doubtful. We think it more probable that the Chinese, while flushed with victory, will press on and endeavor if possible to drive the French entirely from their domain. And the world generally would find little cause for regret if they were to do so, for the provocation which the French had for making war upon China was but slight to begin with, and it has been pushed to an unreasonable extent without justification.

If, as is asserted, the Chinese have European officers, it is not at all improbable that success will continue to attend them now that the tide has turned. Though not a fighting nation, it is presumable that the Chinese have learned something in regard to the art of war through their intercourse with other nations since the time of their former invasions, when a handful of Europeans could rout their hordes as if they were so many sheep.

The probability is that some mighty changes will soon take place among the ruling powers of the earth, and it is not unreasonable to regard the present war clouds which are hovering in various quarters of the earth's horizon as foreshadowing them. The Latter-day Saints will look with interest for their development.

The Parliament of the Island of Jersey has negatived a bill to expel Jesuits.

### SUCCESS OF A DESERVING INSTITUTION.

WE took occasion in last Thursday's issue to reply to and show up the falsity of a scandalous insinuation which had been made in regard to the commercial standing and business methods of Z. C. M. I., the leading mercantile house of this Territory, than which a safer or more honorable business firm would be difficult to find in any community.

It is sixteen years on the first of last month since this business was established, under direction of the late President Brigham Young. At its inception it gained a firm hold on the confidence of the people, which by courteous treatment and attention to the wants of the public, as well as by strict business integrity, it has managed since to retain. The aim of its managers has ever been to do a safe business, and the steady progress which has been made and the immunity which the concern has enjoyed from heavy losses afford evidence of their success in this line. In this connection we may mention that a heavy insurance is carried and extra precautions are taken to avoid loss by fire, etc. For instance, at the principal business place in this city watchmen are employed both inside and outside the building, and as a proof that the former is awake and attending to his business, he is required to transmit signals every hour from different parts of the building to the District Telegraph office, where a record is made of them and presented daily for the inspection of the managers.

The benefits which have accrued to the community from the business conducted by Z. C. M. I. are not apparent to every one, and few retail dealers even throughout the country realize to what extent this parent institution has prevented them and the general public from being taken advantage of, by the uniformly straightforward and honorable course which it has taken. It has carefully guarded the interests of the people, prevented "corners" and preserved the equilibrium of prices, as no other business firm in our community could have done had the desire to do so been ever so good.

It has done much, too, in the way of establishing and encouraging home manufactures, and manifested in this a great degree of unselfishness and a desire for the public weal, for the tannery at least was conducted for some time at an actual loss. In view, however, of the permanent good likely to result from them and the number of persons which they were susceptible of employing, these manufactures have been persevered in, until now, as we are pleased to note, they, as well as the other departments, are established upon a profitable basis.

This is not the only line in which unselfishness connected with the institution has been manifested, for efforts have been made by its various branches to secure to the people the best possible prices for that which they produce and for which there is not sufficient market here at home. Where grain or other produce has been taken, the highest possible prices have been allowed, the managers being satisfied to make a profit on the goods without speculating on the produce also. As an instance of this, we may remark that no less than eighty broad-gauge car loads of wheat will have been shipped during last month and this, from the Logan branch, to the East, where a market has been obtained at a figure which will just cover what the producers have been allowed for it. The same branch has recently shipped away \$60,000 worth of eggs.

In the employment which this institution has furnished to the people of our community no small amount of good has also been done. Its regular employes number no less than 390.

In view of the past beneficial results from this institution and the prospect for its accomplishing still more good in the future as its branches of manufacture are extended and its field of usefulness broadens, the success indicated by the statement which is published in to-day's issue must be gratifying to the whole community.

Perhaps no better indication could be given of its growing popularity with the people than the fact that its sales during the month of March just past exceeded by at least \$10,000 those for the corresponding month of last year.

### FINANCIAL CONDITION OF Z. C. M. I.

AS SHOWN AT THE STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

THE regular semi-annual meeting of the stockholders of Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution was held at the Social Hall this afternoon, commencing at 2 o'clock, Vice-President Wm. Jennings presiding. The principal business done was the presentation and acceptance of the President's 32d semi-annual report, which was read by the Secretary, T. G. Webber. The report embraces a period from August 1st, 1884, to January 31st, 1885. In the President's report it is gratifying, notwithstanding the general hardness of the times and the lack of remunerative markets for the surplus products

to be able to say the institution has done well. With the advent of the present year hope was entertained that business would improve, and this hope was no doubt founded on the long liquidation through which trade had passed, and the low prices reached in many staple lines. But prices have not materially improved, and the volume of trade, although perhaps as large as the times and circumstances warrant, is not so great as it was. Farmers are temporarily embarrassed by the abundant crops, for which there is no market, while workers are running on greatly reduced wages; from these and other causes, a general revival in business and a return of prosperous times can hardly be anticipated at present. But we believe confidently that the worst of the depression is over, and with the opening of spring a more favorable condition of trade will prevail.

So far as the financial condition of the Institution is concerned, we have abundant cause for thankfulness. For while our sales, in consequence of the general dullness experienced throughout the country, have fallen somewhat below what they were a year ago, yet I find they have been all we reasonably could expect.

The stocks of merchandise on hand, as shown in our inventories, are valued at \$1,144,960.81, which is \$119,791.05 less than we carried one year ago. I find that nearly 79 per cent. of this merchandise on hand has been paid for. Included in the merchandise on hand, as given above, are the following home-made goods: Boots and shoes, \$49,543.42; Provo woolen goods, \$49,325.67; soaps, brooms, trunks, crackers, candy and matches, \$4,680. Total home produced articles, \$103,549.09. Our merchandise and cash on hand aggregate \$1,189,192.78, or over 65 per cent. more than the sum total of all our liabilities, of course exclusive of capital stock and reserve fund.

For freight and express charges, we have paid for the half year, \$137,784.94, and our sales have been about \$1,700,000. Cash receipts for the half year have been \$1,775,719.76.

An accurate inventory of the material, machinery, and tools has been taken in the manufacturing depts., and I am gratified in being able to say the results are very satisfactory. In the shoe factory, there were turned out 11,590 pairs of boots, and 89,465 pairs of shoes, at a cost \$148,514.12. The tannery used 4,362 hides, 1,157 skins, and produced \$53,007 worth of sole leather, buff, wax upper, calf and kip skins. At our clothing factory \$50,493.51 worth of clothing was manufactured, consisting of some 30 different kinds of garments, including overalls, of which there were 69,900 pairs turned out. The total product of these three manufacturing departments is valued at \$252,014.77, and they give employment to nearly two hundred operatives of one grade or another.

The following statement of assets and liabilities shows the condition of the institution at the close of the fiscal half year.

#### RESOURCES.

Mdse. on hand.....	\$1,444,960 81
Notes receivable.....	244,667 26
Accounts receivable.....	253,187 41
Cash on hand.....	44,231 97
Real estate in Salt Lake City, Ogden, Logan, Soda Sp'gs and Provo.....	231,722 59
Machinery at shoe and clothing factories and tannery.....	33,220 32
17 horses, 2 mules, 16 wagons, 10 sets of harness, 10 tons of oats and 4 tons of hay.....	2,756 00
Provo Manuf. Stock.....	272 65
	\$1,955,019 01

#### LIABILITIES.

Bills payable.....	\$570,032 29
Accounts payable.....	68,503 53
Provo Manuf. Com'y and others for commission goods.....	75,051 61
Unpaid dividends.....	3,035 34
Temporary deposits by customers.....	1,411 89
Outstanding orders drawn on us for mdse. at retail.....	1,488 54
Capital stock.....	999,995 32
Reserves.....	171,186 57
Undivided profits.....	64,313 92
	\$1,955,019 01

A dividend was declared of 5 per cent. upon the capital stock, which will take of the undivided profits \$49,999.80, and the balance will be credited to the reserve fund.

### CENTRAL AMERICAN TROUBLES.

THE troubles arising in Central America, from the ambitious General Barrios, President of Guatemala, attempting to form a confederation of the several independent States in that region, and using force to effect his purpose, has grown sufficiently serious to call for interference on the part of the United States and Mexican governments, and the probability is that he will soon be suppressed. It is doubtful, however, whether the idea of confederating will be lost sight of by the people of that region, for it is claimed that they are generally in favor of doing so, but object to the course that Barrios has taken in assuming to be the dictator. A good authority upon the subject asserts that Barrios may fail, but some one will succeed, and there will be another nation, with the remarkable advantage of a tropical climate and ports on both oceans.