

highway could not have been completed so rapidly, had it not been for the co-operation of Brigham Young, who with several of his sons took large contracts on the road, and with "Mormon" workmen completed them on time. He also, with other "Mormon" men of enterprise, built the old Utah Central, connecting this city with the main line and forming a junction with the Union and Central Pacific roads at Ogden. Other local roads were also built under his supervision.

He and his people were among the first to move in the matter of introducing steam and electricity into this basin, and suggested and petitioned for the transcontinental line, many years before the project was started. "Mormon" capitalists and business men were the first to invest their money and engage in the running of street cars in Utah. What this veracious(?) correspondent calls "abominations" to the "Mormons," have been fostered and developed by "Mormon" industry. And there is not a modern discovery or improvement for the benefit of the race but is encouraged and welcomed and utilized by them as fast as they have the opportunity to do so.

It is nonsense of the kind that the *Philadelphia Press* has given place to in this instance, that keeps up the cloud of ignorance as to Utah and the "Mormons," which befogs the public mind and obscures the truth. It will not be long, we hope, before the leading journals of the country will want facts instead of fiction and balderdash about the people and history of Utah.

CAPTAIN CODMAN AND THE "MORMONS."

CAPTAIN JOHN CODMAN has on many occasions spoken a good word for the "Mormon" people. He has done this disinterestedly and from a pure love of fairness, and out of sympathy for the weaker and smaller in an unequal fight. Sometimes he goes a little to extremes, but as a rule he holds to facts and his trenchant pen is used with intent to put the simple truth in opposition to malignant falsehood.

Recently he wrote a pungent letter to the *Boston Transcript*, in which he let the foul wind out of that clerical gasbag Joseph Cook, who had become inflated again with falsehood on the "Mormon" question. In the main Captain Codman's effort was an array of facts and figures that were irrefutable. Here and there was a touch of color that smacked of the newspaper correspondent, but the body of his article was plain truth and it shrivelled up the Boston religious lecturer in satisfactory shape.

The *New York Advertiser* copied a paragraph or two from the Captain's letter with favorable comments, and this is gall and wormwood and croton oil to the "Liberal" organ in this city. Anything like justice to the "Mormons" gives that organ the gripes, and it devotes more than a column to gruntings and growlings in its old dyspeptic style.

The fact that only a small proportion of the "Mormon" population ever went into the practice of plural mar-

riage, presented by the Captain and the *Advertiser*, is particularly irritating to the *Tribune*. And, as it has done no end of times before, it proceeds, by its own process of logic, to "refute" the statement by substantially proving it to be true.

The proposition is not what proportion of people of a marriagable age were connected formerly with the practice of polygamy in Utah, but what per centage of the population engaged in it. But by changing the latter into the former, the "Liberal" logician apparently makes a point, but really and emphatically proves its own dishonesty and establishes what it cunningly but vainly seeks to destroy. To use its own language in this connection, its pretended argument is "the reasoning of a baby," that "carries a nasty deception to the country."

The truth is, the common conception of a "Mormon" is of "a man who has a large number of wives," while statistics show, as the *Advertiser* states, that the majority have always been in practice monogamous. Also, that the wrong of denying the rights and privileges of citizens to the whole "Mormon" population because of the acts of a minority of their number, is clearly manifest when the facts are made to appear. And this is what enrages the local "Liberal" advocate of "Mormon" disfranchisement.

Captain Codman has our thanks for his vigorous efforts in exposing the falsehoods of such popular though superficial and venial orators as Joseph Cook. And we have the satisfaction of knowing that the snarlings and yelpings of the anti-"Mormon" organ in this city, affect the gentleman only in a humorous way and are taken as a compliment to his veracity and success.

ENFORCED PEACE.

THE Central American Republics have adopted a plan to keep the peace among themselves that was once suggested by a French philosopher as a method which should be acted upon by all the leading nations of the world, as a preventive of war. An agreement has been reached to the effect that if any one of these republics shall interfere with the domestic concerns of another of them, the remaining three shall join with the country assaulted to put a quietus upon the intermeddler by force of arms.

There are probable difficulties ahead in the operation of this mutual arrangement for the preservation of peace. In case of a rupture, and the complete subjugation of the country causing it in the first place, the consequential disturbance over the distribution of the spoils might be more serious than the original row. National morality is very low in this age of vaulting ambition and grasping avarice. There is no condition that will or can maintain international, national and individual peace in the world except it be the prevalence of pure knowledge and the subjugation of human selfishness.

Clean the nickel plate of stoves with soda and ammonia, using a woolen cloth and polishing with a clean one.

BRITISH WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

IN a country of such vast trade and commerce as Great Britain, it is not surprising to learn that almost sacred attention is paid to weights and measures. What are known as the standard yard measure and the standard pound weight form the basis of all business transactions. These standards are neither ideal nor proper abstractions, but real, material entities though leased on acts of parliament.

About fifty years back the British Parliament instituted a reform in relation to the standard yard and the standard pound. A solid square bar of bronze 38 inches long and 1 inch in width and depth was procured, and on this 36 inches was carefully marked, thus establishing the standard yard by the most practical legislation. This measure, after a comparison with the yard measures in common use, was carefully stowed away in a strong oak box for future comparison.

The standard pound is a cylinder of platinum 1.35 inches in height and 1.15 inches in diameter, and in a vacuum weighs 7000 grains. This was established in the same manner as the yard. After comparison with the pound weights then in use, it was wrapped in Swedish paper, entirely free from silica, then enclosed in a silver case, which in turn was deposited in one of bronze. The bronze box was again encased in one of oak. All this precaution was taken to guard against friction, and to maintain the correct standard intact for ever.

Both these standards were first applied to public use in 1853, and afterwards were placed in a receptacle specially prepared in the wall of the great stairway leading to the committee corridor of the House of Commons. Here they laid until 1872, when they were taken out and comparisons again made, lest any errors had crept in among standard weights and measures in common use.

For the third time these standards were taken from their place a short time ago, and comparisons made in the usual way. This ceremony is a very formal and imposing spectacle. The Speaker of the House, the president of the Board of Trade, the Lord Chamberlain, the official Warden of the Standards and his predecessor, if alive, a large number of artists, merchants, scholars, divines and other dignitaries are present. The weights and measures in use at the standards department are brought to the House of Commons and officially compared with the standards of Parliament.

At the recent comparison the Warden of standards officiated and the president of the Board of Trade made an address. It was found that the yard measures in use at the standards department corresponded accurately with the standard established by law. The same condition existed with the pound, and it was demonstrated that the weights and measures of the British Isles had not diminished or increased any in the past twenty years. The standards were again carefully stowed away, the receptacle was sealed, and will not be disturbed until 1912, twenty years hence.

Vinegar bottles may be cleaned with crushed egg shells in a little water.