

on the ground that they were man and wife by virtue of an oral agreement. Blythe had been something of a rover; indeed, it is not known to this day whether that was his real name or not, there being good reasons for disbelieving it; and naturally enough a hundred other claimants sprang up from nearly as many corners of the earth, among them being a pretty little girl from "merris England," calling herself Florence Blythe. She set up the claim that she was the true and only daughter of the departed millionaire, her mother being Julia Ashcroft of London, who was seduced by Blythe when twenty years of age, Florence having been born in 1873. Blythe had admitted to a great many acquaintances in California that he was her father and that he intended to provide for her, as he had in fact been doing, and a number of letters from him couched in the most fatherly language did the rest.

The case was begun on the 5th of June, 1889, and was throughout one of most stubbornly contested that ever came before a court. The array of counsel alone amounted to a small army; 208 witnesses were examined and 139 depositions read. The trial before Judge Coffey consumed 553 hours, running through 228 days. Since its commencement the girl grew up to womanhood and was recently married to Fritz Hinckley, of Oakland. The \$5,000,000 or more which they now find themselves in possession of will enable them to keep the wolf from the door during their lifetime, especially if they observe anything approaching economy.

### TRYING TO INFLUENCE THE CONFERENCE.

A special dispatch to the *Cleveland (O.) Plaindealer* recently announced that a Pennsylvania inventor has discovered a process for the reduction of zinc-lead-sulphite-silver ores, "which abound in such volume in Colorado and other western silver producing states," and "which have not hitherto been reducible," and millions of tons of which, it is claimed, now lie on the dumps practically valueless. The reputed discoverer of the process is reported as saying that "the solution of the problem of how to reduce these ores will flood the market with silver."

Our contemporary is of the opinion that the possible mischief of the story may be contained in the last quotation, about deluging the land with silver, because of the effect it may have upon the Brussels conference through the embarrassment of our delegates there. It looks to us very much like it was designed for that purpose, but if so it may be regarded as "a weak invention of the enemy." There are a good many men in the Brussels conference who are afflicted with silverphobia, but it is hardly to be credited that any of them or any number of them are so destitute of judgment as to be influenced by such wild and palpably unwarrantable stories.

We agree with the *Plaindealer* that it is not true that there are such vast amounts of zinc-lead sulphides lying as waste at the silver mines of the west; that it is not true they cannot be reduced,

and that it is a fact that they have been and are being reduced every day in this part of the world. The reduction is not, of course, as complete and economical as could be desired, and a plan whereby there would be a greater saving is a consummation devoutly to be wished; but yet the point is made that even if the Philadelphia man can do as he claims and his invention were to be successfully applied throughout the country, it would not add more than five per cent to the product of silver, if it would even come anywhere near that increase.

In Utah and its surroundings we are more thoroughly interested in silver than people elsewhere are as a class. We cannot be made to see that the present depreciation of the article is through over-production, but hold it to be because of the dishonest legislation and unjust treatment to which silver has been subjected of late years. It is a source of great profit to speculators for gold to constitute the single standard of values and silver to be a subsidiary medium; these men, unfortunately, control the situation at the present time and it may be taken for granted that any kind of misrepresentation, rumor or canard that may have a tendency to keep things as they are will be forthcoming till the danger of equalization and justice is passed. It was in order that such "danger" might be precipitated and consummated that we of the West looked forward hopefully to the assembling and working of the Brussels conference; and we have not abandoned all hope yet.

### THE LOGIC OF IT.

President Johnson seems to think, judging from a recent brilliant article, that a further Revelation and a New-er Testament are possibilities. — *New York Christian (Baptist) Enquirer*.

This is just what the Mormons have claimed ever since they organized; they have, also, the new revelation and the New-er Testament—the Book of Mormon. — *Chicago Christian Cynosure*.

Passing by, for the nonce, the inaccuracy as to "the New-er Testament,"—why is not President Johnson right in his expectation as to further revelation, and what is there illogical in "what the Mormons have claimed ever since they organized," that new revelation has been received? Who decreed that in the latter days the mouth of God should be sealed, and His revealed will be withheld from those who walk in darkness? No passage of Holy Writ, no word issuing from the Most High, no right conception of an all-merciful and omnipotent Father can be distorted into such a declaration. Presumptuous as may appear to the unbelieving world the "Mormon claim" that the Lord has spoken in these our days, it nevertheless deserves the approbation of all true believers in a Divine Being for that it defends Him as unchangeable, and rejects the fallacy that He lacks inclination or power to treat with His children today as directly and as kindly as in the most favored of earlier ages. That the heavens have become as brass over the heads of self-wise and hard-hearted man is no argument that He who dwells on high is impotent to

pierce them with the revelations of His will. Speaking only of the logic of the controversy, all the sound reasoning is on the side of the "Mormon claim." Speaking of the demonstrated results, the "Mormon claim" becomes a fact, as thousands can testify whose knowledge is built upon that rock against which even the gates of hell cannot prevail.

### ALMOST AT THE BOTTOM.

Treading directly upon the heels of the announcement by Baron Rothschild in the Brussels conference, that his scheme for the "relief" of silver was withdrawn, comes the almost startling news that silver dropped two cents an ounce in the New York stock exchange. It would have been altogether startling but for the fact that we whose commercial corner stone is largely composed of silver have become seasoned to the situation and would not be greatly disconcerted if the white metal were withdrawn from the scene of its debasement altogether; the flinty and steel couch of war had become to Othello his thrice-driven bed of down through the agency of the tyrant custom, and we, like him, are becoming, if we have not already become, familiarized to the lack of consideration for and general domineering over the far West by the far East. So the drop to within half a cent of the lowest point ever reached creates no consternation and but little more than the usual degree of interest which we take in all the news of consequence.

Simultaneously with the above comes the announcement by special cable to the *New York Post* that the markets of London are oppressed by fears of a silver crisis. Indian and Mexican securities, because those two countries have a single standard of silver, were the features of the selling, while spot silver was scarce and hard to get. This means that (as merchandise only) the price is liable to take a jump upward at almost any time, because England produces none and must have immense quantities on hand at all times in order to meet her Indian exchanges, this amounting to a voluminous and continuous drain. We thus have an unmistakable object lesson of how it is and why it is that England maintains the gold standard, as well as something of an insight into the policy of her American allies and abettors.

Silver is used, almost exclusively, for the settlement of English balances with India, and if those who deal in that metal here can buy it (as merchandise) for less than what England will give, they naturally make the difference for themselves; while England, getting it off on her principal province for what it is worth and buying it over here for ten, fifteen or twenty cents on the dollar less than its worth, is reaping a steady harvest out of such transactions alone. Is it any wonder that Great Britain—exclusive of Ireland—will not have a double standard? that it will not recognize silver as money, albeit the chief currency of its people at home and abroad excepting those of Australia only?

It thus appears that we permit ourselves to be dealt with, as regards our