

ota by the same means of transformation—changing the footfall of the headman which has echoed in their ears since their insidious work began, to the soft and measured tread of the soft and measured courtier. Great stakes were those—a crown with power and wealth, the axe with death and disgrace, one or the other for certain!

"He has succeeded!" What emotional words are these and how often, as in the case cited, were the emotions widely airt and conflicting! They may mean that the one spoken of has transformed villainy into virtue or made of sanctity a crime—that an unworthy cause has been dragged from the mire and placed in high and undisputed away, or that a movement having in view the amelioration of the sorrow-stricken and the elevation of our race has gone to discredit and decay because at the critical moment the magician's wand of success was withheld.

In an obscure retreat in Germany is an old man who some years ago was regarded as the pillar of his nation. As soldier, statesman and diplomat he had alienated the "growing mutiny and bold revolt" at home, and outwitted or outthought all enemies far and near until his country was as much admired as feared and occupied a position from which she only needed to express her will to cause myriads of men to move hither and yon with nervous but accurate action until that will was accomplished, the autocrat satisfied. This it was to be successful. There came a day when the increasing friction between the nominal and the real head of the country was the means of causing the latter to show the former that the conditions above set out actually existed—that as in the case of Richelieu the prime minister was the state. The bond that bound them was severed but the empire refused to dwindle at his retirement. There came a crisis when the voice of the people was arrayed against the sovereign and in the first contest he was overthrown. Then came an appeal to their patriotism—an appeal for protection not only from foes without but insidious enemies within, and it was not without avail. The people rallied; once more that rugged and in times of peril unthinking patriotism came to the rescue; the emperor was upheld and the erstwhile power in the land, who fondly thought the issue would result differently, finds himself even less an object of consideration in the land than before the appeal was made. If the subjects have acted wisely in this, it means his permanent retirement as even an honored citizen; if the sequel shall show that they have not done so—that upholding the emperor's desperate experiment is their own folly—the broken-down, faithful servant may yet find himself where Richelieu was when through being ignored all seemed lost to France. One thing is well assured—If such a time should come he will not be found wanting if alive. Though sullen and resentful, filled with chagrin and chafing at the success of the man who has forced him into retirement, the Fatherland has still a talismanic sound and is yet a term to conjure with to the once uncrowned monarch of the land—courageous, capable, patriotic Bismarck.

### HILL'S ROMANCE.

The beautiful story of the Rev. J. Wesley Hill as to the Mormon million dollar fund to buy up the United States government, body, boots and breeches, with the purpose of railroad-ing Utah into the Union as a state, is still receiving occasional notice from the imperiled country's press. We have room today for a couple of quotations.

The mighty New York *World* talks as though it knew the reverend Mr. Hill:

The Rev. J. Wesley Hill, of Helena, Mon., has achieved a distinguished success as a discoverer of man's nests. He informs a reporter that the Mormons have raised \$1,000,000 with which they have sent agents to Washington to "buy the vote of the majority in the next House of Congress in order to secure fixed rights in their present location by securing the vested power of statehood." It so happens that the Mormons in Utah have as "fixed rights" as anybody else, there or elsewhere, and have surrendered the doctrine and abandoned the practice of polygamy, which alone brought them and their religion under ban. It also happens, as every well-informed man knows, that bribery with money is a very unusual method of corruption in Congress. The Mormons are much too shrewdly informed to imagine that they can carry any point in this way. The Rev. J. Wesley Hill is a crude artisan in the manufacture of sensations.

The *World's* near neighbor, the *Recorder*, evidently has received from Mr. Hill a later and revised hint as to the wholesale purchase. It says:

The suggestion comes from the West that the alleged bribery fund gathering in Utah, to influence legislation in favor of Mormon statehood, is in reality an instrument which the silver men will use for their own purposes, and that the Mormons will figure simply as cat's paws.

We are sorely afraid that Mr. Hill's reputation for ingenuity in falsehood is in imminent danger of being completely smashed.

### A PRESIDENT COMING.

A dispatch announces that sickening barbarities are being perpetrated in Nicaragua under the rule of acting President Vasquez. We are all tolerably familiar with what "sickening" proceedings are in that region, also are we advised of their frequency and continuity. The Central American states are so near the equator that they are in perpetual summer, modified slightly now and then by purely local conditions, and people who grow up to maturity in such a climate are not prone to moderation when they break loose as suggested above. Whether the latest outbreak is a lingering remnant of the perennial revolution or is merely an uprising confined to a locality has not yet been communicated.

The president, or perhaps we ought to say ex-president, since he has been deposed, of Nicaragua is Robert Sacasa. He has long been one of the foremost men in that part of the world, not only by reason of his political position but because he is an extensive planter and is immensely wealthy.

Personally he is fine looking, standing over six feet in height, is well built and has an attractive countenance. He arrived in San Francisco by the steamer Colon on Tuesday last and in an interview declared that he is not in any sense an exile, but is still the constitutional president, though he is now in the United States to remain for five months. The president pro tem, he says, is General Machado, who is distantly connected with President Sacasa by marriage. This does not comport with the dispatch spoken of, but perhaps Machado has also been deposed since Mr. Sacasa left.

The president speaks only Spanish, his son Juan B., a student at a Washington medical college, interpreting. He related the story of his life to a reporter and it is quite interesting. He is fifty-three years of age and his native town was Chinandego, in western Nicaragua. He was educated liberally at Granada and Leon, and then spent seven years in studying medicine in Paris. When all this was done he was twenty-seven years old, and he returned from Paris to Nicaragua, examining the San Juan river on his way. At that time he had in view the bending of his energies toward completing a canal by this route, and he has ever since held steadfast to the belief that it was the only isthmian canal which promised a steady development of all the commercial resources of the North American continent.

The rest of his story is thus summarized:

"I am now here," he said, "to see all the great cities. When I have been some time in San Francisco I shall go to Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, Boston and other leading places. I shall call on ex-President Harrison at Indianapolis, and when I get to Washington will see President Cleveland. One proof that I think well of the United States is that I am educating my son here. I think California is a marvelous country, and I see by it what a great country Nicaragua will eventually be.

"As for Nicaragua now I can say that the revolution is permanently ended, and the country is on a prosperous basis. The canal, I am convinced, will be finished in a comparatively short time. I have always been a great advocate of its necessity, and each year I have seen more and more the great value it is destined to be to all the governments of North America."

It will be observed that the president and the dispatch again conflict apparently regarding the revolution or whatever it may be called that is so fruitful of sickening details. It is understood that he will stop off here for a short time on his way to the East, and we are quite sure he will be pleased with what he sees in this vicinity.

### TAKE IT EASY.

The latest advices from the Sandwich Islands are to the effect that the provisional government has decided upon a policy of masterly inactivity until the United States acts decisively one way or another, the intimation being conveyed that if it shall eventually prove to be "the other" the Hawaiian administration will then cast about it for some other nation to tie to for the sake of stability. That