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A BRAVE ACTION.

The notice of the sailing of the German barque Elbe by the crew of the French ship La Bourgogne, the particulars of which were narrated in the telegrams of Monday, was an act which should take its place among the deeds of the most exalted heroism. Patons who have witnessed the fury of a mimmoth gale, when the best seamanship of the great steamships plunge and heave in a manner quite alarming to those who spend most of their time on land and find allegiance comfortable to those continents in the sea, may have some comprehension of the perilous work of the brave French sailors. It was only the highest form of physical courage and the skillful seamanship of a well-trained crew that could accomplish what was done by La Bourgogne's men. In the battle thus undertaken and successfully performed, all feelings of nationality were lost, and the noblest sentiment of the common brotherhood of humanity prevailed; so that while there was a life to save of the German crew, even at the risk of half a dozen others, the dauntless French officers and men kept to their work, their own great peril being a consideration secondary to the saving of life they were effecting.

Such deeds of heroism direct attention to how much there is of the good and true among even those who carry the rough exterior of the common woman; they point out that in the most critical moments there develops in man the instinctive feeling that even the elements are subject to him in his discharge of the higher and nobler duties of life. Under such conditions men proceed unhesitatingly where in different circumstances nothing could induce them to venture. The saving of the crew of the sinking barque was a glorious act of bravery.

THE BETTER FEELING.

The generally increasing sentiment in the United States to deal fairly with the Mormon people receives frequent special attention from the Elders who are sent out on missions, and who are accorded much better treatment than formerly by the well-to-do classes. These are acquiring more accurate information concerning the real character and condition of the Latter-day Saints, and the earnest solicitude of the latter for the temporal and spiritual welfare of mankind. The result of this spread of accurate information is most gratifying to the Saints, who see it as a fulfilment of prophecy, made and oft repeated in the presence of tens of thousands, by President Woodruff, at a time when the promise of fulfilment, naturally speaking, was very far from bright. But God "moves in a mysterious way" to accomplish His purposes, and did so to fulfill the words of His Prophet.

Among the indications of the better feeling toward the Saints may be noted not only the kindlier treatment accorded the missionaries in the families of strangers whom they visit, in social, and in official circles throughout the country, but that given by newspapers to whom the people have confidence. The editors of the class among the molders of public opinion now receive the Elders with almost uniform courtesy, and systematically report interviews with them in a manner which reveals a desire to be just and truthful. This feature is particularly emphasized by the appearance in a late issue of the Chattanooga, Tennessee, News, of an interview with Elder J. W. Maiden, son of A. M. Musser, Esq., of this city, which is all that could be desired. The clear and concise statement of the Elder is published with a reserve amount of anything of a polemical or sectarian character, such as formerly was injected by newspaper reporters whenever a Mormon was interviewed.

To the increase of the good sentiment referred to may be ascribed the attitude and desire of numerous men of the earth, who have been "blinded by the craftiness of men," but are now learning the truth. They are people whose influence is valuable because it is exact. At the same time it is not strange that opposition to the Mormon Elders in their religious capacity will exist as so the Christian religion is antagonistic to hypocrisy and vice of every kind, people who are inclined to a misunderstanding and perhaps of conduct may be induced to treat a divinely inspired warrior against the Gospel of Christ, which the Mormons are endeavoring in the world, in the "fullness and will prevail," and the marked evidence of the change manifest in the kindlier feeling displayed by the press towards of the Latter-Saints the Journal-day Saints, and those of that connect in the missionary field.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

There is a special importance in the text so linked in a discussion in the present issue of the Deseret News Christian Religion. It is in that that never before has there been among the children of men such a widespread revelation against the Lord and His Anointed, thus manifesting itself in efforts to stay the progress of truth and every other obvious against the belief that has stood for ages, it is equally true that cases in point were the evidence for the other side multiplying so rapidly as in our own age. Only those who wantonly choose not to receive or listen to the fact that the boldness and frequency are being strengthened in proportion to the severity of the attacks directed against them.

The latest discoveries in the direction indicated have just been made in Cairo. They are important as throwing upon the history of the Christian Church in the first 100 centuries. Among them is a manuscript from the fifth century which is a Coptic translation of three original Gnostic writings of the second century. In value, says a learned English of August 1, one does not only in the fact that it hands down old Gnostic writings that hitherto have been unknown except by name, but, above all, in the circumstance that one of them was known to Irenaeus and quoted by him without any statement of the source from which he had derived it.

The discovery at this manuscript enables the student for the first time to test the accuracy of the Gnostic system as given by the church fathers in the light of the original manuscript.

It contains three independent treatises entitled Gospel According to Mary (Apocryphon of John); sophi, Wisdom of Jesus Christ; third, Practice of Peter. The Gospel of Mary is the dominant note by Lessons, and candidate making of the Revelation of John. The Wisdom of Jesus Christ consists of questions addressed to Him by the disciples, and His answers. The Practice of Peter is the narrative of one of Peter's miracles of healing.

Some of the epistles of Paul are clearly directed against the Gnostic tendencies that commenced to make themselves felt among the apostolic churches at the very earliest date. It is fortunate to be presumed that many of his pointed expressions hitherto so fast imperfectly understood, if at all, may receive new light from a statement of the Gnostic doctrines by their own exponents. The study of the New Testament will derive new interest and additional historical confirmation.

When it is considered how in all ages the progress of human research and thought has led to depths of skepticism and infidelity, but at the same time furnished ample material for the indging over of all apparently impossible obstacles, it is no wonder that the greatest thinkers, the most successful scientists, the best of mankind, have been believers and not agnostics.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD'S POSITION.

Fifteen years have passed since the late James A. Garfield, occupying at the time the highest position in the gift of the American people, was stricken down by the hand of a cruel assassin. But for some years previous to his death he had had occasion to study the voluntary position in this country, like other leading Americans whose memory is cherished because of the possession and display of statesmanlike ability and patriotism, President Garfield planted himself squarely on the Constitution on the mid-age question, and he, in a speech in Congress while he was a representative from Ohio.

Every man who is opposed to the use of force such as a period the legal rights of others, or who is opposed to the rights of others, or who is opposed to the rights of others, or who is opposed to the