

French is wonderful. Within the past thirty years they have groined under almost every species of evil. They have had a second empire, a commune, and a foreign invasion. I am not now alluding to the invasion of Yankee dentists or American adventuresses, though they are bad enough, indeed; but to the invasion by the Germans in 1870. France then, invoking her patriotism, showed the world the incredible resources of her wonderful dominions. Today Russia needs money to develop her military power. France responds. In 1871 France gave her money for patriotism; in 1888 she gives it for what?—is it revenge? The most absolute monarchy in Europe asks money! The most democratic republic in Europe lends it! Truly, as Paul de Cassagne says, "*Les extremes se touchent*"—extremes touch.

The Bourse in Paris December 10th presented an animated sight. In one corner was the "Bande Noire," composed of German bankers, who tried to make the loan a failure. Everywhere the entire financial interests of France were favorable to the loan. The large and solid companies, such as the Credit Foncier and the Credit Lyonnais, all eagerly sought it. "Je prends" re-echoed from all sides. For a short time the struggle was intense, but in less than half an hour the victory was with the Parisian bankers. It was the first conflict between Paris and Berlin since 1871. Paris won! The Russian loan was covered more than six times over. How times change! For generations England made war by the use of money. Her great wars even under Marlborough were the results of subsidies. It was money to help Frederick the Great; money to hire Hessians to conquer Americans; money to bribe Arnold to betray Washington; money to form the coalition against Demouriez and the French revolution; money sent by Pitt to fashion the coalition that fell at Austerlitz. The sums then borrowed form the bulk of the British debt.

Does France contemplate the same attitude? Are her future politics to be a matter of money? France will not fight the young German Emperor. Like England in other days she accords money. The Russian loan is virtually taken in France. The first of European Republics becomes the financial bulwark of the most despotic of European monarchies. Truly *les extremes se touchent*.

That at the present hour there is in France a large amount of enthusiasm for Russia is unquestionable. On the other hand, a dread of Russian aggression is everywhere prevalent in Germany. The stronger Russia gets the more she is able to act as a barrier against German influence; and this is just what France wants. Thus without any written alliance, a sympathy founded on mutual interest has arisen between France and Russia. There is nothing, indeed, in the power of Germany to offer, that could induce Russia to maintain neutrality while Germany fought with France, because if the former were successful, there would be practically but two continental powers, and the former would be far stronger than the latter. Such being the case, it is but natural that the threatened nations should draw together as closely as possible, and something of this kind is taking place now between Russia and France.

The reported capture of Emin Pasha and Mr. Stanley by the Mahdists in Central Africa, has awakened the liveliest interest among all classes respecting these brave men. Such being the case, it may not be out of place, for the benefit of younger readers, to give a few particulars of their work and adventures in the heart of Africa. It is well known Stanley is the man who went in search of Livingstone, and found him after a number of thrilling adventures. His search across the Dark Continent has forever associated his name with that of the gallant Scotsman. As the founder of the Congo State he has established an advanced post of civilization in the very heart of Africa. His latest great enterprise was to lead the expedition for the relief of Emin Pasha. But who is Emin Pasha? His name looks rather Oriental. His real name is Edward Smitzer, born in Opeln, Silesia, March 28, 1840. Impelled by a love of travel and natural history, this young German, after having received a medical education at Breslau and Berlin, took service in Egypt as Dr. Emin Effendi, under the direction of the lamented Gen. Gordon, who raised him to the title of Pasha, and made him governor over that vast territory first traversed by Speke and Grant, and afterwards partially organized as a province of Upper Egypt by Sir Samuel Baker.

For ten years he has ruled a happy, rich, and peaceful state on the banks of the Bahr-el-Ghazel, White Nile, and shores of the Albert Nyanza

and Victoria Nyanza. If anyone would know with what spirit this heroic man has governed his province, making it an oasis of peace in the midst of the waste of war and barbarism around him, it suffices to cite the dispatch which he wrote from Wadella, his tiny capital, on April 17, 1887. In that he said: "The work that Gordon paid for with his blood I will strive to carry on, if not with his energy and genius, still according to his intentions and spirit. When my lamented chief placed the government of this country in my hands, he wrote: 'I appoint you for the sake of civilization and progress.' I have done my best to justify the trust he had in me, and have held my own up to the present, in the midst of hundreds and thousands of natives. I remain here the last and only representative of Gordon's staff. It therefore falls to me to follow on the road he showed us. Sooner or later a bright future must dawn for these countries; sooner or later these people will be drawn into the circle of the ever-advancing civilized world."

Meanwhile, Stanley was advancing to his aid. From the dispatches received it would seem that Stanley reached him, and that they both went northward. A veil of mystery still hangs over their fate.

J. H. WARD.

Europe, Dec. 24th, 1888.

SOJOURN IN MANTI.

Having just returned from a visit to Manti, where I have been laboring for the "honored dead," a few lines may not be altogether out of place. It has been very agreeable to me to meet with quite a number of "old time Salt Lakers" and others from many localities who have been on the same unselfish errand. Outside the astonishing labor of Sanpete County, on that fine edifice the Temple, and its adjacent grounds, we were surprised to see such excellent and spacious tabernacles as are found in Manti and Ephraim. I did not visit Moroni, but learn that the people there have also a tabernacle sufficiently large to accommodate the Stake. On invitation I visited the library and reading room at Manti, which have recently been opened, and which contain several hundreds of carefully selected volumes by the best authors, including poetry, history, art, and science. These will, it is hoped, prove a great auxiliary to the progress already so apparent in this place. I likewise paid a visit to