

man she would deserve the name of a wholesale liar of the blackest type; and yet, while not a man, she is surely no lady. There are two reasons for giving this much notice to her baseness and falsehood. One is that she probably expects to return to Utah to work, and an angel of her sort ought not to be entertained by decent people of any or no creed unawares. The other is that her Baptist associates may have some faint idea of the company they have been keeping, and that, with a view to maintaining the reputation of that church for trying to hold to a high moral standard, they may purge her out of their fellowship, consigning her to the ignominy and disgrace attaching to those who love and make a lie.

IF THE CASE WERE REVERSED.

From the first moment the Europeans landed in Asia they began to lay the foundation for the opinion, still held by the Mongolians, that they are a cruel, unjust and arrogant race; and the present exploits of the great kaiser in China are not calculated to give a more reassuring impression. What is clear to others must be painfully apparent to the Chinese: That they were attacked and driven away from a portion of their own land without just cause or provocation. In olden times, the Europeans used to regard heathen nations as their just prey. They treated them as inferior beings without any rights to be respected by those who were stronger. And this spirit is still too much prevalent. It is not much to be wondered at, therefore, that the missionaries who penetrate the interior of the country, where the protecting arm of their governments can reach them only after much delay, often fall victims to the hatred engendered by just such acts.

The Handelsblad in a recent article gives some idea of how the early Dutch navigators treated the Chinese:

"Their chief aim was to become masters of the China trade, and to drive out the Portuguese. According to our modern views, they should have acted as the friends of the Chinese, to prove themselves a people whose assistance would be of real value to the Chinese in their opposition to the Portuguese. We should also imagine that foreigners, wishing to trade, should formulate some clearly defined, unmistakable demands, and we can understand that they would uphold such demands by force of arms. But our ancestors did neither. They cultivated friendly relations with pirate chiefs. They were continually out to make prisoners of as many natives as possible, in order to release them when the Chinese were brought to terms.

"Our ancestors were always anxious to people their East Indian possessions with Chinese. De Carpentier, who followed Coen as governor, said: 'I wish we could get a million Chinamen, they are easy to rule, and quiet, hard-working subjects.' But the wished-for 'million' never was gathered. Kidnapping was in full swing in 1862, but the stolen human ware was not properly looked after. Of 1,159 Chinese sent to Pehoe in the Pescadores, many escaped, still more died from ill-treatment, 571 were sent to Batavia, of which 463 died during the voyage and 65 more shortly after they arrived, leaving only 33! The Chinese were forced at last to proceed firmly against us. There is, however, only one case of treachery scored against the Chinese. Franck, one of the officers, was captured in an unfair manner and held prisoner. It cannot be said that the Indian council took this much to heart. They regarded the matter as an 'incidental disaster.' Who cared in those

days for a human life! Nobody dreamed of suggesting that some advantages gained by the company should be given up to rescue the prisoner.

"Sonck, who followed Reyersen in the command and held it until the settlement in the Pescadores was given up, says:

"What we have done has aroused the hatred of all China. We are, and justly, regarded as murderers and pirates. The way we have treated the Chinese could never have opened their coasts to our trade, and it would have been better if we had never gone there. It will take a long time to overcome the bad impression."

It is no undue apology for Chinese outrages on European missionaries to say that, if the case had been reversed and Chinese navigators had come to Christian Europe as pirates, the fate of themselves and their race would have been similar to that of some of the Europeans in China. Christian missionary societies should do some preliminary work at home.

THE HAITIEN TROUBLE.

The emphatic demands of Germany on the little Haitien republic for heavy damages and a humiliating apology have every appearance of a hold-up. In view of what has taken place in China recently the supposition is irresistible that the claim of damages would have been followed by occupation of territory but for the intimation by our government that the people of the United States believe in the Monroe doctrine.

The trouble was brought about by the arrest of one Lueders. This man is the son of a Haitien woman and a German, and is by the laws of the republic a Haitien. He was convicted of assaulting an officer, an offense it is claimed he has been guilty of repeatedly, and was therefore sentenced to imprisonment. He appealed to the German representative and on the report sent to Berlin, the government demanded the release of Lueders and an indemnity of \$1,000 for each day he had been imprisoned, with an additional \$4,000 for each day he might be detained in prison after the demand for his release had been presented to the government.

This is what Germany's representative in Washington calls "moderate" demands for an indemnity. It is impossible to read of the proceedings without feeling convinced that they were instituted as a pretext for the annexation of Haitien territory. Suppose a German citizen were arrested in the United States for disorderly conduct, convicted and sentenced to a term of imprisonment; what would Germany do about it? Certainly not demand an indemnity and send cruisers to enforce the demand. Wilhelm's realm is a great nation and professedly a Christian one. Her rulers believe that the Supreme power has lifted her up from insignificance to the position she now holds. They should remember that power and influence conferred by Providence are sacred trusts given to be used for the benefit of mankind, for the protection of the weak against the aggression of the strong, and for the furtherance of peace and good will among all. Germany's struggle for unity was a "Kulturkampf"—a battle for civilization and humanity—in the parlance of those who took the leading parts in it. It follows that if the present leaders of her affairs turn oppressors, they prove themselves unworthy keepers of the inheritance from their predecessors and as such may expect to be supplanted by others. Nations, as individuals, may temporarily prosper in

unrighteousness, but the foundations for permanent success must rest on the exercise of justice and truth.

THE PENSION LIST.

The House, yesterday, Dec. 10, passed the pension appropriation bill without even considering any of the amendments proposed for the purpose of correcting abuses alleged to exist in the distribution of the nation's bounty. The list carries in the neighborhood of \$148,000,000, the highest amount since 1893, and constitutes more than a third of the expense of the government.

What the war, which was ended over thirty years ago, still costs the people is perfectly astounding. In 1839, \$87,624,779 was paid out in pensions. The sum suddenly rose to \$106,936,855 the following year. In 1891 it was in round numbers \$124,000,000; in 1892, \$135,000,000, and in 1893, \$159,000,000. This was the maximum. In 1894 the list fell to \$141,000,000. In 1895 it remained at this figure, and in 1896 it fell still further to \$139,000,000. Then there was a rising tendency again.

The prediction has been made that a rapid decrease will follow this year's appropriations, but a similar prediction has been made several times. There has also been some talk of introducing in Congress a bill providing for the publication of a list of persons drawing pensions, with a view to securing the information necessary for the detection of possible frauds. If there was likelihood of any real benefit from such a course, the old veterans themselves ought to be interested in it; but they, as well as the public, cannot forget that in such matters there is always more or less buncombe, and that as a result of one recent attempt at uncovering pension frauds, about a million dollars was expended without result. This is not to say, however, that frauds do not exist; it is generally believed that they do, and that as a result in many cases old soldiers actually deserving the gratitude of the nation receive less than their just share of the ample funds, while others, not deserving at all, receive the cream of the supply. The American people are quite willing to provide generously for those who took their lives in their hands to save the Union, as well as for their widows and orphans; but the time has nearly come to draw the line against the greedy impostors who, if they deserve maintenance at all, should find it behind the walls and bars constructed for the incarceration of thieves.

RUSSIANS MAKE CONVERTS.

One of the most remarkable examples in history of the restoration of long-broken ecclesiastical unity comes from Asia in a report to the effect that 400,000 Assyrian Christians have concluded to join the Russian church. English missionaries have been at work for years among these people, who for centuries have suffered untold persecutions in the same way as the Armenians. It seems that the result now is that they have decided to modify their peculiar views sufficiently to obtain a standing, not in the Anglican but in the Greek orthodox church—a result scarcely anticipated by those who spent large sums on the mission in eastern Syria.

This Christian community is known as Nestorians. They are living partly on Turkish and partly on Persian territory and have maintained independence to a limited extent notwithstanding continual efforts to subdue them. They are described as an ignorant race led by an equally ignorant clergy, but devoutly attached to their