

to counteract the possible effect upon the natives of the unchristian-like conduct of the rescued American survivors of the storm. The conduct of many of them, it appears, was disgraceful. Numbers of them availed themselves of the earliest opportunity of getting drunk, the consequence of this condition being that they became quarrelsome and disorderly.

It is not a delightful feature that the American consul was constrained to request the assistance of the Germans to maintain the peace. It was very prudently and correctly represented in response that a movement of that kind would result in the Teutons being attacked by the Americans, and thus matters would have been made much worse. The conduct of our seamen under such circumstances was more censurable than the same behavior would have been under ordinary conditions.

It will be observed that the ungenerous spirit exhibited in comments upon the commander of the *Calliope*, which escaped from the harbor and thus eluded disaster, is still maintained. Every conceivable theory was offered in the first place, except superior seamanship. Yet this, in the light of the latest details, appears to be the most feasible explanation. In the absence of definite information it was conjectured and even insisted that the *Calliope* was the only vessel that had steam up when the hurricane began to howl. Now it appears that all of the warships had steam on, but the English vessel was the only one which managed to get out of the harbor. This being the case the escape of the *Calliope* is attributed to the superior strength of her engines. Of course jealousy suggests any reason but that of greater professional experience and adroitness.

There is also an attempt to censure Captain Knee for not stopping and rendering assistance instead of putting out immediately for Sydney after returning to the Island and viewing the situation. Doubtless had he remained he would have been condemned—seeing that the storm and peril were over—for not hastening to the nearest port and giving the news of the dreadful disaster to the world. So it was a case of you'll be condemned if you do and you'll be condemned if you don't.

It is the better part for individuals and peoples, in all matters, if they have any leaning, to incline to the

side of magnanimity. By doing so they are more likely to touch closely the lines of justice. There is no disparagement—neither should there be—of the seamanship of the brave and resolute officers of our unfortunate warships when tested by a trying ordeal. They acted well and ably, according to all accounts. To give due credit to those of a vessel of another nation is no reflection on them.

"HEATHEN AT THE DOOR"

THE preachers of the South are very much agitated over the labors of our missionaries, and some of them are largely responsible for the personal outrages inflicted upon those brethren who have been mobbed. There is one Virginia Methodist preacher, however, who is entitled to credit for his advocacy of civilized methods in meeting what he believes to be error.

The Danville, Va., *Register* of the 7th inst. contains a long account of the active work of "Mormon missionaries" in the Blue Ridge mountains and their success among intelligent people, as well as the less informed, in spite of the terrible tales told by the clergy and the hostility raised by those misrepresentations. The preacher referred to spoke very strongly against the Elders and their teachings, at a two-days' religious gathering and also to a reporter for the *Register*. Three of the Elders were present during his remarks and tried to obtain a hearing in reply to his strictures. The gentleman seemed to be astonished at their boldness, and did not accord them the privilege desired. But he maintained that: "Harsh measures or persecution only strengthened their cause" and "created a sympathy" for it, and he could see but one way to contend with what he called their pernicious doctrine and that is "with the Bible and the presentation of true religion." The *Register* thinks that instead of "wasting tears on China and benighted Africa," the Danville missionary societies would find a better field in the region where the Elders are at work, and endorses the preacher's remark that, "the heathen are at our door."

Quite right. The heathen are at their door. And among them may be classed the pretended "Christian" clergymen who meet "Mormonism" with a club, and doctrines which they cannot controvert, with shotguns and tar and feathers. The Elders go to the

people with the Bible in their hands—one of them was shot dead by a "Christian" mob while reading it on a Sabbath day in Tennessee. Let the trained expounders of the sacred Book bring forth their strong reasons and scripture proofs, and they will be in line with their profession. The Elders will be ready and willing to meet them on the ground of holy writ and yield to them any advantage they can fairly gain.

But the "Christian" heathens of the South will have to be better informed than most of the antagonists of "Mormonism," or they will find themselves worsted in the encounter. For "Mormonism" is essentially Biblical; and it is because the average sectarian preacher finds it so, that he substitutes mob violence for polemics, and tries to drive out the men whom he cannot vanquish in controversy. The heathen are at our doors, all over the United States, and nothing proves it plainer than the weapons with which they try to beat down and crush out "Mormonism."

The Danville preacher is wise and consistent. It is bad policy as well as bad religion, to attack any creed with persecution. Sympathy, created by such cruelty, softens the heart and prepares it for conviction, success follows suffering, and the barbarism of these heathen methods eventually defeats itself. Let the champions of orthodoxy change their tactics and, by all means, try the Bible in place of the heathen mode which has been the rule in opposing "Mormonism."

HOW TO MAKE A "BOOM."

A SHORT time ago four members of the City Council were frantically urged to resign, by the mouthpiece of the obstructionists who want to "boom" this city by traducing its people, and by representing affairs here in a way to deter capital from investment and to scare off peace-loving persons seeking a permanent home. The daily din on this refrain amounted to nothing but sound. The minority didn't see any sense in deserting their posts because they could not in every instance rule the majority.

Now the entire City Council is requested to resign. They will probably respond with the same alacrity displayed by the non-compliant four. The call comes this time because the Council does not perform an impossibility. They must commence work on sewers