

ing furnace of Nebuchadnezzar, unharmed. Their accuracy as a historical record has been established with every new fact discovered, and the inference is, that if there still remain some points which seem clouded by impenetrable difficulties, these would be removed if all the facts in the case were known, just as in many instances difficulties have already vanished as our knowledge has grown more perfect.

To illustrate this truth, the point made by the Jewish teacher concerning Lot's wife will answer the purpose. He evidently denies the possibility of the narrative. But Michaelis, one of the most eminent Biblical scholars of the past century, holds that the sentence commonly rendered "And she [Lot's wife] became a pillar of salt," should properly be translated thus: "And to her became a pillar of salt," conveying the idea that a monument was afterwards erected to her of the material so abundant on the shores of the Dead sea. If this is the meaning of the verse, Josephus was probably correct in his statement that the pillar was to be seen there in later times. Whether Michaelis is right or wrong is for scholars to decide, but his suggestion shows conclusively that Biblical students need not resort to the allegorical interpretation in this instance, since a rational solution of the principal difficulty is so near at hand. And what is true in this particular instance is true of the Scriptures as a whole.

Probably nothing has done more harm to the cause of truth than the practice of spiritualizing and allegorizing the Scriptures. When first admitted as legitimate, there is no limit to it. The revealed word is then given up to the fancy of man, each one finding in it what he wants and not what the Lord intended to convey. By this method of reading the church has been made invisible, the ordinances unimportant, the power of the Priesthood obsolete, and the resurrection a figure of speech. In brief, all errors of Christendom rest ultimately on a false and fanciful interpretation.

When the Lord in this age again established His Church, His chosen messengers were not told that there was a hidden, mysterious sense in the written word which they should master and teach the people. On the contrary, they were given to understand that the Bible as existing contained the Word of God. Any imperfection was due to incorrect translation or mis-understanding. In this spirit the Prophets and Apostles of the Church proclaimed the Word of God as found in ancient and modern revelations. The Lord meant what He said. This was the great truth they proclaimed, and on this the very existence of the Church depends. In this fact is the power of the Gospel founded. If the world is to be benefited by religion, it will be by such exponents thereof, who cease the eternal spiritualizing and preach the word as it is written, in its sublime simplicity and unadorned truth.

WILHELM AND BISMARCK.

The week's great event in Germany is the reconciliation between Emperor Wilhelm and Prince Bismarck. It came all the more unexpected because

only a few days ago the emperor, at a reception, almost insulted Herbert Bismarck by passing him by in silence.

Since the present chancellor, Caprivi, accepted the office, the *Hamburger Nachrichten* has continually attacked the government. As that paper was known to be Bismarck's special organ, the ex-chancellor was looked upon as responsible for these attacks. Lately, however, the paper has asserted that it is not inspired by Bismarck, thereby removing one of the greatest obstacles in the way of reconciliation. The emperor was not slow to take the hint. He sent the ex-premier some excellent wine and a congratulatory letter upon his recovery from his recent illness. Bismarck accepted the gift and sent word that he would come to Berlin and personally pay his respects to his young sovereign. At once preparations were made at the capital for the reception of the prince. His visit, which will take place Friday, Jan. 26th, will be made a memorable occasion.

It is not probable that the position of Caprivi will be changed in the least by this happy turn of affairs. Notwithstanding the odds against him, he has filled his place with so much skill as to compel the admiration of even his adversaries. He is in perfect harmony with the emperor and a brave defender of his political views. Bismarck has reached a high age and is no more in possession of strong health. It is not likely that he will be called upon to take any leading part in politics. However, if it be known that the aged statesman, the creator of a united Germany, is in sympathy with the government, that fact alone will gain for the government party hosts of voters throughout the empire. That Caprivi may have had this in view when devoting himself to the task of a peace-maker is not impossible, but it is more probable that the parties concerned have at last given way to a natural desire for peace. The aged prince can have no more aspirations to fight for; Germany's young ruler could not afford to have it recorded on the pages of history, that he allowed the greatest man Germany ever had and the friend of his grandfather, to go down to the grave in disgrace. To do this would, in the language of Richelieu, be more than a sin; it would be an error. Germany rejoices over the occurrence and so do all who love peace and union more than contention.

A BOSTONIAN'S IDEA.

Among the various roads to notoriety and fortune, the one selected by a Bostonian, whose name is given as John Paul, is the most unique. Mr. Paul wagers that he will be able to circle the globe, starting without money and without clothes, and earn \$5,000 clear of expenses on the trip, all of which is to be accomplished in a year. The adventurer will commence on February 22. On that day he will present himself at the club and be stripped of every vestige of garment. In this condition he will begin earning his way by cleaning the shoes, brushing the hats and clothes of club members. When he has saved enough to buy himself a suit of clothes he will commence his operations on the street and give all

unemployed an object lesson. By selling papers, running errands, etc., he feels confident that he will soon be able to leave Boston and start on the trip. To earn enough to save \$5,000 he considers an easy undertaking.

It is probable that the hardest part of the work will be in the beginning. No doubt when part of the journey is completed he will have gained so much notoriety that as a curiosity in a dime museum he would be a decided financial success. It would not be surprising if he should be able to accomplish his purpose in even a shorter space of time than contemplated.

The ingenuity of an individual in planning such a scheme, and his persistency, if he follows it out until completed, deserves to be admired. But had these qualities been made use of with a view to the benefit of others as well as to their possessor, great results might have followed. It is very well to give the unemployed an object lesson, but when this kind of lesson is given the naked fact remains that not all persons in that condition can make freaks of themselves and circle the globe. If they did, the patience and curiosity of the public would of course soon be exhausted and the unfortunates would again be compelled to fall back on honest, productive labor for support. Curious may be well enough in their line and their place, but for any really useful purpose in society they are generally almost worthless. In fact, as they become common they also cease to be curios.

THE UTE REMOVAL.

The Durango, Colorado, Southwest has the following on the subject of removing the Southern Ute Indians from their present reservation in Colorado over into San Juan county, Utah:

The thing to do is to move the Utes to Utah. Give them the reservation they have picked out for their occupation. Every lever should be brought to bear now, before the passage of the Utah admission bill. It is not wise to change the direction of the pull, if pull we have. If there were no chance of getting the proposed bill through, or if there were serious objections to the Blue Mountain reservation, it would change matters somewhat; but as the principal opposition to the bill comes from the Indian Rights association, which objects simply to the removal and not to the reservation, it is wiser to direct all our energies towards the main question of removal in accordance with the bill and entertain no other proposition unless as a last resort.

The journal quoted from would give people to understand that the Indians desire to be removed to "the reservation they have picked out" and that there is no particular opposition to the measure except that of the Indian Rights association. The facts are that the Southern Utes, when they were crowded from their former reservation, "picked out" their present location in southwestern Colorado; the desire to have them removed is wholly on the part of greedy white men in the Centennial state who are eager to gain possession of the lands of the Indians; the effect of the removal would be to crowd many of the settlers in San Juan county from their hard-earned homes