

GREATER THAN THE BRAVEST?

In my copy of Henty's *The Bravest of the Brave*, preceding the first Henty title in the advertisement list, (*With Lee in Virginia*), and heading the list is the following:

BY S. BARING-GOULD GRETTIR THE OUTLAW: A Story of Iceland. By S. Baring-Gould, author of "John Herring," "Mehalath", &c. With 10 full-page illustrations by M. Zeno Diemer and a coloured map. Crown 8vo, cloth elegant, olivine edges, &c.

A work of special interest, not only because of the high rank which Mr. Baring-Gould has of late years acquired by his brilliant series of novels, *Mehalah*, *John Herring*, *Court Royal*, &c, but because of his earlier won reputation as a historian and explorer of folk-legends and popular beliefs. In the story of *Grettir*, both the art of the novelist and the lore of the archaeologist have had full scope, with the result that we have a narrative of adventure of the most romantic kind, and at the same time an interesting and minutely accurate account of the old Icelandic families, their homes, their mode of life, their superstitions, their songs and stories, their berserk fury, and their heroism by land and sea. No boy will be able to withstand the magic of such scenes as the fight of *Grettir* with the twelve bear-serks, the wrestle with *Karl the Old* in the chamber of the dead, the contest with the spirit of *Glam the Thrall*, and the defence of the dying *Grettir* by his younger brother.

I doubt if there is any other example of Henty being ousted from the head of his own list - and in one of his own titles.

DPRS