

THE AMERICAN.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

"AMERICA FOR AMERICANS."—We hold that all men are Americans who swear allegiance to the United States without a mental reservation in favor of the Pope.

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LEO'S ROAMING HOBOES

Count Bylakowski's Band of Wealers the Scum of the Earth.

They Defy the Sheriff at Buffalo, N. Y., Show Fight and are Worsted.

Along in the latter part of July we received the following letter, which was accompanied by a newspaper clipping:

NORWALK, O., July 24, 1894.—Editor AMERICAN: Yesterday about 4:50 p. m. the Second regiment of the papal army marched into this city. This regiment is composed entire of papist Poles, having a Polish count for leader, and for ignorance, general meanness and tough looks they eclipse even the First regiment, which was composed of papist Irish, with Captain Sullivan as leader. This gang is better fixed than the other, having a Polish priest with them to administer to their spiritual wants. Priest Lefnowski's supply of wafer, alias Catholic Gods, having got wormy, he called on Priest Chevreux and got a lot labelled "strictly fresh, 50 cents each." This gang has been terrorizing the farmers and running from the police, stealing, begging and committing all sorts of crimes. They are fair specimens of what the Romish church is composed of. When Rome lets her hordes loose, it will be a terrible battle, for her soldiers are merciless, sparing neither old age nor sweet babyhood, neither sex nor condition. Such has been her record in the past, and her gangs of hoodlums going through the country now show the nature of Rome's army, and we need no encyclical from the Dago Leo to tell what would happen if Americans were not preparing for the coming battle. R. A. E.

The articles referred to were from the Norwalk, O., Press, and read as follows:

"Count Joseph Bylakowski sitting astride a sorrel pony, rode into Norwalk soon after noon today, July 23, from Bellevue, where he left his army of commonwealers this morning. Count Bylakowski is the general of the industrial army, and his visit to Norwalk was to endeavor to secure food for his men while in this city. He at once sought Mayor Greene, but as that gentleman could not be found, he decided to go back and join his army at Monroeville.

According to the count's story, his army numbers 3,000 men and was organized in Chicago, and left that city for Washington June 7. In Indiana the band was divided up in several divisions and the one that he is now leading to the capital city consists of 152 men, only four of whom are of American birth. The majority of the division are Poles, but there are many other nationalities represented. The count is accompanied by his wife, Duchess Bylakowski, who usually goes ahead to look after the securing of provisions. The duchess and the traveling companion who accompanies her, ride in a wagon. The remainder of the company go on foot.

The foreign count who is leading his misguided band is a rather unique and interesting specimen of humanity. He is 35 years of age, and has been in this country six years, and claims to be a nationalized American citizen. He has the appearance of a well educated man, and speaks the English language quite intelligently, but with a decidedly foreign accent. He was educated for a civil engineer and pursued his profession for a number of years in this country and Poland. For some time past he has been the editor of a Polish labor paper in Chicago. The count was neatly dressed in a gray suit, with bright epaulettes on his shoulders, defining his rank in the army, and wearing a white badge bearing the inscription "The U. S. Industrial Army." On his head he wore a white felt hat.

"Count Bylakowski stated that his army left Bellevue at 10:30 o'clock this morning, and would reach Norwalk late this afternoon. Before the army reaches a town he calls on the mayor and makes a demand for provisions sufficient for a certain number of meals. He asks that the people of Norwalk contribute enough food for their supper and breakfast. In places where the city officials refuse to do anything for them, they usually obtain enough to eat by begging and taking up a subscription.

From reports received from along the line the count's recruits are a disreputable gang, who go along stealing and destroying property, and who have no respect for law or order and little knowledge of American institutions. In Toledo they were fired bodily out of the city by the police. In Fremont the

nervy count refused to leave unless they were supplied with food, and it required the calling out of a company of the Sons of Veterans to compel them to leave town. They invaded Clyde on Sunday and made similar demands, but were quickly hustled out of the corporation by the Clyde company of the Sixteenth regiment. To feed such men would be but to encourage other similar foraging expeditions of worthless foreigners, and these men should not be tolerated in this city.

"Count Bylakowski's conglomeration of foreign humanity, comprising a fair sample of the scum of creation, which the United States government allows to be dumped on our shores, and who think they will be able to give congress some instructions as to what laws are needed to remedy the present much disturbed economical and industrial condition of this country, marched into Norwalk a few minutes past 4 o'clock last evening, (July 23), coming from Monroeville by the way of Washington street and Whittlesay avenue. Taken altogether they were about as tough looking a gang of the lowest element of society as one would ever run across.

"The gang of 'reformers' who have been terrorizing farmers and going out of towns on double quick time in front of the sharp point of a bristling bayonet, or with a policeman's billy swinging over their heads, were taken in charge by Marshal Burton and taken to the barracks on Woodlawn avenue, joining the Wheeling track, where Captain Sullivan and his band of commonwealers passed a night while in this city. The count of the unpronounceable name and his followers were given quarters for the night in the building and were given to understand that the people of Norwalk were not longing for their society, and that they had better keep their malodorous persons within the confines of the barracks during the night.

"The matter of providing something for the hoboes to eat was a problem that perplexed Mayor Greene for some time. He decided that it would be better to feed them than to allow the gang to roam around town begging and committing depredations.

"He did not consider it fair to call upon a few of the business men and compel them to bear the burden of

feeding the mob, so that after obtaining the approval of several members of the council to the plan, the mayor bought a quantity of meat, bread, rice, beans and coffee to the value of about \$12, which will be paid for by the city. That was probably the cheapest and most satisfactory way of getting along with them.

"The gang of wealers were carefully watched by the police during the night.

"They kept pretty close to their quarters and created no disturbance. The matter of providing them with food was overlooked, but they obtained all the fuel they needed by making a raid upon W. E. Bell's coal yard. No other depredations were reported. The gang took their departure eastward at noon today, going to Wake-man, where they will inflict the people with their presence tonight. They had sufficient provisions left after breakfast to provide them with dinner, so that they appeared to be in no hurry to resume their journey to Washington this morning."

From Norwalk the commonwealers proceeded east, reaching Buffalo a few days ago, where they became more obstreperous than usual, and were given a lesson they will not soon forget. A dispatch from Buffalo dated August 24, says:

Count Bylakowski today refused to move his army of 250 tramps out of Erie county when commanded by the sheriff. At the head of a posse of twenty-five men, together with fifteen policemen, Sheriff Taggart went to enforce his orders. A battle ensued. The count and 150 of his men were taken prisoners and twenty-five of the hoboes had their heads split open with policemen's clubs. Chicago was well represented among the injured. The list of those so seriously hurt that it was necessary to take them to the hospital is as follows:

- Albert V. Ogel, aged 33, resident of Illinois; scalp wound.
- Joseph Covert, Buffalo; scalp wound.
- Thomas Mankoski, Sobieski street, Chicago; bad scalp wound.
- John Mennicoski, South Bend, Ind., scalp wound.
- Fred Mengua, Chicago; scalp wound.
- Stanislaus Coperlo, Chicago; scalp wound and shot in the left arm.
- Walenty Wojelchowski, Cleveland, Ohio; scalp wound.

Henry Lusser, Chicago; scalp wound. Samuel Rozen, Chicago; left leg filled with buckshot.

Levi Spencer, deputy sheriff; scalp plowed by a bullet.

George Taylor, deputy sheriff; bad scalp wound.

Many others received scalp wounds which were attended to by the ambulance physician. Rozen, of Chicago, is the most seriously hurt. In the fray he fired his revolver at Deputy Sheriff Levi Spencer, and the bullet grazed Spencer's scalp. Standing near Spencer was a farmer named John O'Brien, who was armed with a shotgun. He filled Rozen's leg with buckshot.

The fight took place about 5 o'clock this afternoon. Sheriff Taggart had served a notice on the count to move along, and the count replied that he would split on the sheriff. Thereupon Sheriff Taggart swore in twenty-five deputies, put himself at their head, and set out to disperse the army. They arrived at the camp, placed the count and his leaders under arrest, and started with them for Justice Forster's court, half a mile away, where they were to be tried.

The army, numbering 250 men, fell in behind the prisoners. When they arrived at Justice Forster's court the count was permitted to speak to some of his followers. He addressed them in Polish, and before the sheriff could interfere, the crowd had closed in around the count, and he was beyond the reach of the sheriff. The army formed a hollow square around the count, and swinging their clubs around their heads, defied the sheriff to take him. With only thirty men the sheriff hesitated for a moment. It was outside the city line, and the police stationed a hundred feet away could not legally interfere. Sheriff Taggart called to one of his deputies, Ed. Williams, a 6 foot-6 giant, and told him to go forward and arrest the count. As Williams approached the lines a Pole struck at him, and Williams knocked the Pole senseless.

"Come on!" cried Police Captain Killeen to his mounted men, who were itching for a fight, and fifteen of them dashed at the "hobo" army, with the deputies at their horses' heels. The police used their clubs, the deputies their revolvers, and the "hoboes" both clubs and revolvers. When the battle

was over, twenty-five "hoboes" with broken heads were lying on the ground. The sheriff made prisoners of sixty-five and convicting them of being tramps sent them to the penitentiary for thirty days each. The police arrested as many more. Count Bylakowski will be held to the grand jury on the charge of assault in the second degree.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Aug. 27.—Count Bylakowski and fourteen members of his staff were escorted by forty deputies from the jail to Justice Forster's court late this afternoon. After examination Bylakowski was found guilty of being a tramp, and was sent to the Erie county penitentiary for six months. The members of his staff were all found guilty and were sent to the work-house for nine days each. The count was greatly chagrined by being sent down for a tramp.

WALTER SIMS AT AURORA.

The Political Aims of the American Protective Association.

AURORA, Ill., Aug. 22.—Professor Walter Sims delivered an address on "American Politics" here tonight. Among other things he said:

"The American Protective Association is opposed to the introduction of religion into politics. It is not warring against the faith or religious practices of any church. One of the principal objects is the overcoming and divorcing of organized religion from the political arena of the nation. Religious liberty is an individual right. It does not mean the right of any religious organization to assume to interfere with or control our politics or seek to conform our institutions to religious teachings or dogmas. The American principle is the maintenance of institutions which are free and common to all citizens regardless of what their religious faith and practice may be, so long as they are not in violation of legislative enactment and constitutional privilege.

"Our grievance is that the Roman Catholic church has entered American politics as an organization; that it has in the past played the part of a powerful balance of power in municipal, state and federal elections. It has placed itself in the market with votes for sale to either of the great political parties for unconstitutional grants and official recognition. It has helped to corrupt

UNEXPECTED.



All went well with the Pope and his puppets, the Bishops, Priests and Boodlers,



Until the "A. P. A." Dog-Catcher happened to walk on the stage.

our political institutions and undermine honest government.

"The Roman Catholic church is the only religious organization that is recognized by politicians of all parties as a distinct factor in our politics. It is the only church whose members receive a reward for its influence, appointments to lucrative offices. We, as American citizens, cannot suffer our institutions to be undermined by organized religion at the polls. It has come to the time in our nation's history when the principles of independent Americanism must come to the rescue. Partisan politics as religious politics must be subdued by an honest American ballot.

"We claim the right to investigate the objects and aims of every party that claims recognition in the political arena from the American people. Dishonest political boodlers, mere place seekers because of personal advantage, must be turned down by the united vote of an enlightened American people. There must be neither pope or millionaire prince in American politics.

"One flag, one people and free institutions are the things which the American Protective Association aims to stand by."

SATOLLI AND THE SALOONS.

Dr. McGlynn Points Out the Significance of the Monsignore's Letter.

NEW YORK, Aug. 26.—Fifteen hundred persons assembled at Prohibition Park, Staten Island today to hear Rev. Dr. McGlynn's discourse on "A Model Commonwealth." Preceding his regular address he gave, by request, a prelude upon Monsignore Satolli's confirmation of Bishop Watterson's famous order. At a meeting at the park a week ago the question was asked if the importance and seriousness of the able utterances against the saloons were not overestimated, and it was answered by a single representative of the Catholic church could be named who was opposed to the saloon. Father McGlynn said there was a danger of magnifying Monsignore Satolli's letter beyond the intention of the writer and beyond its real effect. It was not a decree. Monsignore Satolli was not here to make laws. Monsignore Satolli hardly meant and Bishop Watterson hardly meant that it was a sin to drink intoxicating liquors or to sell them. They have not gone so far as that. In effect the letter meant that Roman Catholics should look to it that their churches, families and business should be so conducted as to be no occasion of sin or scandal. The letter of the apostolic delegate had no more force than the order of the bishop of Columbus, but it did not require great perception to understand how far-reaching would be its effect. The letter plainly insinuates that if each bishop in the United States should issue the same orders as had Bishop Watterson, and Monsignore Satolli should be appealed to for a reversal of that order that he would give the same answer. It would have an effect in encouraging the Roman Catholic people and clergy to practice and to preach temperance. It would cause saloon-keepers to conduct their business with greater public decorum, when they understood that they might be excluded from the church for engaging in the traffic.

One Flag in Brooklyn.

Says the Brooklyn Eagle: The Eagle has not thought that there is very much in this flag business, and did not think there was when the mayor first took his position. But there will be a great deal in it, if very much is made of it by associations of foreign-born citizens, whether Irish or otherwise, and the much that will be found in it, in such an event, will be on the side of the view of one flag and of one nation and against any other side. The English-born citizens here have not sought to proscribe the mayor for his views against the display of their flag, nor have the Germans, the Italians, the Swedes, the French, or any other class of foreign-born citizens. The Irish may think that they number enough to render their resentment effective, even if it be confined to themselves. The resentment they show, however, can easily be outmatched by the resentment which they may arouse among all other foreign-born citizens and among all native ones. They would do well to reconsider their course lest, in seeking to insult the mayor, they magnify him and injure themselves. They cannot afford to deprive the mayor of the chance to accept or to decline their hospitality, for he is their mayor, since and while he is Brooklyn's mayor, inasmuch as they are a part of Brooklyn themselves.

LEO XIII is stated to have an annual income of \$1,430,000, and yet he and the organization of which he is the boss are continually forced to beg for money.