

ROSEWATER'S REFORM AGGREGATION

A Plain and Dispassionate Statement of Its Origin, Its Aims and Its Purposes.

The Nominees, with Few Exceptions, the Very Riff-Raff of the Population of This Great City.

A Little Light Let in on Some Very Dark Places for the Benefit of the Public in General.

Early last spring we announced that Edward Rosewater would do all in his power to defeat the Republican party in this fall's campaign, and we believe that prediction has been pretty generally proved true by every move he has made.

At the time of making that charge we were in possession of conclusive proof that he was at that time, and was to continue to be, the champion of the Roman section of this community; and every one of his acts has demonstrated the truthfulness of the information on which we based the charge.

At that time the new fire and police bill was pending before the legislature, and it has been openly charged that there were thousands of dollars placed in Rosewater's hands to be used in the defeat of that measure. It is known that he was a most persistent lobbyist. He was there day and night. Stories were rife to the effect that he was tying up with the friends of every measure, questionable or meritorious. It is known that he begged some men to vote against the bill, that he threatened others with exposure through the *Be* if they dared vote contrary to his wishes.

A representative from the southern part of the state says he was approached by an emissary of Edward Rosewater's and offered money to vote against House Bill No. 139, commonly known as the fire and police bill, and Herman Timme, in the presence of his wife, was offered several hundred dollars if he would continue to be sick and refuse to go to the capitol and register his vote in favor of that measure.

Yet, in spite of this record, this corruptionist, this bodle dispenser, and political blackmailer, seeks to foist upon the people of this city as officials some of the most immoral and corrupt men known in the community. And he is doing it under the guise of Reform.

It is fitting, however, that Edward Rosewater should head a movement for reform which has the approval and support of such disreputable mountebanks as Ed. Simeral, Ed. Reggan, and men of their ilk. It is fitting that he should want to elect to official positions such characters as Helsey, as Coburn, as Swobe, as Guy Doane, and as Wood and Campbell. It is fitting that he should support, in addition to these, a number of bankrupts, who made a failure of their own business, yet aspire to manage that of the most populous city and county in the state. And it is also fitting that he should have the earnest, hearty co-operation and support of every Roman Catholic in the city, since his success means their return to power and to office.

But the people are not blind or ignorant to either the animus which prompts this fight by Edward Rosewater for Roman supremacy in this city and county, or as to what will be the result if he is successful in the coming election.

It has been an open secret for a good many months that the *Be* was losing money because of its fight against the A. P. A., and it has been openly charged that a purse of more than \$20,000 had been made up by prominent Roman Catholics to enable him to continue his warfare on the only body of men which was ever able to drive incompetent, corrupt and dishonest officials out of office.

And why is he doing this? Because he has no use for any man who will not do his bidding or who will not tamely submit to his dictation. A competent, honest, upright official according to the Rosewater dictionary is one who will do the bidding of Rosewater; any other man is corrupt, dishonest, incompetent, or a howling dervish. No man is pure, honest or capable except he be a subject tool of Edward Rosewater, and the people, this year, have an opportunity of saying whether or not they desire men who are capable, efficient, and honest according to the Rosewater definition, to administer their affairs. Those men who receive his support can be relied upon to fill the bill of Edward Rosewater. Those whom he opposes the most viciously will be the men whom he cannot use. This applies as much to the judiciary as to the men who aspire to seats in

the city council. The man who receives his support must forfeit manhood and independence, and become his abject slave.

These charges are capable of proof. "Honest" Dick O'Keefe was a tool of Ed Rosewater's. He was a member of the board of county commissioners when the county treasury was being looted. It has been charged that O'Keefe was cognizant of the robbery. We have several times stated that Rosewater was apprised of the thieving, and was requested to expose the corruption, but that instead of protecting the taxpayers, as an honest newspaper man would, he declared that he could not make the facts contained in the affidavits public because, if he did so, it would defeat "Honest" Dick O'Keefe. And O'Keefe voted to pay Rosewater three prices for publishing the tax-list.

It makes no difference how corrupt a man is—take Wm. Coburn, for instance, or Tom Swobe, or Lee Helsey—if he will do Rosewater's bidding he is a paragon of business ability, of purity and morality, while such a man as A. G. Edwards, as Mel H. Redford, or S. I. Gordon, against whose official integrity, business ability or morality no man dares utter a word, that man, that whiffet and political strumpet, E. Rosewater, brands as unworthy the confidence of the people.

We shall see! Luckily the people have not yet had their say; when they do have it, they can be trusted to say what is right.

The people are always right! Some of them may be mistaken at times, but as a whole they make no mistakes.

They will make none this year. They will make none when they turn down every man on the Democratic ticket who is not on either the Populist or the Republican ticket.

Were it necessary to go into detail and enumerate the unpalatable character of the Rosewater nominees, we assure you that M. F. Martin, the erstwhile owner of houses of prostitution, would be an angel in purity when compared with Tom Swobe, Billy Coburn, Lee Helsey and a half-dozen more whose names could be mentioned.

The Citizens' ticket is, to be brief, made up of gamblers, fornicators, drunkards, bankrupts, perjurers, criminals, and men who have been discharged from lucrative positions because of their "knocking-down" proclivities.

Yet this man Rosewater, his aids and confederates, not excluding or excepting the members of the Roman hierarchy in this city, knew that nearly every man nominated on the Reform citizens ticket was entitled to wear one or more of the above brands. Then why did they presume to call it "Citizens' Reform party"? In order to deceive the people. They proceeded on the theory that the people liked to be humbugged—and the bigger the humbug the better they would be satisfied. We can say this masquerade party by the "Citizens' Reformers" is par excellence. If they can kick up enough dust to obscure the vision of the populace they will undoubtedly be elected. But they can't do it.

Now let us see what these reformers give as the reason for their appearance this year. They tell us it is because the affairs of the city and county have been mismanaged under A. P. A. rule. We hurl this back to Edward Rosewater as a black, as a damnable lie. We hurl it in the face of every one of his sympathizers, and challenge them for the proof. Under A. P. A. influence this county and city were rid of the most corrupt ring that ever dominated them. Under A. P. A. rule the county treasury, instead of representing a deficit of more than \$240,000, represents a surplus of more than \$325,000; and this has been saved to the county after paying the deficit handed down to them from the O'Keefe-O'Malley-Rush regime. It has been saved after paying and repairing several roads running into the county; after paying interest on outstanding bonds; after paying the running expenses of the jail, county poor farm, hospital, relief store, and all the running expenses incident to the county business.

To be plain, the A. P. A. took charge

of the county business when the county was in debt more than \$240,000. It has run the county for three years. During that time it has paid off the debt the Romanists had saddled upon it, has paid all the running expenses, and has saved more than \$325,000. Incompetent men could not do that. Dishonest men would not do it.

But there are Henry Bolin and Jerome Coulter!

Certainly. No one condones their offenses. They did wrong. But the A. P. A. was not responsible for their shortcomings. They did wrong—not because they were elected by the aid of the A. P. A., but in spite of the wishes and the teachings of that order.

Yet, if you please, who worked harder to encompass the election of Henry Bolin than E. Rosewater—the man who now cries so lustily for reform? How, then, can he shift all the blame for the shortage in the city treasurer's office onto the A. P. A., when he was check by jowl with that order in its support of Bolin, not only when he was first nominated, but when he sought and obtained a re-nomination and a re-election? This being so, how is the A. P. A. any more responsible for the defalcation in the treasurer's office than are E. Rosewater and the Omaha *Be*?

"But the A. P. A. officials appointed Israel Frank meat inspector, and he has gone wrong," some others are fond of saying.

This is not literally true. Frank was appointed by a board dominated by Rosewater and his present associates in the Citizens' Reform movement. If there is any odium to attach because of Frank's conduct, it must attach to the Rosewater crowd. Besides, the witnesses against Frank, who were in the employ of Rosewater, were an unsavory crowd. One of them obtained possession of Matron Cummings' ring, in some mysterious manner, and pawned it, then jumped the town. But it is with that class of rascals that Rosewater always surrounds himself.

The secretary of the Citizens' Reform movement, one of Rosey's most intimate associates and advisers, has a record as full of holes as a skimmer; yet he is shouting lustily for reform. He ought to go back to Canada and work up a reform movement where he is better known, and where it is said the officials would be pleased to shake hands with him. Unless we have been misinformed, County Superintendent Hill has a letter from a gentleman who knew the secretary across the border, in which some very lurid and frey things are charged against said secretary.

Closely allied to the father of the Citizens' Reform League and his sweet-scented secretary is Jim Creighton, he of rotten-block fame, now honored with the presidency of the Third ward branch of the association; Tom Swift, the Roman father-in-law of one of the editors of the *Be*; Ed. Walsh, of county hospital notoriety; A. A. Keyser, who is treasurer of the Idlewild branch of the league, and who has been repeatedly and openly accused by this paper with having been charged by the mother of a girl under lawful age, with having offered said mother the sum of \$50 for the privilege of having illicit criminal intercourse with her daughter; Lee Helsey, famous for his want of legal learning while acting as police judge, or who violated his oath of office by rendering a decision contrary to law and precedent in order to win the friendship of the Romanists of this city; Tom Swobe, who, as the proprietor of the Midland Hotel, permitted gambling to be carried on there—unless all reports are false—and whose liaisons with his female help was for years a matter of common notoriety, one of which liaisons ex-Congressman Connell and ex-County Attorney Parke Goodwin are said to have strained their legal ability in untangling for the festive Tom; J. S. Detrick, a Romanist who declared we ought to be killed for publishing THE AMERICAN; Ed. Moriarty, who has been convicted of forgery, and who was suspected of leading the mob which hanged the negro in 1891; Wm. Coburn, who leaves his home and goes on periodical drunks, lasting sometimes for two or more weeks; W. I. Kierstead, who received an invitation from M. F. Martin, the owner of houses of prostitution, to visit Camp Comfort, and only refused to accept it after we had condemned Seavey for associating with such characters; John F. Coad, who has been openly and publicly accused of attempting to bribe the South Omaha delegation to vote for Coe instead of Frank Johnson; the First National Bank, which is accused of paying Frank B. Johnson \$2,500 to get off the Democratic ticket, so that Coe could be endorsed, in order that he might be elected and be able to pay the paper—notes—which said bank is said to hold to the amount of more than \$25,000; said bank is also carrying the Omaha *Be* for a good many more thousand dollars than it wants to, unless President Kountz has been misquoted to us; the Roman contingent, with John Rush, John A. Creighton, the priests and the bishop at the head to direct, besides every saloon-keeper, every gambler, every thug, and every prostitute is giving their unqualified endorsement and their hearty support to the Citizens' Reform candidates. If

there is any doubt as to this assertion, take the delegates to the late Democratic convention and look up their antecedents. Begin with Pat Ford, take in Pat O'Hearne, and a whole rogues' nest of lesser lights, and wind up with Ed. Rothery and others of their ilk.

Nor are these the only shining lights in the Reform movement. We find Constantine Joachim Smyth, who was unable to answer the logic of that grand old Methodist editor, W. J. Shank; Timothy J. Mahoney, who, as county attorney, asked the police judge to discharge two Romanists charged with murder in the first degree, after they had been positively identified; John Rich, who declared he was a Roman Catholic first and a citizen afterward; Pat Ford, Jr., who has been sentenced to several years in the penitentiary, and who is now out on bail awaiting the action of the supreme court; besides a couple of thousand other Romanists with records equally as shady or minus records of any description.

We might go on and enumerate all the rascals in the community, and you would find them all identified with the Citizens' Reform movement. True, all the men identified with that movement are not of the ragtag and bobtail variety—Edson Rich, John J. Points and E. R. Duffis are clean, capable and honest men, but they are in awful bad company.

This ought not to escape your mind: Do you want men in official positions who will be the complex, the abject tools of E. Rosewater? If you do, vote the Democratic ticket.

Remember, the election will decide whether this community is to be dominated by Rosewater and Romanism, or whether honest American principles are to rule. The question is: Shall the disreputable elements in both the Republican and Democratic parties dominate this city and county, or will the respectable, law-abiding citizens participate in their government?

And now, in conclusion, allow us to call your attention to the German editor of the Omaha *Be*, who furnishes two columns twice each week for the edification of Germans who are unable to read the English language. We shall not give our opinion of him, but will quote the opinion of the paper which is now employing him. Of him the Omaha *Be* of October 31, 1894, said: "Max Adler has enjoyed a speckled career, covering many years. He was at one time an editorial writer on a sectarian paper at Cleveland, O., and afterwards became associated with August Spels on the Arbeiter Zeitung, the anarchistic newspaper that did so much toward inciting the Haymarket riot, and which culminated in the arrest of every man connected with the publication."

A Romanist in Antipodean Politics.

From our Australian correspondent we have the following screed in the form of a "leaflet," which was first published in an Australian paper under date of July 3, says the *American Tyler*. It clearly shows that the same animus governs the Romanist, whether in America or Australia. In the latter country the battle is waged furiously, and has taken some such attitude as in Manitoba. It also shows that the present contention is not confined to any one locality, but is a move all along the line the world over. The following extract from a business letter of an Australian representative will serve to introduce the antipodes' "roorback":

PENRITH, N. S. W., Aug. 19, 1895.—Dear Bro. Brownell: Enclosed I am sending you a leaflet circulated during a recent political election in this colony. It is very seldom that the Romish church adherents tell you in such a direct manner what they really mean; but in this instance "Catholic" has cast aside the snake-in-the-grass style usually adopted by the papists, and demonstrates in no uncertain way what they would like to do if they could.

To the Editor of the Express: Sir—As a member of our church, I hope you will not deny me the privilege of first, expressing my own views, and, secondly, of advising my co-religionists as to how they should vote on the occasion of the coming general election.

In the first place, then, all the voters in the electorate, as well, indeed, as all the voters through the colony, must know that ever since Sir Henry Parkes refused to oblige our priests and bishops in the matter of our schools, we, as Roman Catholics, have been against free-trade and against the free-trade party, and have always voted for protection. Therefore, whether he proclaims himself a free-trader or protectionist, is nothing to us. Still, as the end always justifies the means, if Sir Henry supports protection he may be useful on our side in the interests of our church, for we, as good Roman Catholics, must ever remember that whatever party serves the interest of our church is the party we must support, and in this colony that is the protectionist party. There is no use in trying to shut our eyes to the matter, protectionists are the members of our church; we are now about to try our strength. And the free-traders are all the English church people, all the Wesleyans, Methodists, Presbyterians and members of the different sects, all of whom are opposed to our church.

The political question is now narrowing itself down to Roman Catholicism or Protestantism. Which will eventually win the day is the most important question for us in this colony. Surely, we never will allow the Protestants, Orangemen and free-traders to beat us. As an argument why we should all vote protectionist at the coming election, only just think how many of our leading Roman Catholic brethren were in Sir G. Dibbs' government, such as Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Heydon, Mr. Slattery (whose brother is a priest, as I understand), and many others, in minor offices. Is this not a good reason why we should support Mr. Chapman, who is himself a good Roman Catholic, who has just married the daughter of a good Roman Catholic, Mr. O'Brien, with a brother a priest, and all good supporters of our church? Moreover, Mr. Chapman can never do much harm to the landed interest by way of seriously supporting a land tax, as his father-in-law is one of our largest land-owners and most liberal citizens, and one of the best supporters of our church in this country; therefore vote for our Catholic friend, Mr. O'Brien's son-in-law. We need not argue the point. But is it not a fact that the Reid government does not contain a single member in either the upper or lower house from our church? Is it not a fact that at the last general election our priests advised every Roman Catholic to vote for the protectionist candidate in the interests of the church? Are we concerned to put into parliamentary Protestant free-trader, such as the present candidate is, who has the confidence (I would say the audacity) to oppose Mr. Chapman? Therefore, my Roman Catholic fellow voters, let us stick together—if we can get the big land-holders to join us, so much the better; their influence will go a great way for Mr. Chapman, for they are afraid of a land tax. And let us place Mr. Chapman at the head of the poll, in spite of all the Orangemen and all the Protestants of this electorate.

Your co-religionist,
A CATHOLIC.

The Hungarian Marriage Revolution.

Last and not least of the world's records broken this year was the marriage record. The scene of this extraordinary performance was the Kingdom of Hungary, and the occasion of it was the coming into force of the new Civil Marriage law, on October 1. A week or so before that date the whole conservative half of the nation seemed to go marriage-mad. All good Roman Catholics with marriageable children made haste to get those children married under the old, orthodox dispensation, before what they regarded as the godless system of civil marriage was imposed upon them. Not only were existing engagements cut short, but many children who had not yet thought of matrimony were urged to become betrothed and then rushed on to marriage before the fatal date. Nor did the young folks, who generally cared less about the principle of creed involved than did their elders, fail to make the most of their opportunity. They could wed the persons of their choice, whether their parents liked them or not, and they could get any dowries settled that they might ask for. A single threat of not marrying at all until after October 1 was enough to bring the sternest parent to terms. So down to October 1 there was a perfect epidemic of church weddings all over Hungary.

That date marked no decrease in the number of marriages, but a change in their character. Indeed, on that very day occurred the record-breaking number. It was now the turn of the Liberal half of the kingdom, which is really far more than half. The rush for civil marriages was no less than that of ecclesiastical ones had been. True, there was no time limit within which they must be made. But there was well-nigh universal rivalry to be first on the list in each town or city or province. In some cases large sums of money were offered for the privilege of appearing first before the magistrates, and many couples were at the registrars' doors at daylight or before, ready to wait hours, if need be, so as to be at the head of the line. As in the former case, engagements were shortened in order that the marriages might occur on the first day of the new dispensation. There was, moreover, a great rush of couples who had long wanted to get married, but could not because of differences of religion. Under the civil law marriages between Christians and Jews are for the first time permitted, and of such there have been many since the first of the present month.

All returns are not yet at hand, but at this writing it seems pretty sure that the civil marriages are in the majority. Certainly they have the record of the greatest number in a single day. In almost every community the couple fortunate enough to be married first under the new law had a lot of speech-making done over them by the mayor or registrar, a public banquet, and a serenade, given by exultant Liberals, and the story of their achievement will be handed down to their descendants as a precious and patriotic memory.

Following close upon this adoption of civil marriage the kingdom is also at last enacting complete freedom of wor-

ship and complete civil equality of Jews, Protestants and Roman Catholics. This is effected one of the greatest political and social revolutions in its history, and Hungary, from being a stronghold of the ultra-clerical reaction, is transformed into one of the most advanced of liberal states.—N. Y. Tribune.

Read the Bible, Mr. Pecci.
Mr. PECCI. Dear Sir: I expect you have read the Bible some, although it is claimed by Romanists that you have in your colleges books "a darn sight better than the Bible." These books must be of great value, especially to your followers. If you will read II Thess. ii., you will find something about you and your church. In the fourth verse we read: "So that he as God, showing himself that he is God." Now, Mr. Pecci, when we read what is claimed of the Great Lama of your church, "Alter Deus in Terra"—"Another God upon earth"—we concede that you are the man that is hit on the head. This would not apply to the Mohammedans, because they are not in the temple of God. You follow up the work of the apostle Paul (although you claim it is the work of Peter), and you go so far that you thrust out all the holiness and piety of the early Christians, their pure theology and also God himself, and claim the pope is another God upon earth, as much as to say: "Now, Mr. God, if you have any other business in heaven to attend to we would advise you to attend to it, for we have our own god here, and can manage our own affairs here at home a little better than any one as far off as you are." "Whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders."

The best part of the work of Satan is in knowing so well how to lie. He is the biggest liar the world has had anything to do with. There are some people who try to beat him in this science, and they succeed very well, but have never yet been able to win in the race. The Roman Catholic Church is believed to be trying to win in this race, and are like him in theory, "lying wonders." They are wonders as long as the lie is not known. Thus the amount of the wood of the cross on which Christ was crucified—the heads of St. Peter, when he was a boy and when he was old—the little house in which the mother of Jesus lived, which is claimed to have been carried by the angel Gabriel to the place described by the Roman Catholic Church—the feather that was plucked from the wing of the angel Gabriel—the wonderfully preserved chair, claimed to be that of St. Peter, although proved to have belonged to one of the emperors of the twelfth century—the hollows made in the stone that St. Peter happened to kneel on—the power of changing a turkey into a fish for the sake of convenience on Friday—the power of the priests over souls after they are dead; and much more; that any careful observer would say, most emphatically, were lies. They would be wonderful if they were not lies, but they are wonders that some one has been lying about.

Now let me make another translation of this ninth verse, and you can take which one you may choose. "Whose coming is according to the working of Satan in every power and signs and wonders of falsehood." It seems to me the strongest word in the verse is the word "falsehood." Now, should we infer that this is the reason why you do not want your people to study the Bible? If it is, you have no right whatever to claim that you are a Christian church. It is the most manly thing sometimes to "acknowledge the corn," and if you persist in making the plea that you are not guilty you will have the literary world sending literary shot and shell after you, and you will never have a moment's rest until you say: "Gentlemen, we are off the track and we will get on it again if you will please loan us your jack-screws."

Yours, &c., ALEPH.

Good Advice.

The Medical Arena prints the following excellent advice:

"A man was seen, the other day, passing about in the halls of one of our large public school-buildings of the city, smoking a cigar. Hundreds of school-boys were around him at their play, and three or four followed him about. The incident caused some remarks on the part of people waiting for a car in front of the school. Whoever the man was (he surely was not a teacher), he should be kept away from the public schools, or else caused to postpone his smoking for a more fitting time and place. The tobacco habit claims enough victims among our young men every year without propagating it in our public schools. It is bad taste, as well as bad morals, to condone the use of either tobacco, whisky, or profanity before school-children, and the board of education, which has banished cigarettes, should also pass a stringent regulation to prevent the use of tobacco, whisky or profanity on any of the school premises of the city by all people whose own good sense does not teach them better. Moral sanitation of this kind is as much a matter of public economy as patriotism, and no one would question the good done by the American ensign which floats over every school-house in the city.