

WILL IT BE BONACUM!

A Sioux Falls Roman Writes a Letter on the Vacant See of South Dakota.

Although intelligence concerning the long-vacant Catholic see of Sioux Falls and its long-expected bishop may not be of absorbing interest to the general-ity of your readers, nevertheless I am aware that you have a considerable clientele who, for the last seven weeks, have anxiously scanned the Journal's columns for some information as to their future bishop. This watchfulness for the much-desired announcement was heightened by an item appearing in the North-western Chronicle, the official organ of Archbishop Ireland, to the effect that, for certain, within a month from date, the bishop of Sioux Falls would be named. The Chronicle has proved to be a false prophet, for weeks in addition to the months have passed and the bishop is still a myth.

Surmises of various import are made and discussed both by the Catholic laity and the priests as to the cause of this long and unprecedented absence of a bishop in a diocese laboring under such strained conditions. It is the impression of some, and not a few, that months ago the German element, aided and abetted by the late incumbent, petitioned Rome for a German bishop; and meetings and caucuses of German priests, held from time to time, with occasional visits from Bishop Marty, give color to this opinion. It is further- more openly asserted that this move- ment has been vigorously resisted by Archbishop Ireland, and as hotly pushed to the front by Herr Cahensly- tes, for, though they may repudiate the nomenclature, they are strongly tied with the sentiment.

Be this as it may, there are others well acquainted with the checkered history of this diocese who are of the opinion that, owing to its grievously erupted and dislocated membership, neither Dr. O'Gorman nor Father Christie, whose names were forwarded to Rome so far back as last March, will undertake to diagnose and minister medicaments to its multiplied infirmities and wounds. This view seems to have considerable weight, for there are priests still in the diocese who protest against wrongs inflicted during the last regime, and whose complaints are now in the hands of the apostolic delegate and Archbishop Ireland, awaiting ad- judication.

So intense is the interest in the name of the coming bishop in this city that two Catholics cannot meet in serious conversation without discussing the topic. They built much on the official dictum in Archbishop Ireland's North- western Chronicle, but they have been sadly disappointed. Strange to say, the credibility as to the future bishop writing his first name Thomas has been reaffirmed, but the identity is not re- ferred to Thomas O'Gorman, but to Thomas Bonacum, who, it is said, will be transferred from the Lincoln diocese to the diocese of Sioux Falls. I have myself seen a letter conveying this in- telligence to a respectable Catholic priest, the writer of which says: "It is founded on good authority, and Bishop Thomas Bonacum will be in Sioux Falls before Christmas." It ap- pears that other priests of South Dakota have received the same in- telligence.

One thing certain, the expectations of priests and people are now at their utmost tension, and religious sentiment is becoming congested at the many dis- appointments in this headless diocese. Should Bishop Thomas Bonacum be the dark horse, there will be kicks as high as Haman.—Catholic Layman, Sioux Falls, S. D., December 16, in Min- neapolis Journal.

The Agitated Turkey.

The eyes of the intelligent world are turned upon Turkey, and many, un- doubtedly, are provoked because some step is not taken by the powers to cause Turkey's officials to cease acting as ty- rants. While she deserves all the blame she has received, and I believe much more, especially because of her determination to crush every form of religion other than Mohammedanism, even if it is necessary to kill every one who accepts any other form of religion, notwithstanding the fact that that country was the ground on which Christ walked, preached and healed. There are causes for us to blame another form of religion which affiliates with the political managers of those countries where it has any power or dictates to them, which may open the way to a solution of this eastern ques- tion.

It has been known for a great while that this church, which may be called a political church, will not oppose and fight an enemy if there is any possibi- lity of her managing the affairs of na- tions or people so that one of her enemies will fight another, and if pos- sible exterminate each other. By this method, instead of being compelled to have two forms of enemies to fight, she has simply a little wise (?) management to undertake.

This political church has enemies in Boston; the popular lectures, the press and the pulpit have dealt blow after blow against her until she is beginning to feel like Sullivan did down south, that she might lose her "belt." In Turkey there are very prosperous mis- sions, supported by many of the people who are making Rome howl, therefore there may be some management neces- sary for those of the organization who are particularly responsible for this kind of work. Besides this, the Pres- byterians have been doing active work in Turkey, sending out the Bible in the Arabic language and opening colleges, schools and night-schools, and in these the Bible would be taught, and it has caused the father who lives in Rome great solicitude. The archbishop has denounced these schools and the people who attend them, and threatened all kinds of punishment on those who had any sympathy for those who were so bold as to oppose the holy father at Rome. But many of the people looked upon the entreaties (?) of the arch- bishop with indifference, and possibly thought they were not the slaves of the holy father.

Now let the holy father give the situation to those who are employed by him to attend to such cases.

These Protestants of various kinds—heretics—are our enemies, and must be conquered. The Mohammedans are our enemies and should in every possible way be weakened, because we must control Jerusalem if we can. Therefore, if by wise management we can fan the discontent on both sides into a flame, our enemies will be burned by it. That more may be burned, and the work of these heretics be impeded, we must engage the attention of Eng- land to the United States, that she may the more slowly go to the aid of those who are calling for help and protection of their lives. Therefore, if there are rumors of war between this country and England, we must not be surprised. It would then be wise for the corre- spondents of this organization to fill the papers with articles stating that the Armenians are the aggressors. At the same time the holy father must say to the world that he is very much afraid of war (which personally may be true).

Between the deep-laid plans of the Sultan to outwit the humane powers and this politico-religious combine, the powers should show that they under- stand human nature, and that they can "spot" a rascal on sight. ALEPH.

Disfranchised for Selling Votes.

A few days ago the Associated Press dispatches contained the following:

NEWTON, Ill., Dec. 6.—In the circuit court to-day Judge S. Z. Landes sen- tenced seven vote-sellers as follows: William Eskew, W. Johnson, Adam Holm, John D. Woods and Thomas Cline, disfranchisement for ten years and three months' labor on the roads, on a plea of guilty; and George W. D. Woods and Hugh Henry, fifteen years disfranchisement and three months' labor on the roads, on conviction by juror. These are the first successful prosecutions in Jasper county for bribery at elections.

This is one sign of returning health to the body politic. None will dispute the justice of disfranchising the man who sells his vote to the highest bidder. In theory, our legislative assemblies are representative bodies, made up of men who have been elected by the people and who are expected to legislate for the best interests of the people. But men who are elected by purchased votes are elected by money rather than by the people. Such men are elected to defeat the ends of justice by re- presenting, not the people, but the money power which elected them by corrupting the ballot. The purchase or sale of votes must defeat the very end for which the suffrage of the people was established, and he who buys or sells a vote strikes at the foundation of our liberties by seeking to defeat the will of the people. It is a crime for which dis- franchisement is a mild penalty.

Of course all will agree with the sentiment thus expressed, as applied to the state. But what of the same thing as applied to the church? The well- informed will not dispute that similar procedure has sometimes crept into the body ecclesiastical as in the body politic. To sell one's vote for consideration of position is no better in morals than to sell it for money. The conference member who barter his vote for con- sideration of appointment, position or promotion, and he who buys, paying with the church's parsonage as though it were his individual property, is on the same plane as the Illinois criminals who will henceforth for a term of years not be permitted to hold office or to cast a ballot. Such action strikes at the foundation of the church itself, and the perpetrators thereof would suffer but a mild penalty should they be perpetually disfranchised ecclesiastically. We write this, of course, with reference to the guilty ecclesiastics of Kamskatka.—Omaha Christian Advocate.

Patriotism in Atchison Schools.

ATCHISON, Kan., December 13.—There was a public presentation last night at the opera-house of silk flags, one for each class in the public schools, to the board of education, by the G. A. R. Hereafter a daily exercise in the public schools will consist of a salute to the flag by the pupils and a declaration in chorus of a pledge of allegiance to the government. The ceremonies were very impressive, as the occasion inaugurated a systematic movement on the part of the G. A. R. to secure the adoption of this exercise in the public schools throughout the state.

A DISGRACED PRIEST.

Sentenced to a Two-Year Term in the Penitentiary and a Whipping.

MONTEREAL, Can., December 20.—Father Tremblay of Pembroke pleaded guilty before Judge Douglas this morn- ing of an unmentionable crime with a nine-year-old boy here. He said he was drunk at the time. The judge said he was a disgrace to the Catholic church, and intimated that his punish- ment would be a whipping and two years' imprisonment. He will be sen- tenced on Tuesday.

Eject Priests from Their House.

LANSING, Mich., December 17.—A most exciting scene was enacted at the priest's house of St. Mary's Catholic church this afternoon, when about fifteen male members of the parish, who for a long time have been opposed to the manner in which the business and spiritual affairs of the parish have been conducted by Rev. T. F. Slattery, forcibly ejected the pastor and six priests who were assisting in conduct- ing services. The visitors retained possession of the house until served with an ouster by Deputy Sheriff Mc- Kale, who is in possession pending the result of a hearing before Circuit Court Commissioner Fraser to-morrow, all the defendants having been released on their personal recognizance to- night. The anti-Slattery faction have carried their grievances to Bishop Foley and Monsignore Satolli, and, neither having made the investigation demanded, they adopted this method of getting the case into the courts. To-day's affair was precipitated by the action of Father Slattery in granting absolution Sunday to daughters of two of the opposing faction, and then when they appeared by his direction for communion yesterday it was publicly denied them.

The Priest Butler Case.

The complaint against Augustus Bed- ford and Anna Brouters, for conspir- acy against Priest Butler, of Brighton, has been not pressed. It was alleged in one count that the defendants con- spirited to charge Rev. Francis J. But- ler, of Brighton, with being the father of a child, and also in another count that the conspiracy was to make the charge against Rev. James P. Mc- Guigan. The case when instituted created considerable excitement, and was largely reported in the news- papers. The action of the district at- torney is due to the fact that there was not found to be evidence sufficient to convict of the conspiracy.—Boston Daily Standard.

Vegetone Cures Constipation.

OMAHA, Neb., Nov. 20, 1896.—How- ard Medicine Company, Omaha, Neb.—Dear Sirs: This is to certify that I have been troubled for years with in- digestion and constipation, and have taken almost everything I have heard of, but without effect until I used HOWARD'S VEGETONE. I have taken two packages, and can say with enthusiasm that it has cured me. I consider HOWARD'S VEGETONE the best remedy for those diseases I have ever tried, and can recommend it to all similarly afflicted. Very respectfully,
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606 South Sixteenth Street.

'Tis a Shame.

MINNEAPOLIS, December 17.—A few Irish have set out to boom "the new movement" with all their might. Minneapolis and St. Paul each have an organization of these would-be inter- national law-breakers, who are to ex- tend it to Duluth if that city will allow it. The members will not vote for any American opposed to Ireland home rule. Irishmen will drill for war purposes (if permitted), but especially for fighting England some future day. It is a shame and an outrage that the city officials of American cities allow the thing to proceed unmolested.

Omaha Gets a New Train.

The Overland Limited via Union Pa- cific-Northwestern, that formerly took an Omaha sleeper east daily at 5:45 p. m., now leaves an hour earlier, and in its place, at a quarter to six every evening, THE NORTHWESTERN LINE starts a new complete train in OMAHA, arriving at Chicago 8:45 o'clock next morning. A clean, vestibuled, gas-lit, Ak-Sar- Ben flyer, with sleepers (superb), chair cars (free), and dining-car (Northwest- ern). City Ticket Office, 1401 Farnam street. 12-13-3t

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American, The. 1146 D Street, San Diego, Cal. Weekly, \$2.00 a year.
American Citizen. Boston, Mass. Weekly, \$2.00 a year.
American Eagle. Kansas City, Kas Weekly, \$2.00 a year.
American Patriot. 819 Market, San Francisco, Cal. Weekly, \$2.00 a year.
A. P. A. Magazine. Box 2907, San Francisco, Cal. Monthly, \$3.00 a year.
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Boston Daily Standard. Boston, Mass. 6 days a week, \$6.00 a year.
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