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

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MASONRY'S ENEMIES.

The Church of Rome Is Its Implacable Foe.

Col. Edwin A. Sherman, a Thirty-Three Degree Mason, Gives the History of the Roman Church.

(Continued from last week.)

Freemasonry continued to be both operative and speculative, but the lodges were separate and independent of each other until the so-called "revival of Freemasonry" on St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24th, 1717, when the Grand Lodge of England was duly organized and a Grand Master (Anthony Sayre) was elected to preside over the deliberations of the Craft.

A French Huguenot Reformer, born at Rochelle, France, and a thoroughly educated gentleman, who had been initiated in the "Lodge of Antiquity" in St. Paul's churchyard, secured the assistance of several older Masons to aid in the formation of the Grand Lodge of England, and in 1719, two years thereafter, became the third Grand Master and the division of the work of the lodges was made into three degrees to conform to the custom of the operative portion of the Craft.

The Apprentice received the Great Light in both hands and served seven years as such. As a Fellow Craft or Journeyman with his right resting upon it and the other raised as if appealing to heaven as in a court of justice to witness the sincerity of his oath, he traveled or journeyed five years as a faithful workman, at the end of which time he returned and served as a Warden and under-overser for three years more, when he was duly qualified as a Master Mason, confirmed by an obligation of entire consecration to the duties which he owed to God, to his country to the Craft, to his neighbor and to himself and was entitled to wear his apron at an angle of forty-five degrees, being the hypotenuse of a perfect square whose sides were equal.

The second section of the third degree was then added by Desguilliers after the manner of the ancient Egyptian and Eleusinian ceremonies of initiation, with the tragical legend of the fate of the master builder of King Solomon's Temple, fabricated for the purpose of concealing by symbolism, the death of the Grand Master of the Templars and others who became martyrs for conscience, who were the victims of that terrible power which for so many centuries has been the curse of mankind.

From that time forth, speculative or philosophic Freemasonry gradually spread itself over the world. Men of all shades of religious belief, who were liberal and tolerant, could meet their fellows in a fraternity on a common level without violation of their consciences. Freemasonry became the patron of the liberal arts and sciences. It did not meddle with questions of theology nor attempt to divide the honors of God, nor teach that the Creator of the Universe had a mother made pregnant by his breath, reduce himself to an atomic bioplasm and be developed into a human form of the masculine gender in the womb of a woman he had himself created through the common process of nature. Such a stupendous mystery and problem with many others was left to theologians alone outside of the pale of the Fraternity, to rend the veil of nature and investigate and explain for themselves. Such questions will never find complete satisfactory solution among intelligent men on this side of eternity, and with which as with other like matters, Freemasonry does not concern itself in any manner whatever; in a few words, Freemasonry has a faith in God without creed or sect, politics of the principles of a free and enlightened government of the people without party, and puts forward no candidates or platforms and is fraternity without distinctions of nationality or race.

Whilst the Jesuits and the Pope were struggling for the rule of the world and were discussing the right to plunge nations into brutality, a war cry arose from the middle of France, which, repeated by a thousand voices, taught Rome and its black cohorts that God was watching over humanity. The Pleiad of philosophers ranged themselves together and battled in the breach against the civil and religious authority of popes, bishops and priests, those implacable enemies of all advancement. Montesquieu combatted in the cause of liberty and published his famous Persian letters; Rousseau, Diderot and d'Alembert entered the lists and reinforced the battalions of the encyclopedists. Mairpoutis, Clairault, Camus, Le Moutais, etc., determined geometrically the figure of the earth by measuring a degree from the meridian under the equator, and another under the poles, and Galileo, the astronomer, philosopher and martyr was vindicated.

All these great men impressed an irresistible impulse on their contemporaries and forced the third estate and even the nobility to march in their train, in the progressive route to the conquest of a new order of things. The political movement, though less ap-

parent, was not the less real. Secret associations were everywhere organized to labor for the overthrow of kings and priests; the sacred love of liberty, that divine sentiment, the lightnings of which despots had restrained for so many years had re-ignited all hearts. Rome was moved by this revolutionary tendency of the mind, and to arrest it Pope Clement the Twelfth declared war on secret societies and promulgated a terrible bull against the Freemasons, whose lodges were established in England, Scotland, France, Germany, Italy and America.

His holiness prohibited his subjects, under penalty of death, from becoming affiliated with or from assisting at an assembly of Freemasons, or only from rendering aid, succor, council or a retreat, to one of its members. He also enjoined on the faithful, under the penalty of the most severe corporal punishments, to denounce those whom they suspected of being connected with them and to reveal all they could learn, touching this "heretical and seditious association."

These proscriptions, instead of checking the advancement of Freemasonry contributed to give it extraordinary lustre, and Europe was soon covered by a prodigious number of lodges.

The unjust taxation and oppression of the British Colonies in America had aroused a feeling of resentment and resistance, and the Western shores of the Atlantic were ablaze with the light of liberty. Fifty-two out of fifty-six signers of the Declaration of American Independence were free and accepted Masons. Jefferson, Franklin, Livingston and Sherman from the committee of five appointed to draft it, were brethren of the "mystic tie," as well as John Hancock, the President of the Continental Congress which adopted it. "All men are created equal and are endowed with the inalienable right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," was to thunder through the ages, until time should be no more.

They had been taught in the Temples of Freemasonry, the trine principles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. That "the lamb-skin or white-leather apron is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason, more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, more honorable than the Star and Garter or any other order that could be conferred upon him as king, prince, potentate or any other person, except he be a Mason, and which every one ought to wear with equal pleasure to himself and honor to the fraternity."

Says the pope of Rome in his books prescribed for the rule of his subjects in this country: "The Blessed Virgin Mary, conceived without sin, is the patroness (or governess) of the United States;" or in other words, in her name the pope must rule this country.

Says the oath of the priest prescribed by the Council of Trent, (still in force) among other things, "I most firmly admit and embrace apostolical and ecclesiastical Traditions and all other constitutions and observances of the same church."

"I also admit the Sacred Scriptures, according to the sense in which our Holy Mother, the Church, has held and does hold them, to whom it belongs to judge of the true sense and interpretation of the Holy Scriptures; nor will I ever take and interpret them otherwise than according to the unanimous consent of the Fathers."

"I promise true obedience to the bishop of Rome, the successor of St. Peter, prince of the Apostles and vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, and I also condemn, reject and anathematize all things contrary thereto and all heresies whatsoever condemned, rejected and anathematized by the Church. This true Catholic faith, without which none can be saved, and which I now freely profess and truly hold, I promise, vow and SWEAR most constantly to hold, and to profess the same, whole and entire, with God's assistance, to the end of my life; and to take care, to the best of my power, that it shall be held, taught and preached by those over whom I shall have authority or with the care of whom I shall be charged by virtue of my office. Amen!"

The Declaration of Independence and the principles of Freemasonry are diametrically opposed to those of the papal power. With the former in one hand and his sword in the other, the beloved father of his Country, George Washington, also a Freemason, went forth to battle for freedom of his country. Benjamin Franklin, the Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania, is sent as Minister to France, and our French brethren under Lafayette, Rochambeau and De Grasse, volunteer to aid their American brethren in the cause of liberty, American nationality and independence, to return in triumph again to their own country, to light the beacon fires of freedom, which were to continue to blaze forever throughout western Europe, while the Bastille is thrown down and Lafayette sends the key to Washington.

tional government of the Union, which they had sworn to support.

Foiled at last in their schemes in that direction, the hour appointed for his assassination comes, and the Jesuit conspirators with their instruments, murder Abraham Lincoln, the martyr President of these United States, whose death by them had been decreed nearly ten years before. The Jesuit Archbishop, Bourget of Montreal with other Jesuit priests, Lee Pierre and Boucher, are accessories to the crime. More cunning and adroit in their next act of foul assassination in covering their tracks, and James A. Garfield, our brother and President of the United States, is added to their bloody trophies of murder and death, because certain appointments would not be made by him to suit them. Will not our people open their eyes and see?

The constant attacks made upon our free institutions, must be met courageously and boldly by the American people. The balance of political power is now in the hands of the enemies of Freemasonry and free government, while the people are duped, betrayed with false issues, and played off against each other by thieves and scoundrels, while Rome triumphs.

For more than a century, our Grand Lodges have been called upon to lay the corner stones of public edifices and monuments, and their Masonic work in connection with the National and State governments and of societies, and their labors have kept pace with the progress and development of the Republic. Shall they at the dictation and mandates, and influence of the satellites of the pope of Rome now cease? Shall their influence in the halls of legislation where there seems to be so little conscience, and in the timid administration of government, fearing to lose the prestige of power, be so great as to prevent the further public labors of the Craft? Is a question of vital interest to our ancient and honorable Fraternity.

The foundation and cap stones of Bunker Hill Monument and of the Washington Monument at Baltimore, and thousands of public buildings were laid with Masonic ceremonies, and not a murmur of discontent, or protest was ever raised by any person or organization on the soil of America.

The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, laid the foundation stone of that proudest shaft on earth, in honor of the Father of his Country, George Washington, who as President of these United States, and the Master of his Lodge, acting as Grand Master for the Capital of the Republic in the City to be honored by his name forever. When the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia assembled to place the capstone on the top of that splendid shaft, then Rome howled through its organs and protested against it, but in vain. More than a third of a century before, the pope had sent a block of stone, marked and gilded with the papal coat of arms, to be placed in a conspicuous place in that monument, but a few true Freemasons and true American citizens determined that it should not pollute or mar the beauty of that magnificent structure, broke it in pieces at its base, and cast the fragments into the Potomac river. All honor to them for their fidelity to the Craft, to their country and to the memory of Washington.

The Pope may plant his fortress in the shape of a great university in that city, from which to intimidate and intrigue through the channels of the government, and endeavor to awe the nation; but that shaft, pointing to heaven, will stand like the finger of a watchful and avenging God, as if saying "beware that ye disturb not our harm my chosen people."

Foreign Roman Catholic bishops besides those born in this country, subjects of the Pope, have their military organizations as guards, armed and equipped with papal uniforms, belts, cartridge boxes, muskets and bayonets, while the American flag is debased to do honor to a foreign religious despot and his minions, the sworn enemy of our country and its free institutions. The National Guard fully uniformed and equipped, marching in companies, battalions, and regiments, with the flag of our country discolored and disgraced, under the orders of Roman Catholic bishops and foreigners surrounded by the cohorts, performs escort duty at the laying of corner stones of convents, monasteries, cathedrals and churches, in violation of the spirit and letter of our constitution and laws, by bishops who in their own names, hold the title deeds to property of a foreign institution in our cities, while mayors and other officials accept invitations and are present as invited guests, to their shame and that of the people, as the enemy constructs its fortifications in their midst, to destroy their liberties, plunge the Republic into irretrievable ruin, while the responsible heads of our National, State and municipal governments, dreading to incur the enmity of this terrible power, and fearing that to do their sworn and solemn duty, will entail the loss of prestige, political influence and strength in future elections.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Our free institutions and our public schools, where we have placed the liberal arts and sciences, demand our watchful care and protection. Hitherto in our own country, Freemasonry has remained silent and conservative when attacked by its enemies. Conscious of its strength, it has received blows, but returned none; but as in other countries, it will have to arouse itself, or ere long its own freedom of action will be restrained and it will fall to decay through its own mistaken confidence in itself, its supineness and carelessness.

Institutions must be defended against the assaults of the enemy, and we must stay to them, hands off from our free public schools, for if it need

be, we will fence them in with bayonets and intrench them within walls of fire.

On December 8th, 1864, Pope Pius IX, issued his papal Syllabus of Errors, which was approved by the Ecumenical Council on July 18th, 1870, and which is rigidly enforced wherever that hierarchy has any power.

Section IV is against Freemasonry and other secret societies and we are living under a declared sentence of death.

Section VI (45) declares that it is an error, that the entire direction of public schools, in which the youth of Christian States are educated, may and must appertain to the civil power and belong to it, so far, that no other authority whatsoever, shall be recognized as having any right to interfere in the discipline of the schools, the arrangement of the studies the taking of degrees or the choice and approval of the teachers.

Section V. (24). It is an error that the Church has not the power of availing herself of force or any direct or indirect temporal power.

Section VI. (55). It is an error that the Church ought to be separate from the state and the state from the church.

In the Roman Catholic Bishops' oath is the following:

"The rules of the Holy Fathers, the Apostolic decrees, ordinances or dispensations, reservations, provisions and mandates, I will observe with all my might and cause to be observed by others. Heretics, schismatics, and rebels to our said Lord or to his foresaid successors, I will to my utmost power, persecute and wage war with."

A state of openly declared war exists, not only against Freemasonry, but against every liberal government on the face of the earth. Self defense and the preservation of the lives and property of Masons in Italy, France and nearly every Spanish American country have compelled our brethren to combine with each other in the support and defense of those powers which would shelter them under their protection. Under Mazzini, Cavour, Victor Emmanuel and that unconquerable hero, Garibaldi, who were all Masons and all Grand Masters, gave liberty to the people, unity to Italy, with Rome for its capital and the sword of temporal power was wrenched from the grasp of the pope, while Freemasonry flourishes in the Capital of the Caesars, the Bible is an open book to the people, guarded by the constitutional King, Humbert, the son of Victor Emmanuel, and himself a Freemason and honorary Grand Master.

Mexico, which for nearly four hundred years has been crushed deep into the earth and so long buried in ignorance, superstition and mental slavery, its people, plundered, betrayed and kept in gross darkness, is arising from its awful depths to which it has been sunk by that terrible power.

Every convent has been abolished, free public schools are held in its once monasteries, civil marriages are provided for by law, and the altar fires of Freemasonry are glowing like electric lights from the Halls of the Montezuma to the Gulf and the Pacific Ocean, while its President Diaz is a Freemason and one of the highest officers of the Fraternity in that Republic, the honorable successor of the faithful Brother and President Benito Juarez.

In all the Republics of Spanish America, with the exception of Bolivia, Freemasonry is firmly established, new altars are continually being erected and the light is radiating and the darkness of the night of ignorance and superstition is disappearing like the mists of the morning before the rising sun.

Too long has our American Freemasonry been idly reposing under the shade of the tree of liberty, which our Masonic fathers planted and watered with tears of sorrow and their blood. While we have slept, the vermin and the serpents have crept in among us, soiled our couches and covering with a pest a thousand times worse than the live and other plagues of Egypt and which, ere long, if we do not arouse ourselves, it will take a greater than the Red Sea, to cleanse and wash out.

We are not only to hold to our obligations as Masons, to maintain and support the free government and institutions under which we live, but also to strictly watch and guard against the plots and conspiracies of that power whose declaration of war is perpetual and whose efforts are being constantly made to destroy it.

In the year 1778, during our American Revolution for Independence, Frederic the Great of Prussia, the friend of Washington, whom he admired as a patriot and Freemason, and to whom he sent the present of a sword, and for whom Fredericksburg, Virginia, was named, found trouble in his own dominions which he promptly suppressed.

The superior of the Dominican Convent at Aix-la-Chapelle, Father Greinmum and a Capuchin Monk, Father Schiff, were trying to excite the lower classes against the Lodge of Masons at that place, which had been re-constituted by the Mother Lodge at Wetzlar. When Frederic heard of this, he wrote the following letter, dated February 7th, 1778, to the instigators: "Most Reverend Fathers: Various reports confirmed through the papers, have brought to my knowledge, with how much zeal you are endeavoring to sharpen the sword of fanaticism, against quiet virtuous people called Freemasons. As a former dignitary of this honorable body, I am compelled, as much as it is in my power, to repel this dishonoring slander, and remove the dark veil, that causes the temple we have erected to all virtues, to appeal to your vision as a gathering point for all virtues. Why, my most reverend Fathers, will you bring back upon us, those centuries of ignorance and barbarism, that have so long been the degradation of human reason? Those times of fanaticism upon which the eye of understanding cannot look back

but with a shudder? Those times, in which hypocrisy, seated on the throne of despotism, with superstition on one side and humility on the other, tried to put the world in chains and commanded a regardless burning of all those who were able to read?"

"You are not only applying the nickname of Master of Witchcraft to the Freemasons, but you accuse them to be thieves, profligates, forerunners of anti-Christ, and admonish a whole nation to annihilate such a cursed generation."

"Thieves, my most revered Fathers, do not act as we do, and make it their duty to assist the poor and the orphans. On the contrary, thieves are those who rob them sometimes of their inheritance, and fatten on their prey, in the lay of idleness and hypocrisy. Thieves cheat, Freemasons enlighten humanity."

"A Freemason, returning from his lodge, where he has only listened to instructions benefitted to his fellow-beings, will be a better husband in his home. Fore-runners of Anti-Christ would in all probability direct their efforts towards an extinction of Divine law. But it is impossible for Freemasons to sin against it without demolishing their own structure. And those be a cursed generation, who try to find their glory in the indefatigable efforts to spread those virtues which constitute the honest man."

"FREDERIC."

The satellite of the Roman hierarchy, who several years ago in San Francisco delivered the oration in honor of the 25th anniversary of the reign of Pope Pius the Ninth, the openly declared enemy of our public schools, by speeches and pamphlets in your own midst, was appointed as the chief assistant of the Attorney General, a cabinet officer of the United States Government, himself a subject of the pope, whose term has but recently expired.

The Jesuit volunteer, who with others left Ireland to fight for the Pope of Rome against the people of Italy, and was created a Knight Chevalier of the Order of St. Michael and the honorary aide-de-camp of Pope Pius the Ninth, is now a high commissioned United States Army officer, the son-in-law of the Chief Counsellor of the President and whose children have received the mark of the beast upon their foreheads.

Subjects of the Pope, with scarcely a year of citizenship, whose oaths of naturalization with mental reservation in favor of their spiritual and temporal Lord and Master, the Pope, are sent to represent the American people to countries that have for years been struggling to free themselves from the rule of the papacy and its minions. We hang our heads in shame, indignation and sorrow, at this besmirching of our national pride and honor, and mourn over our country's disgrace.

A subject of the Pope once sat in the seat of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which he filled for years, and one decision of his against humanity and the rights of men, set the flames of civil war blazing to the skies, while an ocean of blood and misery inundated the fairest portion of America.

Says the Jesuit Manual of Instructions, Chap. XVIII, Section 3. "We must inculcate this doctrine with kings and princes, that the Catholic faith cannot subsist in the present state without politics; but that in this, it is necessary to proceed with much certainty. Of this mode, we must share the affection of the great, and be admitted to the most secret counsels."

Section 8:

"But if we do not hope that we can obtain this, supposing that it is necessary that troubles shall come in this world, we must be careful to change our politics, conforming to the times, and excite the princes, friends of ours, to mutually make terrible wars, that everywhere, the mediation of the society will be implored; that we may be employed in the public reconciliation, for it will be the cause of the common good; and we shall be recompensed by the principal ecclesiastical dignities, and the greater benefices."

"Sec. 9. In fine, that the society afterwards, can yet count upon the favor and authority of princes, procuring that those who do not love us shall fear us."

Says General Foy of France, "The Jesuit is a sword whose hilt is in Rome and its blade everywhere."

How easy for such false representatives of this government, to compromise and entangle this nation in useless and foreign wars through their scheming and intrigues, to advance the cause of the enemy of our country and Freemasonry, under the delusive pretext of defending our national honor and American rights. What a sight for an American ship of war going into battle, with the American flag at the mast head, not beneath the ensign of liberty but under a bishop's mitre or the tiara and cross keys of the Pope of Rome.

Our Ship of State seems to be rapidly drifting towards the treacherous maelstrom in the Papal seas and it will be necessary ere long for the Craft to launch the Ark again as in the old Ark Mariners Degree, to tow her into safer water and see that she is safely anchored in a secure harbor and thoroughly fumigated, overhauled, refitted and manned with a more loyal and faithful crew.

and the bond of brotherhood with the mutual satisfaction of association and fellowship, with the interest of promoting each other's welfare. Relying upon the strong hand and arm of the civil government, for security and protection of person, property and rights. In England, the sovereign is the daughter and the mother of Freemasons, and the heir apparent to the throne is a 33d and the Grand Master of England, chosen as such upon the apostacy of the last Grand Master, the Marquis of Ripon, who by reason of his high Masonic position, was sent as a peace-maker to these United States, to propose arbitration concerning the Alabama claims, in which he was successful, returns to England, and for unaccountable reasons renounces his Masonry, joins the Roman Catholic Church and becomes the subject of the Pope.

Our Scottish Freemasonry not only contemplates a state of peace, in the enjoyment of all its blessings, but the sword is always alight with the trowel to defend and maintain it. We not only build temples and tabernacles among nations of the earth, upon the same foundation stones, but also in the hearts of men. The history of the erection and destruction of the temple of Solomon, not only tells us how to build, but also, that after it is built, how it must be defended against those enemies who have sworn to destroy it. The invasion of Jerusalem, the destruction of the temple and city, the overthrow of the nation and driving the people out of their own country in chains into captivity; the return from bondage to freedom and rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple, with the further history of that nation of the Israelites, now scattered over the earth, have sharper lessons for us to learn, to save our own temple of civil and religious liberty; and as Freemasons, good citizens, and lovers of mankind to be constantly on the alert, with voice and vote, as well as sword and trowel, in the defense of our country and its liberties against those who have declared war against them and us and constantly engaged in their efforts to destroy them and us together in one common ruin. Scottish Freemasonry accepts the gage of battle.

Each for himself, and in his own way like the bee, working independently and arduous for his own defense, flying from flower to flower, gathers the honey dew of heaven and when laden, returns bearing the fruits of its industry it has gathered, and stores it with that of his fellows in the common hive. Then "behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell in unity," animated with a common desire and purpose, to defend and preserve the priceless jewel of liberty and independence, bequeathed us by our Masonic fathers.

As in the beginning the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters and God said "let there be light, and there was light," so let the spirit of true Freemasonry move like the magnet, attracting the responsive steel to itself, prepare the fraternity for the conflict between light and darkness, freedom and slavery, education and ignorance, reason and superstition, loyalty to God and Country, against Satan and treason.

I cannot close without repeating that grand poem by our poetess of our beloved Golden State of California, entitled

THE JESUIT.

(Mrs. Eliza A. Pittsinger.)

In Rome a tyrant, and in Spain a thing That wears a mask and bears a poisonous sting;
In India a stranger, in France a knave,
In Ireland a bigot and a slave;
In our republic a designing tool
And traitor warring with the public school—
And whether in Greece, Hindostan or Spain,
His record bears the progeny of Cain.

In the black arts a chieftain and a king,
Moving in rapture with a sudden spring;
And in the game of infamy and sin,
He steals a march long ere his foes begin.

His dupes he marks, and with a restless greed,
Wherein his conscience glorifies the deed,
No means are left untried by which to take
The last lone Peter's pence, for Jesus' sake.

In a most marvelous and crafty way,
He flatters, fawns, and pounces on his prey;
If at his hands a kindly deed is done,
O, then beware of some dark plot begun!
The robes of light he dons and serves his creed
In garments fished, and suited to his need!

He hid from light in some dark, musty aisle,
He learns to feign, to meddle and beguile;
And in his skill avoids no toll nor care,
As link on link he weaves his wily snare,
Spins his dark web, and most adroitly flies
On poor confiding bats, and helpless plies,
The vilest of all arts and blackest of all lies.

His breath is like some dire and dread simoon,
Forever blasting with a curse and doom;
Whatever he touches, droops beneath the spell
Of some dark, haunting shade, cruel and fell—
Whom'er he journeys, whosoever toils,
There virtue weeps and innocence recoils,
And the fair cup of life doth overflow
With desolation, infamy and woe.

And thus he stands a stigma and a blot,
With deeds confined to no especial spot—
Where carnage, superstition, death and crime,
Despoil an acre or devastate a clime,
There hat'ed he wanders, and on every shore
Placed his leprous hand, and left a plague spot and a sore.