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JOHN C. THOMPSON, Editor.
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Changing horses in the middle of the stream may be an amusing past-time but it is business.

Col. Edwin A. Sherman, author of "Engineer Corps of Hell" lives in Oakland, Cal. Write him for terms.

We do not think the influence of the Roman Catholic church in the affairs of state is as potent as it was before war was declared against Spain.

The Roman Catholics say to the law makers: "If you pass that law we will vote solidly against you." What is that but intimidation? And intimidation to secure either the passage or the defeat of a measure is unlawful.

Frank C. Pettifer, who is known to all the old-time printers in Omaha, was visiting his friends in the various offices in this city Thursday. Pet is now editing the Neponset News, one of the best papers in Illinois, and is prospering even beyond his expectations.

In these times when party loyalty is lauded as a virtue, where is Wm. I. Kierstead to come in? It will be remembered that he was elected to his present office on the democratic ticket, but he is working for a second term at the hands of the Republican party, and Rosewater is his chief support.

If the government agents will search the residences of Gibbons, Corrigan, Ireland, Martinelli, Fitzgerald and other Roman Catholic dignitaries they may find enough incriminating documents, reports, plans and plans to hang a thousand men. Rome and Romanism are the deadly enemies of this republic.

Dr. Oscar Hopper of London, Ont., is in the city with a view to locating. He is at present the guest of Mr. F. W. Corliss, his uncle. Dr. Hopper would be a valuable addition to the medical fraternity of this city, as he graduated with the highest possible honors from the leading medical college of London. We shall be pleased to welcome him as a citizen of Omaha.

Up to the hour of going to press the men arrested and accused of being Spanish spies, so far as has come to our notice since the last issue of THE AMERICAN, are, Max de Schemangk at New York; Romigno Sapertero Jimnez at Key West; Stanley Bryan at Marion, N. C.; Mariano Soto, W. H. Strocks and H. E. McDevitt at Washington, D. C., and Frank Miller of Moose Jaw, N. W. T., Canada, at Tampa, Fla.

The arrest of W. F. Bachel and T. K. Sudborough on charges of embezzlement which was reported today was not a surprise to men who are acquainted with the history of these gentlemen for several years. They have been deep in politics, and have spent money like water and always on the side of Edward Rosewater. Other corporations who have confidential men who are in politics and on the side of the king of corruptionists should not delay investigating their accounts. A man who has anything to do with Rosewater in politics can expect to go wrong, for that Romanized individual has no use for a man who is not his abject slave and obedient tool. It takes lots of money to run Rosey's political machine.

Rosewater has selected T. W. Blackburn as his candidate for county attorney. The lesson which the Republican party of Omaha has learned during the past year ought to be remembered. Mr. Blackburn has been one of the factors in sustaining a man as mayor who has been found guilty in the highest court of the state of an offense which in a proper proceeding would send him to the penitentiary. The only public office which Mr. Blackburn held was not administered in such a way as to commend him to the people as a trustworthy man—we refer to his record as a member of the board of education. None but clean men and methods should be tolerated from this time forward.

IT IS THE WOLF'S BARK.

The Irish Roman Catholics have just served notice on President McKinley and on the members of Congress that they must not enter into an alliance with Great Britain.

Great are the Roman Irish! Now let the American people serve notice on the pack of disloyal and traitorous Irish who boast of being Roman Catholics before they are citizens of this republic that they must not attempt to intimidate public officials when they are honestly attempting to do their duty.

This Roman Catholic interference in the affairs of state of this republic under the cloak of Irish American citizenship should be unmasked. It should be known that out of the hundreds of thousands here not one Protestant Irishman will join the dishonorable gang that jumps when the priests pull the strings.

The people of this republic never hear a murmur or a protest from any Irishman except he is the tool and puppet of the Church of Rome. They would not hear from the head-tellers, either, except for the positive command of their spiritual masters, who, to subvert their ends, have their instruments meet and pass resolutions which they have dictated to some lay Jesuit. If the American people ever had any respect for an Irish Roman Catholic such a stand as that taken by the Roman Irish of Chicago would turn it into contempt.

The priest owned race is always first to be heard from in opposition to anything desired by a Protestant country; likewise it is the last to be heard from when this nation is opposed to a Roman Catholic country. Are the American people blind that they will not see this?

The assertion of John F. Finery, which in all probability was inspired by Archbishop Fehan, that the Irish Roman Catholics would fight an alliance between America and Britain on the platform and at the polls might have been as forcible if it had been rendered "WE WILL FIGHT FROM THE PLATFORM AND AT THE POLLS, EVERY MEMBER OF CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT IF THEY DARE TO DO ANYTHING THAT WILL BRING VICTORY TO AMERICAN ARMS IN THIS WAR WITH SPAIN AFTER THE POPE HAS BLESSED THE SPANISH ARMIES." But they did not say it that way. Not, probably, because they did not mean it, but because the American people would readily see that Romanism here as elsewhere, favored the cause of Roman Catholic Spain.

No man can be a true Roman Catholic and a true American citizen at the same time, as each demands absolute primary or first allegiance.

This cannot be successfully denied.

The Declaration of Independence of the United States says all men are created equal, but the Canon Law of the Roman Catholic church under which those Irish Roman Catholics of Chicago were reared says priests are fathers and masters even of princes. These are the cardinal principles of two conflicting forms of government are too much at variance to ever be reconciled. One or the other must fall. Either the doctrine contained in the Declaration of Independence must stand and continue to be an incentive to humanity everywhere in all future ages, or that contained in the Canon Law of the Roman Catholic church must prevail and eventually drive men back into the chains of the mental bondage that fettered the intellect of mankind during the Dark Ages; when every evening sky was reddened with the glare of a thousand funeral pyres; when every zephyr bore upon its soft, cool wings the moans, and cries and groans of the victims of Rome's hellish inquisition; when babes were crushed and maimed because their parents dared to think, to read, dared believe that God was greater than the pope; when women, disemboweled, saw the papal, priestly murderers mutilate and slay their unborn babes; when hell itself blushed for its innocence, when brought in contrast with the Scarlet Beast of Rome.

And the day is at hand when Americans must choose which of those doctrines shall prevail in this country. Their good common sense should tell them that popery—Irish Romanism—is a menace to the nation because it is controlled and used to further the ambitious designs of the pope of Rome to

possess this country, let the cost and the risk be what they may.

AN INCRIMINATING DOCUMENT.

Archbishop McCloskey of New York in 1870 held a meeting of his bishops at Rochester, New York, where a committee of his council, reinforced by a committee of lawyers from the laity, drafted an address to Pius IX, then pope, which was read Dec. 4, 1870 in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, and unanimously adopted. That address says:

"Most Holy Father: The Catholic clergy of the diocese of New York, both secular and regular, TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAITHFUL PEOPLE, approach the foot of your apostolic throne and offer to your holiness, in the present trying time, THIS AVOWAL OF THEIR HOMAGE AND OBEDIENCE TO THE SEE OF PETER, of their filial affection and spiritual allegiance and devotion to your august person, so inexpressibly dear to them, and of their sympathy with you in the afflictions and outrages to which you and, in you, the Catholic church, as the holy spouse of our Lord Jesus Christ, are at present subjected, by faithless and unworthy members of that church, whose supreme pastor you are.

With the indignation of honest men, who respect no less the obligation of laws and treaties than the rights of nations and legitimate rulers; with the just and religious abhorrence of Christians who revere the sacred sovereignty of the Holy See over its temporal domain, we repudiate and condemn the lawless injustice which has invaded your legitimate dominion as a sovereign prince.

We also denounce the sacrilegious violence which has assaulted and brought under captivity the sacred person of your Holiness, the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, and as such entitled by Divine right to complete liberty in the exercise of your sublime office, AND BY THE MOST PERFECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CIVIL PRINCEDOM, a necessary safeguard and bulwark of that liberty. Moreover, as citizens of this Republic, the United States of America, whose constitution and laws recognize the liberty which the church has received as an inalienable right from Almighty God, we protest against the violation of religious freedom and the rights of conscience which has been perpetrated in the desecrated name of liberty.

We also protest against the invasion of the liberty of the church, in the person of its head, both as an outrage against the sacred prerogative of your holiness as Supreme Pontiff, AND AS THE VIOLATION OF A RIGHT WHICH WE, AS CATHOLICS, POSSESS OF BEING GOVERNED BY A CHIEF COMPLETELY EXEMPTED FROM AND INDEPENDENT OF ALL CIVIL AUTHORITY, FOR IN NO OTHER CONDITION COULD OUR INTERCOURSE WITH HIM BE FREE AND UNRESTRICTED.

In the full sincerity of our loyal and Catholic hearts WE PROMISE TO CONTINUE FAITHFUL TO YOUR HOLINESS AND TO THE APOSTOLIC SEE AT ALL TIMES; but especially in periods when distress and trouble LIKE THE PRESENT oppress the church. We ask your Holiness to accept this assurance that we will not cease from making every effort in our power to aid and assist you in the maintenance of your just rights and the fulfillment of your arduous duties; and that we will continually pray to God with a confidence greatly strengthened by the example which your Holiness has never failed to set before us, that he will deign to give you and the See of Peter another triumph more signal and illustrious than any of the past victories of the church over the gates of hell and the powers of darkness. Finally, we humbly implore the prayers of your Holiness for our steadfastness in the faith, and our eternal salvation, and your Apostolic benediction upon the Diocese of New York, and upon each and every one of us, your devoted children."

We have copied the above at this time because of the spurge of the Irish Romanists in Chicago and because of Davitt's claim that the Roman Irish Catholics were in favor of the United States as against Roman Catholic Spain, and because nothing will more truly demonstrate the true inwardness of Romanism in this country.

In the first paragraph they make an "avowal of their homage and obedience to the See of Peter" which, in paragraph three, they declare entitled, "by the most perfect of human rights to civil principedom." In the fourth paragraph they "protest against the invasion of the liberty of the church in the person of its head" * * "as the violation of a RIGHT which we, AS CATHOLICS, POSSESS OF BEING GOVERNED BY A CHIEF EXEMPTED FROM AND INDEPENDENT OF ALL CIVIL AUTHORITY."

And what reason do they give on which to base their protest? Because "IN NO OTHER CONDITION COULD OUR INTERCOURSE WITH HIM BE FREE AND UNRESTRICTED." Strange! They cannot have intercourse with him except he is a temporal prince! But what do they promise him in the next paragraph? That they will "continue faithful to" his "holiness and to the Apostolic See at ALL TIMES; but especially in periods when distress and trouble LIKE THE PRESENT distress the church." They ask him to "accept this assurance that" they "will not cease from MAKING EVERY EFFORT IN" their "POWER TO AID AND ASSIST" HIM "IN THE MAINTENANCE OF" HIS "JUST RIGHTS."

Now what are those "just rights?" The right to temporal power and the right, as a temporal prince, to exact of those acknowledging him as their sovereign, the most perfect obedience, and the right to settle all disputes between nations. And what do the Roman Catholics claim in that address? That they, AS CATHOLICS, not as American citizens, but as Catholics, have the right to be "governed by a chief exempted from and independent of all civil authority." Webster's Unabridged Dictionary says governed means to have the actions and conduct controlled or directed by established laws or by arbitrary will; yet these Roman Catholics who vote here and claim the protection of the American flag demand the right to be governed, controlled, directed, by a foreign temporal chief or prince in the person of the pope. There is but one word that describes such people and that is the word traitor. The Protestant Englishman, the Protestant German and the Protestant Scandinavian does not as a Protestant claim to possess the right to be governed by a temporal prince outside of this country who is not subject to but is independent of all civil authority. If they do not, why should they tolerate it in the Romanists? Rome has already too long exacted privileges and claimed rights which men of other religions would spurn with contempt if offered them and denied to their neighbors. For that reason there should be no temporizing when dealing with Romanists. Either they are loyal or they are disloyal, and by the quotation above loyal Americans will have no trouble in placing them in the proper category.

We will only add a quotation from a dispatch and then call your attention to a declaration in that address. The quotation is as follows:

The pope has informed the queen regent that he "would not fail to use his influence wherever the occasion offers, in order that the legitimate wishes of the Spanish government may be realized and the prestige of the noble Catholic nation be unimpaired." This dispatch coupled with the declaration of those Roman Catholics that they would not cease from making every effort to aid and assist him in maintaining his just rights, in connection with the Roman Irish declaration against an alliance between two Protestant nations should be sufficient to convince the most skeptical American citizen that this country cannot afford to accept as sincere the protestations of loyalty from Roman Catholics. They should receive a credit mark for loyalty only when they return bearing the scars of battle.

It will not cost the American people anything to be on guard against Roman Catholic treachery. It will be a great deal better to be on the look-out and be disappointed because nothing happened than to be unguarded and overwhelmed with surprises.

Watch all Romanists.

Give the government a little time It is doing very well.

Police Think They Have a Spy.

A dispatch from New York to last Sunday's Chicago Tribune says: Max de Schemangk, who, after being arrested last night on suspicion of being a deserter from the United States army was caught trying to dispose of certain papers, is being held at Governor's Island until it can be ascertained whether the man is a spy. De Schemangk had opened a so-called recruiting office in Second avenue. The authorities had their attention called to him by men who said he had taken money under false pretenses. He

charged the men who proposed to enlist for his services.

The original charge against him was obtaining money under false pretenses. When he was arrested, S. Toskoski of Battery E, Fifth Artillery, Fort Hamilton, thought he recognized the man as a private who had deserted from the First Artillery several years ago.

De Schemangk was taken to the Governor's Island landing. After the government ferryboat Hancock had started for the island the prisoner was seen to take a bundle of papers from an inside pocket. He was about to throw them overboard, when they were snatched away from him.

The papers were written in German. They are now in possession of the commanding officer, and are being translated. What the papers contain is being kept a secret, but the officers now suspect the man of being a spy.

The Pope Not a Party.

In its issue of April 20th the Northwestern Christian Advocate published the following article under the above heading:

At the risk of apparent repetition, we heartily re-emphasize the statement that no papal dignitary is a recognized party to or a valid element in the present conflict between the United States and Spain. It is again and again intimated that the pope "greatly wished to reach the ear of President McKinley." It is repeated that "the holy father" at first proposed to use his ablegate now in this country as an intermediary, but was later informed that that said ablegate "has no political standing in Washington." The next step was to secure some American-born dignitary who "personally knows the president and all his cabinet." Therefore Archbishop Ireland was chosen, about whom the papers have had much to say, within the week past. We are told that Archbishop Ireland "received his certificates" of agency, which he "duly presented to the state department and on that basis the discussion has gone forward."

While readers soon learn to discount the average newspaper yarn, it yet is quite possible for the expert reader to discover a consistent trend which in time amounts to safe practical information. The mention of these papal intermeddlings are so persistent and so general in all the papers that no one can doubt that papal Rome, New York and Minnesota are seeking to gain recognition as elements in the current diplomatics of the day. The President and his advisers may be easily embarrassed. It is not a trifle to seem to treat great cavalierly, or with the slightest trace of curtness. Rome has never been suspected of modesty. That camel's nose thrusts itself industriously and persistently against all the partitions that should separate them from those in secular authority. Due respect should be paid to the fact that the world has millions of these religionists but no one should for a moment forget that the leaders of these millions always have misused their secular power.

They who are not Romanists will not for one moment consent that that church shall ever become even constructively a considerable element in our public affairs. It has never earned that right in the world. The very troubles which now promise war between the republic and Spain are Romanist fruits. One reason why Spain dare not yield Cuba is her just fear that a Spanish Carlist faction will punish Spain by revolt for yielding up Cuba. That faction is the pledged friend of reaction. It has, within two or three decades, shown tenderness to the proposal to reimpose the Inquisition upon Spain. The church trained Spaniards in the cruelty against which Cuba now revolts. That church has so accustomed Cubans to obedience to unjust authority that their present resistance is not as effective as it might be. The entire conflict is a legitimate product of Romanism, and it now is the extreme of effrontery for that church to propose to become in any sense a referee or arbiter as between our republic and Roman secular oppressors.

We are not deceived or touched one whit by the statement that "the pope is really sick from anxiety and solicitude lest war should break out." His holiness' solicitude would have been very much in order about twenty-five years ago when he was stronger and better able to undergo such strains. He ought then to have taken Spain in

hand. However, that was not in his programme. The real trouble for Rome in this time of trial is that super-Roman Spain is about to be humbled, the alleged divine right of kings is in danger of one more stunning blow, and Spain herself may be about to give Europe one more of those hated republics. That is the near future which troubles "the holy father." He is beset by Spanish demands for support and he sees clearly that defeat for Spain means more than temporary loss of sovereignty in that ruthless land. While we deprecate all papal attempt to "reach the ear of our President," and to embarrass our sturdy plans with respect to Spain and Cuba, we cannot but feel sorry for the pope and his reactionist advisers. However, those gentlemen themselves have made many people "feel sorry." It is their turn now.

We sincerely hope that not one word or act at Washington will for a moment give room for suspicion that papal politics, or any constructive hint of Roman diplomacy is acquiring any standing whatever at the capitol. Nothing can offend our people more than the least image of such a suspicion. The people will pardon a mistake in secular policy but their confidence in magistrates will have short shrift if papal agents multiply in Washington. The boundaries between legitimate moral influence and undue political meddling are exceedingly thin. Romanism as such has no standing in the republic, and our officials will do well if that is clearly understood. Rome has ruled the world, and that rule swiftly degenerated into misrule and arrogant tyranny. We should deprecate any message from the Archbishop of Canterbury, except under clear circumstances wherein the motive is unmistakable. Under certain circumstances that dignitary would be told to mind his own business. The same suggestion is in order with respect to conceivable other ecclesiastical authorities.

England Plated.

"In 1850, a great commotion was produced in England by the act of Pius IX dividing the country into one metropolitan and twelve episcopal sees. . . The new bishops were enthroned with much pomp and ceremony. The whole country was in a blaze of excitement at what was considered an arrogant aggression of the pope of Rome." It is full well that different societies are formed to oppose the society which in every possible way is trying to run the earth. If it were truly a christian society it would be different, but it is a semi-pagan society and the idolatry is pronounced. Now let all people fight this "close combination," and thereby benefit the dupes who are in the machine. None are so blind as those who will not see. Let every one fight to keep people from becoming the slaves of this despotic power, and let every one who can show them their blindness, in regard to their position. If they can be shown that their religion is veritable rot, they may drop the combination on that account. They not only want England but they want the earth and will have it if they have the courage and power. E.

New Leader.

It is about time the Roman Catholic church in the United States was looking for another leader. The people at Rome is too much like the Bramin's Brahms, he is too far in the heavens to have communication with men. And the pope seems to be too much interested in the affairs of state, in regard to Spain, to be able to do much for the spiritual necessities of the Roman Catholic church in this country. We would therefore suggest that Ireland, or one of the other leaders here be the general manager and director till they can make the necessary arrangements in regard to polity and doctrines of the body. Of course they would not have the doctrine of the infallibility of the pope in it. Beside that, there are a great many Roman Catholics who have no use for the pope and the priest as a politician and they would be glad to see a change of this kind. It could be called the American Catholic church. Of course it would be a good idea to change the plan in regard to celibacy, so that there would be no convents, at least such as exist at the present time. The pope would not suggest this to the clergy here, therefore they should suggest it to him. HAYA.