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A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

MAILED FOR AMERICAN. We hold that all men are Americans who oppose slavery in the United States without a special treaty.

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CHICAGO'S FEARLESS DAILY.

The Tribune Handles Several Questions Without Gloves.

The peace commission has been made up. It is composed of Secretary Day, Senators Davis and Frye, Whitelaw Reid, and Justice White. Mr. Reid is believed to be in favor of the retention of the Philippines. The two senators are national expansionists. As a majority of the commissioners may be relied on, but Justice White cannot be counted in that majority. His selection cannot be looked on other wise than as a blunder.

The President wished to put on the commission a Democrat and a Roman Catholic. Justice White is both. But for that the President would not have turned his eyes on him. The President should not have been unmindful of the fact, however, that some Democrats are broad-minded and national expansionists. Others are violently opposed to the acquisition of any more territory. While most of the American Roman Catholics have no leanings towards Spain, some of them are Spanish sympathizers on religious grounds, and now that Spain has been beaten will be inclined to help that country retain the Philippines. There is reason to be lieve that Justice White, like Senator White of California, who is also a Democrat and a Roman Catholic, belongs to that class.

It is a grave mistake to thrust a discordant element into the commission. Even though a majority of the members are national expansionists, the presence of one man, who is violently opposed to that policy, will be apt to cause serious mischief. The commission will be inharmonious and proceedings be delayed indefinitely. What is wanted is a commission of stalwart, progressive Americans, not one of whom has the taint of mugwumpery. It is no more necessary that one of them should be a Roman Catholic than that there should be a Methodist, a Baptist, or a Lutheran on the commission. A good man should not be rejected because he is a Roman Catholic, nor should a bad man be chosen because he is one.

Why should there be an anti-expansion Democrat or a mugwump on the commission? All the members, whatever their politics, should be believers in territorial expansion. American interests, civilization, and humanity demand that Spain should not be allowed longer to tyrannize over other people either in Cuba or in the Philippines. The commissioners should be men who will be true under all circumstances to American interests and the cause of civilization. The cost of the war has to be borne by Spain or the United States. No other nation will assume it. The commissioners ought to be men who will insist that Spain shall pay the bill, and that, having no money, that country shall pay with islands. They are a legal tender. Why did not the president give the country a united, harmonious American commission with no Spanish sympathizers on it—a commission that will make the retention of all the Philippines a sine qua non? [An indispensable condition.]

A reactionary, bigoted organization, actuated by medieval, un-American sentiments, has been in session at Milwaukee. It is called the German Roman Catholic Central Union. Many of the speeches delivered by the different clerical speakers were marked by a spirit of hatred of American institutions and of the principles of human liberty. The freedom of the press is peculiarly distasteful to these unheeded individuals, and they did not hesitate to let it be known.

At the banquet which closed the sessions of the union of Rev. A. L. Decker of Milwaukee responded to the toast "Our Press." He did so most ungraciously by criticizing the German Catholic papers of the United States, and expressed his preference for the Catholic press of Germany. His reason was that the latter "do not revolt against the archbishops and bishops, as is fre-



Stem the Tide of Immigration.

quently done in the United States." That is, the *ars versis*. They do not dare to criticize and find fault where there is occasion for it. Their editors believe that members of the hierarchy are divinely inspired in all they do.

But in spite of the shortcomings of the German Catholic papers of this country, the speaker begged all the young men present to read exclusively German, and especially German Catholic papers. "Do not ask for the English papers," said he, "because you will remain true to your church if you do not read them." Then, growing excited, he announced that "if he were dictator over the American editors he would make them dance to a different tune." No doubt he would. If he were dictator instead of priest freedom of the press would cease to exist. Nor would he allow any papers to be printed in the English language except as a great concession. Nor would he allow a German paper to print anything which did not meet the full approval of reactionary archbishops and bishops.

This outspoken expression of a desire on the part of the speaker to return to the middle ages and the press censorship, wiping out much of the freedom which mankind has gained during recent centuries, did not seem to displease the hearers. They, too, seemed to be saturated with ultramontane sentiments, which are horribly out of place in a free state like Wisconsin. The men who hold such opinions as the Rev. Mr. Decker should shake the dust of this country off their feet. They should seek some other land where the press is nuzzled or obsequious—Austria, perhaps, or Spain. They will be happier there than they can be here, where the freedom of the press is safe from the assaults of priest or layman, Catholic, Protestant or agnostic.

The German Roman Catholic Central Union held its annual meeting at Milwaukee last week. One of its objects is "the foundation, maintenance

and promotion of Catholic parochial schools." This is a legitimate purpose. But the union, while doing what it can for parochial schools, should abstain carefully from attacks on the public schools. It should endeavor to discourage such attacks. Yet one of the clerical speakers at the recent meeting drew "a terrible picture of the education of the American children in the public schools," especially that of young women. It was conducted, he stated, "in the spirit of disbelief and indifference," leading to "the worst and most dangerous consequences of emigration—to the emancipation of the woman from the duties of housewifery, of wife and mother."

These abusive, slanderous statements were not received with marks of disapproval, but with applause and cheers. That conduct showed that the audience was distinctly hostile to the American public school system and did not hesitate to make known that hostility. But if the advocates of the public school system were to criticize the results of parochial school education in the midst of the advocates of those schools would be quick to resent it. They want a monopoly of criticism.

This violent clerical abuse of public schools defeats itself. When Catholic laymen hear such talk as that indulged in at Milwaukee the majority of them are disgusted by it. They are associating continually with men and women who got their education in the public schools, and are unable to see that they are less upright or poorer wives and mothers than persons who have been educated in the parochial schools. If the German union wants to help parochial schools along it should make those who manage them give scholars as good an education as they can get in the public schools. That will do more to fill the church schools than this intemperate abuse of the American school system.

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Royalties Who Fear the Pope's Ban.

Rome, Aug. 28.—There is a persistent rumor in court circles here to the effect that King Humbert has the intention of transferring, if not the seat of his government, at any rate the headquarters of his court, to Turin, which was the home of the Savoy dynasty before any question arose of making Rome the capital of United Italy. Immense works have recently been started in connection with the improvement and enlargement of the royal palace at Turin, those already inaugurated involving an estimated expenditure of nearly \$5,000,000. The Quirinal has always been a most inconvenient and uncomfortable abode, and Queen Marguerite, in particular, who is a devout Catholic, has never felt at home there, owing to its being under the ban of the church.

King Humbert's resolve in the matter is ascribed to the ostracism to which his court has been subjected since its headquarters has been established at Rome by foreign royalties, even Protestant sovereigns showing a reluctance to incur all those annoyances entailed by the necessity of avoiding any offense to either of two rival courts established within the walls of the city. The Emperor of Austria has, as a good Catholic, never been able as yet to return the visit at Rome paid to him by King Humbert and Queen Marguerite fifteen years ago at Vienna.

King Humbert's nephew, the King of Portugal, has been prevented by the pope from visiting his uncle at Rome under threats of the withdrawal of the muncio from Lisbon. The King's niece Duchess Helen of Austria, who, owing to the fact that the crown princess of Italy is childless, is likely one day to become Queen of Italy, could not be persuaded to visit the Quirinal until she had been married for more than a year, while the Princess Clothilde, the saintly and nun-like sister of King Humbert, would not even visit the deathbed of her dying husband, the late Prince Napoleon,

until she had received telegraphic permission from the present pontiff, and after her husband had breathed his last she left the city without going to the Quirinal, although she is devoted to her brother, King Humbert.

More than half the people here decline to salute either the King or Queen when they drive through the streets, the aristocracy being especially pointed in its way of ignoring their majesties, who are made to feel in every way that they are interlopers.—Special Cable to Chicago Tribune.

Complain of the Friars.

London, Aug. 25.—The Philippine island committee in Europe has addressed a letter to President McKinley regarding the appeals made to him by high Roman Catholic ecclesiastics in America to protect the religious orders in the islands. The expulsion of the friars, the committee contends, is "necessary antecedent to moral civilization." The letter names particularly the Archbishop of Manila and the bishops of Nueva Sagovia and Nueva Caceres, "whose acts of hostility against both natives and Americans and against the Jesuits and other respected religious institutions are condemned by everyone."

The committee urges President McKinley to aid the Filipinos to suppress the immorality of "the diabolical institutions fostered by these monks," and the letter concludes as follows: "Your name can never be associated with that of the friars, and the sense of right of the noble nation at whose head you are placed will never permit the victorious and ever humanitarian stars and stripes to protect them."

Pope in Financial Straits.

A London dispatch to the New York World and Omaha Bee, dated August 23rd, says: "A Daily Mail Berlin dispatch says that at the great conference of German Roman Catholics, which has been sitting at Cro'elo, Bishop Schmidt of Cologne announced that the

financial condition of Pope Leo XIII was at present extremely precarious. The speaker stated that the pope requires a yearly sum of 1,000,000 francs (\$1,400,000) for the necessary expenses of the church. Three millions are provided from a source that was not made public (probably earnings from the extensive gambling tables at Monte Carlo) and the pope depends on Peter's pence for the remaining 1,000,000 francs for the last two years the receipts from this source have not reached 2,500,000 francs (\$35,000,000) owing, it is said, to the various political events which have disturbed Roman Catholic nations. France has been a special debtor during the last ten years and the late war has seriously interfered with the generosity of the Spaniards. Bishop Schmidt appealed to the 30,000,000 German Catholics to make a great effort to relieve the spiritual head from his present grave financial distress, for "no money for the pope, then no free pope."

How is This?

U. S. Collector Col. Hill, at Ponce, P. R., makes this report: "The priests here in Ponce applied for their usual salary for July. This under the Spanish law is a forced charge. The matter came to me in my capacity of judge-advocate on Gen. Wilson's staff. I had to report that inasmuch as we were operating under the Spanish civil law, which made the salaries of the padres a payment from the customs funds; the money was due and should be paid, or else the Spanish civil law in that respect should be annulled or suspended. Gen. Wilson refused to authorize the payment of the priests' salaries, and the matter went to Gen. Miles, who sustained Gen. Wilson. Now, here is a very interesting and unprecedented question. As a matter of policy, it might be well to pay these salaries for the present. The padres, of course, the next time they address a congregation, will say: 'Here is this new government, which you welcomed with such pleasure, refusing to pay your priests. You thought you were going to be relieved of taxation. We must ask you to go into your pockets and pay us yourselves. Thus you have an additional tax placed upon you.' Dignitaries of the church and priests are sent here in large numbers. They are paid out of the custom-house."

Evidently Mr. Hill is not an enlightened American.—Boston Centinel.

Priest Sues a Paper.

Damages of \$10,000 for libel are sought by Rev. Peter Kloa, a Roman Catholic priest of Chelsea, Iowa in a bill filed in the United States circuit court yesterday. August Geringer, editor of the Daily Svernost and Duch Casu, a Bohemian newspaper, published in Chicago, is named as defendant. Kloa says that since the publication of certain articles he has lost the confidence and respect of his parishioners. He denies that he collected money for Spaniards, as he alleges the paper charges, and declares he is attached to the constitution of the United States and favors war when necessary to maintain the dignity of a nation. According to the bill, the priest takes particular exception to the statements that he was a "traitor to his country and collects dollars for Spanish bullets against the United States," and that he "led to the woods to avoid hanging to the first oak tree by the patriotic Bohemian-Americans." The complainant says the article appeared in the Bohemian papers mentioned May 6.—Chicago Chronicle.

Pope Has Saved \$1,000,000 Each Year.

We read a special cable to the New York World and the Chicago Tribune as follows:—
Rome, Aug. 28.—It is estimated that during his pontificate Leo XIII has amassed \$20,000,000, including presents of precious stones, gold and silver, to the value of \$10,000,000. President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic is said to have presented the pope with the largest diamond in the world. It is valued at \$4,000,000,000.