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WAS IT A

Plot Entered Into By Mem-
bers of the Ancient Or-
der of Hibernians

Upon the Advice of Jesuit Priests, Who
May Be Members of that Order.
Which Had for Its Object

THE ASSAULTING OF AMERICANS,

And the Mobbing of Those
Assembled in Central
Hall Last Friday?

The Scheme Put Into Execution
but Failed Owing to the
Prompt Action of

OFFICER BLOOM.

John Westberg, John H. But-
ler, Charles Mack, Thos.
Egan, Assaulted by

Roman Catholics—Richard O'Keeffe on Hand
and Offered to Go the Slugger's Bail—A
Man Named Scott Urged by O'Hearn

TO ASSAULT L. M. ANDERSON.

The many outrages perpetrated upon respectable, law-abiding citizens of the United States during the last ten days, in this city, by Roman Catholics and men egged on by dastardly members of the Roman machine, shall not remain unpublished as long as God Almighty gives us power to wield a pen, no matter who else may remain silent, and keep the public in ignorance as to what has really happened. Men say it is a shame and a disgrace that such things should happen in a community that is more than three-fourths Protestant, and yet not receive the censure of the daily press. These outrages are worse than shameful. They are crimes as black and damnable as the Roman plot to assassinate Abraham Lincoln. They are as low, as mean and as contemptible as the parties are who instigated and perpetrated them, each of whom merits the disapproval of every Protestant.

You may not know of the assaults and ask, on whom were they made?

And we will answer "on members of the American Protective Association!" Then you may want to know what caused Roman Catholics to assault peaceable citizens, and we can only answer it was the old spirit of intolerance, that crops out whenever Rome thinks she is going to be shorn of her power.

You no doubt read in the Bee last Wednesday of four men being assaulted by unknown parties, two in broad daylight and two after the close of the meeting in Garfield hall. You will also remember the Bee stated the cause of the assaults was a mystery. The World-Herald did not even say that respectable business men had been assaulted. For reasons which we consider sufficient this paper said nothing, and would have said nothing had not a second outrage been perpetrated by the members of the Roman church upon the American Protective Association. But, since they seem determined to bulldoze the Protestants in this city, we will tell the truth of the whole transaction, and allow the public to be the judge.

You have probably long ere this heard men speak of the American Protective Association. The Romans refer to the members of the organization as "white caps" and "knownothings." That order was started, primarily, to protect the public schools; it now has as its second object the complete separation of church and state, and in the third place will endeavor to make Rome take her hands off the affairs of state and out of the public treasury. It is composed of businessmen, lawyers, doctors, preachers, laborers and artisans from every walk of life, whose reputations are, perhaps, as pure and unassailable as those of the Romans who have applied to all members the most vile and libidinous names.

But the order that was born of right, of reason, justice and liberty, grew in numbers, and gained in influence until the Romans declared that the time had come when a decided stand must be taken, when strong measures must be adopted if the church retained her loyal sons in positions of honor and trust. The stand has been taken, the measures have been adopted, but a just and righteous God will see that loyalty and not treason will prevail in this land of the free and home of the brave.

The that men of the stripe of that man Dee, who assaulted John H. Butler and Charles Mack, make unprovoked assaults upon members of the American Protective Association, the larger will be the crowd seeking to gain admission to the order. The more Dick O'Keeffe and other Roman political leaders hang around the foot of the stairway leading to the American Protective Association meeting places, aiding, advising or inciting men to assault members of the American order, the more anxious will Americans—men who love liberty, justice, law and order—be to join their forces with those of the brave men who have taken the initiative in this great work.

If there is cause for complaint be-

cause a stranger assaulted Butler and Mack without the least provocation, there is much more room to find fault at the treatment John Westberg and Mr. Thomas Egan received at the hands of one Murphy. Mr. Egan, we understand, is an old man, far past the meridian of life, yet his age, his feebleness and his gray hairs did not save him from an outrageous, unprovoked attack from a man named Murphy. His cries for help, his pleas for protection and complaint against his assailant availed him nothing, for upon Dick O'Keeffe's say so, that he was alright, that he was not the man, and that he would bail him out if it took one thousand dollars, the officer failed to arrest Murphy. But even this was not the worst case reported to the daily papers. It took these same men—O'Keeffe and Murphy—to put the finishing touches upon a day of disorder and Roman Catholic disgrace, and the subject who received the finishing touches was John Westberg, the wholesale and retail dealer in ice, whose place of business is in the Farnam street theatre block. Westberg had just come down out of Garfield hall where the Americans had held a rousing meeting. Competent judges place the number of men in attendance at from 850 to 1000. These figures certainly are not far from correct. Westberg, in answer to a call from County Commissioner O'Keeffe, unhesitatingly stepped to where that official was standing. Murphy, O'Keeffe's man Friday, was there. Before the commissioner opened his mouth to speak Murphy inquired of Westberg, "Do you belong to that crowd?" "Yes." "Do you intend to stay with them?" And he replied "Certainly I do." "Take that you — of a —" said Murphy as he dealt him a fearful blow in the face, and stepped back a step or two. Mr. George E. Gibson, who was standing by said to County Commissioner Richard O'Keeffe, "I am astonished that such an outrage could occur in the city of Omaha, and you be here abetting it, and urging this man on." Mr. Chas. Newell, an ice dealer, was also present, and but for timely interference would have taken up the fight in Westberg's behalf. Westberg when hit staggered several steps before he caught his balance. He then turned to O'Keeffe and asked him if that was the kind of argument he used, to which the latter replied he was not responsible for what other men did. Westberg asked who the man was, what was his name and where he could be found, but O'Keeffe denied knowing him, yet only a few minutes before he had agreed to bail Murphy out if it took one thousand dollars in case he was arrested for assaulting Mr. Egan. Tom Klopp, the printer, was an eyewitness to this outrage and can vouch for the truthfulness of the above report.

All these circumstances would not have been given this publicity had the Romans stopped their outrageous conduct toward Americans and the American order. But when they go so far as to organize a mob, which leaves the Y. M. C. I. hall in a body and rushes across the street to break up a meeting

that American citizens are holding, we think it is time to call a halt. Of course you do not know anything about this attempt on the part of a Roman Catholic mob to interfere with the American order. The daily papers did not mention it. But you would have known had it resulted seriously and someone been killed. Then you would have been given to understand that the AMERICANS were the aggressors and that the Romans were only doing what they had a right to do; that they were doing NOTHING contrary to law. But an all-wise God directs the acts of the Americans. In their councils moderation is urged. That is their watchword, and their rallying cry is, "we will let the Romans do the mobbing." But the facts about that mob is what you want. Facts and names are what tell the tale, without any word-painting on our part. They are what you want, and here they are.

On the West side of Fourteenth street, between Douglas and Dodge stands a three-story brick building across the whole front of which is painted in bold letters, "Young Men's Catholic Institute." On the opposite side of the street stands a three-story brick, the third floor of which is used as a lodge room and is known as Central hall. In this hall is where the Americans meet. In that on the West side of the street is where the Romans congregate. For some time it has been rumored that the Romans used the building more as a headquarters for spies than a lodge room, but this was not fully proven until last Friday evening. Early in the evening a number of the popes subjects congregated in and about the door and hallway leading to Central hall refusing to allow members of the American association to go up stairs and attend the meeting then it progressed. The Americans could not see why they should be bulldozed out of meeting and quietly discussing matters pertaining to the welfare of this nation. With each succeeding minute the number of members increased, as did also the number of Romans. When things were about to take a serious turn an American called the Patrolman—Officer Bloom—who came and ordered the crowd to disperse and allow the members to go up stairs. They absolutely refused. They defied the officer. They swore they would break up the meeting. While they were defying Bloom a Roman contingent of twenty five or thirty men left the Y. M. C. I. hall and marched across the street to aid the rioters. An eye witness claims he recognized Richard O'Keeffe and the son of City Treasurer John Rush among them, together with about thirty other prominent Romans, whose names could be given.

When Bloom saw they would not obey him, and that a call upon the Protestants to help him arrest the Romans would give them the very opportunity they were SCHEMING for, he went to a telephone and asked that a squad of policemen be sent up to Fourteenth between Douglas and Dodge. While he was away telephoning the numbers on both sides increased.