

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Primum Inter Pares.

Mr. Peck. How interesting is this... It is very gratifying to see...

Let us now look at the other extreme. There is a man in Rome who is superior to the clergy of the Roman Catholic church.

What is the relation between the present condition of papacy and his infallible?

No, you should not be proud of the origin of your office, and when you think of what is claimed for it and what it is, you should tell your church.

If reports are correct, there has been some agitation at the Vatican on account of the proposal on the part of some of the Roman Catholic clergy in the United States to have a direct Catholic church here.

If I were pope for one short day. I'd be the faithful members say. I'd hold the Bible from your grasp.

Home vs. Rome. There are too many middlemen camped on the stage. Of life, in its journey from childhood to age.

The pope and "monsignors" who formulate rules. Deny us the right to maintain our free schools.

Are you sincere? Are you sincere in your desire to see THE AMERICAN turned into a daily?

What is Truth? ROCK ISLAND, Ill., January 28, 1893. —EDITOR THE AMERICAN: Without a divine revelation we would be ignorant

take at \$8 per year for an evening paper. One half a year balances monthly.

This was, undoubtedly, part of the divine plan inaugurated before the advent of our first parents in the garden.

Enclosed find \$100 per share, for which please send me receipt, the same to apply as first payment on...

If you cannot spare enough to purchase one or more shares of stock, subscribe for the paper on above conditions at the following rates:

3 months \$2.50
6 months \$4.50
1 year \$8.00

No Rival Yet. World famous Eli Perkins says: "After people have gone over all the routes to California once, they settle down to the old U. P. This road will always be the great transcontinental line."

Once on the Union Pacific it goes everywhere. It runs to Portland and Pueblo, Helena and the Yosemite, Tacoma and Seattle, Los Angeles and San Diego, and is the only route into San Francisco.

The office of a priest should be to direct his adherents to the road that leads to a better condition here and hereafter.

Rock Island Methodist. Are you sincere in your desire to see THE AMERICAN turned into a daily?

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IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST.

The President Returns Article 20 of the Treaty of Washington Has Been Abrogated—Conclusion Which He Has Arrived at—Congressional Proceedings.

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The president returns at length the legislation of congress placing a construction upon article 20 of the treaty, and adds: "I have asked the opinion of the attorney general upon this question, and he is of the opinion that article 20 has been abrogated. It would be no infraction, either of the letter or the spirit of the treaty, if we should stop, unload and carefully inspect every vehicle arriving at our border with such merchandise, nor on the other hand, would Canada violate her obligations under the treaty by a like treatment of merchandise imported through the port of New York on its arrival in Canada."

"A practice has grown up of allowing merchandise from China and Japan, purchased and imported from those countries by our own citizens and landed at ports in the Dominion of Canada, to be there loaded into cars which, being sealed by an officer of the United States or someone supposed to represent him, are forwarded through the territory of Canada across the entire continent and allowed to cross our frontier without other inspection than an examination of seals. The practice of sealing such merchandise, notwithstanding it has been allowed by the treasury for some years, I think is unauthorized."

"The practice not only equalizes the advantages of Canadian sea ports with our own in the importation of goods for our domestic consumption, but makes the Canadian ports favorable ports of entry. The detention under this system at the Canadian ports are less than when the merchandise is landed at a port of the United States to be forwarded in bond to another port therein."

"I come now to discuss another element of this international traffic, namely, the transportation of merchandise from one port in the United States to another port therein over the territory of Canada. In practice, the car, if the seal is found to be intact, is passed to local ports and is opened and unloaded by the consignee, no officer being present. The question is, are the regulations such as to provide proper safeguard against fraud or are they such as to make fraud easy to those who have the disposition to commit it?"

The following are the conclusions at which I have arrived: First—That article 20 of the treaty of Washington has been abrogated. Second—That even if this article were in force there is no law in force to execute it. Third—That when in force the treaty imposed no obligation upon the United States to use the concessions as to transit made by Canada, and no limitation upon the powers of the United States in dealing with merchandise imported for the use of our citizens through Canadian ports, or passing from one place in the United States to another through Canada upon the arrival of such merchandise at our border.

Fourth—That, therefore, treaty or no treaty, the question of sealing cars containing such merchandise and the treatment of such sealed cars when they cross our border is and always has been one to be settled by our laws according to our convenience and our interests, as we may see them.

Fifth—That the law authorizing the sealing of cars in Canada containing foreign merchandise imported from any contiguous country does apply to merchandise imported by our own people from countries not contiguous and carried through Canada for delivery to such owners.

Sixth—That the law did not contemplate the passing of sealed cars to any place not a "port," nor the delivery of such cars to the owner or consignee to be opened by him without the supervision of a revenue officer.

Seventh—That such a practice is inconsistent with the safety of the revenue.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS. Senate. WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—With the exception of one hour in the early part of the evening, yesterday's session of the senate was held behind closed doors, and was spent in the consideration of the French and Swedish extradition treaties, and incidentally of the Hawaiian question.

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discussed on Mr. Ryan's point was a brief one, but long enough to show that the fight over the measure was sharp and vigorous. John I. Devensport and the federal election laws then occupied the attention of the house. They were brought forward by an amendment offered by Mr. Fish, of New York, in the early civil bill. The Republicans whose spokesman was Mr. Donnell, of Maine, were the entering wedge of a repeal of all the laws relative to federal supervision. Mr. Fish replied in a moderate tone, but stated that the Democratic party made no secret of its purpose to repeal the federal election laws. Several slightly personal passages occurred, but the amendment was finally agreed to.

Nebraska's Legislature. LINCOLN, Feb. 3.—In the senate yesterday Senator Mullen, from the committee on railroads, reported back senate file 38 with the recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed. The bill provides for the construction and maintenance of joint depots and transfer switches by competing lines of railroad. The bill is similar in its provisions to senate file No. 6, except that the latter makes no reference to joint depots. The committee recommended that the latter be placed on the general file. The senate declined to discriminate between the bills, and both were sent to the general file.

North, from the committee on municipal affairs, reported back senate file No. 13, with the recommendation that it go to the general file, and that file No. 38 be indefinitely postponed. Babcock introduced a resolution that the ballots and poll books in the Douglas county contest be sent to the committee on privileges and elections. The resolution went over under the rules.

After the joint convention the senate adjourned. The entire session of the house was devoted to work in committee of the whole with Barry in the chair.

The committee recommended the passage of Higgins' bill amending the law governing appropriations for agricultural societies by leaving it optional instead of compulsory with boards of supervisors to appropriate funds for the support of county fairs, and of a bill allowing pupils in one district to attend in another when more than a mile and a half from the school in their own district.

No business was transacted by the house after the joint convention owing to much committee work being done.

Assaulted Six Young Girls. JACKSON, Mich., Feb. 3.—Frank Burch was arrested on a warrant charging him with assaulting young girls. For two weeks Burch's actions have been closely watched by the police, but it was not until last Saturday night that the first definite facts were learned. Burch had access to a hall on Main street and last Saturday evening Captain Rowin saw two young girls standing at its entrance. Diving that they were there to meet Burch he took them to the station, where after close questioning, the whole details were drawn out. When arrested and taken to the station Burch made a full confession of his guilt before the prosecuting attorney and two police officers, admitting that he had assaulted six young girls. He waived examination before Justice Palmer.

The Treaty Ratified. WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The senate yesterday afternoon in executive session lasting three hours and a half completed the consideration of the French extradition treaty and at the close of the discussion ratified it. The treaty was negotiated by Whitelaw Reid during his service as United States minister to France, and was constructed upon lines laid down in accordance with instructions issued by the state department. The new treaty, it is understood, does not contain any largely increased number of offenses which will be extraditable crimes, but it was found desirable to make new definitions of old crimes to fit the modern condition of things.

The Trust Complete. MILWAUKEE, Feb. 3.—The last steps in the formation of the glass manufacturers' and jobbers' trust were taken at a meeting at the Plankinton house. There were present forty-eight representatives, manufacturers and jobbers from all sections west of Pittsburg. The session was behind closed doors here as in Chicago. The capital stock of the National Glass company, by which the trust will be known, is \$900,000. A clause in the charter provides for the forfeit of a certain per cent. by any member who breaks the rules of the association.

Suffering at Zante. ATHENS, Feb. 3.—Reports from Zante state that the inhabitants of most of the towns on the island are suffering severely. Hundreds of families are camped in the fields near the city of Zante. They fled with such haste that they took with them neither food nor clothes. The weather is excessively inclement and unless shelter and food be provided speedily, the mortality will be appalling. A British man-of-war, which has been loading at Piraona with food and clothing, has sailed for Zante.

Escapes with a Three-Year Sentence. SANTA FE, N. M., Feb. 3.—Candelario Martinez, the lawyer who assaulted 10-year-old Louise Wilhelm ten days ago, was indicted, tried, convicted and turned over to the territorial penitentiary officers to serve a three years' sentence by the United States court. He will be tried for the same crime by the territorial court in July next.

No Change in North Dakota. BISMARCK, N. D., Feb. 3.—There was no change in the Republican vote for senator yesterday. The Democrats and Populists switched over to Governor Shortridge and gave him 39 votes. Casey received 31 votes; Smith, 8; Kingman, 6; Walsh, 3; Anderson, 1; Ordway, 1; Axvig, 1.

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