

THE AMERICAN

Entered as Second-Class Matter...

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE AMERICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

OFFICE: 1615 Howard Street.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES...

CLUB RATES...

ADVERTISING RATES...

THE AMERICAN IS THE CHAMPION OF ALL PARTISAN ORDERS—THE ORGANS OF NONE

MAY 19, 1894.

PATRONIZE those who advertise in THE AMERICAN. Remember this.

FOUR new counties were organized in Cook county, Illinois, last week.

THE American Citizen, a Romish sheet published at St. Paul, has suspended.

THE A. P. A. is growing rapidly in Kansas City, and will contest the coming election warmly.

OUR friends in Olympia, Wash., are doing some good work, according to communications which have reached this office.

A THRIVING branch of the A. P. A. has been organized at Hanson, Mass., and the Daughters of Liberty have seventy members.

THE A. P. A. in Iowa is taking its second growth, and we hope they will all pull together and success will surely crown their efforts.

JUST now it seems that Corbett's interests at Palmyra, Neb., are on the wane—at least the Bonneau faction occupied his place last Sunday evening.

LETTERS received from different parts of Colorado show the increase in the order to be great, and that some good work will be done there this coming six months.

ARGENTINE, Kansas, has none but Americans on guard. We understand that every officer in that busy little city is true to American principles.

A JESUIT may deplete the Roman Catholic church as harmless as a dove, but the blood of hundreds of thousands of martyrs, which stain her skirts, cries out against her.

THE Protestants all over Great Britain are alarmed at the rapid growth and spread of Ritualistic tendencies there. They realize that Ritualism is only a very short step from Romanism.

TEXAS has now the A. P. A. and J. O. U. A. M. It is reported that both orders are growing like a "prairie fire." A Council of the Junior Order at Clifton, Tex., initiated fifty members during the second week of its life.

THE Hibernians from over the whole world seemed to be deeply interested in some secret subject, so states the daily press. We understood that the Roman party had no secret societies. That is they have none a Protestant could join.

THE school board of Kansas City, Kan., has, at the request of the patriotic societies of that city, granted the favor requesting that the flag of our country be displayed on every school house in that city, and its environs, at least five days each week.

CORMACK and Ormsby of the police force; Galligan, Salter and Barnes, of the fire department certainly make a nice quintette to be in command over American citizens. They are a disgrace to the City of Omaha, and the Board of Fire and Police should hesitate no longer in purging the city of these men, and appoint men in their stead, who will respect the rights of their subordinates.

A CORRESPONDENT asks us for our authority for the oaths, and the canon law, which have appeared in these columns so often. For the priest, bishop and cardinal's oath, the Patriotic American, edited by Supreme President W. J. H. Traynor, is our authority; the canon law is from the Loyal American, formerly of Chicago, but now dead, which was edited by Col. C. G. Mison. The Jesuit's oath was copied by the editor of THE AMERICAN from an English translation of the monita secreta of the order, which passed through but two pair of hands between those of the Jesuit and this editor. If he desires to know where each can be found in print we shall endeavor to inform him in our next issue. Time to look up authorities prevents our doing so this week.

A CHANGE NEEDED

There is not the slightest doubt but that the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners should at once make a radical change, in both the fire department and police force of this city.

There is no excuse for the board any longer leaving the control of these departments in the hands of officers who are both mentally and morally unfit for such positions, men who have not the slightest respect for the rights of their subordinates, men who use their official positions as a club to bully and persecute the men under them—and to such an extent has this been practiced by the officers in charge of both departments that at the present time a great number of policemen and firemen are nearly in open revolt against the continued brutality of their superior officers—and to put it in a mild form—a good deal of bad blood has been engendered among the men on account of their superior officers using their official positions as a means to vent their personal spite and animosity against certain of the men, who are unfortunate enough to be placed in an inferior position under them.

In one respect the brutal assault on Sergeant W. H. Shoop, by Acting-Chief Cormack last week, was a fortunate incident, as it will be the means of revealing to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners the sort and class of men who are now in charge of the police department of this city. In our last week's issue we presented our readers with a true statement of facts concerning this unwarranted and brutal assault. Any officer who loses command of his temper and so far forgets himself and the position which he occupies as to strike an inferior officer, should at once be discharged from that position as totally unfit to hold same—but up to the present time no such action has been taken either by the board of fire and police commissioners or by Chief Seavey—notwithstanding the fact that Sergeant Shoop has filed with the board charges against Cormack for conduct unbecoming an officer and for assault and battery. With a regard to justice and fair play, Chief Seavey should, immediately on his return to this city, be being absent at the time of the assault and Captain Cormack acting in his place, have suspended Cormack pending an investigation by the board. Sergeant Shoop having been suspended by Acting Chief Cormack pending an investigation of charges of neglect of duty, preferred against him by Cormack. What is sauce for the goose should certainly be sauce for the gander. The instances where men in both departments have been made the victims of the personal spite and vindictiveness of their superior officers are too numerous and too flagrant to escape notice, and therefore it should be the duty of the fire and police board to remedy these evils, and give the men relief from such petty persecutions.

This matter of the chief of police having special favorites among the officers under him should no longer be tolerated. The superior officer of any force should be perfectly impartial in all his dealings with the men under him. If he is not, he should no longer be retained in that position. This is a very serious matter, and one that the board should look into and take action upon, as it has been repeatedly asserted that Chief Seavey is not impartial by any means in his dealings with the officers and men under him.

Again, in the fire department matters are, if anything, in a worse state. It is a notorious fact that the present chief of the fire department is not only physically, but both mentally and morally unfit for such a position. The manner in which he has handled the many big, disastrous fires this city has suffered during the last year are evidence sufficient to warrant the board in dispensing with his services, on the ground of incompetency alone. The vile language he uses towards the men under him stamps him as morally unfit for the position he holds. But for some reason or other the board take no cognizance of these things. The insurance men have demanded his dismissal, but all to no purpose. Galligan evidently has some "pull" that enables him to hang on to the city payroll like a barnacle on to a ship's hull. At the last meeting of the fire and police board, the officers and members of the Benevolent-Association of Paid Firemen laid before that body a petition asking the board to interfere and adjust matters pertaining to the association. This petition is practically a complaint against the chief, showing that Galligan usurps his position as chief of the department, to interfere in matters outside his jurisdiction and that he uses his authority to coerce the men under him to do just as he wishes. If they are not compliant they are threatened with his displeasure, and the men unfortunately realize the fact that he as chief can make life very uncomfortable for them if he so desires. We quote verbatim the following portion from the petition as filed with the board:

"Our president, the chief of the fire department, constantly persists in using his authority as chief in our meetings, and all transactions pertaining to our association, a thing which he has no right to do and which is detrimental to the best interests of the association. We ask your honorable body to as-

sumpt as possible, in some way being about harmony and an adjustment of the present deplorable state of affairs. Should it be necessary to take this into our courts of justice, it could not help but show up the heads of the fire department in an unenviable light, to avoid which, we place this petition before your honorable body."

Galligan has long been a veritable eyesore to the decent element of this city, and frequent complaints have been made to the board not only by private individuals but also by men employed in the fire department. The press of this city has repeatedly stigmatized him as incompetent and, as before mentioned, the insurance men have demanded his dismissal, but to all these complaints the board has invariably turned a deaf ear. But the time has now come when the board cannot any longer afford to be indifferent to the gross abuse of official authority by the chief of the fire department of this city. The best interests of this city demand that the board should take such action as will remedy this evil, not only in the fire department, but also in the police force, and the only way that this can be done is by effecting a complete change in the heads of both departments. The following names should be stricken from the city's payroll, namely, Seavey, Cormack, Ormsby, Galligan, Salter and Barnes. Some day, and not in the very far future either, this will assuredly come to pass.

IS IT A ROMAN SCHEME?

Editor Tupper, of the Loyal American, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of libel. It seems the daily papers had published, with flaming headlines, a long story about a woman, a priest, some property and some lawyers which is said to have contained certain libelous charges. That story Mr. Tupper published in his paper. Whether it was altered from the original or published verbatim as it appeared in the other papers we are not prepared to say, but the fact remains that he is under arrest for an act which older and stronger papers commit with impunity. It may be that Mr. Tupper's arrest is due to a new scheme which Rome has put in operation and by which she hopes to bring the patriotic press into disrepute or silence it altogether. Hereafter she may co-opt the publication of certain untruthful statements which reflect upon her in the most severe manner in the hope that such articles will be republished in the patriotic press, and give her an opportunity to harass or cripple the American papers. As far as we are concerned, we do not care what disreputable scheme she concocts in the hope of tricking us, for we feel able, with the help of God, to confound and defeat her, and if our brother editor works with the same faith, Rome will be powerless in the city of Chicago two years from today.

THE ORANGE ORDER

The Loyal Orange Institution, notwithstanding the attacks of its enemies, moves quietly along, and its membership is increasing in almost every part of the country. The annual meeting of the supreme lodge in Boston next month will be one of the most important sessions ever held in the history of the order in the United States. The new constitution will come up for final adoption. Also the establishment of a permanent beneficiary fund for members of the order. The prevailing impression among many that the Orange Institution is political is a mistake. That they oppose the prostitution of religion for political purposes is true. That they uphold the right of the government to maintain one general non-sectarian public school system, is equally true, and they require as a qualification of membership that every foreign-born applicant shall comply with the naturalization laws of the United States before being admitted to full membership. Its objects are for the maintenance of the Protestant religion and works of charity and benevolence among its member. Orangemen do not attack Roman Catholics on account of their religious beliefs, but because of their prostitution of religion. A man who is not a believer in the existence of a Supreme Being or in the divine origin of the Bible has no place in the Orange order. He must obligate himself to give his children or any children under his charge at least a good common school education such as the public schools afford, which shall be kept entirely free from sectarian control or interference. It makes no difference what the nationality of a man may be, so long as he can and is willing to subscribe to these principles.

Whatever may be said derogatory of the order by its enemies, these are its true principles and teachings, and every Orangeman can well feel proud of them.

Why should not a straight American ticket win this fall? It is not advisable to wait until the campaign is on before reform literature is circulated. More vigor is being displayed by both of the old parties, than previously, which should teach Americans to keep on the alert.

LEE P. GILLETTE, Grand Custodian of the Masonic Order in Nebraska, died at his home in Beatrice, Sunday evening, May 13th. His funeral occurred Wednesday under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

DIGGING HIS GRAVE

In another column reference is made to certain correspondence between Mr. R. A. Waller and Gov. Altgeld. From the evidence which Mr. Waller submits, it appears that the governor first asked and received a full and complete list of all the employees of the Lincoln park commissioners, together with the names of the persons recommending them for appointment. There was a statement accompanying the list to the effect that the laborers were being employed only half time so as to give a greater number of them work. This action the governor warmly recommended. That letter was mailed or dated Jan. 10, 1894. Two days afterward Altgeld wrote Mr. Waller as follows:

Jan. 12.—R. A. Waller, President Board of Lincoln Park Commissioners, Ashland Block, Chicago. Dear Mr. Waller: I said in my last letter to you that I desired to have a conference with your board before a superintendent and chief of police were appointed for next year. From present indications it is doubtful whether I can be in Chicago in the near future, and as the board may require time, I deem it best to write you this morning.

As I stated to your board once before I have not had great confidence in the management of Lincoln Park for the past four or five years, and in a number of conversations which I had with Mr. Goudy and others on that subject I stated that it seemed to me that, while Lincoln Park was popular because of its location, there was not a first-rate showing made by its management, when the large amounts of money expended were considered, and I am still of that opinion.

The management of Superintendent Pettigrow has been a source of constant complaint from nearly all elements of the party ever since I have been governor. It was charged, among other things, that he was making a kind of A. P. A. camp of the park, and that prior to the beginning of the new administration, no Irishman and no Catholic stood any show there. On examining the list of employees sent in, I find that none of the old employees appear to have been Irishmen, and so far as I can learn very few, if any, were Catholics. It is not our business to champion either the Irish or the Catholics. They are abundantly able to take care of themselves.

But they are citizens and taxpayers, and their money helps to keep up the park, and it is not proper for any public official spending public moneys to discriminate against any class of citizens. I find further that prior to the beginning of the new administration no democrats were employed, except a few that were forced into the management by Mr. Goudy, Mr. Chase, and some of the North Town officers. Further, that almost the whole republican force formerly employed is still retained, and the influence of prominent republican politicians of Lake View and the North Side is just as potent as ever. Now while we cannot permit the park management to become a democratic machine, there is no reason why we should permit a continuance of a republican machine, even though it does run with a little less noise now than formerly. So far as the present chief of police is concerned, he seems to be not only a republican of a very pronounced type, and who in the past was very bitter, but from information which I receive from a number of sources he has on divers occasions made himself offensive even under the new administration, and has taunted some of the democratic policemen by saying to them that under the republican administration policemen were paid \$10 a month, while under the democratic administration the wages were greatly reduced.

It has been the policy of the present state administration to have every important place, that is, heads of departments, etc., filled by men who, besides being thoroughly capable, were also democrats in sympathy with the state administration. I adopted this policy because I felt that no measure could be so well carried out if it had to be instructed to men who secretly wanted the administration to fail. I can see no good reason for excepting the management of Lincoln park from the rule or policy that is enforced elsewhere in the state. If we have not got democrats who are thoroughly capable, and who can and will give the public the very highest grade of service, then the right thing for us to do is to shut up shop and go out of business. If we have, however, men of this character, and I know that we have an army of them, both good policy and good sense require that we put them at the helm. This being so, it is my judgment that your board should put in a new superintendent and a new chief of police from the 1st of April next, and that they be democrats, and I write this letter now so that you will have ample time to make a selection. I do not care to urge anybody upon the board, as I do not desire the board to get the impression that I wish to make places for anybody in particular. I will, however, suggest for the consideration of the board the fact that there is but little more new landscape gardening to be done. The gardeners and florists whom you now have can easily

attend to this business. By far the most important work to be superintended, and which will absorb most of your money, will be work requiring the knowledge of engineering, and if a man can be found who is a civil engineer and at the same time a thoroughly good business man he would be most desirable and the most useful man. The salary paid by the board is reasonably large and will command the services of an excellent man.

Kindly show this letter to other members of the board and oblige. Assuring you and the other members of the board of my high personal regard I am very truly yours,

JOHN P. ALTGELD.

On the 15th of January Mr. Waller acknowledged the receipt of this letter and stated that he would give prompt and careful consideration to its contents, and, after a thorough investigation of the charges, would communicate with Altgeld again. The following is his response:

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 31, 1894.—Hon. John P. Altgeld, Governor State of Illinois, Springfield, Ill.—My Dear Sir: Since my letter of the 15th in response to yours of the 12th of this month, I beg to state that the commissioners of Lincoln park have made a very careful and thorough investigation of the subject matter of your letter, and, as a result, desire to express the opinion that you have been very greatly misinformed as to the true status of the affairs in the park.

They find the superintendent having the respect and esteem of all the employees, and conducting matters in a business-like and careful way, discriminating in nowise against any creed, nationality, or the democratic party. They find that there are employed in the park fifty-nine democrats, forty-nine republicans and twenty-two laborers who have not been in this country long enough to entitle them to vote, but who have taken out their first papers, and at different periods, ranging from one to three years, will be entitled to their last papers, and will then become naturalized.

NO RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION.

They find that there are seventy-seven (77) Protestants, fifty-one (51) Roman Catholics, and two (2) of no religion whatever.

They find that no one in the employ of the park has any knowledge whatever of any discrimination on the part of the park management, its superintendent, or any one else against any one on account of his creed, nationality or political affiliations.

It would appear from the above statement that a majority of the employees of the park are democrats, and certainly fifty-one out of 130 men is a fair proportion of Roman Catholics.

In giving you these facts it may be well to say that the superintendent does not employ any other than the laboring class. All the chief men are employed by the commissioners themselves, who pass upon their names after they and their applications have been investigated and reported by a committee to the board. The chief of police has no authority whatever to discharge or employ any one under him. The superintendent of the park has no authority whatever to discharge any of the men employed in the park other than the labor class.

Thus you will see that there is not very much opportunity for discrimination on the part of the superintendent in any case. If an officer, head gardener, or florist is unsatisfactory to him he is obliged to report it to the commissioners, who have the matter investigated through a proper committee, and upon a report of the committee the board takes such action as it deems wise.

In your letter you also state that "the management of Superintendent Pettigrow has been a source of constant complaint from nearly all elements of the party ever since I have been governor. It has been charged among other things that he has been making a kind of A. P. A. camp of the park, and that prior to the beginning of the new administration no Irish or Catholic stood any show there."

As has been demonstrated from the examination which this matter has been given, you will observe that these charges are not consistent with facts, and the commission would suggest that hereafter it would be very agreeable to them, if any charges are made, that the person making such charges should be known to the commission, and that they should be directed to them for a response. This in nowise is meant to be construed that the commission is not at all times ready and anxious to give the governor of this state any and all information which he may desire concerning the management of the park, but anonymous charges against a respectable body are very unsatisfactory elements to deal with. Hence the suggestion that all charges in future should be accompanied by the name of the party or parties making such charges and the commission will deal directly with them.

The commissioners will act upon your suggestion in regard to the chief of police, but after this letter we hope you will coincide with us in our view that it would be against the interest of the park, and therefore of the taxpayers of the North side, to disturb the relation

which now exists between the commission and their superintendent.

Yours very truly,

R. A. WALLER, President.

Altgeld then wrote Mr. Waller that he would be pleased to accept his resignation, to which the latter replied that as he had been appointed without his knowledge or consent, and as the law provided that there were but three specifications under which he could be removed, namely, "incompetency, neglect or malfeasance in office," he should not tender his resignation. Thereupon Altgeld removed him under the plea of incompetency. To this charge and others Mr. Waller makes reply, in the *Inter Ocean*, of last Sunday, over his own signature. Among the many good things he wrote were the following:

"In regard to your criticism of the board relating to the Lake Shore drive south of Oak street, I have this to say: That all contracts by the board of Lincoln park commissioners in regard thereto were made before my term of office, and work commenced thereunder. During my term of office no contract has ever been made or entered into with General Fitz Simons or any other person in relation to said extension or any matter connected therewith. You did not, as stated in your communication, have numerous interviews with the board in relation to this extension of the Lake Shore drive, and the board never disregarded any request made by you in regard to said extension. You never, at any time, verbally or in writing, made any suggestion or request to the board or myself in regard to any action to be taken by the board in regard to said extension. If you considered the action of the board in regard to the south extension of the Lake Shore drive good ground for my removal, how is it that Messrs. Cooper and Winston, who participated in all the actions of the board complained of, are retained, unless it is that you desired to remove only those members who opposed you in the removal of a faithful and competent superintendent, and that this is a mere makeshift excuse?"

I have been removed from office for a single offense, my refusal to allow you to dictate in regard to the discharge of official duties for which I am responsible. You desired to make the management of the park subservient to your personal interests through the removal of the officers of the board, regardless of the interests of the public. I did not consider this consistent with my duty to the public, nor did I feel at liberty to desert my post through a resignation. The result was not unexpected on my part.

Malicious and false charges are published in the public press by you in your official capacity, which capacity alone calls for an answer on my part to any charges made by a person of your well known mental and moral characteristics. In this, as in many other of your official acts, you have prostituted this high office which you hold to the gratification of personal malice. Your administration is the greatest load which the democratic party which placed you in office, but which you do not represent, has ever been compelled to carry in this state.

I am content to leave this issue between us to that last tribunal, the people, whose interest I have endeavored to protect and serve."

Mr. Waller's standing in Chicago and Illinois is too well known for us to attempt to say anything commendatory. We shall, however, take the liberty of reproducing the following editorial from the *Inter Ocean* on the subject:

The five-column letter of Mr. Robert A. Waller to Governor Altgeld, published in the *Inter Ocean* yesterday, is one of those documents which suggest the refrain, "Fit the punishment to the crime." In the exercise of his authority as governor of Illinois, John P. Altgeld summarily removed Mr. Waller from the office of Lincoln park commissioner, alleging, as he had to in order to furnish the basis of legal fiction necessary to the removal, incompetency and malfeasance in office. To any one who knows Mr. Waller, and he is one of the best known of our citizens, this charge of incompetency is simply absurd. He could not conduct his own large business if he had not the ability necessary to park commissionership. His general reputation is such that the charge of incompetency sounds like a joke. The letter seems to explain in detail what, in the eyes of Governor Altgeld, constitutes malfeasance in office, namely, refusing to be a mere puppet in the hands of the governor. If Mr. Waller had tamely submitted to the governor's dictation he would have been in the eyes of that official a model commissioner and worthy of all commendation.

It is perfectly evident from the governor's letters to Mr. Waller, given in full, that from the first the former looked upon himself as dictator, and the members of the Lincoln park board were puppets to do his will. He began by demanding that the board should dismiss Clerk Taylor and put in his place one George W. Weber, who had left the postoffice service under a cloud. The board did not want to do it, as this correspondent shows, but reluctantly consented. Pretty soon the governor followed this up by demanding the removal of the chief of the park police