AMERICAN.

bidden societies? Have you not within ties that offer you the same, yea, even greater advantages than those proffered by these secret organizations? We have here in Denver many societies, Catholic societies, offering to their members the same help, the same mutual encouragements and support held out by these secret societies. The honest benefits arising from membership in the Catholic Mutual Benefit association, of which there are now five branches in Denver; the Catholic Knights of America are surely not inferior to those coming from any secret society. Indeed, the insurance benefits are far greater in these Catholic societies. The dishonest benefits, the assistance to one's fellow members in good or evil, the screening of the evil doer, which are popularly supposed to come debates on various topics of interest. and are therefore an incentive to selfdevelopment. Finally, these societies tend to maintain a better Catholic spirit by the union they foster between their Catholic follow-citizons, thus forming an esprit de corps thoroughly Catholic. This is very important in a country like ours where the public play such a prominent part in all our affairs. To illustrate my meaning: Suppose that out of a Catholic population of 20,000 souls Denver could count 4,000 or 5,000 members belonging to the various Catholic societies enumerated above, who does not see what a power for good they would constitute, whose influence would be felt throughout the length and breadth of Colorado?

A few days ago the papers of the country were full with the reports of the condemnation by the French courts



6

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Next to Baldwin's Dry Goods Store. Until FEBRUARY 22nd we shall offer our entire Stock of Footwear at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES to make room for New Spring Goods,

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Fine Watch Repairing and Engraving a Specialty.

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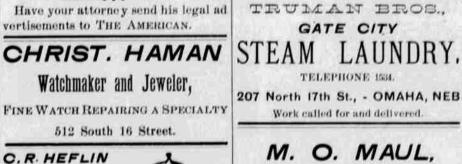
Northwest Corner 16th and Douglas Sts.

of this country, as a lesson to future generations. And 70,000,000, Americans would have applauded the act till the very vaults of the firmament would have re-echoed with their "bravos." "Well done, boys; more power to you!"

Fine watch repairing, John Rudd, 305 north Sixteenth street.

Have your attorney send his legal ad vertisements to THE AMERICAN.

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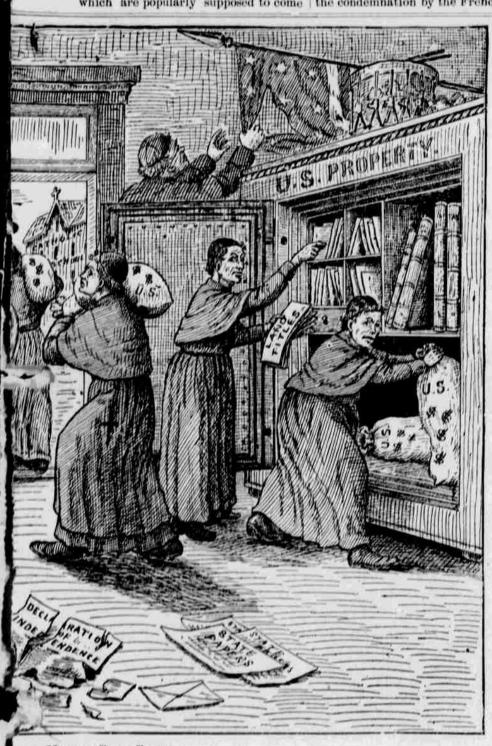
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HLE UNCLE SAM SLEEPS.

from union with certain secret societies, these supports will not be found in Catholic societies. And will any honorable man call these things benefits or sell his soul for that devil's mess of pottage? Then you have the Ancient Order of Hibernians, with its four branches. We have been for years chaplain to one of its most flourishing branches in Colorado and can bear witness to its usefulness. It keeps its members Catholic in faith and practice. Last, but not least, there is the St. Joseph's T. A. and B. society, which is also a mutual benefit society, and is in some respects even superior to many other societies because of its object.

All of these societies have, moreover, another feature connected with them which gives them an educational character. I refer to the discussions and of a certain bishop who went to Rome without asking the permission of the government. For that "terrible crime" he was muleted in the sum of 3,000 or 4,000 francs. Now, I must confess that it required some courage for a judge in France, a Catholic country, to fine a bishop for such an offense. But for 30,000,000 Catholics to stand there and submit to any such outrage, is an act so contemptible, so dastardly mean and cowardly that I can find no name to stigmatize and brand it becomingly. I ask you, as Americans, if such a thing had been done anywhere on this continent, what would you have done? I can tell you what a score or two of brave Irishmen would have done. They would have tarred and feathered both judge and jury; and in that condition driven them through the lenght and breadth

