## THE AMERIOAN.

biddon mocletjes\% Have you not within the boed do chursh Catholie soelethes that offor you the same, yea, evon greater advantager than thone proffered by these secret organizations? We have hem in Denver many moctetios, Catholie societies, offoring to their mombers the same lielp, the same mutual enoouragements and support held out by these seerot sociotios. The honest beneftis arising from momber shlp in the Catholie Mutual Bonefit assesfation, of which there aro now flive branches in Denver; the Catholic Knights of America ure surely not inferion to thoec coming from any seceret society. Indeed, the insurance beneflte are far greater in these Catholic societies. The dishonest beneflis, the assistance to one's fellow members in grood or evil, the sereening of the evil doer, which are popularly supposed to come

Anhaten of varions toples of interast, and are therelore an incomive to mels.
 pirit by the union thes foster betwoen theie Catholic fellow-citionne, thus forming an osprit de corps thoroughly Catholic. This is very important in a country like ours whem the publie play aweh a prominent part in all our affairs. To fillustrate my meaning: Suppose that out of a Catholie population of 30,000 souls Denver could coint 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 influenes would be felt throughout the length and brealth of Colorado?
A few days ago the papers of the country were full with the reports of the condemnation by the French courts

ifle Uncle Sam Sleepa
from union with certain secret socletien, these supports will not be found in Catholic societies. And will any honorable man call these thinge benefits or sell his soul for that devil's mesh of pottage? Then you have the Ancient Order of Hibernians, with its four branches. We have been for yearn chaplain to one of its most flourishing branches in Colorado and can bear witness to ith usefulnesm. It keops its members Catholic in faith and practice. Last, but not least, there is the St. Joseph's T, A, and B, society, which in also a mutual benefit soclety, and is in ome respects even supurior to many other societies because of fte object.
All of these societies have, moreover, another feature connected with them neter. I refer to the dincussions 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 nome 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 atigmatize and brand it becomingly. I atk 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 rishmen would havedone. They would and jury: and in that condition driven them through the lenght and breadth

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