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"AMERICA FOR AMERICANS."—We hold that all men are Americans who swear allegiance to the United States without a mental reservation in favor of the Pope.

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WHAT IS ROMANISM?

The Arian Heresy Confiscation as a Punishment for Heresy.

The Nicene Faction—How Rome Put Her Foot on Her Sister Branches of the Church.

Prof. Geo. P. Rudolph, Ph. D., an expert contributor the following article to the *Patriotic American* last week:

We live in the last decade of the 19th century of the christian era. It is called christian because the religious doctrines which had been propagated by the apostles, disciples and followers of Christ eventually superseded Judaism and paganism. The christian form of religion or the christian church became the general, or universal religion and church, and was, therefore, called the Catholic church. The word Catholic is Greek, and means "universal." When speaking of the "Catholic church," we simply mean the universal church of the new era, or the christian church.

In this sense every church or religious denomination which teaches the doctrines that had been propagated by the apostles, disciples or followers of Christ, is a branch of the universal, or "Catholic" church of the new era. It is immaterial how large or small these branches were, or how long they existed. Some denominations of the new or universal church attained more power than others, and they at once utilized their temporal power for the strengthening of their branch or sect, while the lesser branches or denominations were extinguished by the stronger ones.

The first heavy split and large separation among the branches or sects of the universal church of the new era was made by the first ecumenical general council, which was convened by Emperor Constantine in 325, and is known in history as the council of Nice. The fourth century of christianity was the beginning of the dogmatizing church. The Catholic, or universal church existed in about twenty different branches or sects at the beginning of the fourth century, among which the followers of Arius were probably the strongest in numbers. Alexandria, which had given birth to the new doctrines that superseded Judaism and paganism, also produced the great champions of the large factions which fought for supremacy at the council of Nice, Arius and Athanasius. Both were well educated and well versed in apologetics. Arius had been a scholar of the school of Antioch, and when a priest in Alexandria, he met his antagonist, Bishop Alexander, with whom he disagreed in several points of theology. The bishop engaged his deacon, Athanasius, to defend his doctrine and to contradict Arius at the council of Nice. Bishop Alexander's faction controlled the council and the emperor, and the consequence was that Arius and his followers were condemned, anathematized, persecuted and exiled. Ostracism was the *modus operandi* in the hands of the faction that controlled the temporal power, and the sister branches or sects of the universal or Catholic faith were condemned as heretics and ostracized. On the one hand, christianity was fighting against paganism, and on the other hand, the stronger branches of the universal or christian church fought and condemned the lesser sects and employed persecution and the "boycott" in the extinction of the same. By confiscating the goods and property of the exiled members of antagonistic sects, the ruling branch of the universal faith soon attained great riches, and by aiding Emperor Constantine in his conquests, was soon recognized as the state church. This recognition by the state did not only establish christianity against paganism as the new faith of the state, but it also favored the Nicene faction of the new faith as the ruling church or branch of Catholicism. This new branch or ruling sect of the universal or Catholic church, favored by the state and enriched by the confiscation of all the property of condemned heretics or dissenters, subsequently transferred its court from the east to the west, and located at Rome, and has since been known as the Roman Catholic branch of the universal church of the new era.

The council of Nice had expressed its doctrinal points in the *Symbolum Sancti Athanasii*, or symbol of St. Athanasius, and in the Nicene creed, which is now sung as the "credo" in the "holy" mass, in which these words are used: (Con-

fiter) unum sanctum catholicum et apostolicum ecclesiam—I profess one holy Catholic and apostolic church. Ever since the council of Nice that "holy Catholic and apostolic" church has been known as the Roman Catholic church. We call it simply "Romanism."

The Roman branch of the Catholic church has made its Roman bishop with pope or head of the whole church with power to condemn all other sects of the christian faith as heretics and dissenters. Romanism began to condemn every sister branch of christianity by defining new points in theology at every ecumenical council. Romish theology gives a table of heresies, or "Syllabus Hereticorum," naming the heretics and heresies of each century, from the first to the nineteenth, in all over eighty different branches which have been condemned, anathematized, "boycotted," persecuted, and, in most cases, extinguished by the great "holy" church of Rome, which assumed the right and authority to define its theological tenets, and to condemn all sister branches that would not accept its "infallible" definitions. Besides the tabulated branches of the Catholic or universal church condemned by the Roman branch of christianity, we must add the uncounted numbers of modern Protestant branches or sects, which have all been condemned and anathematized by the great "holy" council of Trent (1545) and by the various papal bulls or edicts down to the present day. Romanism which sprang from the early form of christianity, has incessantly and most successfully striven to banish

From the days of the council of Nice, in 325, Romanism has set up its claim to temporal as well as spiritual power over all Christendom. Its first step was to be recognized as the only legitimate and true branch of christianity and to be established as the state church. This accomplished, Romanism went on gaining ground in temporal affairs until it had established its theocracy, by which it claimed the God-given authority and power to set up or depose sovereign lords, kings and emperors, and to make them subservient to its dominion over all nations. Having attained this temporal power, it became an easy task to promulgate and to enforce its theological decisions, by which it bound all christians to recognize the temporal and spiritual power and supremacy of the Romish church, and the authority of the pope in all things. Thus the successors of the meek and lowly Jesus of Nazareth established the most magnificent papal court in Rome, called the "holy see," from which the "infallible" head of the church sends out its blessings and dispensations, curses and anathemas, over the whole human race. Romanism claims that St. Peter, the apostle of Jesus, who had received the "keys of the kingdom of heaven," and the order to "feed my lambs, feed my sheep," and the ordination as head of the whole church in the words of its founder: "Thou art Peter, the rock, and upon this rock I shall build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," was the first pope of the christian church, and had moved his see from Jerusalem to Rome. Roman-

ism promotes the pope, who is the "infallible" authority in things pertaining to the complicated theology of the great church. The pope's uniform consists of a white cassock, or gown, white cincture and white rocket or mantle. His head is adorned by a triple crown called tiara. On the fourth finger of his right hand he wears a heavy golden ring with costly diamonds. On his feet he wears a pair of white slippers, adorned with gold and diamonds. The pope is generally called the "holy father," and the majority of Roman Catholic subjects do not know the pope by any other name. The holy father resides in the vatican, which is a collection of palaces and courts on the vatican hill, in Rome, adjoining the church of St. Peter. When the holy father receives visitors in any of his reception halls or chapels, he sits on an elevated throne, his feet projecting on a richly carpeted platform. The visitors, upon being ushered into the august presence of his "holiness," prostrate themselves according to given instructions, and then proceed to kiss the "holy" cross on the pope's slippers. From this custom has been derived the humiliating expression of "kissing the pope's toe." Everybody appearing in the presence of his holiness must go through the act of kissing the pope's toe—priest or layman, Catholics, Protestants or infidels, civilized or uncivilized. No one could even attempt to be admitted before the pope unless he would kiss the pope's toe, any more than a white man could attempt to sit down and transact any business with the savage Indian tribes unless he would first accept and smoke the pipe of peace.

purple stockings. The third order in the church is that of the priest. He is subordinate to his bishop, and is stationed at a church under the jurisdiction of the bishop, to look after the temporal affairs of Romanism and the spiritual wants of his flock. The priest's uniform is a black cassock, or gown, and black cincture, and a black biretta as head cover. The biretta of the priest has three corners, but is made for four corners, leaving off one of them, which gives it a very peculiar and odd shape. The priests are responsible to their bishops, the bishops to the college of the cardinals, and the cardinals to the holy father.

All decisions, dispensations, regulations, orders, indulgences, blessings, curses or anathemas come from the supreme Roman office, which regulates, forbids, or commands all affairs of the whole body of Romanism. The pope has the privilege to convene his cardinals and bishops from all the churches of the earth to a special ecumenical or general council, whenever he desires to speak "ex cathedra," or from the holy chair of St. Peter; but he can at any time give his decision on any point of theology, and such decision becomes binding for all Roman Catholics. From the council of Nice to the present day there have been nineteen ecumenical councils held, in which the teachings of all other churches outside of Romanism have been condemned and cursed.

Out of the olden times, when the church was supreme and the theocratic power of the pope of Rome was in full force all over Europe, was retained the adage: "*Roma locuta res finita est*"—

in the belief that the holy father of the church is that of the priest. He is subordinate to his bishop, and is stationed at a church under the jurisdiction of the bishop, to look after the temporal affairs of Romanism and the spiritual wants of his flock. The priest's uniform is a black cassock, or gown, and black cincture, and a black biretta as head cover. The biretta of the priest has three corners, but is made for four corners, leaving off one of them, which gives it a very peculiar and odd shape. The priests are responsible to their bishops, the bishops to the college of the cardinals, and the cardinals to the holy father.

In olden times a public excommunication from the pale of the "holy" church was considered to be a most disgraceful thing. The excommunicated subject was at once publicly denounced from the altar, and the strictest "boycott" was declared against him. The faithful were compelled to shun him under penalty of excommunication. This kind of excommunication was pronounced against any member of the church who failed to submit to the authority of the pope. The same excommunication is actually practised in our own days, and has been in vogue since the very days of the edict of Milan, in 313, or the council of Nice, in 325, and has been practised by the papal court through all the intervening centuries.

What an arrogant and haughty assumption of power! The history of Romanism shows up a list of 274 popes; good, bad, and indifferent. Illiterate, fanatical saints and haughty, arrogant despots, scholarly gentlemen and licentious scoundrels, punctilious theologians and scheming politicians were by fraud, bribery, corruption, or by scheming plots elected to fill the papal chair, and to dispense the unbounded treasury of christian salvation to the whole human race.

The pope of Rome exercises the same power and authority today over his subjects as the popes of the middle ages did, except that he has not the temporal power to inflict the same punishments as his predecessors dealt out to disobedient or refractory subjects.

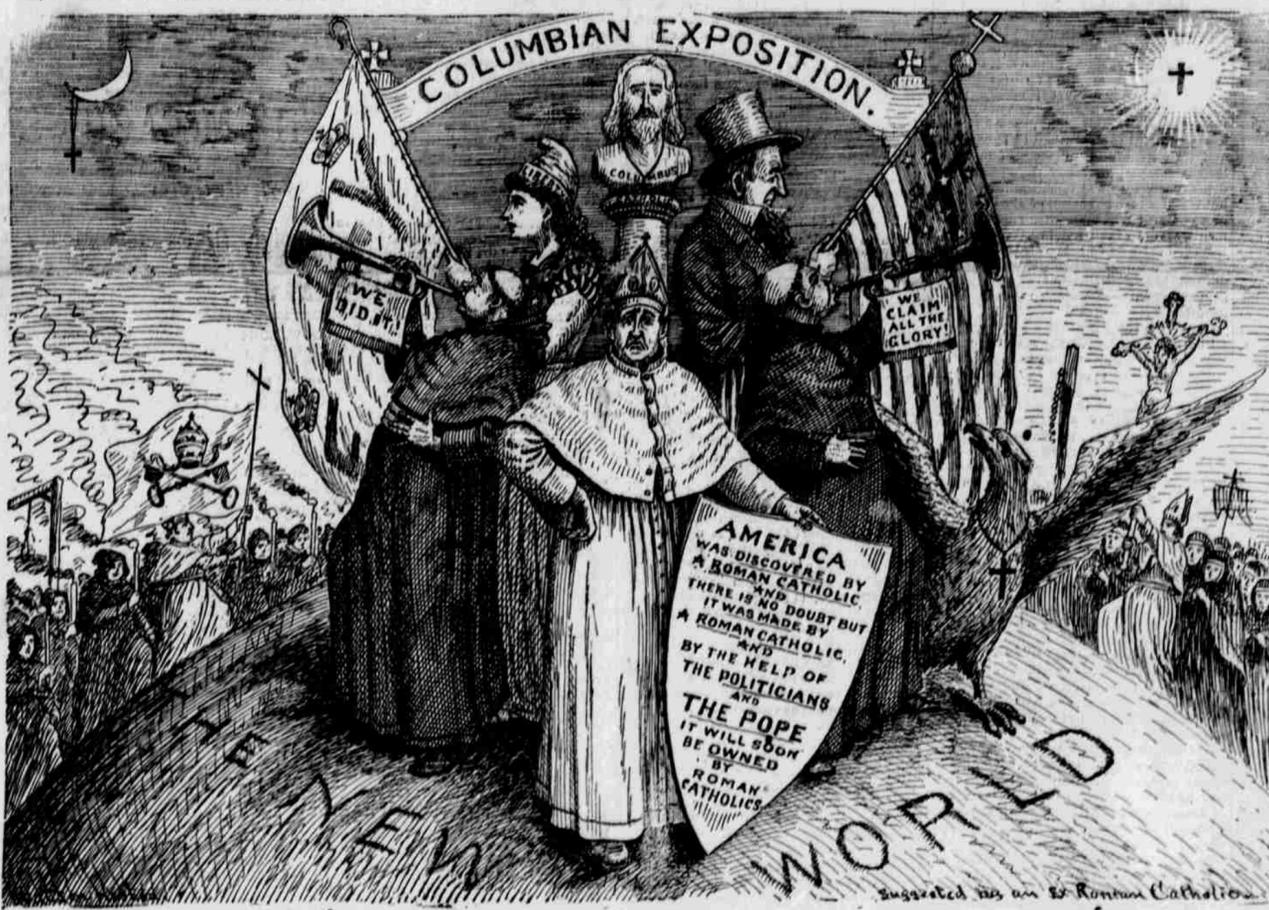
Romanism or Romish ecclesiasticism is the personification of power in the pope of Rome, or the concentration of political power in the church against the state. Romanism means the establishment of a theocracy of intolerance and absolute despotism of ecclesiastical cannibalism and sacerdotal terrorism. The ultimate aim of Romanism is the "dedification" of the holy father of all christendom, and the consequent subjugation of all the faithful and the extermination of all "renegades."

Having given a general idea and a short historical sketch of Romanism in this article, the author will present in subsequent articles a correct description of the peculiarities of the tenets of Romish theology and popish practices for the instruction of the public at large. I shall endeavor to present everything that may be calculated to give an "uninitiated outsider" a clear view of Romanism as it is. As these articles are not calculated to be sensational, but instructive, the morbid appetite of readers of trashy literature may not be gratified. In order to instruct my readers in the "inside" of Romanism, it is not necessary to conduct them

through the sewers of Romish corruption. These articles are calculated to be a guide in the hands of men, women and children of all creeds or denominations of christian churches, as well as for the unbeliever or skeptic. I shall simply present facts and relate my own experiences and observations while in the priesthood, and leave it to the reader to draw his own conclusions. Romanism is the greatest and most dangerous enemy of the human race, and the wonder that it has succeeded so well and has gained such a strong foothold, is the fact that the non-Catholics are always too willing to excuse so many wrongs in the Romish church because they are committed under the guise of religion. Wrong is wrong, and no theology or church can justify that which is wrong.

We Made No Mistake.
The youngest member of the next legislature will be Chas. H. Clark, of Omaha, son of H. T. Clark. Mr. Clark was elected to the senate by a hand some majority. He is only twenty three years old and the youngest member ever elected to the Nebraska law making body. Mr. Clark is a bright young man who comes from one of Nebraska's oldest, wealthiest and most highly respected families. Like his father and brothers he is an active and red-hot republican. The boy senate will "know his rights and, know" dare maintain.—*Frontier Tribune.*

PATRONIZE the men who patri this paper.



all christianity from the face of the earth and to establish its popish system of theocracy and hierarchy as the ruling power, and its popish superstition and idolatry as the revealed religious cult of the new era.

The history of the papacy would require volumes. It has been written by most competent historians in a nonsectarian spirit, and it has been eulogized in the "authentic" editions of Romish sources. The author of this article does not intend to give his readers a history of the papacy, nor the evolution of Romanism from primeval christianity to its present state of bombastic, sacerdotal idolatry, but "Romanism unveiled," or the papacy as it is, in its inner workings. The uninitiated outsider or heretic will be introduced into the secrets and mysteries of the idolatrous, superstitious, hypocritical, despotic and greedy "holy" church of Rome, which claims to be the only true church of God. Romanism claims to hold the "keys of the kingdom of heaven," and to be the only branch of the christian or Catholic church of the new era possessing the power to open or to shut the "gates of heaven," to forgive sins on earth or the punishment of sin in purgatory, to save the souls of mankind, and to send them to an eternal beatitude in the heavens above, or to damn them to the tortures of an everlasting hell below. All this power is claimed by Romanism, as well as the theocratic power to rule and govern all earthly affairs of the world.

ism claims an unbroken succession of popes or Roman pontiffs from St. Peter, the apostle, down to the present day, and that the power to rule and govern the church and all nations of the earth had been transmitted from one pope to another without interruption. In spite of the fact that the popes of the 14th century had been driven from Rome and kept out of it for about seventy years, during which period they resided at Avignon, in France. At times two and three popes contested for the holy see.

Prof. Von Ranke says: "The seat of the papal court was carried beyond the Alps, and the bishops of Rome became dependents of France. Two popes, each with a doubtful title, made all Europe ring with their mutual invectives and anathemas. The plain christian people, brought up in the belief that it was a sacred duty to be in communion with the head of the church, were unable to discover amid conflicting testimonies and conflicting arguments, to which of the two worthless popes, who were cursing and reviling each other, the leadership of the church rightfully belonged." And again: "The papal court has been a scandal to the christian name. Its annals are black with treason, murder and incest." (Macauley's Miscellaneous Writings, vol. II, page 474.)

The papal court, or the "holy see" of the "vicar of Christ," is the most expensive show on earth. At the head of the whole church is the pope or su-

The holy father is assisted in the official affairs of the great "holy" church of Rome by seventy cardinals, most of whom reside in Rome, others in foreign countries, but always subject to the pope's call. The cardinals are the ecclesiastical princes who constitute the pope's council, or the "sacred college." They are the electoral college who elect from their midst the one who is to be made pope. The uniform of the cardinal is a red cassock and cincture, and red rocket, or short mantle. His head is covered by a broad red hat with long tassels on each side. On his right hand the cardinal wears a costly ring, and on his feet a pair of red stockings. The cardinals are the executive body of Romanism. Next to the cardinals in authority come the bishops in all the countries of the globe where are Roman Catholics. A bishop is appointed by the pope to be at the head of a diocese, and has full control over the priests and people of his jurisdiction. His uniform consists of a purple cassock and cincture, and rocket, or short mantle. His head is adorned by a mitre, which is a high cap with a split top, resembling a huge split pumpkin seed, having two large strips hanging down over the bishop's back. On the fourth finger of the right hand the bishop wears a golden ring with a costly topaz. On approaching a bishop the visitor is required to kneel down and kiss the topaz on the ring, for which he then gains an indulgence of forty days. The bishop also wears

Rome has spoken, the question is settled. If any one had any difficulty with the church authorities, in ecclesiastical or in political affairs, and then appealed to the highest ecclesiastical authority, the pope, he was always sure to receive an adverse decision, for Rome would always decide a case in her favor. When Rome had once pronounced judgment in a case there was no further appeal possible, for Rome was the supreme and only judicial authority on earth, according to the theocracy of Pope Gregory VII. The pope claims to be the vicar of Jesus Christ and God's representative on earth, and the successor of St. Peter, the apostle. The spiritual or ecclesiastical authority had been handed down by God, the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the founder of the Roman Catholic church, to St. Peter, His apostle and first pope of Rome, and to his successors, the popes of the holy mother, the church of Rome. Thus Rome had at once sprung into significance as the mother of all the churches and as the papal court of the holy mother, the church of God. Civil power had been derived from the "evil spirit," and those who exercised it were subject to the highest authority, the vicar of Christ and representative of God, the pope, and he claimed and exercised the right to depose sovereign lords, kings or emperors at will, and to release their subjects or vassals from their allegiance to them. The faithful who had been brought up