

Rome's Attitude Toward the Public School System.

Notwithstanding the paramount and almost vital importance of the above question, it is indeed surprising how very little attention, as a general rule, Americans seem to pay to it, apparently content to let the matter shape its own course and seemingly blind to the fact that Rome is in a great many more ways than one, indiscreetly working for the overthrow of the present public school system.

The main object of this crusade against the public school system by the Romish church, is first to bring them into contempt and disrepute as being ungodly and irreligious, and next to build up Romish schools on their ruins.

Rome, not content with the right, which her church has, the same as every other religious denomination in this land, to establish as many schools as she can at her own expense, and conduct them in any manner she pleases, now seeks the destruction of the public schools, conducted as at present on a non-sectarian basis and demands a share of the public school funds proportionate to the number of children educated in their parochial schools—plainly speaking they wish to make Protestants contribute to a large degree, directly or indirectly to sustain their sectarian schools.

There is unmistakable evidence that a concerted movement has been started throughout every portion of this country where a public school system exists, it is the war-cry of Rome against all education except what is carried on under her own control and direction.

The first charge made by Rome against the public schools was that they were sectarian because the Bible was used daily in them. Rome does not let her children become conversant with the Bible. Full well she knows the reason why. Having succeeded in banishing the Bible from most of the public schools, she now turns round and makes the charge that those public schools are irreligious and ungodly, and Rome, ever crafty and hypocritical cloaks these charges so ably by pharisaic pleas of virtue and fair dealing, that today you find many Protestant clergymen and others who swing with Rome on this question in spite of the fact that the constitutions of nearly all of the states forbid any sectarianism in the public schools. Every intelligent person must realize that it is impossible to teach religion in a public school open to every religious denomination sect and creed—on a purely non-sectarian basis—the methods and beliefs of the several religious denominations of the present day are so numerous and so varied, as to utterly prohibit the teaching of religion in the public schools without conflicting to a certain degree, more or less, with the religious dogmas as held and believed by them.

Sectarianism must be avoided if the public school system is to be preserved in its integrity and it is essentially the duty of every true American to see that this integrity shall not be destroyed by any ecclesiastical interference—Roman Catholic or Protestant.

The theory that the entire work of education is the exclusive function of the Roman Catholic church is a sequence of the old mediæval papal dogma that the Roman church is the prime, supreme and all embracing source of authority, that the offices of the state are subordinate to and dependent upon the supreme will of the church and that all functions, civil and social must be administered under her direction and control. It does not require great logical insight to see that such a theory cannot be maintained in this grand American republic, for the proper discharge of the functions of American citizenship there must be an American education, therefore it is an imperative necessity that the state should provide for the education of its children. The public school system fosters the general intelligence, promotes public order and contributes to the stability of our citizenship and in a great many ways it helps the general, moral and social interests of the country and its material prosperity.

The authorities of the Roman Catholic church claim that they should be exempt from paying any taxes levied for the support of public schools on the grounds that they have to pay for the support of their own parochial schools. That may seem all very well, but the state does not compel them to establish and maintain parochial schools, that is a matter entirely of their own doing and choosing, but the state does offer them a public school system combined with an education vastly superior to that of their parochial schools, and in return, she naturally demands that they pay their share towards the support of them, the same as the other various religious denominations are compelled to. When will Rome get rid of the notion that she above all others is a privileged religion.

Notwithstanding this dislike on her part to contribute towards the public school fund, Rome has the presumption to calmly demand a proportion of this same fund to support her sectarian schools on the plea that the public schools are closed to the children of her religion on account of the godlessness of them.

The appropriation of money to the support of distinctively Roman Catho-

lic schools would be very unjust to those citizens and taxpayers who rightly believe that the Roman Catholic system is wrong itself and injurious in its consequences to individuals and communities. Roman Catholics must remember that Protestants have political and civil rights as well as themselves, and the support of Roman Catholic schools at public expense would be a violation of their rights, just as much as the support of Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist or Congregational schools with money drawn from taxes upon the whole people, would be a violation of the rights of individuals not represented in the denomination receiving the funds.

Hitherto, Rome for a lengthy period has to a great extent controlled the politics of the several states and consequently by means of such control, has been able to siphon enormous sums from the various treasuries for the support of her schools and institutions. Figures authentic beyond the shadow of a doubt show that in the space of seventeen years, 1869 to 1885 inclusive, Rome managed to secure from the city of New York alone the vast sum of \$12,916,715. Rome never hesitates to put her hands into the pockets of our public treasuries. Surely it is high time for all loyal and true Americans to now say halt, and to see that Rome obeys the command.

In August 1887, Dr. Mcglynn, at that time under the curse (?) of excommunication, but who lately, it is to be regretted, has so far forgotten his manhood as to become once more enslaved under the thraldom of Roman Catholicism, wrote the following:

"The hope is not concealed that when the so-called 'Catholic vote' shall become larger, then politicians will be induced to appropriate from the state legislature or local government all the funds necessary for the support of these schools. The extraordinary zeal manifested for the fitting up of these sectarian schools and institutions is first of all prompted by jealousy and hatred of our public schools and institutions, and by the desire to make employment for and give comfortable homes to the monks and nuns who make so-called education and charity their regular business, for which a very common experience shows us that they have but little qualification beyond their professional stamp and garb. It is not risking much to say that if there were no public schools there would be very few parochial schools, and the Catholic children, for all the church of Rome would do for them, would grow up in brutish ignorance of letters."

The above words coming from the source that they did are the more significant.

The history of Rome shows us that her object instead of imparting education to the masses has been to withhold it. Look at Spain, Italy and Ireland, where for so long, most of the educational facilities were under the control of Romanism, and you will find that the ignorance of the masses is absolutely awful. Rome knows full well that in order to keep an iron handed control over her subjects she must close the doors of knowledge and education to them, because the main element of her so-called religion is founded on superstition attendant on ignorance.

Mgr. Satolli, papal delegate to this country, or as he should be more correctly styled, papal ambassador to the United States for the pope, has never and will never relinquish his claim to a temporal sovereignty, issued last December an address on the public school question, but it was so ambiguously worded that to the uninstructed it sounded very fair and plausible and to all outward appearances countenanced to a certain degree the public schools, but read between the lines and a very different meaning is discernable. It was simply an address issued with the object of throwing dust in the eyes of the citizens of this country. Recent events in the political arenas of the various states show that Rome is using her baneful influence to control the state legislatures in order that she may obtain the enactment of new laws that she will make it permissible for the various states to apply the school funds in the manner that she now seeks for, and thereby cause the downfall of the present public school system, one of the grandest of our national institutions.

Bishop Scannell, of the diocese of Omaha, in his Lenten pastoral makes a covert attack on the public schools, claiming "purely secular education not safe." That may be so, but religion must be kept entirely out of the public schools. To the Sunday schools connected with the churches of the various religious denominations and the home circle can the teaching of religion be very safely and properly confided.

Citizens of America! Shall the public school system be demolished at the instigation of Rome? Shall Protestant's money be used for the support of Roman Catholic schools and institutions? For surely such will be the result if the public schools of this country are to be controlled by ecclesiastical domination. C. F. F. E.

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Sheriff's Sale. By virtue of an order of sale issued out of the District Court for Douglas County, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will on the 25th day of March, A. D. 1893, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the EAST front door of the County Court House, in the City of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, sell at public auction the property described in said order of sale as follows, to-wit: The undivided one-half of lots number two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5), six (6), seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), ten (10), eleven (11), twelve (12), thirteen (13), fourteen (14), fifteen (15), sixteen (16), seventeen (17), eighteen (18), nineteen (19), twenty (20), twenty-one (21), twenty-two (22), twenty-three (23), twenty-four (24) and twenty-five (25), in block one (1) of Shriver Place, an addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas County, state of Nebraska, said property to be sold to satisfy the Iron National Bank of Plattburgh, New York, the sum of three thousand five hundred eleven and 50-100 dollars (\$3511.50) with interest thereon at rate of nine (9) per cent per annum from September 15th, 1892; to satisfy Anderson Foundry and Machinery Company the sum of three hundred sixty-eight and 66-100 dollars (\$368.66); with interest thereon at rate of seven (7) per cent per annum from December 16th, 1891; to satisfy sixty-two and 30-100 dollars (\$62.30) costs, with interest thereon from the 19th day of September, A. D. 1892, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas County, at its September term, A. D. 1892, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein The Iron National Bank of Plattburgh, New York, was plaintiff, and John Melville, James E. Riley and others were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, February 23rd, 1893. GEORGE A. BENNETT, Sheriff of Douglas County, Nebraska. Williams and Williams, attorneys. 2-24-5

Sheriff's Sale. By virtue of an order of sale issued out of the District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will on the 25th day of March, A. D. 1893, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the East front door of the County Court House, in the City of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, sell at public auction the property described in said order of sale as follows, to-wit: Lots six (6) and two (2) in block one (1), in South Exchange Place, an addition to the city of South Omaha, all in Douglas County, state of Nebraska; said lot six (6) to be sold to satisfy David M. Stuart the sum of four hundred, eighty-six and 25-100 dollars (\$486.25); with interest thereon from September 22nd, 1890; said lot two (2) to be sold to satisfy Norman A. Kuhn the sum of one hundred, eighty-one and 60-100 dollars (\$181.60); with interest thereon from September 22nd, A. D. 1890; to satisfy David M. Stuart the sum of three hundred, two and 60-100 dollars (\$302.60); with interest thereon from September 22nd, 1890; and to satisfy from the proceeds of sale of both lots as above described, the sum of eighty-six and 60-100 dollars (\$86.60) costs, with interest thereon from the 22nd day of September 1890, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas County, at its September term, A. D. 1890, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein David M. Stuart was plaintiff and George W. Hervey was defendant. Omaha, Nebraska, February 23rd, 1893. GEORGE A. BENNETT, Sheriff of Douglas County, Nebraska. Williams and Williams, attorneys. 2-24-5

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