

THE AMERICAN.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

"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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VICTORY NOT YET WON.

Americans Still in Danger and Must Be on the Alert.

Powerful Sermon Delivered by Rev. A. T. Wolff, of Detroit, on the "Pillars of the Republic."

The Detroit Journal of May 14th contains the following extracts from a sermon by Rev. A. T. Wolff of that place:

"Oh God, deliver us from the danger of ecclesiastical interference, and preserve the Protestant religion in all of its strength," said Rev. A. T. Wolff, as he opened his service at Calvary Presbyterian church May 13.

The church was packed with people who had assembled to hear a sermon announced by Rev. Mr. Wolff on the "Pillars of the Republic." A special invitation had been extended to the A. P. A., the Orangemen, and kindred organizations. About 300 members of the various lodges marched to the church under command of F. W. Hook, of Loyal Orange lodge 176. The lodges represented were the Orangemen, the Ladies' Orangemen's lodge, American Protective Association and Junior Order of American Mechanics. Members of Windsor lodges were in the audience. The Calvary Cadets occupied prominent seats in the middle aisle.

In the opening prayer, Rev. Mr. Wolff petitioned against the invasion of foreigners into this country, and for a stronger manhood on the part of Americans born to protect their interests by the ballot. The pastor said that he was glad to welcome the members of the various organizations present, as he was a member of one of them himself.

"There was never such need of loyalty to our country as now," said Rev. Mr. Wolff. "There are dangers within and without, and we know not where to look for them. There is one safeguard. Place the white banner of the Lord at the top and underneath the flag of our country and keep them both waving in the free air. American citizenship has been enlarged by work and discipline, and the work of our nation is a priceless legacy to every American citizen and Christian. It was the liberty of the American which led others to venture to these shores, and it was our liberty that made us what we are. George Washington was the instrument of the Lord, and the revolutionary war was the grandest, noblest and best struggle ever made by any nation in the world's history, and the declaration of the United States is the embodiment of the firmness and stability of the grandest men of the day. Men of moral courage and stamina, and although skeptics may criticize it as a glittering generality, as has been done, a careful perusal will show you the grandest of documents whose power has held together the noblest of nations for more than a century.

"It is not safe to raise a monument to a man before he is dead, for the virtues of youth may not endure to the end. Consequently we should not rear ourselves a monument and look upon it with pride, for this nation is still naught but a fighting hero. We have not yet won the final victory, and the future of this republic depends upon its future citizens. We have our laws and if the citizens are loyal and carry out the principles set forth the nation shall not die, but shall live forever.

"Among the pillars of this nation and the strongest of them all is the Bible. Our government was founded on the word of God, and in every department will be found in it all of our acts. It is even stamped on our dollars. By many witnesses this nation declares itself a religious nation, and yet it gives us no church and no Bible but the one universal Bible open before us.

"The Protestant church is the salt that preserves this nation, and God forbid that the time shall ever come when there shall be united with this government any taint of ecclesiastical power. The Protestant church offers to the state loyal subjects, and in turn the state offers to the nation loyal citizens. There are our free public schools, free from the taint of sectarianism in any respect. Let no sect ever lay its hand upon them and let us forever maintain them in the original purity of years gone by with the American flag flying from the staff without and the non-sectarian Bible within.

"Another of the pillars of this nation is the press. With a free press, with a strength to stand up for the right and to crush out the wrong, there would be one of the grandest of levers for a radical change for the better. Then there is the need of integrity in the business



SHALL THIS COUNTRY ADOPT THEM?

men and manufacturers. Even under the present depression the nation can stand if the business men are men of integrity and honesty. The villages, town and cities of this nation are built through the integrity which is to be found among the typical American merchant, so let the old confidence return and the nation will forge ahead in the sea of prosperity. No more important pillar of this republic is to be found than the elective franchise. It is better to trust the mass of the people than a few statesmen who live through political influence and political appointments. The ballot box must be placed under the proper restrictions and no man who cannot read and understand what he is doing should have a right to take part in the privilege which the intelligent citizen enjoys. The ballot should be free from anarchy, communism and the terrible power of the Vatican. The typical American home is another pillar of the strength of this country. In it is to be found freedom, rest and comfort, and it is, like the roots of a great tree, sapping the strength from the surroundings to give strength to the tree of liberty.

"The great progress that this nation has made is not sufficient to protect us from dangers that now threaten, for even the oldest and most powerful nations in the history of the world have crumbled away and passed to a memory through the dangerous habit of self-confidence, which is likely to lead a people to think that there is no power so great as their own. There is danger that we may become a Godless nation, even though we build churches. There are enemies from without that must be combated, and we can only do it as did Washington when he knelt down in the snow at Valley Forge.

"While this is the day of America's greatness, it is also the day of America's danger, and this danger is upon us in many forms. There is the danger of becoming a money-loving, money-hoarding nation. There is a deepening cleft between capital and labor and the process of grinding down the poor is becoming a continual source of danger. There is in the signs of the times and in the eyes of those who know the history of such conditions, something of a terrible significance. Pagan Rome was never so rich as she was just before her fall, and when Spain was crumbling the wealth of all Europe was flowing into her coffers. There is danger of a corrupt school, a corrupt press, and more especially of the grasp of the iron hand of the old man of Rome, who is reaching out ready to seize upon every American institution and crush it out, to build up in its stead a Romish

power. That danger is greater, as it is gaining strength among the low and superstitious of the foreigners, as well as the American born citizens. There is also a danger of impure literature and false impressions given strength through an impure press. Let the pulpit and the press of the country teach these things and give more attention to the prevention of the incoming of ecclesiastical power and let us put the ballot into the hands of the educated and intelligent women of the country. Let the flag of this nation be the only flag to wave; the white symbolical of the Christian purity of our homes; the blue, of the heavenly origin of our nation, and the red of the terrible sacrifices that have been endured to preserve the nation and that may yet be awaiting those who are loyal. Save us from the dangers of a flood of foreigners who have no interest or value as citizens, and from the terrible power of the church of Rome, which is seeking to grasp our every institution, and may we have strength to keep loyalty and our Bible above all else."

of mortal or combination of mortals, has been and is the arch-fiend himself. Only on this hypothesis can one understand the consummate skill; the far-seeing judgment, the unity of purpose which running through centuries characterize the life and work of Jesuitism.

But I am trespassing in thus intruding what may be considered as debatable opinions. Let us return to facts, and when we do we can understand the philosophy of our Roman Catholic friend's position and the fallacy of insisting upon the question being merely, or chiefly, a political one, and on the other hand we shall see that it is primarily and intensely a religious one, and *en passant* I would remark that the time of trial through which we are passing is but the natural and just punishment of a Protestant people for having so long failed to protest against the absurd claims and the blasphemous usurpations of an apostate church. The Book of Inspiration declares it to be the divine intention to establish a kingdom upon earth, some understanding it to have been in the past, others looking for it in the future, while still another school believe it to have begun in the past, is still existing and will, in the future be still more clearly defined. Then, again, there are two ideas regarding its character: One, that it is spiritual, with its king in heaven operating upon and controlling His subjects by the mysterious influences of His spirit upon the individual heart, while others believing this also look for the visible manifestation of power in a person. That a real kingdom on earth with all the concomitants of kingly station, and with all the power needful for the administration of its laws is the ultimate intention of the Divine, I have no doubt.

THE ROMAN CONTROVERSY.

Not Merely a Political, But Primarily a Religious Question.

EDITOR THE AMERICAN.—Dear Sir: There is one phase of the Roman controversy that to my mind is paramount in importance and which receives but scant attention comparatively.

I have listened to lecturers and have read articles on the attitude of Rome to our institutions and invariably she has been attacked as a political foe.

One prominent preacher recently while speaking on this subject went so far as to say that if Romanists were to build a temple and dedicate it to the devil he would not interfere with them, and that so long as Roman Catholics did not meddle with American institutions, but simply attended to their religious duties he had no quarrel with them. He seemed to me to be utterly oblivious of the fact that it was this very attention of the Romanist to religious duty that compelled him to busy himself so exceedingly in the attempt to manage the American machine.

Begin where you will and reason back to first principles and you finally run against the great fact of religion with its beliefs and obligations that control the life of the Romanist and however strange it sounded to hear the aforementioned preacher speak of devil worship in the connexion stated, it is my firm conviction, that, back of all the movements of Jesuitism through the ages; brooding over it constantly and sleeplessly; guiding and controlling it with a skill and cunning beyond that

by disobedience to one whose hand can open the portals of bliss to him or close the dungeon gates of hell upon him. So this travesty of the kingdom of God insists upon absolute and unquestioning obedience, and all true subjects naturally seek by all means (for the end justifies any means) to extend the power of the pope until it is in fact as now he declares it ought to be, that no government should exist without his sanction, no laws emanating from any other source are binding upon the conscience of his subjects, and so party ties and national claims sink out of sight when the crack of the whip of Rome is heard.

Who, then, can blame the poor Romanist, shut out from the light of the gospel of the Son of God, and shut up to the false teachings of this apostate power-seeking church, if he, believing all her claims, places himself absolutely in her hands. What Protestant Christian, if he be a true follower of Jesus does not daily desire the establishment of the kingdom as he understands it, and by word and act and vote endeavor to further the cause he has at heart. These two, the Roman Catholic and the Protestant Christian are both driving at the same thing as they understand it, but one is seeking to bring the world to the feet of its rightful king direct; the other is trying by word and act and vote to compel all to acknowledge the same king as he understands the matter as represented in the person of the pope; so we see it is at root a religious question, intensely so.

The Roman Catholic in blind devotion to the pope and the Protestant Christian in intelligent devotion to the Son both voting for their man. We are being forced to face the problem of the centuries. How shall we solve it? If we do not solve it aright our institutions go down like broken reeds. Let progress be the watchword, more and more enlightenment through our public school system, a liberal scattering of Bibles in all our land, an active exposing of Rome's errors in the spirit of Christ in all our pulpits, a wide restoration of the reformation spirit which will bring about a cleansing of our Protestant sanctuaries from all the Romish ideas that have slyly crept in and found lodgment. The development of a spirit of more determined opposition to Roman aggression and at the same time of brotherly kindness towards Roman Catholics, thousands of whom are waiting the coming crisis to call them to "come out of her my people that ye be not partakers of her plagues."

In conclusion, let me reiterate: The Roman controversy is a religious one—

intensely so. The great final struggle is almost on between him that "wants himself above all that is called God" on the one hand, and God, who was "manifest in the flesh," on the other. I have no doubts regarding the outcome, but it very largely rests with the people to determine the length of the crisis now approaching. The streams of history are rapidly converging toward the maelstrom of the ages out of which shall float the scattered and broken power of empires. Our great Anglo-Saxon race will be caught in the eddies and will, of course, be shaken, for the time of "Jacob's trouble" is at hand, but we shall be "saved of it out" and emerging a cleansed and righteous nation, or company of nations, we shall go proudly on to the attainment of our destiny in the world. Rome must go down—the harlot's punishment awaits her. The "wild olive branch" that has been so long grafted into the olive tree of God's own planting shall be cut off. The excised Jew shall be re-grafted. The once despised Jesus shall be enthroned and "righteousness shall cover the earth as the waters the sea," and one shall not have to ask the other, "Knowest thou the Lord?" for all shall know Him, from the least to the greatest. God hasten the day—no more to be.

Yours, WATCHER.

FLAG PRESENTATION.

Thurston Rifles Presented With "The Colors" at the Coliseum.

Monday evening last will long be remembered as a red-letter event in the history of this gallant military company, comprised of the cream of the young men of this city; the event in question being the presentation of a handsome flag, and its attendant ceremonies.

That the Thurston Rifles are held in high estimation by the people of Omaha was evident from the immense crowd that gathered at the Coliseum Monday evening to witness the presentation. Captain Scharff is to be congratulated on the military bearing and appearance of the men under him. The Omaha Guards, the High School Cadets and Dodge Light Guards of Council Bluffs, took part in the parade and subsequent ceremonies. The flag was presented by Mrs. Fisher, president of the Ladies' Auxiliary, and was received by the chaplain, Rev. S. Wright Butler on behalf of the company.

Governor Crouse, who was accompanied by his full staff, made a brief address, as also did the Hon. John M. Thurston. After a drill exhibition by the several companies, dancing was indulged in till an early hour.

A Lesson to Profit By.

The strike recently inaugurated in the coke regions of Pennsylvania has brought to light a subject that has long been the bone of contention in this country. It appears that the Hungarians, Poles and Slavs have been instigated to strike by the German and Irish laborers in order to drive them out of the country. The United States immigration laws have been too loosely carried out. If the proper restrictions were adhered to there would be less trouble. These periodical eruptions are caused by the ignorant and illiterate, with anarchistic proclivities, and at the least provocation compel men of judgment to quit work by force. This country is a republic and welcomes to its shores all foreigners who are intelligent and willing to subscribe to its laws, but when they begin to usurp power and take the lives of their fellow workmen in their own hands, the time has arrived when their acts must be counteracted. Nine-tenths of this peculiar foreign element are poor deluded Roman Catholics, and only know the teachings of the domineering priests, believing that they will receive absolution for their criminal acts. So long as this belief is entertained by them they have no fear of the common laws of the land. The sooner they are made to feel and fear these laws, the better it will be for the country in general.—*Ancient Knight.*

A Premium on Crime.

Emile Henri died on the gallows in Paris Sunday morning for causing a dynamite explosion in the Cafe Terminus eight weeks ago. Meanwhile Prendergast, who brutally assassinated Mayor Harrison of Chicago seven months ago, reposes in Cook county jail and may yet escape the penalty that fits his crime. We might well imitate France and England in the administration of justice. A premium is put on crime by our present methods.—*Duluth Evening Herald.*

The Romans claim that our schools are Godless. If Rome had kept her hands off, the Bible would have continued in the schools and would have wielded great influence for good. No body is a Godly church that will fight the Bible.