

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

SOME seventeen days ago J. V. Wolfe, the leading Populist of Lancaster county, found it necessary to address a letter to Silas A. Holcomb, acting as governor of the state of Nebraska. In that letter Mr. Wolfe said: LINCOLN, Neb., April 30.—Hon. S. A. Holcomb, Governor of Nebraska—Dear Sir: Yours of the 24th inst. at hand, and while not a total surprise to me, and consequently not a personal disappointment, the information is much to be regretted from a party standpoint. You say that "after giving the matter four months consideration I today arrive at a conclusion in regard to the matter of the appointment of a warden at the state prison, and George W. Leidigh of Nebraska City has been named." This is indeed a singular admission and quite contrary to the general rule. Crimes and offenses of all kinds have generally at least one mitigating circumstance. They are generally committed in haste or without due consideration. But you undoubtedly do not regard the act as a crime or even as an offense, but coupled with a number of other appointments of a similar nature, and especially with Mr. Dahiman's, another leading Democrat, made at the same time, and who was an applicant for the same position, you are charged with party perfidy and a deadly assault upon "the independent party" organization in this state, and upon this charge you will have to go upon trial before the bar of our people, and may God defend the right! Being an applicant for one of the positions given to a Democrat, and therefore liable to the usual charge of "disgruntled" shall not deter me from assisting in the prosecution for I think my past record will bear me out when I say that I can accept defeat with, at least, moderate grace. My motives are and have been, much higher than any personal consideration. It is because I am a Populist from principle, and because I believe the triumph of the principles of the party is common humanity's last and only hope, and because I believe that any alliance with any other party will not only retard our growth, but, in the end, will prove fatal to our success that forces upon me the unpleasant duty that I feel called upon to perform. I acknowledge it is a very unpleasant duty for our personal relations, and the personal relations between myself and all your appointees, so far as I have any acquaintance with them, has been very agreeable, but I feel that I occupy a peculiar position, and at this time a very responsible one. Like yourself (if indeed you are at all out), I came out of the Democratic party. And in all my experience in trying to advance the interest of our cause, I have found no greater obstacle anywhere, or at any time, than that thrown in the way by Republican orators and the Republican press when they have charged the Independent party as being a tail to the Democratic kite. The Republican party having ruled in Nebraska since it became a state, and being largely in the majority, it could be readily seen that its overthrow depended largely, and mainly, on desertions from its own ranks. And manfully have they come, and loyally have thousands of them stood by our organization even when the party lash has been most severely applied, and steadily have we moved on, and steadily has confidence in our integrity been increasing. It is true I have denied, and still deny, that the Democrats in the Populist party, had any sympathy with their old party, as an organization, but it has been left for you to give the charge new and additional force, if not practically to demonstrate to many its truth. I am not personally unfriendly to Democrats, or to Republicans, as such, but politically I am as much opposed to one as the other. No, governor, since I left the Democratic party I have "cast no longing, lingering look behind." I, too, might possibly have held office if I had acted otherwise. I by no means think you are a bad man. I only think you have proven yourself a weak one. You are by no means the first man, even in Nebraska, whose ambition has over-leaped itself. The political highway is everywhere strewn with its wrecks. You have neither been in a position, nor in the condition, since our reform movement began, to be able to grasp its full meaning. You have been in good circumstances and drawing a liberal salary. Your mind has been occupied more with law and with loans than with distressed homes and an impoverished people. You did not, I believe, attend either the Cincinnati or St. Louis conference, or the Omaha national convention. There are other minor parts in your letter I must refer to, but must be very brief. You say further, "I regret being compelled to disappoint so worthy a Populist as yourself." I certainly appreciate the compliment, but I utterly fail to see where the "compulsion" comes in. Any information upon the

subject as to who "compelled" you, would be thankfully received. I may be mistaken, but I understand you are the governor of Nebraska and that the governor by law appoints the warden of the penitentiary. I find nothing in the law giving such power to a private secretary, to an ex-democratic congressman, or even a United States senator. Where, therefore, I pray, is the compelling power you speak of when you say, "I regret being compelled." You further say, "I will be glad to talk the matter over with you at your convenience." I certainly will be glad to do so, although it seems to be a little late. If you had told me before the act was done that some one or some power was about to "compel" you to do an act you did not want to do I might have been of some service to you and to myself; but still I will hear you, and only hope you will be able to fully justify your course. My grievance, however, is by no means a personal one. While I think I had a right to expect different and better treatment I have no personal spite to gratify. It is true that I have spent more time in trying to build up and to advance the party's interests than you and all your appointees together, except Mr. Powers, and the movement has cost me more money than you all, without any exception, yet I only ask that our principles be adhered to till enacted into law.

Since Silas received the above communication he has made some more appointments, but these last appointments, like those formerly made, do not meet the approval of the Populist leaders. In Douglas county there is much dissatisfaction, as can be seen by this communication from Hon. Daniel Burr to Mr. Rosewater's governor at Lincoln:

OMAHA, Neb., May 14, 1895.—HON. SILAS A. HOLCOMB, LINCOLN, NEB.: Dear Governor—As much as I regret adding to your annoyances and perplexities, I feel justified in again addressing you on the subject of our last interview. While many of our party members are loud in their complaints, I try to put myself in your place, and, doing so, I am convinced that it was an error of the head, resulting from a misrepresentation of the facts by interested parties outside our party, and not a willful injury to our party in Douglas county, for such it really is.

When you consider that 90 per cent. of our leading Populists are either out-and-out A. P. A.'s or in full sympathy with them, the displeasure they must feel at the appointment of one known Catholic and another who always trains with that crowd and fully sympathizes with them, is not to be wondered at. We have tried to keep this church question out of our party and let the two old parties fight it out, but the church party have done their best to force us to take up the issue, and now they have succeeded, and they will find us as ready to handle that question as any other. Regarding it from the standpoint of policy alone, to say nothing about principle, we cannot afford to ignore it. The Democratic party are openly and avowedly the Catholic church party, and the Populist party must either suffer their fate or come out flatfooted and refuse to truckle to that giant church corporation. Even if, for policy's sake, we should longer remain silent, it would avail us nothing, as they justly consider "he that is not for us is against us," and the support of the church would be with the Democratic party, whom they know are with them, and it remains for us to accept the issue and define our position on that as well as all other questions. And I assure you that Douglas county will not go unheard from.

We have straddled that question as long as we can, and very much to our loss. We met it last fall, and our undefined position lost you nearly or quite as many votes as the Catholic church gave you in this county.

Mr. Rosewater's greatest strength in this county comes from the Roman church, because he knows by standing in with them he can handle their voters by working with their priests.

His support of you last fall should not entitle him to any consideration at your hands. He got all the glory he was entitled to in defeating his arch-enemy. And I verily believe that, had the Democrats held together and Rosewater remained neutral, with three full tickets in the field and party lines drawn on general issues, we should not only have elected our governor, but the whole state ticket, with a majority in the legislature on straight party principles. Our gains from both the old parties would have been sufficient, but when many of our people who had been republicans saw us lying down with their old enemies the Democrats, they went back to the Republican party, and others who were ready to come refused to be made over to the Democratic party in that way.

Had your coming been known to our leading men, you would have had no room for doubt as to their sentiments, and you would have found that my views would have been seconded by 90 per cent. of our people. Very few knew of your being in the city. I only learned it by accidentally meeting you on the street, and you could not arrive at a just conclusion of the situation from hearing Deaver, Rosewater and their satellites, and only one of the opposition.

With full confidence in your motives, I regret to be compelled to say that you made a grave mistake, but I still have the honor to subscribe myself your friend and true Populist.

D. BURR.

THERE is no subject of so much interest to the home-owners of this country as that of mortgages. This is so for this reason: Nearly every home is covered by a mortgage. In the June number of *The Nation* is an interesting paper on real estate foreclosures by Attorney John O. Yeiser, of Omaha, that will repay anyone for perusing it. We make the following excerpt: "The law provides that after thirty days of the most public notice that could be given, that the land must be offered for sale at the most public place in the county seat, and cannot be sold for less than two-thirds of its real value, which is stated to be the same as its appraised value. In the light of this law it is possible for a court to hold that land may be appraised at merely what money could be realized from its sale? How can that be true when the statutes say that although the land is publicly advertised and sold at the highest price obtainable the sale shall not be confirmed unless the amount bid is at least two-thirds of its real value? It is certainly clear to any one that the value is not to be regulated by the amount of money the land would sell for. The mortgagee relied upon these conditions, believing that if he could not pay his debt at maturity he might avail himself of a nine months' stay, and believing that at the expiration of this time the mortgagee might sell the property at not less than the enormous discount of 33 per cent. upon its value in order to raise the money due, or the mortgagee might bid in the property and take it at this discount, but not rob a man by taking it below that price. That is what it shows. That is the plain meaning of the conditions of a mortgage, and every mortgagee is warranted in believing as I have suggested. How can a court conscientiously permit appraisers to value land at just what it will sell for in such a depressing season as the one through which we are passing, when the statute provides that the value shall not be based upon what the property will sell for, and puts the minimum price, which, of course, is the highest bid, at two-thirds of the value of the land offered? According to the provisions of the statute, which, of course, as stated, are conditions of the mortgage, is it expressly provided when the value found shall have existed? No, it is not. Therefore I maintain in the light of all reasoning and the general law of contracts that such value should be determined, as it existed when the agreement was entered into—when the contract or mortgage was made."

### Poisoned the Water.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 16.—My good neighbor, Priest Rosinski, gave it out in church that I must be removed before Easter Sunday, and that there should be no service in our church on that day, for the church would be burned down. And, de facto, they have poisoned the water in our well. Myself, my housekeeper and an old lady we had all got very sick and we were sick for over two weeks. We immediately stopped the use of the water, used good medicine, and recovered. Now we cannot use the water. In the evening during holy week I was followed by a few murderous rascals while going home from church. Our good people had to guard me and my house, and we had to watch our church closely to prevent its being burned. We are continually persecuted and attacked in the streets, and our children are interfered with in going to or from the school.

F. KOLAZESKI,  
Old Catholic.

### "The Nation" for June.

The June number of *The Nation* will contain many excellent papers on subjects of general interest to everyone, among which may be mentioned, "Democracy vs. Putschocracy," by Hon. M. W. Howard; "Our Mortgage Indebtedness," by John O. Yeiser; "The Money Famine," by Hon. Paul Van Dervoort. These are articles which will set men to thinking, inasmuch as they deal in questions of vital importance to all citizens. All newsdealers sell *The Nation*, or it can be procured by sending 10 cents to *The Nation*, 1615 Howard street, Omaha, Neb.

### A VETERAN'S BURIAL.

#### Comrades Pay a Last Tribute to a Grand Army Brother.

The funeral of the late Oliver Anson took place Sunday afternoon from the Broadway Methodist Church, the large auditorium being crowded with old soldiers, friends and relatives of deceased. In the early afternoon the old soldiers proceeded to the residence and escorted the remains to the church, where Comrade Paulson presided. Prayer was offered by Chaplain Snyder, and the military record of deceased was read by Adjutant Spera, followed by remarks by Rev. Mr. Dudley.

The remains were then removed to the hearse and the funeral procession took up its march to Laurel Hill in the following order:

McFadden Drum Corps.  
High School Cadets.  
Abe Lincoln Post, No. 29, G. A. R.  
Encampment No. 8, Union Veteran Legion.

Ladies' Auxiliary, No. 17, U. V. L., and a long line of friends in carriages. Arriving at the grave, Lieut. Col. Cooper conducted ritualistic services, the closing scene being a parting salute, three volleys by the cadets, followed by the sounding of the taps by the encampment bugler. The record of Mr. Anson as read at the church was as follows:

Comrade Oliver Anson, at the age of 17 years, enlisted as a soldier in the volunteer service of his country on December 3, 1861, for a term of three years, as a private in Company H, Sixteenth Iowa Infantry; was promoted to first lieutenant and adjutant of the regiment, and after a continuous service of three years and seven months was mustered out on the 19th of July, 1865, by reason of close of the war. During his term of service he served on the staff of Gen. Giles A. Smith, commanding fourth division, Seventeenth Army Corps, Army of the Tennessee, and on the staff of General Hickenlooper, commanding Crocker's Iowa brigade, Third Brigade, fourth division, Seventeenth Army Corps. He participated in the following engagements: Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Holly Springs, Tuscumbia, siege of Vicksburg, through the Atlanta campaign, and was captured before Atlanta, but was exchanged in time to join in the march with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea. He was mustered as a comrade of Encampment No. 8, Union Veteran Legion, on the 13th of December, 1887, serving two terms as adjutant of the encampment, one term as lieutenant colonel, and on the 10th of January, 1895, was mustered as colonel of the encampment, which position he held at the time of his death.—*Council Bluffs Globe*.

### Rome's Program.

Letter topics, as texts and topics for sermons, and both should be fresh and suggestive, come, we scarcely know whence, but we may believe the spirit helpeth. Somewhat perplexed today, and asking, What shall we say to our readers? a wide-awake parishioner whose Protestantism and piety rose question who know him, rang our door bell, and left a paper that furnishes a fruitful theme for an *Observer* letter. It is the program for a "musical and literary entertainment," last Sunday evening, in our Academy of Music, under the auspices of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and entitled, "An Evening in Ireland." Of the eight-page paper, with twenty-four columns, less than one column and a half tell of the aims and objects of the A. O. H. The program of music and addresses by two priests and a lay gentleman occupy small space, whilst the rest of the paper is filled with "ads" that pay.

Several points will interest your readers, and bear upon the public welfare, upon which everybody should be posted. Concerning a Sunday evening entertainment in a theatre in Washington, in which ministers of religion are chief figures, there can scarcely be two opinions among friends of morality, to say nothing of religion in a Protestant christian country. Patriots and philanthropists, even though they do not profess faith in Christ and in christianity, can hardly fail to see the close connection between the godly conscience, which Sunday observance educates and fosters, and the peace and good order of society. If one thing is more important than another in American citizenship, it is the enforcement of the decalogue and the golden rule. Entertainments in a theatre on the Lord's day cannot do otherwise than loosen moral restraints, whilst lawlessness is now rampant everywhere, especially in our cities. The time is here for Sinai to thunder. The law and the gospel must not be divorced.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians had its origin in Ireland, and the purpose of its founders was to keep alive the spirit of Irish nationality, so dear to the heart of every Irishman, under the most trying circumstances and con-

ditions, and to protect the priesthood in the exercise of their sacred functions." Planted in New York city, where, it is said, the Irish population is larger than in Dublin, the A. O. H. is said to have extended to every state and territory in this broad land. This Irish order enjoys the same immunity enjoyed by Masons and Knights and other secret orders in the United States, even though these orders are interdicted by the pope. If Romish secret societies are military and drill regularly, as is alleged, the people of the United States should know it. We submit that, as adopted citizens, it is American and not Irish, not Italian nationality that is to be kept alive, as is done by our Protestant German and Scandinavian people as classes. Nor do Romish priests need to be "protected in the exercise of their sacred functions," for our flag protects every law-abiding citizen, even priests and ex-priests, who are sometimes mobbed, not by our own American people, but by their own devotees. It will not be forgotten that but a few weeks since, in Savannah, Ga., the mayor himself, said to be an Irish citizen, was obliged to protect with the strong arm of the law an ex-priest, who, as an American citizen, proposed to tell what he knew by experience of the papacy, and whose life was endangered by Roman Catholics. It is not strange that such violence in Savannah gave birth to the A. P. A. In that beautiful city, all whose traditions are American and Protestant, free and patriotic.

But probably the most remarkable, as it is the most deplorable, feature of this A. O. H. Sunday entertainment program of eight pages and twenty-four columns, is the advertisements. My friend had gone over it carefully, and put a red line around each "ad" of a saloon, brewery, grocery with liquor attached, and restaurant. And with what result? Astonishing, and yet not astonishing when we remember that even Archbishop Ireland says: "Catholics nearly monopolize the liquor traffic." In this program are seventy-five liquor advertisements! The Sunday theatre entertainment—the Ancient Order, to keep alive the spirit of Irish nationality, and to protect the priesthood—the seventy-five liquor advertisements! An alarming trio surely!

That this correspondence stands for the broadest interpretation of American and christian citizenship, your readers need not be told. American citizens will not tolerate religious proscription any more than they would tolerate papal interference with our public schools or the ballot-box. That our people are apprehensive of danger is manifest in the several American organizations, by whatever name they are called, which live for the protection of American institutions. Our people are not all in Protestant churches, but all true Americans, native and adopted, are Protestant as against any organizations that imperil the freedom and purity, and sobriety, and sanctity that are the life blood of the republic. We stand for the Sabbath and the sanctuary—against the saloon, a veritable Pandora's box of lawlessness and vice. So long as Rome suffers herself to be dominated by rum, we must write rum and Rome, the twin enemies of the state (July, etc.).

B.  
*Washington Letter in Lutheran Observer.*

### Lions Chase a Rat.

A renegade priest named Slattery, who openly and notoriously, to the great scandal not alone of religion but of common decency, consorts with a woman whom he presumes to call his wife, has been doing the devil's work in Savannah, Ga., by outrageous attacks on the church he had abandoned for the flesh. A renegade Irishman is a thing so low that even satan might hesitate before accepting him accommodation in the Plutonian kitchen; but a renegade priest—smells to heaven and pollutes the earth. These creatures have become all too common in this country. The revolted "priest" and the "ex-nun" have become an old story in America. They are generally patronized by unthinking persons of Protestant belief, who do not stop to ask themselves, Why have these people left the original fold? Catholics know only too well that unfrocked priests are chiefly victims of drink or debauchery of some kind. Some repent and return, but the majority do not. Slattery is one of the latter type. He is a disgrace to his name, his race and his new-found creed, if he has any. He will die howling for mercy from the God he has offended and the church he has outraged. This has been the end of others of his kind.

But why should the Catholics of Savannah get into a rage over the mouthings of this wretched being? What harm can he do them or the church, which has calmly withstood the storms of ages? Can the church that has not bent before giants be agitated by pigmies? Southern blood is hot, much

hotter than that of the north, and allowance must be made for its vehemence. But, on the whole, the spectacle at Savannah suggested a crowd of lions chasing a many-headed serpent. The more they chase Slattery the more the bigots will glorify him. Let him remain a rat.—*Citizen (Romish)*.

We copy the above by request, and proceed to express our opinion of the same. This man Slattery claims to have seen the evils of Rome, to have been converted to Christ, and is putting in his time, at the risk of his life, showing the evils of Rome. We have seen many reformers, and can freely say they have a hard road to travel. If any men in any age are entitled to a hearing for the evident courage of their convictions, it is the men who tell what they know about Rome.

The truth always cuts to the quick, and so it is not surprising that Rome howls about Slattery. But if we were a Catholic we would blush to see what a sorry "lion" it is that seeks the life of Slattery.

Of all the traitors that ever walked this American soil, these drunken Romish mobs are, in our estimation, the least excusable. Under the pretense of religion they get drunk and go around seeking to murder a man because he exercises the right of an American citizen, the right guaranteed to all Americans, the right of which no one but a Catholic would seek to deprive an American citizen.—*Columbus Looking Glass*.

### How Esteemed.

The *American Citizen* (Boston) very truthfully says: "There are some A. P. A. fools who are infinitely below the meanest Roman Catholics who ever lived, and these are the fools who are constantly circulating home-made lies."

Correct you be, Mr. *Citizen*, but you will find the same class of people in similar organizations and they are generally the ones that never subscribe for a paper or pay for it when they do.—*Protestant Standard*.

Toledo has its share of these human pests, who are too cowardly to face the object of their slanderous tongues and too dead to all sense of honor to pay for a patriotic paper—when they take it. But the worst enemy of a newspaper and the one who has the most to say against it, is the one who does not take it, and if he does, never pays for it.—*Toledo American*.

### Aliens Cannot Inherit.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 13.—The Illinois supreme court today affirmed a decree entered by the Sangamon county circuit court in the case of Egan vs. Ryan. The case hinges on the alien land act. John Egan, a former wealthy resident of this county, left a will giving all his property to a nephew in Ireland. Two nephews living in this county petitioned to have the will set aside under the plea that the devisee was an alien and could not inherit the property, and that they, as next of kin and citizens of the United States, were the legal heirs. The court granted the petition and entered a decree in their favor. The case was then appealed.

### No Aliens Need Apply.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 10.—Commissioner General Stump, of the immigration bureau, has received information that the Detroit and Cleveland Steam Navigation Company has decided not to employ on its fleet of vessels any person not a citizen of the United States or an alien permanently residing in the United States. Persons coming to the United States from Canada or elsewhere seeking work will not be employed. Mr. Stump strongly approves of the action of this company, and hopes that its example will be followed by others of like character.

### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The *Catholic Citizen* says half of the soldiers are Catholics (Roman). It may be so now, but I am sure it was not so when there was any fighting to do.

The French are taxing Belgian corporations. They think they have had enough of Romanism.

There are some weak kneed, jelly-fish christians who take a long breath when you speak to them about replacing the Bible in the public schools. We notice that the teachers of New York are trying to stir things. There are men who will shout amen for half an hour at a time when no one is there to molest them or make them afraid, but who are afraid to say their life is their own when they are asked to help in keeping the Bible in the schools so that a chapter may be read each morning without note or comment.

The ladies of Boston are postponing buying anything from the dry-goods stores because they advertise in the "pope's papers" but not in the *Standard*. And now let me say it again, "Where are the Puritan women?"