

VICTOR HUGO'S OPINION

Of Priestly Control of Public Schools in France.

The following was written by Victor Hugo in relation to an effort of the priests to get control of education in France:

"Ah, we know you! We know the clerical party; it is an old party. This it is which has found for the truth those two marvelous supporters, ignorance and error. It is it which forbids to science and genius the going beyond the missal and which wishes to cloister thought in dogmas. Every step which the intelligence of Europe has taken has been in spite of it. Its history is written in the history of human progress, but it is written on the back of the leaf. It is opposed to it all. This it is which caused Prinelli to be scourged for having said that the stars would not fall. This it is which put Campanella seven times to torture for saying that the number of worlds was infinite and for having caught a glimpse at the secret of creation. This it is which persecuted Harvey for having proved the circulation of the blood. In the name of Jesus it shut up Galileo. In the name of St. Paul it imprisoned Christopher Columbus. To discover a law of the heavens was an impiety, to find a world was a heresy. This it is which anathematized Pascal in the name of religion, Montaigne in the name of morality, Mollere in the name of both morality and religion. For a long time the human conscience has revolted against you, and now demands of you, 'What is it that you wish of me?' For a long time already you have tried to put a rag upon the human intellect; you wish to be the masters of education, and there is not a poet, not an author, not a thinker, not a philosopher that you accept. All that has been written, found, dreamed, deduced, inspired, imagined, invented by genius, the treasure of civilization, the venerable inheritance of generations, the common patrimony of knowledge, you reject. There is a book—a book which is from one end to the other an emanation from above; a book which is for the whole world what the Koran is for Islamism; what the Vedas are for India—a book which contains all human wisdom illuminated by all divine wisdom—a book which the veneration of the people call The Book—the Bible! Well, your censure has reached even that—unheard of thing! Popes have proscribed the Bible. How astonishing to who sprang; how overpowering to simple hearts to see the flag of Rome placed upon the Book of God! And you claim the liberty of teaching. Stop; be sincere; let us understand the liberty which you claim.

IT IS THE LIBERTY OF NOT TEACHING. You wish us to give you the people to instruct. Very well. Let us see your pupils. Let us see those you have produced. What have you done for Italy? What have you done for Spain? For centuries you have kept in your hands, at your discretion, at your school, these two great nations, illustrious among the illustrious. What have you done for them? I shall tell you. Thanks to you, Italy, whose name no man who thinks can any longer pronounce without inexpressible filial emotions—Italy, mother of genius and of nations, which has spread over all the universe all the most brilliant marvels of poetry and the arts, Italy—which has taught mankind to read—now knows not how to read! Yes, Italy is of all the states of Europe that where the smallest number know how to read. Spain, magnificently endowed Spain, which received from the Romans her first civilization; from Providence, and in spite of you, a world, America—Spain, thanks to you, a yoke of stupor, which is a yoke of degradation and decay; Spain has lost this secret power which it had from the Romans; this genius of art which it had from the Arabs; this world which it had from God; and in exchange for all you have made it lose it has received from you—

THE INQUISITION! —the inquisition, which certain men of the party try today to re-establish; which has burned on the funeral pile millions of men; the inquisition, which disinterred the dead to burn them as heretics; which declared the children of heretics infamous and incapable of any public honors, excepting only those who shall have denounced their fathers; the inquisition, which, while I speak, still holds in the papal (Vatican) library the manuscripts of Galileo sealed under the papal signet. These are your masterpieces. This fire which we call Italy you have extinguished. This colossus that we call Spain you have undermined—the one in ashes, the other in ruins. This is what you have done for two great nations. What do you wish to do for France? Stop! you have just come from Rome! I congratulate you; you have had fine success there. You came from gagging the Roman people, and now you wish to gag the French people. I understand. This attempt is still more fine, but take care, it is dangerous. France is a lion, and is still alive!"

A Logical Sequence. Peter Morrissey, a saloon-keeper, was elected to a seat in the state senate of Missouri from St. Louis, some time since, which position of trust he held

until recently. A number of years ago he was indicted for ballot-box stuffing, and doubtless deserved a job in the state penitentiary, upon the stone pile, but he and his saloon together were such a strong political center that they were rewarded for their villainy with election to the state senatorship. They, we say, because the saloon was the prime factor all the way through, and, whether it is a pleasant confession or not, it was the saloon, not the man, that went to the senate as legislator of the people. But recently Morrissey gave up his position as state senator for death at the hands of a court-martial. Such is the end that awaits our boasted self government if we as American citizens permit the control of state and nation to come through the dramsop. It will be just such a violent end dealt out by the hands of the worst elements of society. It is a logical sequence of that kind of misrule. But it is about time the patriotic citizenship of this land drew the blade on this vampire whose only business is to grow fat on the life blood and treasure of the land. Municipal reform will be a temporary spasm, financial problems will ever frown, some great malady will threaten to disrupt the republic as long as the saloon is permitted to exist. Pull up that tap-root of curses. Remove that disturbing element. Slay that mother of harlots and generator of gamblers. Burn down that crime factory. Then patriotism will have a chance to do something for the country. But till then the noblest citizenship of the land will play nurse and garbage gatherer for the lowest and most infamous institution in the land.—Omaha Christian Advocate.

Orangeism in America. How often have we heard the question: "Why do the Orangemen bring their feuds and quarrels to this country?" Why do they not leave their antagonisms at home? What has America to do with the strife between Protestant and Catholic Ireland? This is entirely too narrow a view of the principles of Orangeism. Orangeism is not a war of one locality against another, but a contention of principles against antagonisms, and consequently is as serviceable and necessary in other countries where the same antagonisms exist as in Ireland, the land of its birth. The triumph of William, Prince of Orange, was the triumph of Protestantism over Roman Catholicism; and the battles of the Boyne and Londonderry determined whether civil and religious freedom or the tyranny of the Roman hierarchy should prevail in the Emerald Isle. Principles are the same and immutable in every country and climate; and wherever the same antagonisms exist, active opposition is essential to their maintenance and security from decline.

When the north-country Irishman comes to America he finds Romanism here in full force and rapidly rising to political ascendancy, cursing public institutions and manifesting the same tendencies to usurp authority, to grasp the reins of government and to break down institutions that advance the intelligence and consequent freedom of the people. Is it any wonder that he remembers the bloody massacre of his forefathers, and shouts among the victories of the Boyne and Londonderry? Is it a fault that he joins hand and heart with his brother Irishmen in an effort to prevent in his adopted country the necessity of a repetition of such sad history? The Orangeman of America has transferred his patriotism to his adopted country; and, finding the same power gaining ground that for centuries has cursed bitterly his native land, he finds the principles of Orangeism as necessary here as there. He is, then, an Orangeman in America because Romanism is Romanism in America. The freedom, the intelligence and higher civilization which he finds in America cannot fail to cause him to reflect upon his native country, even with increased bitterness against the institution that has oppressed it; and the logic of centuries of misrule and priestly tyranny has taught him to seek from far political dangers to his adopted country from that same religious-political power.

Between American Orangeism and Irish Orangeism there is a difference only in the center of their respective interests. In Ireland, Orangeism is in defense and for the promotion of Protestant ascendancy in a monarchical government. It stands in antithesis to revolutionary methods in that it never meddles with, only to improve, existing political institutions. In America it contends for civil and religious freedom, and orders its course in the interest of the institutions of the great republic against the encroachments of the Romish power.

This institution has been too long viewed by the American people from the wrong standpoint, looked upon with too much suspicion, and regarded as the mere survival of an old Irish feud. It were far better for this country had the public inquired earlier into the principles of Orangeism and heeded the warning voice emitted by that institution. Much of the corruption in our national and state government, that now disgraces us in the eyes of the nations of the world, would have then been avoided, and the "Civic Federation" would have been in existence long

ago, to prevent rather than to detect election frauds. The American Protective Association would not now have been in its infancy (a giant in its cradle), but an abler and mightier institution for the protection of purity and honesty in politics. Long ago the Orangemen sought to persuade us that organization against political Romanism was a necessity; and we awoke from our lethargy not a moment too soon for the safety of our country. We were fifty years behind our necessities. Had the A. P. A. been organized fifty years ago it might have done with ease what can be accomplished now but with great pains and only after years of suffering. We must endure a while, however active we may be, the consequences of years of lethargy. We shall expiate the crime of our negligence and sordid security in hard times and suffering. The beast has become too strong to be easily shaken from his grip upon our vitals. God speed the principles of Orangeism and the A. P. A.—North-west American.

French Priests. It is impossible for anyone to say not guilty to the conduct of the Jesuits of France if their history is examined in that country, unless it is admitted that they accept as a dogma, "The end justifies the means." These gentry are expelled from that country, and that is the cause of the large number being here in the United States plotting against the government. They are ever the same—plotting according to the instructions of him who is their captain or leader. They make their gods by the bushel, and plot to destroy the nation that will not worship them.

The Mother Church. How did she become mother? Let us read a few words of history. "The Pontiff of Rome, Boniface III., obtained a decree from the tyrant Phocas, who had seized upon the imperial crown, after the murder of the Emperor Maurice, that the Romish church, the apostolic seat of the blessed Apostle Peter, should be the head of all the churches." This resulted from the contest with the Patriarch of Constantinople. Made mother because a tyrant said so, and the said church became a tyrant because she wanted to. And the play has not ended yet.

Each Wants the Nomination. DES MOINES, Ia., May 20.—There is the bitterest fight in the state between Drake and McFarland for the republican nomination for governor in this county. McFarland has manipulated the A. P. A. faction, but lost the Swede vote, and Drake will probably have more than half the forty delegates to the state convention. The war is so bitter that McFarland is making a personal canvass of the county.

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