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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.

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MARGARET L. SHEPHERD.

Some Thoughts Gathered From Her Lectures in this City.

Purgatory is the Pope's Head Pawnshop, Relics a Gold Mine, and the Pontiff the Chief Fakir of the Nineteenth Century.

On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday of this week Mrs. Margaret L. Shepherd delivered a course of lectures on political Romanism, and gave expression to the following sentiments:

All priests are constitutional liars. It is bred into them and they can't help it.

If the women could vote on all questions it would be against the corrupting power of money and of Romanism.

I am neither a republican, a democrat nor a populist; my politics are anti-Pope, and I favor driving the corrupting influence of Romanism from the halls of state.

There is no such thing in the legislative halls of America as honesty or patriotism. Men are controlled by self aggrandizement, political ambition, and the love of gold.

The Romish church looks upon women the same as the devil did in the Garden of Eden. By controlling the mothers they control the offspring who make the voters.

I am opposed to all denominational schools. To allow one sect to have them is to furnish argument for Roman Catholics to keep up the parochial school—which breeds disloyalty and treason.

I personally sat in the gallery of the Senate at Washington when the Liston bill prohibiting further sectarian appropriations was under consideration, and saw with my own eyes messenger boys carrying messages to senators from the priests of the Romish church.

Of all the dangerous traitors to American liberty Archbishop Ireland is the worst. With his suave manner, his pleasant face, his graceful oratory, he charms the hearer, while in his heart he seeks the supremacy of Romanism with all its demoralizing and retrograding influences.

I do not favor condemning the Catholic laity of America. They deserve the sympathy and encouragement of enlightened people. They are the result of pre-natal and educational conditions—the creatures of environment. But while I would not persecute them, I would use every power to drive popery out of politics.

Thirty years ago there was no such thing as a distinctively Catholic vote in America. Today Romanism holds the balance of power in American politics, as the result of the influence of the priests exerted according to a definite policy to control this country, and all the political parties of today are truckling for its support.

Republicans dislike to hear me say that McKinley is influenced by Archbishop Ireland. The fact is Mr. McKinley has done very well in the conduct of the Spanish-American war. I hope he will be equally strong here after in combatting the power of Rome at the national capital. I don't

care whether you like to hear me criticize McKinley or not. What I say is the truth.

You ask me what is the remedy for political and official corruption. I do not know. The whole body politic is affected. But I believe there is a patriotism, a love of home and of country, in the breasts of the industrial classes of this country, and that some day a great leader will rise up and lead the people to that higher plane, where corruption will be destroyed.

The text books in the parochial schools assail Martin Luther and John Calvin in a shameless manner and there is not enough courage among the Protestant people of America to protest against it. If there was the slightest reflection on a Roman priest in any book used in the public schools, it would make Rome howl, and the newspapers of the country would soon demand the expulsion of the book from the schools.

I attended the last national republican convention at St. Louis in the capacity of a reporter. The request of the patriotic societies for a plank against sectarian appropriations was to have been adopted and incorporated in the platform, when a telegram came from Archbishop Ireland of St. Paul saying: "If you adopt the plank against sectarian appropriations the party will be accused of being under the influence of the A. P. A., and you will lose the Catholic vote of the country." Archbishop Ireland was more powerful in that convention than the millions of patriots throughout the country who demanded that the party pledge itself against further use of public money for church purposes.

The law should prohibit a Roman Catholic from holding the office of president just as the law of England prohibits a member of that sect from occupying the throne of the British Empire. The reason is obvious. Romanism is the foe of civil and religious liberty, and it is only sentiment, not law, which has thus far kept a Roman from being president of this country. If the political power of Rome continues to increase for a few years as it has during the last 20, they will succeed in making a Roman president and then woe to our boasted liberties and form of government.

The Catholic church claims to have 14,000,000 adherents in this country. Ten years ago she claimed only 8,000,000. There are today at least 6,000,000 practical Catholics in the United States who purchase and use emblems of various kinds which are manufactured in the Catholic nunneries. I have been in the business of selling these emblems myself and can state that the church receives a revenue of from \$18,000,000 to \$20,000,000 annually from this source, and these goods are manufactured in institutions which are free from taxation, being classed under the head of religious organizations.

The Roman Catholic church is certainly a great institution. It has a feather from the wing of the Angel

Gabriel; the last breath of St. Joseph; the seamless coat of Jesus Christ; two heads of John the Baptist; enough splinters from the cross on which the Savior was crucified if they were properly put together to build a village that would hold a population of 10,000 inhabitants; enough strips or clippings from the veil of the Virgin to build a circus tent; five bottles of blood from St. Januarius—when one bottle was all they had five years ago; some milk from the breast of the Virgin; the ashes of Moses—when the Bible says that Moses died in the mount and that God buried him and no man knows where his grave is—yet the Roman church has discovered the secret and has his ashes! Talk about fakes and fakirs, why the pope of Rome is the greatest fakir of the nineteenth century!

In a small town not far from Toronto, Canada, a church was built, dedicated to St. Ann. The priests decided to get up a pilgrimage of members of the church from the New England states and surrounding country, and the word was sent out that the pope had sent to the church a piece of skin that had come from the arm of the Virgin Mary. Great spiritual blessings were offered to all who would visit the church of St. Ann and bow down before this piece of skin from the arm of the virgin. Each person deposited a sum of money upon entering the church, and none of them less than \$1.00. I made careful investigations and ascertained that within thirty days 130,000 poor, ignorant and superstitious human beings went upon that pilgrimage and gave the church not less than \$130,000 of money beside their traveling expenses.

The success of this pilgrimage inspired the priests of a certain New York church with a desire to have a piece of skin from the arm of the Virgin. The pope was accordingly appealed to, and while he could not furnish a piece of the Virgin's skin, he sent a bone which was said to have been taken from the left elbow of St. Anthony's arm. A gorgeous parade took place through the streets of New York, and the "bone of St. Anthony" enclosed in a neat case, was taken into the church, where the Roman Catholics went in to pay their devotions and receive the spiritual blessing. Each one deposited some money as they entered the sacred place. "I wrote to a friend of mine," said Mrs. Shepherd, "asking him to visit the church and examine that bone. In a short time he wrote me that he had visited the church and knelt down with others while the priest passed the relic along the line. He examined it as closely as he could and wrote me that as near as he could tell, it was a piece of a drum stick from a chicken's leg." But the church raised a fund of about \$25,000 by this fraud upon the people.

One reason why politics are corrupt is because of the indifference of many respectable people to the duties of citizenship. The first thing an Irishman does when he comes to this country is to go to the city hall and get a job to work for the city, even if it's only a job of shoveling. His next step is to start a saloon. He then becomes a political boss, runs for alderman and often for mayor, and later turns up in the state legislature as a senator. The anti-British sentiment in this country is stirred up by the pope's Irish, who are constantly talking about home rule for Ireland. The people of the north of Ireland—those sturdy, loyal Presbyterians, intelligent and progressive—are as good people as the world affords, but in the south of Ireland the ignorance, superstition, and crimes are deplorable. Talk about home rule for Ireland; the Irish officeholders in America are not willing to give us decent home rule in the United States. All they want is a shillalah in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other and when you want a favor you must bow down before

them. According to the rules of the church they have to go in confession only once a year, to entitle them to burial in consecrated ground, and they can spend the rest of the year lying to the people. I wouldn't believe any Roman politician that lives.

The moral theology of the Roman Catholic church upholds lying, stealing, murder, adultery, incest, perjury, bigamy and treason. I have been on the lecture platform for about twelve years and have never made a statement which I could not prove, and I challenge any priest or bishop of the Roman church to meet me on the platform and refute what I charge. I propose to substantiate my charge by reference to the work of Father Gury, which is the recognized authority of the Roman clergy; is kept in their libraries, and is used by students for the priesthood.

Mrs. Shepherd took the ten commandments in their order, and showed that the Roman church broke them all. She proved that the Roman system is essentially an idolatrous religion. "Thou shalt have no other Gods before me," was violated by the doctrine of transubstantiation, which allows a wafer of flour and water moulded into a wafer to constitute the body and blood and divinity of Jesus Christ.

The church was full of graven images in the form of saints before whom the devotees bowed down, thus transgressing the second and third commandments. She cited Gury to prove that the church upholds murder under certain conditions, and reviewed the plot which culminated in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, showing that it was planned by Jesuits in the home of Mrs. Surratt, a Romanist, and that the conspirators were subsequently absolved by Roman priests and that John H. Surratt escaped to Rome and joined the pope's army, and that every man implicated was a Romanist.

It is said that the Roman church does not allow divorce. It's a lie. There are fifteen reasons for which the church may separate husband and wife. Marriage according to the church is a sacrament over which the civil government has no control. I cannot discuss some of the grounds for which the church allows divorce, but the inability of the wife to perform the conjugal act is deemed sufficient, and when this fact is established the priest can nullify the marriage; the wife is thrown out upon the world, and the husband is authorized to commit the double crimes of bigamy and adultery against the civil law by taking unto himself another woman whom the church recognizes as his wife.

"Thou shalt not steal." A servant girl applies for employment. She wants \$5.00 a week for her services, but is informed that she can only get \$3.00. She accepts the job and goes to work. According to the moral theology of the Roman church if she believes that her services are worth \$5.00 she does no wrong and does not have to confess if she appropriates \$2 a week more than the contract price.

As to mental reservation. A Roman Catholic is arrested, charged with murder. He takes the witness stand. The question is asked: "Did you kill Peter on Tuesday?" According to the moral theology of the church he commits no wrong by saying: "I solemnly swear before Almighty God that I did not kill Peter." Then mentally to himself he adds: "on Wednesday."

Purgatory is a place which has never been located exactly, but it is said to be suspended somewhere between earth and hell. When a Roman Catholic dies the soul goes to purgatory and remains in pawn until it is prayed out by the priest at so much per prayer. I call purgatory the head pawnshop of Pope Leo XIII. Let us suppose that a man dies who has been a saloon-keeper; whose life has been devoted to destroying men's souls by selling them strong drink; who has been a scourge

INSIDE FACTS OF THE DEAL

What the Records Disclose in that Pacific Street School Site Deal.

Property Sold School Board for \$12,500 Had Been Listed With Real Estate Dealers for Sale at From \$8,000 \$9,500.

A few weeks ago this paper had occasion to refer to the various rumors afloat regarding the board of education, and we now propose to give our readers some inside history of the affair which has been studiously avoided by the daily papers:

There is now pending in the district court a case entitled Redmon vs. The School District of Omaha et al., which has been brought by Attorney Hugh A. Meyers for the purpose of setting aside the transfer of the property known as the Pacific school site. The points of facts raised in this case are that the board exceeded its authority under the law governing the purchase of school sites, building, etc., which section is as follows:

Section 21. That the board of education shall only during the month of January report to the city council an estimate of the amount of funds required for the support of schools, for the purchase of school sites, the erection of buildings, the payment of interest on bonds issued for school purposes and the creation of a sinking fund for the payment of such indebtedness, and the city council is hereby authorized and required to levy and collect said amount the same as other taxes; Provided, however, That in case the purchase of school sites and the erection of buildings shall require an expenditure exceeding \$25,000 for any ONE CALENDAR YEAR the question shall be submitted to the electors of the district.

Within the past year the board has made the following purchases of school sites: In January, 1898, the Dupont school for \$675; on May 16, 1898, the Cass street school site for \$19,000; on July 14, 1898, the Pacific street school site for \$12,500, making a total of \$22,175, or \$7,175 more than the amount limited by law.

As appears from the records of the board of July 14, 1898, a special meeting was held. It is alleged that that special meeting was called at the instance of A. P. Tukey, who was one of the agents for the Pacific school site property, for the purchase of the same. (Some people are inclined to wonder why a special meeting should be called at that time inasmuch as the Monday following was to occur the regular bi-weekly meeting of the board.) At this meeting there were present the full board with the exception of Bandbauer. Just prior to the meeting Tukey came into the board rooms and handed to Secretary Gillan a deed transferring "lots 5, 6 and 7 in block 230, city of Omaha," from the owners to the School District of Omaha, the consideration being \$12,500, and accompanying the same with an abstract and a written opinion of Frank H. Gaines, the attorney for the board, which opinion had been given at the instance of A. P. Tukey.

When the board convened Secretary Gillan presented the proposition of sale and other papers. The scheme was opposed by Hess, Kiewit, Van Gilder, Penfold and Thomas, and the matter was debated for some time, but was finally forced to a vote, in which the yeas were: Buchanan, Burgess, Dennis, Grattan, Irely, Penfold, Moore, Sears, Jordan and Thomas—10, Nays: Hess, Kiewit and Van Gilder—3.

It was contended by those opposing

the scheme that under the rules of the board all matters requiring the expenditure of \$100 or more should lay over till the next meeting and that the board had no right, either under the law or the rules, to make the expenditure without proper investigation and consideration. Considerable surprise was expressed that Mr. Penfold should speak for fully fifteen minutes in bitter opposition to the scheme and then vote for it, while it is asserted that another member of the board had affidavit in his pocket from different real estate agents who had the property listed for sale at from \$8,000 to \$9,500, but failed to present them. Secretary Gillan also had a letter in his possession, and among the archives of the board, from the owners of the property offering to sell this same property for \$8,500, yet did not present it as he should have done. And it is said that Tukey admitted to a member of the board that he raised the amount by \$3,000 on the afternoon of that day when he had the deed executed. At this same meeting a warrant was drawn for the sum of \$6,000 as part of the purchase money of the property which was delivered to A. P. Tukey and the board ordered a contract entered into by which a mortgage was to be given to secure the payment of the balance with interest. It is contended that the board of education has no right under the law to mortgage property of the district nor to obligate for the payment of interest on such mortgage, and this in addition to the fact that the board exceeded the amount allowed by law make up the principal part of the contention of the plaintiff.

The defense claims that they are entitled to an offset by reason of the sale of the Dodge street school site to the city for police purposes for \$20,000, and that that would bring the transaction within the law.

The facts with regard to the sale of this property are that there was simply an exchange of lots in various parts of the city, but no money was passed to the credit of the School District of Omaha by reason of that transfer.

To sum up the whole matter there seems to be pretty good ground for the suspicion that Tukey had hypnotized the board and that a "sugar-coating" had been applied.

ROMANISM SPAIN'S GREATEST DANGER.

It is stated, on good authority that in a recent letter to the queen regent of Spain, General Weyler pointed out to her majesty that the greatest danger to her government is the church of Rome, and that he earnestly exhorted her to separate her government from it. It is said that he told her that "while Spain is poor, the church in Spain is richer than in any other country in Europe; not even in priest-ridden Italy does the church possess so much. Many of the richest corporations in the kingdom belong to the church, notably the Trans-Atlantic Espanola, the leading steamship company. The clericals also have large landed estates, both in the peninsula and in the colonies. Nearly all the land of any value in the Philippines belongs to the religious orders, and is rented to the islanders by them." No matter how wrong General Weyler may have been in his barbarous rule in Cuba, he is certainly right in his estimate of the deleterious effects of Roman Catholic ecclesiasticism. It has ruined Spain, degraded France, impoverished Italy, paralyzed Austria, and but for Protestantism would have wrecked both Germany and England. It is an enemy to human liberty and Christian civilization, and its power must be effectually curbed and kept within harmless bounds in the United States.—Religious Telegraph, Boston.

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