

on the other side of the Mexican line, from which they made predatory incursions into the United States, what would be the effect? It is to be presumed that an anti-Mexican howl would go up all the way from Texas to Maine. Demands would be made that our neighboring republic wipe out the treacherous gang, otherwise this country would send a force into Mexican territory and accomplish the work herself. It does look in this matter as if it made a good deal of difference as to whose ox is gored.

The interest in this border business, which at first appeared like a tempest in a teapot, is increased by the latest aspect given to it in the dispatches. It is asserted that the Garza conspiracy has a great deal of money behind it, and that its headquarters is at New Orleans — which is also Catholic headquarters in the United States. In order to be nearer the scene of operations it is asserted that the centre of manipulation will before long be removed to El Paso, Texas. Another alleged object of the scheme not heretofore publicly named, is to cut from Mexico a large slice of territory and organize and establish thereon a new republic.

The existence of such a state of affairs in this country in reference to Mexico does not at all comport with the spirit of the recent Pan-American Congress, whose object was stated to be to bring the republics of the American Continent into a closer combination of interests than had hitherto existed. It now looks as if the Garza revolution would yet assume very important proportions.

### THE "LIBERAL" OX IS GORED.

A CORRESPONDENT, over the *nom de plume* of "Ivan," blows a hot blast into the ears of a number of the sectarian clergy of this city. We may as well state that the writer of the communication referred to, and which appears in this issue, is a pronounced "Liberal." He cannot see the consistency of the refrain which has always been so loudly and continuously sung by the sectarian clergy about alleged interference in politics by the "Mormon" Church, when they themselves are flagrantly guilty of that kind of conduct. He cites as proof, that the ministers joined in the last municipal campaign and carried banners on which were inscriptions conveying the idea that they condemned interference by the church in political affairs. This is all true, and some of them also joined in the hilarious occasion when the chairman of the "Liberal" Committee was paid \$10,000 for manipulating the

election so as to gain it for his party by methods not notoriously honest. As a reward for their work Mr. Powers made honorable mention of the clergy, by stating that he had consulted with them as well as with the gamblers and saloon-keepers in relation to the plan of campaign.

Now comes our correspondent and raises a rumpus around the sanctified heads of the ministers because, in pursuance of their plan of intermeddling with matters pertaining to the State, they make a few political pyrotechnical displays in their churches, from the pulpit, in the interest of "some party." It happens this time that the clerical explosions are directed against the "Liberal" party. Why did not "Ivan" get up and protest when the pulpit-politico, banner-carrying, speech-making, parade-marching and jollification proclivities of the clergy were all used in behalf of the party now in power. Not a sound of protestation was heard from a "Liberal" source then, for all was lovely for that organization. Just as soon as the boot is on the other foot, and these auxiliaries are brought into play for the benefit of "some" (other) "political party," "Ivan" objects. His protest has one virtue(?). It is not premature.

Without reservation or fear of successful contradiction, we deny that the evils complained of by the clergy exist only in the brains of these gentlemen who have declaimed against them. Every thoughtful citizen surely knows that vice, crime and immorality—to say nothing of the reckless and wanton expenditure of public funds—have increased enormously since February, 1891, when the "Liberal" party assumed the city government. The "Liberal" organ itself has so stated over and over again. And is it not plain that the ministers, by their political work, contributed heavily toward the production of the reign of terror and criminality? Then why should "Ivan" or anybody else put a straw in the way of their repentance?

While the lamp holds on to burn,  
The greatest sinner may return.

It cannot be properly denied that the speeches of the ministers to which our correspondent takes exception, have the virtue of being in the interests of temperance, morality and a proper enforcement of the laws, besides being symptomatic of an intention on the part of the gentlemen who made them to turn over a new leaf. As to whether this is done in concert or individually makes but little difference, so long as the repentance is real.

### A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

AN organization known as the National League for the Protection of American Institutions is making itself prominent by its endeavor to procure a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which reads as follows:

"No State shall pass any law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or use its property or credit, or any money raised by taxation, or authorize either to be used, for the purpose of founding, maintaining or aiding, by appropriation, payment for services, expenses, or otherwise, any church, religious denomination or religious society, or any institution, society, or undertaking which is wholly, or in part, under sectarian or ecclesiastical control."

It is said that if this should become part of the national organic law, many desirable objects will be attained. No State or municipal aid can be given for any sectarian purpose. Not a cent of any money raised by public taxation can be diverted to the use of any institution not controlled by public authorities.

It would effectually prevent any possible division of school funds for sectarian purposes. And it is said it would effectually and absolutely sever Church and State throughout the United States.

At first sight it would seem that this proposed amendment is entirely supererogatory, but in observing closely the drift of current events, it looks as if there were some reasons for its adoption. A strong feeling prevails in many of the Eastern cities that the school fund be divided, and a proportion given to private and parochial schools. There are many religious institutions controlled by sectarians now in receipt of State and municipal bounties, either in the way of subsidies or exemption from taxes, that would come under the new amendment.

We have no idea that it will prevail. It is not very likely to go through Congress. And if it should pass, the Roman Catholic influence, if no other, would be powerful enough to prevent its adoption by a sufficient number of States to make it part of the fundamental law.

### HOME RULE IN BRITISH INDIA.

THE city of Nagpur is situated in the province of the same name, almost in the center of British India. About a week ago there was held in that city what was called an Indian National Congress. It was composed of 800 delegates, representing the various provinces of the Indian empire. The first day was mainly devoted to lauda