

fairs from the professional politicians who have no higher aims than those that relate to their personal and party advantage.

If the country is ever to be governed by its best citizens, the best citizens must take active personal interest in political movements and be present at political gatherings. And they must be ready truly to sacrifice themselves for the good of their country which is genuine patriotism.

The politics of the times is not statesmanship, but intrigue, speculation, roguery and conspiracy. Politics will not be purified until many of the men who now keep in the back ground come to the front and figure in the affairs of the nation, bending the energies they now employ in their business or profession toward the public good and the cause of true republicanism.

THE POPE IN TROUBLE.

AN English paper is the authority for the assertion that Leo XIII soon will issue a manifesto to the Roman Catholics throughout the world, announcing his intention to leave Rome with his court and all its attendants. The "persecutions" of Crispi and the liberal Italian government have assumed such a nature that the Pope finds that he cannot put up with them any longer and at the same time preserve his dignity as pontifex maximus.

It is more likely that somebody has again advised the Pope to leave Rome. This has been done before. But the idea of leaving Rome has never struck the head of the Catholic church as practicable. It must be remembered that Rome is claimed to be the place from which Peter is said to have maintained his supremacy over the Apostolic churches. And the Popes found their claims chiefly on the alleged fact that they are the real successors of the Apostle and, consequently, heirs to his titles, gifts and authority. For the Pope to leave Rome is, therefore, no small thing. And the provocations to move must indeed be great before he will conclude to do so. To leave Rome would be to leave the "seat of Peter" and with it the authority held as the alleged successor of Peter. It is therefore not probable that the Pope will ever leave Rome unless compelled to do so by force.

It sounds like a grim sarcasm to hear the Pope talk of being persecuted by the Italian government. What has the government then

done to his Holiness? The Popes have been claiming Rome and a considerable strip of land around it as their exclusive property. The people of Italy have thought that Italy really belonged to the people and not to the Pope. The government has carried out this idea and established Rome as the political capital of the country. The Pope has been told that his meddling with the political questions would not be acceptable to the government but that he would have to content himself with being the spiritual head of the many millions that willingly admit his supremacy in matters of religion. On account of these and similar "aggressions" as they have been called, on the part of the government, the present Pope has enclosed himself within the walls of the Vatican and been pleased to call himself a persecuted man, a "prisoner of the Lord." But there is nothing in the situation to call for much sympathy. The Pope never tasted persecution yet. Some time just retribution will be meted out to the occupant of the pontifical throne in Rome. Some time the millions of martyrs that fell victims to the blood-thirst of the Roman beast, will be avenged.

When that time comes the Pope may with more propriety talk about "persecution" and about leaving Rome. At present we presume he is comfortable enough in his palace and his scarlet robe.

A CITY WITHOUT CRIMINALS.

AN ENGLISH tourist, who has recently made a trip through Siberia, reports the discovery of a little city in the interior of that vast country. The governor of Irkutsk recently made a trip through his province, when he, one day, heard the chimes of bells from a direction where nobody knew of any settlement. Riding in the direction of the sounds, he discovered a little city, consisting of 108 houses, containing about 800 persons. Its name was Ilim, and is not found on any maps, as nobody, not even the Russian authorities, had the least idea of its existence.

The report states that the houses are built in the style characteristic of Tartaric architecture, something like haystacks, we presume. The government of the city is strictly patriarchal. None of the inhabitants have ever seen the outside world, and they were utterly ignorant of the name of the great ruler of

all the Russians. The city has no particular government, no schools and no taxes. Nobody had heard of any crime committed in this Siberian paradise.

It is a pity that this city should have been discovered. It is to be feared that an early result of its being found will be the inundation of the place by "Christian" missionaries of various kinds. And everybody knows that "missionary" work of "Christian" color means the introduction of intoxicants and other ingredients of modern civilization. If crimes have been unknown in the community before, they are sure to be known after the introduction of false Christianity among the inhabitants.

A "RETURNED" IMMIGRANT.

THE New York papers are trying to make a "Mormon" mountain out of an immigration molehill. With the company of emigrants that arrived at that port on the 13th inst., was a young woman named Elizabeth McGee. She was not a member of the Church, but was sent for by her father, who, it appears, has been in Utah some time, and desired that his daughter, who was left with her aunt and grandmother in England, might come to the home he had prepared for her.

He sent the means for her immigration, and, knowing that she would travel safer and more comfortably with a company of Saints and in charge of returning Elders, he so arranged, and she came over on the *Wisconsin*.

On the way, a woman who was prejudiced against the "Mormons" told the girl what she had heard about Utah and the awful doings in that remote regions and obtained the help of some saloon passengers who corroborated the woman's statements and nearly frightened the girl out of her wits.

On her arrival she signified her desire not to go any further, and was allowed to go with the woman who had taken her in charge on the ship, but was subsequently turned over to the Commissioners, and will probably be returned to England.

The New York papers have teemed with articles designed to put a false face on this simple matter, and have intimated that the Elders acted improperly on the way and that Mr. Gibsou, agent in New York of the Guion Company, tried to coerce the girl into going to her father. But the facts elicited by the reporters go to disprove all this,