

by a gentleman named Michael J. Corcoran, assisted by a Mr. Abbe, who was elected Alderman at the time. Both are now on trial in the criminal court. If found guilty from one to five years is the penalty. Corcoran is classed as a democratic politician, but it appears now that he was negotiating with the other party before the election. The ward is an overwhelmingly republican one, and it was thought that Mr. Corcoran's services would not be required. That was why the surprise was so great after election as to cause Mr. Corcoran to come under suspicion of being in the pay of the democratic candidate.

The most amusing part of the business is in the cry of the newspapers about corrupt citizenship. These very papers during the Salt Lake election praised the tactics and smartness of Utah politicians. Mr. Powers, though it was known that he was a Michigan statesman, was lauded as the model American. His democracy and his unsavory record at home were forgotten by the *Inter-Ocean* and *Tribune*. Now both these papers cry out that purity of ballot is the foundation stone of our country, and the moment it is removed the whole edifice tumbles to the dust. That is a fact, and there is only a step from Salt Lake to Chicago and from Chicago to Washington in such matters. This Corcoran "did" a term already in Joliet, but under the name of Foley. He is a native of Canada. His record is pretty well known just at present. He did not get \$10,000 after the election, though he earned it as "honestly" as others did. I hunted up a *Tribune* editorial on the Salt Lake election and pasted it with one recently written of Corcoran. I pasted them on a sheet of paper, side by side, and mailed them to the venerable and illustrious editor of the *Tribune*, and asked him did he know his son's coat.

Race and religious issues are becoming more and more complicated. Religion, politics, nationality, education, whisky, and a hundred other things are all mixed up. The synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church has just adopted a report condemning the laws against Chinese immigration as contrary to the genius of American institutions. In one sense the synod is correct. But the introduction of the Chinese was not legitimate immigration. The protected barons of this country imported them as slave labor, and lest democratic laborers would become too numerous on the Pacific Coast. These same barons are now importing Italians on the padrone system, but the synod says nothing on it. Perhaps it regards Chinese better material for citizenship than the Dagoes. In a small area in New York City there are 100,000 Italians, and only about 2 per cent of these can read their own language. They are farmed out to contractors at \$1.25 per day, the padrone taking the 25 cents and leaving the dollar to the laborer. Then there is a company store and the most of the dollar goes back to the contractor and storekeeper again. Cardinal Gibbons has writ-

ten a great deal on the labor question, and on the spoliation of American laborers. Would it not be in order for him to give a hint to his brother cardinals in Italy to study the condition of the poor there? There are some 50 cardinals in Italy, and yet only two per cent of the Italian people can read and write.

The *Irish World* tells us that the Roman Church alone can settle the labor question. If that settlement means the degradation of Australian labor to the same degree as that of Italian labor, where the Church has ruled for centuries, then Mr. Patrick Ford is a model American. The Italians don't strike, but when their wages are cut down, they cut an inch from the ends of their shovels. Well that is good philosophy.

The Presbyterian synod also censured the Vice-President of the United States for keeping a licensed saloon. The saloon or ginshop is the great political school of this country. If the saloons of Chicago were ranged in a row they would make a frontage 24 miles. In fact, a man can't get to the front in politics except through saloon influence. Our city treasurer is a brewer, and three-fourths of our councilmen are saloon keepers or brewers. Has not Ward McAllister's son turned saloon keeper in Gotham? When the president of the 400 is interested in gin, why should we kick because the Vice-President of the great unwashed turns a penny by whiskey?

The Norwegian Lutherans in Iowa and Minnesota are out in condemnation of the Wisconsin Bennett law. They even deem it an outrage that the teaching of English be made compulsory. Certainly it is an insult to them, because, as a rule, the Scandinavians require no compulsion to learn English.

But the Germans are the people who are now making themselves felt. Catholic, Lutheran, and Agnostic alike uphold the German language, and German supremacy in literature and politics. The chickens are coming home to roost now to the republican party. This party a few years ago did everything to cater to Germans. It made Carl Schurz a Cabinet official in order to flatter Germans. It introduced the German language in the public schools, and it gave public advertising to German newspapers. Now when the German language is likely to supplant the English it howls patriotism. The Germans were a quiet people and until the republican party helped to build a German empire here the Germans were content enough to become Americans. Now we have a German press more powerful than the English. In our public libraries more attention is paid to German literature than to English or American. The best German books are purchased for circulation, while the history of Illinois in English is held for reference.

One of the most powerful German societies in Illinois is named the Harugarl. The various lodges of this society have decided to hold a convention of delegates to devise the best means of uniting the whole

German race in America to act against "its enemies," whoever these are. The Germans in this country have all had military training. They are a great people for clubs, societies and churches. They are engaged in all branches of industry. Breweries, drug stores, boarding houses, hotels they mostly monopolize. Two-thirds of our militia is composed of German blood. The German rule is a question inside the limits of debate. Certainly the developments in Utah have hastened the crisis of race and religion all through the country. The Germans have a good deal of old Bismarck's sagacity and decision. They won't wait to be at the mercy of Joseph Cook or Dr. Newman, or R. N. Baskin. The Germans have taken the bull by the horns.

Speaking of Utah, I noticed in the *Evening Post* of this city an interview with a distinguished citizen of Arizona, who is now sojourning in Chicago. Here it is:

#### ARIZONA IS ANGRY.

SHE WILL NOT BECOME A STATE UNDER PROPOSED CONDITIONS. MORMONS THERE ARE ALL RIGHT. THEY ARE GOOD CITIZENS AND NOT POLYGAMOUS.—THE TRUE SOLUTION OF THE INDIAN QUESTION.

"My territory will never accept statehood under the conditions recently proposed," said James H. Wright, ex-chief justice of Arizona, this morning at the Sherman House. "The objectionable conditions were proposed by the present governor and his secretary and are to the effect that the Mormons shall be either disfranchised or compelled to take a test oath before voting. Now I want to say that the Mormons of Arizona do not practice polygamy at all. They are as good citizens as we have them, being frugal, industrious and law-abiding. And wherever they go the community is prosperous. Moreover, we believe in the Edmunds law and will see that all violators of it are punished. Therefore there is no necessity for putting such a blot upon our certificate of admission to the Union. We will come in as all others come in or we will stay out for years. Arizona is ripe for Statehood, but it is not ready to forfeit its self-respect to get it. Besides, such conditions are certainly contrary to the Constitution, which grants to the people of this country liberty of religious belief. If Mormonism is a bar, why not Roman Catholicism, Methodism or Presbyterianism? And carrying the idea to its logical conclusion, if a religious belief is a bar, why not political belief? We are opposed to polygamy as much as Edmunds himself; but as polygamy is not practiced in Arizona, and never has been, there is no reason for us to humiliate the Mormons, who form one-twentieth of our population."

"Have you a committee in Washington to seek the repeal of the amendment?"

"No, sir. Before the odious conditions were proposed we were enthusiastic for Statehood. Since their proposal the enthusiasm has died completely out."

"What effect will this have on the politics of the Territory?"

"It will be the means of sending a Democrat to Congress instead of a Republican, as would have been the case but for these conditions."

That is a man worthy of American citizenship and American na-