

ing Archbishop Corrigan, Father Lavelle and Father Ferrante. The first named is thought to be the author of an article which was intended for publication as a dispatch from Philadelphia; it impugns Archbishop Ireland's veracity and defies the views of Satolli on the system of education as approved by him. The article is written in the form of a dialogue between an "eminent ecclesiastic" and somebody not further characterized, and contains the following startling passage:

I say to you, sir, that the English people may have been driven to adopting such a treacherous, anti-Catholic, unpatriotic system; the Irish may have been beaten into accepting a like system, and the whole continent of Europe, including even Prussia and Italy, may have been forced into accepting it, but Archbishop Ireland cannot force it upon us. And when Monsignor Satolli has been here fifty years and knows the country he will tell Archbishop Ireland what I tell you now.

Among other documents secured by the friends of Archbishop Ireland and intended for weapons against Corrigan was a letter from Father Lavelle to a prominent Catholic in Chicago. This letter gives an idea of the true nature of the conspiracy. The author of it advocates the recall of Satolli, and characterizes his reinstating McGlynn as well as his expressed views on the school question, as "annoying interference" and "a thing that must be stopped." Father Lavelle further suggests:

A bureau of publicity should be established, and a propaganda instituted, to the end that the pope may be alarmed at the danger of allowing Monsignor Satolli to continue here, and may be forced, too, into reversing his policy toward this country. To carry this out effectually it will be necessary to secure simultaneous publications on the lines suggested throughout the country.

Copies of these documents and explanations of the whole matter were soon dispatched to Rome, but subsequently Monsignor Satolli was by the pope clothed with the dignity and authority of an apostolic delegate. This was his holiness' official approval of the official acts of his ablegate and his answer to those who might have been plotting to effect Satolli's downfall.

It may be well to explain the various terms of Roman ecclesiastical nomenclature so frequently used in this connection—ablegate, legate and apostolic delegate. An ablegate is one who represents the pope on a special mission. His authority extends no further than the special work assigned to him, and expires when that is accomplished. A legate is an ablegate with a wider range of authority. Legates are generally sent to the courts and deal with matters of a political nature. An apostolic delegate exercises full supervision of the affairs of the church to which he is sent. He deals with cases as they arise and is not in the least circumscribed in his powers. Never before has there in this country been an apostolic delegate. To have one is a distinction which not even Ireland nor Canada enjoys. The appointment of Satolli must be taken for a proof of the peculiar interest which the pope has been openly displaying lately in the affairs of this country.

As an apostolic delegate Monsignor Satolli will hear the charges that may have been brought against Archbishop Corrigan by Archbishop Ireland. His powers are thus described by the editor of the Northwestern *Chronicle*, a church paper which is supposed to be the organ of Archbishop Ireland:

He has the power of a plenipotentiary, and can decide all complaints arising out of differences of opinion among the priests and bishops of the American church. Mgr. Satolli as delegate apostolic is a permanent official, and the office involves the exercise of powers of the highest judicial character. At Washington the apostolic delegate will preside as chief of the highest ecclesiastical court in the land, a branch, in fact, of the Roman propaganda. All priests and laymen who may feel themselves aggrieved by the action of diocesan courts will have the right of appeal to the delegate. Heretofore appeals of this sort have had to be made direct to Rome, which was very expensive and never resulted in a decision short of two or three years. No ordinary priest could undertake this and many preferred to suffer injustice rather than appeal. This is all done away with and a step has been taken which will be an immense benefit to the American church. The apostolic delegate will, in fact, constitute a court which in ecclesiastical affairs will be just as the Supreme Court of the United States is in civil affairs.

From this it would appear that Monsignor Satolli's mission is purely of an ecclesiastical nature and is intended for the benefit of the members of his church. Should this prove to be the case, there can be no reasonable ground for any objection to his presence here. The head of the church has unquestionably the right to look after the spiritual welfare of the members. The point of objection, however, is that the church of Rome is known to yield to no hesitation in using the political machinery of the state for the furtherance of her peculiar ends. This is the basis of all the excitement and criticism which the recent movements have caused throughout the land. And those who oppose or fear the political power of the church boldly declare that should anything of this kind be attempted in this country, where the people are by the Constitution saved from priestly dominion and dictation, a catastrophe will ensue, more disastrous to the church than any of which Germany, France and Italy have been the scene. Great and surprising developments certainly seem to be in store as a result of the present Catholic advance. It will be interesting to note the successive steps by which the subject mounts to its almost inevitable condition of supreme and absorbing national importance.

#### STATE LINES.

After being a confederation so long, one would think that such prominent and necessary matters as state lines would be settled beyond controversy by this time; but it is not so. The question of boundaries comes up quite frequently, not so much regarding fixed ones, but where they are of necessity more or less shifting, as where reaching out in a river or lake. A question recently arose between

the states of Iowa and Illinois on this subject, and to settle it a case was made up in the United States Supreme court, the former suing the latter. The line lies in the Mississippi river and Iowa contended that it ran to the middle of the main body of the river from the banks without regard to the steamboat channel, and that the measurement of the middle distance should be taken when the river was at its normal stage. The State of Illinois, on the other hand, contended that the jurisdiction of each state extended to the middle of the steamboat channel, wherever that might be. The Supreme Court of the United States held, in the decision recently rendered, that the true boundary line was in the middle of the main channel of the river, or of the principal channel, in case there should be more than one channel of navigation.

#### THOSE NEW STAMPS.

The attention of some one has been called to the fact that in pictures of Columbus on the new postage stamps he is made to appear smooth-faced at the moment when land is discovered, but is decorated with a full beard when the landing takes place, some twelve hours later. There are so many incongruities and absurdities connected with the new stamps that they have not all been traced yet, and it is no wonder that Mr. Wolcott of Colorado in the United States Senate yesterday offered a resolution suspending their further issue except when expressly asked for. Just who or what it was that called forth this ebullition of Columbian buncombe has not been imparted; but the less the stamps are permitted to circulate the more dignified every patriotic citizen will be likely to feel in this year of grace. They are not mementoes of the time and circumstance, because not made to keep but to send away; are not ornamental nor useful, nor in any sense an improvement on the kind we are all used to and which most people will continue to use. There was no vacancy of an artistic or signatory character in the mail transportation of the government; and if there were, we want nothing in the line of three-sheet postage stamps to fill it. We may add, without intending to be facetious or create even a suggestion of vulgarity, that the performance of licking the smaller stamps is none too agreeable, but with the Columbian issues it is simply nauseating.

#### AS TO STATEHOOD.

There need be no misunderstandings on this important subject. The nature of the case is such that there should be none. The temporal welfare of a very great number of people hang upon it and there should be no shuffling or double-dealing in the matter. It is very evident that what was looked upon for a while as simply a return of the old-time and all-along discussion at Washington about Utah as a state, is crystallizing into an earnest and determined effort to confer sovereignty upon our Territory, and this, too, without any further delay. We repeat, it is