

EDITORIALS.

"ROME HAS SPOKEN."

DR. MC GLYNN, whose conduct in relation to the land question has been in rebellion against the teachings and authority of the Catholic Church, received, a few days ago, from the hand of a special messenger a papal monition to report in person at the Vatican within forty days of the date on which the instructions received. Failure to comply with the monition will subject the offending priest to the penalty of "excommunication by name." A Catholic authority thus defines this punishment:

"The penalty of excommunication by name is the severest which the church can impose. None of the faithful—be they cleric or of the laity—can have any communication with one so excommunicated without incurring censure."

The *Freeman's Journal*, a Catholic organ, in pious language expresses the hope that Dr. McGlynn may be led to repent, speaks of the prayers that are being offered up to this end, and says:

"If his pride resist, he is indeed lost. There is no time for quibbles. Those clever gentlemen who found excuses for contumacy, who built false hopes on the possibility of hesitation at Rome, who lived in a fool's paradise, who thought that intellectual subtlety would condone disobedience, now face the cold, relentless truth. Rome has spoken."

Of course a Catholic organ would not admit that the delay of decisive action in Dr. McGlynn's case, on the part of the Papal See, was due to hesitancy. It is a widespread impression, however, that among the Catholics of the eastern part of the United States Dr. McGlynn had so numerous a following that diplomatic reasons led to a postponement of the application of church discipline. But the priest became so bold and was so persistent in his rebellion, and his case attracted such world wide attention that the dignity and authority of the Vatican had to be maintained at any cost of the objects of diplomacy.

"Rome has spoken" to the clerical theorist, and this means "one of two things: Recantation on his part of his heretical teachings upon social and political subjects, or the infliction upon him, of the severest penalty in the power of the great Romish church to impose, "excommunication by name."

If the Roman Catholic church shall prove to the world that it is both able and willing to exert an influence of conservatism sufficiently strong to check the tendency in society which is being created by such theories as those of Henry George and Dr. McGlynn, and which lead in the direction of great social upheavals and the unsettling of our present civilization, it will prove itself a great power in the earth. We doubt whether it will be equal to the task of curing the tendency to social disruption. The disease having passed what might be termed the asymptomatic state, it is sure to culminate in great commotion before reaching the point of subsidence.

SHERMAN VS. CLEVELAND.

REALIZING that it is the early bird that catches the worm, Senator John Sherman has taken time by the foretop in the matter of getting his interests and claims properly before the next Republican National Convention. He appeared at Springfield, Illinois, yesterday, and made a long speech, the burden of which was that the colored men of the South are still "bull-dozed," their right to vote denied or their votes, if cast, nullified by repeating or failure to count, and the barefaced crimes in Democratic strongholds in the North, by means of which Cleveland was fraudulently counted into the Presidency, etc. The majority of the voters of the United States have settled down to the conclusion that there has been but one instance of anyone being wrongfully elevated to the Presidency, and as that was some years ago, and Mr. Sherman took a rather conspicuous part in aid of the "counting in" proceedings, they doubtless were willing to call it even, to forgive and forget as the price of absolute silence thenceforward in relation to imagined outrages in the South and fancied corruptions in the North—in other words, they considered that neither party being at all like Caesar's wife, the two political evils neutralized each other. But the Senator cannot forget to the front and make himself sought for without an issue of some kind, he being the especial champion of it; and as the live ones have been pretty thoroughly gone over and appropriated, the endeavors at this late day to revive a dead or at least a dying one and make it the oriflamme of his "ringing campaign."

It is tolerably plain to those who have watched the details and given them full consideration, that the Presidential campaign which resulted in the choice of Grover Cleveland was a remarkably clean one, considered by comparison *per se*. If corrupt methods had been used, as Mr. Sherman charges, in such a place as New York where the Democratic facilities

for quietly increasing their vote were ample, it is not at all likely that the figures would have been brought down to such a narrow margin that it was three days before it was settled which of the two principal contestants had carried the State: they would have made the increase sufficiently large to obviate doubt in advance. Then, besides, the count of the vote was singularly non-partisan, exact and fair, all errors, on whichever side they occurred, being corrected by the canvassing board as they went along, and the result showing that neither Cleveland nor Blaine had a majority by 75,000 ballots; the former had more than any of the other three, and only 1,100 more than the latter, the next highest, thus giving the electoral vote of the State and consequently the choice itself to Cleveland. This was too close a call to be considered alone as the unequivocal expression of the people's will, when it is considered that more than a million votes were cast, and on the result in New York the election at large usually depends; but the Democracy do not have to rely upon any such isolated circumstance to establish the fact indisputably that they are in a fair and decided majority in the Empire State, and that the narrowness of Mr. Cleveland's plurality was more a cause of suspicion against the Republicans than themselves: they can point triumphantly to the fact that the State, from the close of the war down, has given them a majority three times out of four; can call attention to Cleveland's majority when he ran for Governor a year before and received the colossal and unprecedented majority of 192,000, and to the last gubernatorial election when Hill was chosen against the strongest Republican ticket ever put up in the State by 12,000 majority.

It would seem that the people were satisfied with the result of the struggle of 1884, which speaks pretty loudly itself; that they are satisfied with it yet, and many opponents are willing to admit that there is a fair prospect of the re-nomination and re-election of the present incumbent of the Presidential office. Mr. Sherman is an able man and doubtless a sincere one; but radicalism in American politics is not commanding a premium at present, and it is much harder for a good man to get in than it is for a good man to remain there.

A FEE CHARGED TO HEAR TALMAGE.

THE Rev. T. De Witt Talmage has added to his notoriety by his performance last Sunday in Washington. Private enterprise had made elaborate preparations for a sort of religious-military entertainment or exhibition, to take place on that day, under the name, "Inter-State Drill." Grounds had been selected and arranged for the affair, a grand stand had been erected, etc. The managers secured troops for the drill by offering prizes and other inducements to companies of militia in various States to come to Washington and participate in it, and depended for their profits on the gate receipts and the sale of privileges to sell ice cream, peanuts, etc., etc., on the grounds.

Three-sheet posters were placed on the dead walls of the city, advertising the affair, and announcing, among other attractions to draw the populace to the exhibition, a display of fireworks and a sermon by Talmage, all for twenty-five cents, if standing room only were taken, or fifty cents if a seat on the grand stand were reserved.

It was exactly on a par with advertising a sermon by the ecclesiastical acrobat of Brooklyn, as a part of a circus performance on the Sabbath. The Washington correspondent of a Chicago paper writes as follows of the affair:

"Mr. Talmage was paid to leave his pulpit in Brooklyn and preach the 'grand military sermon' in the drill grounds to-day. He was hired because it was thought he would draw the biggest crowd, and the soldiers of the encampment have to pay for hearing preaching to-day. Mr. Talmage was hired and advertised as an attraction just as the man who runs the fireworks at the grounds at night was hired. He gets his share of the receipts, as the fireworks man does. The privilege of preaching was sold, like the privilege of selling beer and peanuts, and for the purpose of making as much money as possible the pulpit was placed so that every one who wanted to hear it was compelled to pay an additional fee for a seat in the grand stand or lose the benefit of his admission money. It was what sporting men call a 'fake,' from beginning to end, and Talmage was the star attraction."

This sordid hypocrite, for filthy lucre, prostitutes his calling as an alleged minister of righteousness and holiness, to the debased level of a circus clown; consents for pay, to appear as a leading attraction of a hippodrome, in connection with a display of fireworks and athletic exercises, in desecration of the Sabbath and in violation of law; is willing, for money, to be gazed at and listened to by a fee-paying multitude, even as is the Irishman, who assumes the role of the Fiji Islander in a dime museum. And yet he is unspeakably shocked at the manner in which the Latter-day Saints worship

God, and favors their extinction by the most summary methods known to the warfare of savages.

It is such as he who are destroying the hold which religion might have upon the minds of thinking and intelligent people, and who are doing more than are the ingersolls to bring the doctrine of revelation and the precepts of Christianity into disrepute. His example does more harm than do the teachings of the greatest of anarchists; for they aim only to destroy the property of men, while his course tends to destroy their souls. It is fitting that he should be the foe and not the friend of the Latter-day Saints.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

FOR some time there has been, in the State of New York, an agitation in opposition to capital punishment, and especially against hanging women. The developments during a recent murder trial in New York City, are, however, likely to give something of a set back to the agitators who oppose the infliction of the death penalty. The defendant is an Italian woman named Mrs. Cignarale. She deserted her husband to establish criminal relations with her second cousin, a man named D'Andria. The wronged husband repeatedly called upon his wife after her desertion of him, and implored her to return. His visits annoyed his wife and her paramour, and the latter urged her to kill her husband, saying that he would do it himself only that in America they hang men, but do not hang women. One day in October last the husband called upon the unfaithful woman, and renewed his importunities for her to return. She refused, and when he took his departure from her lodgings she followed him without his knowing it, and, when close to him on the street, fired two shots at him, the latter proving fatal. The murder was a cold-blooded crime, and was witnessed by a number of persons.

It seems evident that the woman undertook the horrible task of removing her husband on the conviction that "they did not hang women in America," and that, had she known what the penalty would be she would not have committed the crime. It must be admitted that this case affords a strong argument in favor of capital punishment, and for women as well as men. Undoubtedly a fear of the law partially takes the place of conscience in restraining the criminal; and let it once be understood that the murderer must lose his or her own life as the cost of what is gained by the crime, and homicides will become far more rare than they are at present. But a more speedy and humane method of inflicting the death penalty than hanging, might and ought to be adopted. The scaffold is a relic of barbarism.

JUST AS IT IS.

The *Arizona Gazette*, published at Phoenix, thus deliberately hits the Utah political nail squarely on the head:

"In Salt Lake City there is a little pestilent crowd of political adventurers, self-styled a loyal league, whose principal business is to advise Congress, the courts and Federal officials as to their duties. They are intermeddling in matters in which they have no concern. Composed of men who are adventurers, without moral or financial standing in the community, like the pestiferous carpet-bagger of twenty years ago, they are continually 'cooking up' schemes to oppress and plunder their well-to-do neighbors. They are advocates of strong repressive measures against all Mormons, whether sanctioned by law or not. The questionable law of the last Congress, which in severity against the Mormon Church goes far beyond the original Edmunds act of five years ago, does not meet the demands of these patriots. Nothing will or can satisfy them except the disfranchisement of the great body of the people of Utah and the lodging of all the political power of the Territory with them. Congress has created and the President has appointed a commission to control and regulate the voting in Utah. The women hereafter will have no vote in Utah, although in Wyoming they will continue to exercise that privilege, but all Mormons who are not polygamists can exercise the right and serve as jurors, who will take an oath to obey the laws of the United States. This oath is prescribed by a law of Congress. When it was found that the monogamous portion of the Mormons, those who had never entered into polygamous relations, and which comprise 95 per cent. of that body, were willing to subscribe to this oath, this Loyal League began to importune the commission and the courts to adopt a form of oath not authorized by law and which no self-respecting member of the Mormon Church could possibly take. Of course, the endeavor to make the officials disobey a law of Congress for the gratification of a malignant desire on the part of these malcontents to persecute a large body of law-abiding citizens, proved abortive; and this little body of malcontents, who are without the sympathy of the best portion of the Gentile population, are preparing another book of grievances

to be presented to their putative godfather Senator Edmunds. Congress has demonstrated the power of the nation to crush out polygamy; that institution of the modern theocracy is a thing of the past and the thing now remaining, in order to ensure peace and quiet in Utah, is to crush out this so-called Loyal League.

SOUND SENSE.

THE following from the *Dubuque Times* applies as pertinently to this locality as any other: "Encourage every home enterprise. Take an interest in every industry, invest liberally in the stock of faith and good will, and distribute it all over your city, in every factory, every workshop every business house. It will pay you large dividends, and will cost very little. It can never depreciate in value. It will always be above par. Buy home-made goods. Ask your merchants for them. Wear home-made garments, eat home-made articles of food, sleep on home-made beds, read home-made newspapers. In this way the money you spend is only loaned. It will come back to you again with interest. Praise up your city—don't run it down. Stand by your merchants and manufacturers—they are the bone and sinew of your municipal structure. Stand by your churches and your schools—they are the hopes of your future. Stand by your press—it is the tireless sentinel that guards your interest. Stand by your city all the time."

IMPORTANCE OF THE WATER QUESTION.

A FEW days since our esteemed contemporary the *Herald* contained a timely article on the water question. It had special reference to the subject of supplying the residents of the north bench with that indispensable requisite to health and life. We are in hearty sympathy with the views expressed by the *Herald* in the article in question.

What is termed the upper system of waterworks has been established, a main having been laid from the east bluff of City Creek Canon along Sixth Street, to the vicinity of the city cemetery. But little progress has been made beyond that essential piece of work. Practically the people are no nearer obtaining water than before it was done. The condition upon which it can be placed within their reach is that the property owners shall plank down in advance \$150 for the length of one side of a block for the laying of a three-inch main that distance and a service pipe to the sidewalk opposite their premises. This amount is credited to the payors on water-rate account.

A great difficulty—already demonstrated by facts and figures—in the way of extending the system on this condition is the comparative poverty of the people who are most in want of the water. The overwhelming majority of them are simply unable to raise the requisite amount. Under some circumstances, which in cases actually exists, a property owner both able and willing to take the water and pay his pro rata in proportion to frontage may be unable to get it, owing to the inability or unwillingness of property owners, whose premises are intervening between his and the initial point from which the three inch main must be laid. His only recourse would be to plank down the amount required for the entire distance and thus bring the pipes past the property of his neighbors in order to reach his own. It will be seen that this plan is not favorable to the principal object in view—supplying the people with water by the speedy extension of the system.

The City Council are doubtless weighing the subject before coming to a final decision upon the entire question, which is one of great importance. The municipal government have great demands made upon them, and this fact associated with a depleted treasury, causes much anxiety, not to say perplexity. No question involving public improvement has so urgent a claim upon the corporation as that upon which we are now treating, and the officials are doubtless casting about for a feasible plan upon which to meet it without creating undue financial embarrassment.

One project which has been entertained, and which has a number of features that appear to commend it, is to assess a local tax of fifty cents a foot on the frontage of all property on the streets along which the mains are laid.

On its face this plan appears to be just, from the fact that a large amount of property benefited by the establishment of the mains made no special contribution toward the expenditure, the work and materials having been paid out of the revenue derived from general taxation. Subsequently, property owners were required to advance three-fourths of the cost, which was credited to them on rate account. Of course should the 50 cent per foot special tax prevail, some equitable arrangement would doubtless be made with the latter class of water takers,

in order to place them on an equal footing with those who made no special advance.

Legally we believe the city government has the right to levy a special tax upon property owners immediately benefited, in order to reimburse the corporation for the expenditure involved. It will not be pretended, however, that the special tax referred to would begin to refund the amount expended on the construction of waterworks. It would probably not amount to much more than a sixth of the initial cost when they were inaugurated, and probably not do a great deal more than be a return for the amount laid out on the upper system lately constructed.

While admitting the technically legal right of the corporation to levy the tax referred to, it must also be allowed that the project swims pretty close to a point where it might be said to get uncomfortably near to the margin over which the genius of the law allows no step to be taken. In other words, slight though it may be, it has *au ez post facto* tint, in this way: Those water takers who have enjoyed the benefit from the beginning and from points further on, have possessed it under the impression that they were complying with all the requirements upon which its retention was predicated. To come in at this late day and impose a new condition based upon past circumstances appears to have a sufficiently retroactive look to render it questionable.

There is another point which it may not be amiss to consider. Since the establishment of the works, property benefited by the attachment of the water privilege, has, in not a few instances, changed hands. Doubtless in each of those transactions the benefits to the premises have been considered, and the price demanded proportionately increased. The disposer was enabled to point out to the buyer that he must have an increased price because the fire-risks and insurance had been largely reduced by the water privilege, which the latter was thus required to consider in the bargain, and pay for. In strict equity could not the present possessor entertain a claim against the person from whom he bought if he were required to pay a special tax for benefits in which the disposer had not only participated, but for which he had actually been paid by the present proprietor. While such points may be by some people, deemed somewhat fine, in a question of importance every phase liable to lead to complications should be considered.

The question of general equity should be carefully scrutinized as well. When a special tax is levied the pro rata should be based upon the proportionate degree of benefit derived by the tax-payer. When the amount charged is equal to all, the presumption is that the beneficial derivation is the same. Viewed from this standpoint it will not be claimed that the one now spoken of is thus founded. In localities that are thickly populated—the business centres for instance—the frontage is comparatively limited, and the property enormously higher in point of value. Not only is the water privilege of incalculably greater benefit in such sections than it is in parts more sparsely peopled, from its simple use, but there is a continuous beneficial effect from the perpetual lowering of fire-risks and insurance. Those who are in thinly populated places on the other hand and have much greater frontage on property of greatly lower value, would thus be taxed higher than their more favored fellow citizens. Add to these conditions the fact of comparative inability to meet the taxation, and it will be observed that equality is not an element of this project.

Unless we are mistaken the plan to which we have been referring would not cause a speedy solution of a most important question—the extension of the waterworks system to all the inhabitants. "To this complexion must we come at last," and it is just as well to face the problem now with a bold proposition and front.

We have an example of what can be done by a plan that has been operated in one project—the Jordan and Salt Lake City Canal, which has proved a boon of incalculable value to the inhabitants, especially in some locations. The benefits are, however, more or less confined to certain sections, yet no local tax was assessed, the means having been obtained by the creation of a bonded debt, liquidation being provided for by a sinking fund for the payment of the interest and principal. The result was that the work was done rapidly and the benefits to be derived obtained in the briefest practicable time.

While not strongly advocating a similar course in relation to the extension of the waterworks system to all parts of the city, we introduce the idea that our city officers may be aided in viewing the subject from every standpoint.

While opposed to the creation of public debt on general principles, there are special occasions which appear to demand it, because of the enormous benefits to be derived. It cannot be denied that the procuring of the means in the way now suggested would be by far the most effectual method, so far as the extension of the system is concerned. The more speedily the object is attained the more satisfactory and profitable will be the result.

Take the north bench as an example. Vacant lots situated high on the upland were, a few months ago, comparatively valueless. Now they command a price in the real estate market of from \$250 upwards. To have as-