

FALSE ACCUSATION AGAINST THE AMERICAN PARTY.

It is not true, says the Washington American, that the American party ever opposed the elevation of Roman Catholics to political office on account of their religion. The Roman party, who charge us with promoting them on account of their religion, should be withheld our prayers from them, because they should be prevented to political elevation, because their obligation of obedience to the church is paramount to every other obligation, and they practice polygamy; and this would they do with equal propriety, for these are religious observances with them. But where is there a Roman Catholic who would not object to leading his influence, in any its least degree, in elevating one of the followers of Brigham Young to any political post whatever, and for the simple reason that he is an apostate and a persecutor of the head of his church, and believes that the practice of polygamy is a holy and a Christian ordinance?

There is not one, it is very certain. With what degree of justice, then, do they complain of the Americans for objecting to the elevation to political stations, of such members of their church as believe that they owe a paramount obedience to the Pope of Rome, and that he is the supreme expounder, for them, of the Constitution of the United States?

That there are among us such Roman Catholics, none will pretend to deny, and that there may be some who do not acknowledge such obedience, we do not say. Hence the modification of the American platform explanatory of the article on this subject, showing that our objection applied solely to such as would obey the Pope's mandates rather than those of our own civil and political authorities, should they come in conflict.

It is not enough for Roman Catholics to declare that the obligations they owe to the Pope is a purely religious or spiritual obligation, unless they have the liberty—which no honest Romanist will claim—to question and dispute a mandate of the Pope given in the most solemn manner, from the chair of Peter. To assert this liberty, were to claim the right of individual opinion to violate judgment, which all know is heresy. We are aware that Catholics will say to this, "we only give up the right of opinion to the Pope in matters of religion; in temporal we claim the right of private judgment." We understand all this very well, but we are not speaking of cases where the Pope speaks or speaks—here, and in the name of the whole church—and complicity declares the subject matter a purely spiritual affair, though all the world, accepting his subjects, know without a doubt, that it is not so. Have we among us any Roman Catholic who, in such a case, would venture to say in the face of mankind—"I deny the authority?" We know that there are, in Europe, millions of such; and they have manifested themselves on various occasions; but they have invariably been denounced as heretics.

What such Romanists as we might be considered by the church we know not; but of this we are certain—if any such were known to the American party, they would not be identified by that party with aliens, or the enemies of our republican institutions.

We believe it is a fact, that the Roman Catholics of Europe—excepting the Irish—are better friends of liberty—we speak particularly of freedom from church tyranny—and really there is scarcely any other kind of tyranny at this day in the world than those of the United States are. Nothing but armed forces restrains them from asserting their rights. If the armies of France and Austria were withdrawn from Italy, the Pope with all other tyrants there would take to fight in three days—say, three minutes. The recent demonstration in Belgium—a thoroughly Roman Catholic country with a Protestant king—is a very good indication of the general feeling of the masses of Catholics on the continent of Europe towards the priesthood, especially the Jesuits and convents. We have seen that the attempt to take the charitable fund of the kingdom from the civil administrators, and restore it to the priesthood, nearly caused a rebellion. Had not the project been abandoned, a bloody civil war would, in all probability, have ensued. The cry of "Down with the Jesuits" and "Down with the Convents," induced several editors in the United States, in their ignorance, to give their notice of this event a caption of "A PROTESTANT REBELLION IN BELGIUM." They ought to have known that there are no Protestants in Belgium, or next to none; although the King is a Protestant, there are scarcely twenty thousand Protestants scattered through the kingdom. Had those editors referred to the foreign papers, they might have seen that not a Protestant was complicated in the affair.

But, to return to the main subject. The American party consider politics and religion as being radically and completely different things, and having sworn eternal hostility to the union of Church and State, as well as to "every species of tyranny over the mind of man," it is bound to exert its power to keep politics and religion far asunder in this country. Standing on this principle, and believing that the "hypocrisy and oppression of the working people of Europe is mainly attributable to the union of Church and State, Americans must regard with great distrust

STAVE IRON.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CHARLESTON.

On Wednesday the 24th inst., the Lord Lincoln, tenant of Ireland, had the end of the Atlantic telegraph cable in the station, near the station, and great quantities of stave iron, which were being prepared for shipment, were destroyed.

By those engaged in laying down the cable across the Atlantic. O'Connell Lord God, who was engaged in the business and collecting money of the cable, had the end of the cable in the station, near the station, and great quantities of stave iron, which were being prepared for shipment, were destroyed.

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COMMERCIAL.

WOLFF'S PATENT SEALING MACHINE.

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