

sons because of their religion or place of birth; they *merely* require the brethren *never* to vote for, or give their influence in support of any man, for any office, who is not a native born citizen, or who may be a Roman Catholic! This, it is said, does not proscribe them. Oh! no. These Catholics and naturalized citizens are still to be allowed to live in the land, to cultivate the soil, to work at the mechanic arts or trades, to engage in merchandising if they please; nay, they may even pursue any of the learned professions if they can, and prefer to do so. The people of both these classes may live and labor, and earn a subsistence, or even prosper and grow rich by their industry, if they can,—provided, always, that all offices of honor, profit or trust are bestowed only upon the members of “the particular order,” amongst whom even, in one of the above forms of oaths, it is stipulated a *preference* shall always be given to members of the third degree!! If to brand a man, or classes of men, with disqualification from all offices of every kind—to stigmatize him or the class to which he belongs as not worthy to be trusted—to degrade and reduce him below the level of those with whom he associates, and amongst whom he lives, is not a proscription of that man or class, then the ocean does not roll its waves, nor does the sun shine in the heavens!!

Again, we find in the papers referred to, it is stipulated in the oath of the first degree, that the member, *in all political matters*, so far as the order is concerned, shall *comply with the will of the majority*, though it may conflict with his *personal preference*? And in the second degree oath, it is stipulated that the member *will support*, in all political matters for all political offices, *members of this order* in preference to *all other persons*. This not only proscribes and proposes to exclude from all offices, Catholics and citizens not of native birth, but *all other persons who are not members of the order*, so far as the votes of the order have power to do it, and members of the order can be found to be candidates. This is not a “wild hunt after office,” but rather shows a purpose to monopolize all offices. But to return. The third degree oath contains this clause: “that he, (the member,) will *vote for and support*, for all political offices, **THIRD OR UNION DEGREE MEMBERS** of this order in *preference to all others*.” Now, how much of political liberty is left to the poor man who has taken these obligations, or those only of the first and second degrees? Why literally none! He is no longer a freeman! He is bound by the forms of an oath or oaths, which he is taught to believe is sacred and binding, to comply in all political matters, so far as the order is concerned, with the will