

this, in reiterating in his letter the alarm given in the message of the dangerous character of this conspiracy, he appeals for his evidence to the open avowal of the objects of the party referred to, now known as the American Party, as they are written and published in the proceedings above described.

It is true that he does take exception to this party because it chooses to pursue its declared objects, by private consultations, whenever it finds those necessary, and does not allow these consultations to be intruded upon by enemies, spies, reporters, or others who might find inducements to plot or practice against its success in the strenuous endeavor it has been making to reform abuses against the letter and spirit of our Constitution, and in its efforts to infuse into the heart of the country a sound and genuine American feeling.

In this unexpected communication of the scope and character of the supposed evils which have aroused the vigilance and invoked the warning voice of the Governor, the committee find but little occasion for a protracted investigation, none for the use of that power to send for persons and papers which the House has conferred upon them, to be employed if they thought necessary. The House itself is possessed of the most authentic information upon the whole subject, and can appeal, besides, to a large majority of the people of the State, as the host of witnesses, to satisfy the Governor that the public safety is fortified by the protection of virtuous, enlightened and patriotic defenders, and that the Constitution, both of the Federal Government and of the State, are secure against any violence by foreign and domestic enemies. Whatever ground the Governor may fancy he has had for sounding an alarm, it is but a topic for discussion upon facts not concealed, but openly proclaimed. He has himself referred to the proofs, and these are all abroad in the light of day. There is no necessity for producing witnesses to establish them. They consist in carefully considered and solemnly uttered declarations upon the public political interests of the country, promulgated by men of unquestionable fidelity to every obligation of free Government; men of intelligence, reputation and distinguished public service, and published through every channel in which the American people are accustomed to seek for knowledge upon the subjects of their rights and duties, they are announced in clear and