

laws, the repeal by the Legislatures of the respective States of all State laws, allowing foreigners not naturalized to vote, the repeal without retro-active operation, of all acts of Congress making grants of land to unnaturalized foreigners and allowing them to vote in the territories." And in the 8th Article it declared a purpose of "Resistance to the aggressive policy and corrupting tendencies of the Roman Catholic church in our country, by the advancement to all political stations, Executive, Legislative, Judicial or Diplomatic, of those only who do not hold civil allegiance directly or indirectly to any foreign power, whether civil or ecclesiastical, and who are Americans by birth, education and training."

These Resolutions touching the views of the Party, promulgated in a National Convention of American citizens, and published to the world, have fallen under the animadversion of the Governor, and furnished the topic upon which he has thought it his duty to ask the remedial action of the Legislature.

The Committee cannot be mistaken in saying that the remedial action thus invoked can be no other than the application of the power of the Legislature to suppress the avowal and circulation of such doctrines in this State. His message and letter allude distinctly to such a purpose. He says in the latter of these documents, which only professes to explain what was ambiguous in the former—"I am credibly informed that there exists now within this State numerous societies of a secret character, whose object and purpose is to prevent the election or appointment to office of any person belonging to the Roman Catholic church, or who is not a native born citizen of the United States." "The existence of such *unlawful combinations* has been repeatedly charged in the Congress of the United States," &c. "With you gentlemen abides, under the sanction of the House of Delegates, the power of ascertaining the truth or falsity of these allegations—*I am powerless in the premises beyond the making known to you what I fear and believe in regard to them.*"

It is clearly the Governor's opinion, as expressed in these extracts, that a combination of citizens of this State to proclaim and support a determination to vote for or appoint to office no person belonging to the Roman Catholic church, nor any one who is not a native born citizen, is an *unlawful combination*; and