

have been driven by the odious eighth article from their ranks, they (this Chameleon party) may, on that account, make an erasure of the article from the *paper*, and attempt to *blot out* the *blot* upon the history of the country. (Would that the principle could be erased from their hearts!) But they are not prepared for that here yet—their necessities are not yet sufficiently pressing in Maryland, to force upon reluctant bigotry that measure of policy. The American Party of the Philadelphia Platform, whole and entire, is still the creed and boast here; but the time will come and that soon, when the paper will be erased. How many such an erasure will deceive, will remain to be seen.

But let us now hear Mr. Smith, another of these “Simon Pures” and a member from Alabama, whose speech in Baltimore will long be remembered by that people, and who in the course of his reply to Mr. Eustis, said: This brought him to the fundamental principle of the American party. It was not religious, but political. He *denounced* Roman Catholics because *spiritually, temporally* and *politically*, they owed allegiance to the Pope, above the Constitution of the United States, and at the proper time he would adduce the highest authorities to sustain him in the position he had assumed. And here he would say to the gentleman from Louisiana, that if the Catholics of that State were not Roman Catholics, they did not come under the ban of the American Party.”

Here we have the full measure of the true spirit of the far-famed eighth article. The honorable gentleman first imputes a slander, and then, under cover of that slander, places the Catholic community under the ban of the American Party. But one more instance.

Mr. Flournoy, the defeated candidate and organ of the American Party, at the late Gubernatorial election in Virginia, published a letter in which he announced the principle of proscription, and stood upon it throughout the canvass.

Here, in this Legislature, some avowed members of that Party tell us they are altogether averse to all kinds of religious proscription—and anon papers are presented, coming from known members of the party, assailing with slander and calumny, and vile detraction, harmless, pure, innocent and helpless females of the Catholic Church; and they are *received* by a party vote. If after seeing all this, and considering it, any one can tell what is the *American Party*, he must be gifted with powers of discrimination much beyond those of ordinary men:—and if the fate which befell the laborers on the tower of Babel, does not attend this confusion of names, purposes and principles, the laws of nature must have been reversed, and similar causes have ceased to produce similar effects.