

## **Exploring Diversity in Pennsylvania History**

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania

with THE BALCH
INSTITUTE FOR

#### **Nativism**

### **Primary Reading**

# The Anti-Catholic Press, 1854 THE KNOW-NOTHING: AND AMERICAN CRUSADER 29 July 1854

#### **BOUND TO SERVE THE CHURCH BEFORE THE COUNTRY**

We must not let this fact go-by—the Roman Catholics are bound to serve their Church before their Country.

What is the practical and inevitable result of such a system in this country? Why, that every Catholic stands committed as an enemy to the Republic. In such a character, base as it is—reeking all over, soaked all through with a religion that countenance crime; with principals that are shocked at no extremity of corruption—their whole effect is to pull down Republicanism and bolster up Romanism. This it does. It is seen. The thing is plain. It can't be otherwise. A man who is a Roman Catholic is not a Republican. He can't be. Calling fish, flesh, don't make it so. Hence whatever is told you of Catholicism as favorable to all that is American, put no faith in it. The Pope of Rome says America must be crushed—and all political economists of any note or weight, agree that if it is ever crushed, it will be by Romanism.

Let us remember these matters. Let us regard every Roman Catholic as an enemy to the country—and so treat him. He is nothing else.

#### NONE BUT AMERICANS FOR OFFICE

Such is one of the planks of our platform. It involved a great principle—and one which the Americans accept heartily. It is sound. It is just. It is what should be the fact. America, we take it, is the land of Americans. *It is theirs*. Its offices, its destiny, its genius, its laws, institutions, should all be in their hands and keeping. Not an office in this whole land should be filled by any *but Americans*. There is a full supply. They are all capable. They are intelligent, patriotic and all that. Then where is the logic, justice, even decency, of permitting foreigners to hold these places.

It is painful to look at affairs in Washington. Many of the best offices there,—in the very heart of the nation—there where for example, word, action, foes forth all over the land—are filled by *foreigners*. And *two-thirds* of those are IRISH.

Let the cry go forth—NONE BUT NATIVE AMERICANS FOR OFFICE!

#### THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER

• The Roman Catholic Priest is a queer institution. He makes people commit crime, then pay for it, and then goes and commits it himself. Nothing like the Priest.

- The Fourth July was celebrated in London, in fine style. Uncle Sam and Victoria were toasted, and Hail Columbia, God Save the Queen, Yankee Doodle and other luxuries enjoyed. Some country, that England.
- The New Bedford Mercury, after several columns of abuse of the new organization known as the "Know-Nothings." Has taken the back track, and expresses itself highly delighted with it, in several very pretty little items.
- About fifty Irishmen set upon half dozen of the Portland police, the other night, with a view of giving them a most unmerciful beating. The police were too smart for the scoundrels, and jugged them all.
- The Pope of Rome weighs 300. The size and weight of his body, is in striking contrast with that of his mind.

#### WHAT YOU SEE IF YOU LOOK SHARP

- 1—A very excited state of mind among foreigners.
- 2—Roman Catholic priests cutting up all sorts of disgraceful didos.
- 3—The American party rolling up its forces for the coming political warfare.
- 4—Old politicians shaking in their breeches, as though they had a double and twisted fever and ague.
- 5—Eleven prominent cities electing pure Native American officers.
- 6—By looking very sharp, on tip-toe, a Native American President taking his seat in the White House in 1856, March 4th.

Not bad to look at, these things—not a bit.

# THINGS WHICH ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS AND ALL TRUE ROMAN CATHOLICS HATE

Providence, July 22, 1854

- 1. They HATE our Republic, and are trying to overthrow it.
- 2. They HATE the American *Eagle*, and it offends them beyond endurance to see it worn as an ornament by Americans.
- 3. They HATE our Flag, as it manifest by their grossly insulting it.
- 4. They HATE the liberty of conscience.
- 5. They HATE the liberty of the Press.
- 6. They HATE the liberty of speech.
- 7. They HATE our Common School system.
- 8. They HATE the Bible, and would blot it out of existence if they could!
- 9. The *Priests* HATE married life, and yet by *them is fulfilled* the Scripture, to wit: 'more are the children of the desolate, than the children of the married wife.'
- 10. They HATE Protestants, and are sworn to *exterminate* them from our country and the earth.
- 11. They HATE the name of WASHINGTON, because he was a *Republican* and Protestant.

- 12. They HATE all rulers that do not swear allegiance to the Pope of Rome.
- 13. They HATE to be  $\it ruled$  by  $\it Americans$ , and say 'WE WILL NOT BE RULED BY THEM!'
- 14. They HATE to support their own paupers and they are left to be supported by the tax paying Americans.
- 15. They HATE, above all, the 'Know-Nothings,' who are determined to rid this country from their accursed power.
- -UNCLE SAM