

But all these calumnies have been again and again refuted. These vituperations have been like bullets striking against a rock, which, in their recoil, have stricken down the marksmen. We believe to our Maker only are we amenable for our religious convictions,—that, when they come not in conflict with the well-being of society, every man should enjoy whatever opinion he pleases unrestricted. But as for political purposes such a loud outcry has been raised relative to the Catholicity of the people's nominee, we will cursorily examine the consistency or inconsistency of the charge. It has been stated that he was married by a Catholic Priest, has made the mark of a Cross on the Rocky Mountains, and been seen in a Catholic Church: and this constitutes a Catholic! That Protestants have been married by Catholic priests is a fact indisputable; and as to the making of a cross in some particular spot, both in ancient and modern times it has been customary for travellers to do so,—the cross thus made indicating no particular church, but being, in contradistinction to the crescent, a symbol of the Christian faith. There was no choice, too, as to the manner in which and by whom the marriage ceremony should be performed in the case referred to. The father of the bride was a potentate of the land, possessing great influence in the metropolitan city; the marriage was contracted contrary to his wishes, and, consequently, there could have been no selection as to whom should fulfil the contract. If the Republican nominee, too, is a Catholic, and the Catholic Church is, as it is affirmed to be, a political Church, and his opponents are all Protestants, why do not the Catholics give him their support? * Again, if he is a Catholic, why have his children christened in a Protestant Church? † Presuming that he ever did belong to the Church of Rome, would not this be sufficient for his excommunication?

* Without an exception all the Catholic press of the country are opposed to him, and favor the election of the Democratic nominee.

† "WASHINGTON CITY, July 12th, 1856.

"The following children of J. Charles and Jesse Benton Fremont have been baptized in the Church of the Parish of the Epiphany, Washington, D. C., their baptisms being recorded in the register of said parish:

"1848, Aug. 15, Elizabeth McDowell Benton Fremont.

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