

you in his turn, and with great profit to himself, but to the great injury of your most precious interests ?

Oh ! Dear Brethren, is it not a shame for our country that there should be electors so base as to sell their votes for money, to promise their suffrage to those who promise them most money ?

Some have gone still farther in this dishonorable career. They have sold their liberty and their independence in order to satisfy their wretched passion for intoxicating liquors !

Because human justice is powerless to punish those who are guilty of such iniquity and infamy, can you imagine that the supreme Judge will require no account of them ? Do you believe that, at the tribunal of infinite justice, corruption and calumny, and falsehood, violence, perjury, hatred, intemperance and other disorders will not be punished because they are committed at election times ? No, no, Dearly Beloved Brethren, those who then do such things in order to uphold their cause, even if it were the best in the world, will infallibly bear the punishment of their crime.

VI.

OF OATHS.

The name of God is holy and terrible (Ps., CX. 9), it ought to be pronounced with the most profound respect ; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that shall take the name of the Lord his God in vain. (Exod., XX. 7.)

It is also said in Scripture : *And thou shalt swear : As the Lord liveth, in truth and in judgment, and in justice. (Jerem. IV. 2.)*

He who takes an oath, calls the God of all truth to witness the truth of what he says. An oath is a mark of homage rendered to the sovereign veracity of God. On the contrary, perjury has been considered by all nations as a fearful outrage on the Divinity, as an abominable crime worthy of the most terrible chastisements.

We cannot conceal it from you, Dearly Beloved Brethren, we are alarmed, at seeing with what facility certain persons, forgetful of the fear of God, dare to perjure themselves, either before the tribunals of justice, or at times of elections. So, for a miserable interest, to secure the triumph of a candidate who is sometimes unworthy of the smallest confidence, the adorable name of God is profaned. And what consummates and crowns this iniquity, and makes us fear for our country the effects of the just indignation of the Lord, is that they are not afraid to justify such enormous abuses ; they endeavor to form false consciences, and to palliate in their own eyes the impiety and abomination of perjury.