

## THE MARTIN KOSZTA CASE

During the administration of Franklin Pierce an incident occurred which brought our country very close to the verge of war with Austria. Martin Koszta, a Hungarian, who had taken part in the unsuccessful revolution of 1848 in his country, escaped to Turkey, and was confined there for a while and then came to the United States, where he declared under oath and before a proper officer, his intentions to become a citizen of this country.

After residing in the United States for nearly two years, he returned to Smyrna, Turkey, upon business of a temporary nature, and placed himself under the protection of the American Consul. The Austrian Consul tried to get authority from the Turkish government for his arrest, but failing in

upon the Huszar. A compromise, however, was effected by virtue of which the prisoner was delivered to the custody of the French Consul-General until the two governments should agree in regard to his disposal.

The Austrian government addressed to various courts a protest against the action of Captain Ingraham, and instructed the Austrian Imperial charge d'affairs at Washington to ask the government of the United States "not to interpose any obstacles to the extradition of Koszta to Austria," "to disavow the conduct of its agents" and "to call them to a severe account and tender to Austria a satisfaction proportionate to the magnitude of the outrage."

The incident gave William L. Marcy, the secretary of state under Pierce, an opportunity to be reckoned as a great statesman, which



ONE OF THE SCENES FROM THE SENSATIONAL FILM "PURITY" WHICH FEATURES THE ORPHEUM PHOTOPLAY BILL FOR SUNDAY, MONDAY AND TUESDAY



JOHN McCORMACK, THE FAMOUS IRISH TENOR

the acts of American agents refused, the satisfaction asked for by Austria respectfully declined, and the request to put no obstacles in the way of the delivery of Koszta to the Austrian Consul-General at Smyrna was denied.

Marcy made one declaration which has the flavor of the stump speech, but it was of a nature to thrill the American heart with delight, for never had the national aggressiveness been so strong as at this time. "Whenever," he wrote, "by the operation of the law of nations, an individual becomes clothed with our national character, be he a native-born or a naturalized citizen, an exile driven from his early home by political oppression, or an emigrant enticed from it by the hopes of a better fortune for himself and his posterity, he can claim the protection of this government, and it may respond to that claim without being obliged to explain its conduct to any foreign power; for it is its duty to make its nationality respected by other nations and respectable in every quarter of the globe."

Marcy's important point was well taken and has been sustained by eminent American authorities on international law; and his successors in the state department have followed the principle he laid down.

In the end Koszta was allowed to return to the United States. Congress

showed its satisfaction by a joint resolution thanking Captain Ingraham and conferring on him a medal.

## THE FOOTBALL

The football is a small but compact volume of college spirit entirely surrounded by pigskin, mud and perspiration.

In repose it resembles a shiftless and crestfallen gingerbread, but when properly laced up the back and assaulted with a virile air pump it becomes swollen with indignation and as full of wind as an assiduous campaign orator. While in this highly apoplectic state a brawny youth, with a battering-ram leg, can easily propel it through three companions and into an adjacent township.

The football is the self-appointed press agent for our best colleges: Scores of universities which formerly bagged woefully at the knees and were shiny in their seats of learning have since blossomed out in the very latest style of endowment, neatly trimmed with contributions and subsidies.

For years the football has been the unwavering friend of the medical fraternity, and, in the language of that profession, always brings home the bacon with unflagging zeal. Since growing to maturity it has, alone and

this, instigated some desperadoes to kidnap him.

Koszta was taken on board the Austrian brig-of-war Huszar and put in irons. The American representatives made the proper protests, but the demand for his release was unsuccessful. Meanwhile, there arrived in the harbor of Smyrna the United States sloop-of-war Saint Louis, under the command of Captain Ingraham, who, becoming convinced that a design was set on foot by the Austrian officials to remove Koszta clandestinely to Trieste, an Austrian port, demanded his release, and, to enforce it, brought the guns of the Saint Louis to bear

was most desirable to him, as he had presidential aspirations. The manifesto addressed by him to the Austrian charge had a remarkable reception, and for a moment Marcy was the most popular man in the United States.

From the careful and precise statement of the facts, the secretary of state shows that "Koszta was seized without any rightful authority." And, although he had not yet become a naturalized citizen, he had established his domicile in the United States and became thereby clothed with the national character, and acquired the right to extend it to him.

The course of Captain Ingraham was fully justified, the disavowal of