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EDITORIAL

CHAPTER XX.

By DANIEL DE LEON

ELSEWHERE in this issue will be found under the above caption a literal transcript of Chapter XX, Senate Document No. 122, 58th Congress, 3rd Session.¹ The document is the official report on the Labor Disturbances in the State of Colorado from 1880 to 1904, inclusive. Every line of that “Chapter XX” should be carefully read, and the facts graven in the memory. They are a torch-light by which to observe recent events connected with the Colorado-Idaho affair—the assiduity of the Mine Owners’ Association’s Governors Gooding and McDonald in declaring Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone guilty; the value of the Orchard “confession”; the deep damnation of the language held by the reptile capitalist press of the land in shouting in chorus malediction upon the heads of the imprisoned men, and pronouncing them “convicted murderers”; the lawless extradition proceedings;—in short the criminal character of the capitalist combine, back of the whole performance, and the overbearing impudence of the Pinkerton-Thiel detective contrivers{ } crime.

Chapter XX is a review of officially recorded facts. It tells of the arrests in 1904 of three leading members of the Western Federation of Miners upon charges of train wrecking; it tells of the men’s triumphant acquittal; it tells of the hirelings, detectives and others, of the Mine Owners’ Ass’n., upon whose affidavits the men were arrested, breaking down wholly at the trial, admitting that they had concocted the plot themselves for the purpose of implicating the Union men, and that the crime was committed wholly by themselves; finally it tells how **THE PERJURED AND SELF-CONFESSED CRIMINALS WERE RELEASED ON BOND FURNISHED BY S.D. CRUMP, ATTORNEY FOR THE MINE OWNERS’**

¹ [From *A Report on Labor Disturbances in the State of Colorado, from 1880 to 1904, inclusive, with correspondence related thereto*, by Carroll D. Wright, U.S. Commissioner of Labor.]

ASSOCIATION, AND W.M. BAINBRIDGE, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE EL PASO MINE.

Comment is superfluous. Unerring was the instinct of the Working Class of the land when it scented black felony in this recent Colorado-Idaho outrage, and, realizing that honor and justice are unknown articles to the Capitalist Class, whose hands are dripping with the blood of the Working Class, decided to do its own thinking and to take the matter in its own hands by emphatically raising the voice of protest, turning the light upon the felon class, expose it red-handed and thus give a chance to RIGHT—while getting ready wholly to dethrone WRONG.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
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