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EDITORIAL

SHERMAN BELL—THE “HERO.”

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE newspapers owned and controlled by capitalist corporations, are straining every means to make the Cripple Creek dynamiting appear to be the work of the union miners, and thus justify the repressive measures that are being used against them. With this end in view, these newspapers are rehashing all the lies regarding the perpetration of past explosions, explosions which the miners' organization has repeatedly shown were the work of the mine owners or their agents. With this end in view, they are presenting a perversion of facts relating to the Cripple Creek explosion, that is well calculated to destroy every spark of sympathy for the miners, and permit the commission of any atrocity that the State government, led by Governor Peabody, who is, notoriously, a representative of the mine owners, may deem advisable to inflict on them. In brief, the newspapers, as usual, are doing the dirty work of the class which owns and controls them.

When will the members of the working class awaken to this fact? When will they cease reposing confidence in their enemy, and supporting him morally and financially, by accepting his guidance in matters willfully perverted to their own detriment, and giving him their pennies in payment for the newspapers which bind the chains of wage slavery more tightly about them? When will the members of the working class learn to support a press of their own, in order that the truth may be told regarding themselves? When will the members of the working class learn to support a press of their own, in order that their interests may be protected and advanced? When the members of the working class answer these questions satisfactorily they will be on the high road to emancipation!—and the now heroic figure of Adjutant-General Sherman Bell will have shrunk to its proper dimensions, and received condign punishment.

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