

# The People.

VOL. IX, NO. 11

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 1899

PRICE 2 CENTS

EDITORIAL

## AN AMERICAN HEIRESS RIOTESS.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**T**he cable dispatches last week brought thrilling news from Paris. A mob, not of the unwashed, but made up of titled Frenchmen, assaulted the President of the Republic at the Auteuil race course. The assault was intended as a demonstration against the decision of the Court of Cassation to annul the verdict against Dreyfus and give him a new trial, it being now established that "he was convicted on three documents, two of which were forgeries, and one of which did not relate to him." The "demonstration" was the last vulgar manifestation of a military-clerical conspiracy almost unparalleled in the history of the criminal classes in power; a conspiracy gone into preparatory to some popular massacre as the sole means to stem the rise of Socialism, and which the Socialists of France took a leading and noble part in uncovering, frustrating and bringing to naught.

The act of leading property-holding Frenchmen indulging in such a demonstration; indulging in a riot in which rotten eggs figured prominently is, indeed, worth while recording, and yet might not have been given space in these columns were it not for a certain circumstance that accompanied the riot.

Among the rioters figured our own Anna, the daughter of Jay Gould, now the Countess of Castellane, who, living in riotous luxury in France on the marrow of American wage slaves, furnished by her conduct a fit counterpart to the conduct of her sister, Miss Helen Gould, in this city.

In this city, Miss Helen Gould is indulging in "judicious distributions," i.e., in "gifts" to the Police. Her sister, in France, is breaking law by joining rioters. Do these two acts conflict? No! They are obverse and reverse of the same medal.

The Goulds, as capitalists, are members of a brigand class, a class that robs the working class of the fruits of its labor; consequently, a class that needs violence

and physical force to keep itself in possession of its stolen goods. To bribe Policemen with gifts in New York and to join military-clerical rioters in France is, accordingly, the same thing: they are translations into American and into French of the same idea, the same purpose, the same plan.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
Uploaded July 2004