VOL. 1, NO. 50.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 1900.

TWO CENTS.

EDITORIAL

"CO-OPERATION IN CHINA."

By DANIEL DE LEON

ow that the farce of "relieving" the ministers in Pekin is over, the curtain is to be rung down, and we are to have the international stars do a turn at the "legit." The opening act is to be the first representation on any stage of "Cooperation in China," by William One of America and William Two of Germany.¹

The United States, under the able direction of John Hay, definitely promised to "co-operate" with Germany in "restoring order:" what this means may be gathered from the inspired utterances of the Government organs in Germany, freely quoted by the capitalist press here. The *Berliner Post* says:

"A great thing has been done, but a greater must be done before the allied powers will be satisfied. It remains to obtain redress for the attacks upon the legations and other wrongs, particularly the assassination of the German Minister, and to install a Government which will punish the guilty and give ample guarantee against the recurrence of similar crimes."

To "install a Government" is an innocent enough phrase, but, like modern charity, it covers a multitude of schemes. The milk of the cocoanut is in it; likewise the whereforeness of the massacres and torturing of Christians—by special correspondents of the yellow papers—the past two months. For every drop of missionary and ministerial blood, NOT spilled by the sanguinary heathens, the two Willies will co-operate in taking vengeance, also territory, taels, railroad concessions, etc., and a Government must be "installed" which will permit this taking.

No, we are not through with China. We are going to give the world an object lesson in co-operation. We are going to work such a change in China that barbarism will give way to business; capitalist civilization will triumph over moss-grown

¹ [A reference to William McKinley, President of the United States, and William (Wilhelm) II, Kaiser (Emperor) of Germany.]

Chinese feudalism; the sweat-shop will take the place of the stink-pot, and the Chinese brand of massacre, which does not kill one-tenth the number advertised, will be replaced by the up-to-date, co-operative, capitalist massacre of wage slaves, which kills ten times as many as advertised.

Those simple souls who thought we were going to withdraw after "relieving" our "murdered ministers," and leave the Chinaman to his fate and his wife to her feet, may take heart again. They are now about to witness the two Bills in the wardance, entitled: "Co-operation in China."

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

Uploaded June 2005