EDITORIAL

SPAIN–AMERICA.

By DANIEL DE LEON

SHOULD any Socialist or Labor organization contemplate issuing an address to workingmen, miners especially, upon capitalist iniquity and upon the tortures that the workers, especially miners, are subjected to, the following passage is recommended from the address just issued by the National Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of Spain:

“Riotinto, the owner of which, an English Company, buys newspapers, State officers and experts, is a slaughter-house of human beings, a torture room for all who are there employed, and a disgrace to the country, especially to the government which tolerates the iniquities committed there; Almaden, a cemetery, where the State officiates as sexton; Pueblo Nuevo, an insalubrious place, where the worker’s health is not considered, only little is paid to him, and no precautions are taken to safeguard him from fatal accidents; Villaodrid, a dark alley in the Sierra Morema where the workers are robbed in three ways—through starvation wages, crediting them with the same after being 60 days overdue, and compelling them to take their supplies from a Company inn; Tesorero, a feudal fief where the workers are kept in a state of almost complete isolation from the surrounding population, are mercilessly exploited, and are paid many months in arrears; Seron, exploited by an English Company, like other localities of the same province, a sink of cruelty where, despite all complaints, no hospital has yet been erected for the care of those who suffer accidents; the ‘Miguel’ mine, the ‘Mine of Death,’ as it is called by the miners themselves on account of the large number of accidents that happen there; the ‘Carolina’ mine, an altar of capitalism, seeing that not a week goes by without some proletarian being immolated.”

Just strike out Riotinto and insert in its place Cripple Creek; strike out Almaden and insert the Pittsburg, Pa., district; insert Virden, Ill., in lieu of Pueblo Nuevo; substitute Villaodrid with Idaho’s Coeur d’Alene; put, in place of Tesorero, Ohio’s Hocking valley; stick the Indiana coal district where Seron now appears in
the Spanish address; in stead of the “Miguel” mine write the West Virginia mining realm of the would-be father-in-law of the Prince of the Abruzzi; for the “Carolina” of Spain take the mines of Alabama;—do that, and the address will fit the United States even better than the proverbial “babber on de vall.”

The capitalist realm is international—identical everywhere are its ways.