

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPH

{FATHER MCGLYNN'S "NARROW ESCAPE."}

By DANIEL DE LEON

WHAT a narrow escape did the beloved Father Edward McGlynn have! Such is the thought that comes to mind when one reads the facts in the case of Father Alexander Klauder of Faust, N.Y., against his Bishop Henry Gabriels and other pious church dignitaries, against whom the jury has just returned a verdict of \$15,000 damages. Father Klauder having written a book, *The Undoing of a Priest*, in which he tore the mask of religion from the political ward heelers and ward leaders who cloak themselves in sacerdotal titles, and, thus disguised, act as rounders for the class that grinds the faces of the poor, his Bishop, and the lieutenants of his Bishop "became desperate"—as desperate as Michael, Archbishop in Christ Corrigan, became when, in 1886–87, Father McGlynn of St. Stephen's church in this city promulgated certain doctrines that menaced the pockets of the Ruling Class. Fortunately for Father McGlynn, however, he was physically expelled from his parish into the street only; whereas Father Klauder fared worse. Bishop Gabriels decided that Father Klauder "exhibited decided symptoms of insanity," and, hitting upon the "fatherly act" of having the "insane" Father Klauder placed where he would be taken care of, had him physically seized and clapped into a lunatic asylum "for his good."

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