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EDITORIAL

LIKE MASTER, LIKE MAN.

By DANIEL DE LEON

JAMES McParland, “the talented detective who ran down the murderers,” as the meat-packers’, mine-owners’ and railroad magnates’ press refers to the worthy, appears in the Salt Lake *Tribune* with an article on Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. He who has followed the indecent conduct of Gov. Gooding of Idaho in this affair; he who remembers that Gooding, although the chairman of the Board of Pardons, has been so forgetful of the dignity of his office as to have gone about declaring Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone “guilty without a doubt,” although not yet tried; he who is aware of the fact that Gooding, as a member of the Mine Owners’ Association, is personally conducting the manoeuvres of the prosecution, and as such is personally responsible for the interminable delays in the trial, which he knows will result in the conviction only of himself and his precious detectives and “confessors”;—he who is aware of all this will not be surprised at the effrontery of McParland in daring to say that “the trouble with the accused men, now in jail, is not a fear that they will not get justice, but a real fear that they will get justice.”

Gooding is to a great extent still protected from public scrutiny by the office he holds. His conduct in the matter of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone has done much to take the public into the confidence of the gentleman’s character. The fullness of the gentleman’s baseness remains, however, still unknown. Awaiting the rapidly approaching day when this ignorance will no longer be, it may be well to refresh the public’s mind concerning that which those who have long known Gooding’s man McParland, alias McKenna, think and say of him. The following resolutions were adopted by the citizens of Parsons, Kans., where McParland once lived:

“Whereas, It has come to our knowledge that one James McParland, who formerly lived in this city, is the chief instigator in procuring the

arrest, and is now trying to convict Chas. Moyer, William D. Haywood and George A. Pettibone, citizens of Colorado, of the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg, of Idaho; and

“Whereas, While said McParland lived among us, he was of infamously bad character, being associated while here with the notorious McLaughlin of Grand Central fame. He, to the knowledge of our people, was engaged in the commission of almost all the crimes known to the criminal law. He suddenly departed from this city nearly twenty years ago and we knew naught of his whereabouts until we heard of him in connection with this case. While we have not sufficient knowledge of the facts regarding the Steunenberg murder as will warrant us in making a positive statement as to the guilt or innocence of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, such limited information as we possess leads us to believe in their innocence; therefore, be it

“Resolved, by this meeting, That we warn the courts and law officers of Idaho to be watchful of every move made by James McParland, as we unhesitatingly declare that where there is a money consideration he will do anything, no matter how low or vile, to accomplish his purpose. We caution all persons that have any connection with the trial of these men, that there is not to-day, in the United States outside prison walls, a more conscienceless and desperate criminal than McParland.”

Like man, like master; like master, like man.

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

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