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EDITORIAL

WHO MAY THIS HERO BE?

By DANIEL DE LEON

ON June 26 Representative James R. Mann of Illinois delivered himself of an impassioned speech in the House. He rose above partisanship; he rose above politics; he cleaved the pure air of "purity and manhood."

A Nathan rebuking David; a Daniel applying "absent treatment" to Belshazzar;—both of these sublime figures of sublime godliness rolled into one barely measured up to the Representative from Illinois when he chided the President for accepting the resignation of District Attorney McNab,¹ for condemning the District Attorney, and thereby giving aid and comfort to the "immoral," the "un-American," the un-Christian traffic in white slaves.

Ordinary mortals can hardly follow the Illinois Representative as he soared, and soared, and soared still higher into the ether of purity, and indignation at impurity—the sworn foe of prostitution—the thrilling lyric songster of the "dignity of womanhood" and the "purity of the American home."

Unable to follow the representative to the giddy heights of his flight, we turn our faces to earth, and ask who may this Mann be? What are some of his earmarks?

He is the gentleman who, the Washington police having a few months ago given aid and comfort to the rowdies who insulted the women on the Suffrage Day Parade, and an investigation having been called in the House, sought to shield the ruffian-abettors, and added the insulting remark to the women paraders that they should have stayed at home.

He is the gentleman who led in the House the forces of the now ex-President Taft, the late presidential candidate who, by the grace of Mormonism, had the Mormon State of Utah for one of the two lone States that stood by him in November.

¹ [John L. McNab, U.S. District Attorney at San Francisco.—R.B.]

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