

# The People.

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FIRST EDITORIAL

## Swine Rends Swine.

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**T**he Queen Regent of Spain, nominal head of the organized Anarchists of that country, writes to the now widow of Cánovas del Castillo, until last Sunday the actual head of the organized Anarchists of Spain, a letter of condolence, that sums up the expressions of “horror and regret” with which all the organized and ruling Anarchists of the world have been seized by Golli’s act, and which is echoed by all the dupes, whose judgments they dominate. The Socialists, being neither Anarchists nor dupes, neither indulge in hypocrisy nor succumb to sentimentalism. At the sight of one Anarchist felon laid low by another of his genus, the Socialist sees only a natural tragic incident of the tragic drama that is now being enacted on the stage of history by characters that are but the obverse and reverse of the same medal—Anarchist or Capitalist Society.

The criminal taking off of Cánovas del Castillo by Golli, to be soon followed by the equal though more ceremonious crime of Golli’s execution, both preceded by the savage outrage of the bomb-throwing by Golli’s crew into the midst of a peaceful procession at Barcelona, bring into strong relief the “Swine Rends Swine” character of the existing social system, and have for their effect to nerve the Socialist movement to redoubled efforts looking to the speediest possible uprooting of such crime-breeding conditions.

Where the living of one man is made dependent upon the will of another the inevitable result is the division of society into warring classes. Thus it is to-day. The private ownership of the natural opportunities (land) from, and the necessary social opportunities (capital) with which to earn a living, places the needed machinery of production into the hands of a small idle class, that thereby is able to fleece and keep in subjection the mass of the people, the working class; that idle class develops into anarchic tyrants, and the example it sets spurs to similar deeds of unconscionable violence its psychologic counterparts—those who fain would be the tyrants and dictators of the race, but who have been worsted in the individualistic wrestling match. Out of this special conflict spring the organized Anarchists, the fat swine, and the unorganized Anarchists, the lean, razor-back swine—the Cánovas del Castillos and the Gollis.

While these two carry on their special warfare, the class-conscious proletariat, conscious both of its class interests and class mission, together with all those, who, without being of that class, are both intelligent and decent enough to plant themselves in its camp, are steadily drilling the reputable portions of all nations into a solid body upon the liens of civilized warfare, to the end of overthrowing this Anarchist or Capitalist system by taking evolution by {the} hand and placing into the hands of the Commonwealth the machinery of production that the Commonwealth needs to live by.

To others the tears of rage; to others the joys of hyenas; to others the pity of sycophancy; to others the panic of helpless, terrorized ignorance;—to the Socialists fresh impetus, gathered from the cumulative phenomena that they alone understand, and that prove to them both the correctness of their premises and the urgency of their work.

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