

# DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 1, NO. 22.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, JULY 22, 1900

SUNDAY, 2 CENTS.

FIRST EDITORIAL

## THE HEATHEN CHINEE OUTDOES US.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**W**e are certain of nothing in the Chinese matter, except the fact that massacre or no massacre, edicts against all foreigners or no edicts, China is to be invaded. She stands in the position of an animal, hounded, worried, savagely torn and lacerated, driven to despair, but at last at bay. We have resented the so-called encroachments of the Chinese in our cities; we have had more than one anti-Chinese movement. It needs but a few hours study of *Harper's Weekly* in the Nast days, to see that there has scarcely been time in which to bury the anti-Irish movement. Under Roosevelt's regime on the police board, there was held here in New York, almost innumerable anti-Semite meetings. Even that staid and respectable publication, the *Atlantic Monthly*, betrays the rancidity and hatred with which the foreigner was regarded in the fifties, sixties and seventies. After that *Harper's* and other minor publications contained the tale.

Karl Marx says in the *Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte*,—"A nation, no more than a woman, is to be excused for the unguarded hour when the first adventurer who comes along can do violence to her." China has resisted the coy overtures, the insidious love song, the masterful persuasion, and the brutal, unmitigated force of the Western world. She struck back, as well as she could, she gave blow for blow. Instead of foreigners coming to her shores to reside, they came there to loot and to dominate. It was no question of exclusion. It was a question of protecting herself. She was prepared for the adventurers who came not in pairs, but in droves. And for that she has been stamped as a barbarous land.

China, the woman and the nation in the case, was prepared. The suitors for her hand, her wealth, and her lands, were not prepared for the course their lovemaking took. We learn from Conger's message that the government is as ignorant of the state of affairs as the "special correspondents" on the spot. It is a strange study in American duplicity and gullibility, that the readers of the press have endured the tales, the contradictions, the down right lies, and have not protested. Before the

bride was even courted, much less won, the division of her lands had commenced among the impatient suitors. They were the ones who were unprepared. To-day they suffer from lack of preparation.

It is not reasonable to suppose that the history of the last few years has been lost upon China. She saw the coming of the foreigner: she understood his objective point. She made due preparations for him. Should he protest? He it was that had not made preparations, and we can turn the dictum of Marx to fit the case. "A man no more than a nation is to be forgiven for the unguarded hour in which he finds that his prospective victim is ready for him." China was ready, and it is proof that her civilization is of a higher order even, than that of the diplomats, the missionaries, and the consuls who were acting in the glorious capacity of procurers to the cowardly, contemptible, stay-at-home representatives of capitalism.

**Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
Uploaded May 2005**