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EDITORIAL

CRUELTY TO THE REPUBLICANS.

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IN view of the fact that, despite all attempts at concealment, the present Mayoralty campaign in New York is a strict partisan campaign, a certain Tammany motto, directed against its Republican adversary, is of national interest. It is this:

“The credit of the City of New York at the present time is the best in the world. You can’t sell a bond of the Republican City of Philadelphia except at a great sacrifice. You can’t buy a bond of Democratic New York City except at a big premium.”

This Tammany motto is an arrow out of the Republican quiver itself.

The Republican party is the dominant party of the dominant portion of the dominant class of the country. It is, par excellence, the party of the capitalist class. Now, this party tires not of singing its own praises by referring to the high price the nation’s bonds command in the financial markets of the world. This fact the Republican party proudly points to as the best evidence of its immaculate political purity. Of course, this is buncombe.

The Republican party is not the cause of the high rating of the nation’s bonds. This rating is utterly irrespective of the virtues of the Republican party. Indeed, it would be nearer the truth to say that the good standing of the United States bonds is, despite the political conduct of the Hannas, the Gibbises, the Wolcotts, and the rest of the gentry that “impart character and dignity” to the Republican party. The U.S. bonds rank high because of the country’s marvelous capitalist power to exploit labor; and the country’s marvelous capitalist power to exploit Labor proceeds from the fact, among others, that hither flows the largest stream by far of any of the proletarian streams that flow from Europe. This gigantic stream—fresh and juicy—sets in the direction of this country, and yields, and stimulates the yielding of profits so phenomenal that Skibo castles, roofs of Blenheim palaces, red marble Castellane chateaux and other prodigies rise in Europe to attest to the fabulousness

of the wealth squeezable out of the proletariat of America.

That which is true of the United States at large, is true in detail of New York City. As this country draws to itself a vast proletariat from Europe, so does the City of New York, relatively, appropriate a larger share of that stream than any other city in the country, and, for that reason, draws extensively from all other parts of the country itself upon the various elements that go to make a capitalist city of the first rank. This process takes place in New York irrespective of the Democratic party rule of the city. The Democratic party's supremacy here is, in that matter, as guiltless of New York's fatness for capitalist purposes as Republican party rule is guiltless of the whole country's fatness for capitalist purposes. Accordingly it is not because of Tammany, but despite Tammany that "you can't buy a bond of Democratic New York City except at a big premium."

When this arrow, fired from the Tammany camp, hits the breast plate of the Republican party it inflicts an ugly wound, a cruel wound. How can the Republican party dispose of the arrow without exposing its own fraudulency?

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