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EDITORIAL

## SAKHAROFF-BELL.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**T**HE telegraphic despatches, that are trickling in roundabout ways out of Russia, occasionally read like—not the press despatches, for that our American telegraphic service is still too thoroughly in the hands of our own Czar Capital—but like the private informations that trickled out of Colorado when Roosevelt’s nasty pet, “Gen.” Sherman Bell appointed himself the autocrat of all the Colorados. The despatches report that when Sakharoff, the “noble” military deputy of the Czar, appointed to “institute order among the peasants”, arrived in the province of Saratoff, “he came with Cossacks and artillery. The peasants were surrounded by Cossacks, and Sakharoff addressed them, demanding that they surrender their leaders. The village elder replied, but gave the general no information. The elder was immediately beaten until he lost consciousness.

“Sakharoff then retired to the court house, leaving the peasants at the mercies of the Cossacks, most of whom were drunk, and they began torturing the peasants, pulling out their hair and beards, and even tearing pieces of flesh from their faces. Thirty-three peasants were thus maltreated.”

Sakharoff’s conduct reads like a civilized man’s action along side of Bell’s. The horrors of the bull-pen eclipse the plucking of peasants’ beards; the riotous conduct of Bell’s militia eclipses the revelings of drunken Cossacks; while the autocratic deportation of the miners from the State, and the dumping of them upon the contiguous territory, was an act of high-handed brutality that converted the State of Kansas into a Siberia for the temporary Russia of Colorado. Such an act no Czar, drunk with despotism, ever conceived, and no lackey of any Czar ever put into execution. In Russia the process developed slowly; with Bell it leaped suddenly into existence.

It has needed many Sakharoffs, in many Saratoffs, during many centuries to

fill the cup full till it now overflows and the people, led by the working class of Russia, have called a halt. It certainly will not need as many Bells, in as many Colorados, during as many centuries to fill the cup full in America till it overflows, and the American Working Class call their halt. The younger the Nation the quicker the development. The unity of the Working Class in a mighty economic organization, reflecting the necessary political party, is at hand. Under its shadow lies the near at hand tomb of American Czarism—Czar Capital.

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