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EDITORIAL

WHAT OF THE “DAUGHTERS”?

By DANIEL DE LEON

The *American People, a Study in National Psychology*, is the title of a book undertaken by A. Maurice Low, the publisher of which is the firm of Houghton, Mifflin & Company, and in which this amazing passage occurs:

“To-day in public life in America there is not a single man who bears the name of any man who played a part in the Revolution, or whose name was appended to the Declaration of Independence, or who sat in the convention that framed the Constitution.”

It cannot be supposed that A. Maurice Low uses the word “man” in the restricted sense of “male.” So comprehensive a writer surely means female as well as male creation. Where, then, are the author’s ears? where are his eyes?

No person with ears of average power can fail to hear the din and thunderous noise raised annually by the Daughters of the Revolution. The racket starts regularly a couple of months before the Daughters’ annual convention, and reaches its deafening climax at the session. No person with eyes of average power can fail to see the names of the Daughters, double-barreled, spread in the columns of the press in the interviews given by one or other of the Daughters, or by many simultaneously and at once.

These Daughters bear promiscuously and conspicuously the names of persons “who played a part in the Revolution.” How comes A. Maurice Low to say that “to-day in public life in America there is not a single man (person, of course) who played a part in the Revolution,” etc., etc.? In all conscience the Daughters make noise enough, and are in evidence enough. They hide not their candle under a bushel. They are heard and seen obstreperously. If the Daughters are not “in public life” “to-day in America,” then there is no public life, and there is no America.

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