

# DAILY PEOPLE

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EDITORIAL

## CURRENT TEXTS.

By DANIEL DE LEON

### I.

“**T**HE account of a wreck has recently come to us reeking with cruelty and barbarism that would put an Indian to shame as far as cruelty is concerned.

“A fast meat train was wrecked and the brakeman was pinned under the wreck. The company transferred every pound of meat and moved four other cars before it attempted to do anything with the one under which the brakeman was buried. Friends, relatives and citizens protested, but without result, the officials took their own good time to get at the body.”—*Railroad Trainmen’s Journal*, January, 1907.

### II.

“There were 10,000 persons killed and 80,000 wounded on the railroads during the last year.”—Interstate Commerce Commission.

### III.

“In the face of every statement to the contrary it is a fact that railway employes work unreasonably long hours, and when they do, they are unsafe and a menace to everything on the line. We take from a news note the statement that a Lehigh and Hudson crew, after working for three days and three nights fell asleep and the engine and caboose ran for thirty miles with the entire crew asleep.”—*Railroad Trainmen’s Journal*, January, 1907.

### IV.

“Congressmen are being deluged with telegrams protesting against the passage of the 16-hour bill. The bill is intended to limit the hours of service of railway employes. Nine out of every ten of these telegrams come from the brotherhoods of railwaymen. Representative John T. Hunt of Missouri received to-day one of these telegrams from Omaha. It protested formally against the bill, it came from a Union of locomotive firemen, it derided the bill and was signed ‘C.V. McLaughlin, General Chairman.’”—Washington news despatch.

Let the reader now read Nos. I., II. and III. over again, and then peruse the prayer of ex-Secretary of the Treasury Shaw: “God save us from our prosperity,” and the New York *Sun*’s wail that there is now “a greater unrest and a greater uneasiness in the air than was before Sumter was fired on.”

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