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SECOND EDITORIAL

The Rothschilds' Latest Colony.

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It is now learned positively that the Rothschilds are about to make a loan to Spain, secured by a mortgage upon her quicksilver mines. The fact is pregnant. It means Spain's complete subjection to capitalism, and this in turn points out the minor workings of the mechanism of capital.

The Spanish quicksilver mines are reputed to be the very richest in the world; their yield during the preceding 20 years is estimated at \$80,000,000, and it is asserted that, under more perfect operation, they will yield enormously more. Why does not Spain operate these mines herself, and thus keep to herself all the wealth there is in them? Surely, her treasury is not so full as to cause her to be generous to others. Why is she willing to part with a large chunk of wealth when she is in dire need of all she can get? She is willing because she must; and she must because, despite all her rhodomontades about "freedom," "independence," "national glory," she, like all other nations in which capitalism prevails, is ingloriously the slave of the international tyrant—the Capitalist.

Where capitalism prevails, money with intrinsic value is as indispensable "to make the mare go" as steam is indispensable to make a steam engine do its work. Without money, international money, intrinsic value money, not a wheel can move in the whole mechanism of capitalist society. Its sound, its touch, or the promise of its sound and touch, is the wizard's wand that alone can conjure up industry; and the absence thereof strikes with palsy every arm. Spain, like all other capitalist countries, may or may not live, according as that sublimated capitalist, the banker, wills, or wills not.

Passing odd is the spectacle offered by Spain, while furiously seeking to subjugate Cuba, meekly bending her neck to the yoke of another!

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