

# The People.

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EDITORIAL

## History Revised.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**W**ith “Fourth of July” close at hand, and the gunpowder smell of firecrackers that herald and celebrate its advent, already infecting the air, the following cablegram was written out on American territory and flashed across to Queen Victoria last Tuesday:

New York, June 21, 1897.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen of England:

The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, which received its original charter directly from the hand of your illustrious ancestor, King George the Third, tenders its congratulations on this happy occasion, and, in the spirit of national amity, unite with your loving subjects in the earnest prayer that God may save and bless the Queen.

ALEXANDER ECTOR ORR, Pres.

This interesting document supplements the declaration, recently made by President Low, of Columbia University, that the British Government is the greatest civilizer of the world. The latter incident worked a revision of the War for Independence, and the former works a revision of the Declaration of Independence. The latter incident was tantamount to a condemnation of the Revolution—for how could a revolution be praised that was conducted against the “greatest civilizer of the world?” The former incident is tantamount to the striking out of the bulk of the Declaration of Independence—all the long indictment against Victoria’s “illustrious ancestor.”

If nothing else evolves, out Shoddocracy does. It is evolving with a vengeance. The aid given by the British Government to the war of the slave oligarchy in the South and to the latter’s attempt to break up the Union, together with innumerable other historic incidents of British rule, that some people look upon as evidences of barbaric power—all that is wiped out by that pink of our Shoddocracy, President Seth Low, and is held up as beauty spots of state craft; the systematic oppression of both the American and the Indian colonists by George III., together with the putrid morality of this worthy—all

that is now extolled as evidences of “illustriousness” by our chief Chamber of Commerce. If this is not evolution, what is ?

The flaming accounts of the Revolutionary War being denied by President Seth Low, and the veracity of our Declaration of Independence being impeached by this Chamber of Commerce, the incipient history of America as an independent nation has undergone such radical revision, that, instead of celebrating the National Festival that is at hand, our people should now hold that date as a day of fasting and mortification.

All of which will yet come to pass if the class of the Lows and the Chambers of Commerce is not speedily kicked down and out.

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

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