

Scene 2 Town square: DAVENPORT, BROWN, MAYOR, MRS. BRADY, BRADY

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DAVENPORT

*(Genuinely impressed)*

Henry Drummond for the defence. Well!

BROWN

Henry Drummond is an agent of darkness. *(With resolution)* We won't let him in the town!

DAVENPORT

I don't know by what law you could keep him out.

MAYOR

*(Rubbing chin, considering)*

I'll look up the town ordinances.

BROWN

I saw Drummond once. In a courtroom in Ohio. A man was on trial for a most brutal crime. Although he knew - and admitted - the man was guilty, Drummond was perverting the evidence to cast the guilt away from the accused and onto you and me and all of society.

MRS. BRADY

Henry Drummond. Oh, dear me.

BROWN

I can still see him. You look into his face, and you wonder why God made such a man. And then you know that God didn't make him, that he is a creature of the Devil, perhaps even the Devil himself!

*(There is an audible reaction from the crowd; gasps, sharp intakes of breath. BRADY re-enters, looks at the ring of faces, which have been disturbed by BROWN'S description of the heretic DRUMMOND. MRS. BRADY comes towards him.)*

MRS. BRADY

Matt - they're bringing Henry Drummond for the defence.

BRADY

*(Pale)*

Drummond! *(The townspeople are impressed by the impact of this name on BRADY)* Henry Drummond!

BROWN

We won't allow him in the town.

MAYOR

*(Lamely)*

I think - maybe the Board of Health - *(She trails off)*

BRADY

*(Crossing thoughtfully)*

No. *(He turns)* I believe we should welcome Henry Drummond.

MAYOR

*(Astonished)*

Welcome him!

BRADY

If the enemy sends its Goliath into battle, it magnifies our cause. Henry Drummond has stalked the courtrooms of this land for forty years. When he fights, headlines follow.