

more than ordinarily dense, charges of cavalry were made upon the people, and the streets were cleared with wonderful quickness. The shops were all closed, and business of every kind was suspended. The crowd generally directed itself towards the Place de la Medaille (where, if the banquet had gone on, the procession of the deputies was to have started from), to the place de la Concorde, and to the neighborhood of the Chamber of Deputies. The principal portion of the crowd appeared to have been drawn together more from curiosity, than from a wish to create disorder, and they were far more formidable from their vast numbers, than from their apparent intention; still, however, there were occasional parties of a very different character. Masses of men in blouse, frequently amounting to thousands, were to be seen marching together in a certain degree of order, and apparently under regular leaders. A large body of students also paraded the Boulevards, mixed with others of a more ambiguous, if not of a more dangerous description, singing the "Marseillaise" at the very pitch of their voices, and vociferating, "a bas Guizot! a bas le Ministere! vive le reforme!" accompanied by groans or cheers, as the case might be. If to this you add regiments of Municipal Guards, horse and foot, drawn up in different quarters, and occasionally charging the people where they assembled in large numbers or appeared threatening; thousands upon thousands of cavalry and infantry in all the principal squares, Boulevards, and quays; and multitudes of anxious people crowding the windows wherever there was a chance of seeing what was going on; you have, before you a picture of what Paris was during the whole of this day.

I shall now proceed to give you detached details, which it is difficult to arrange in a regular and connected form. I have already said that the principal point to which the crowd tended was the Place de la Madeleine and the Place de la Concorde. About half-past eleven a regiment of infantry and several squadrons drew up near the church of the Madeleine, where the crowd was most dense. A few minutes afterwards an immense body of persons, almost all dressed in blouses, and said to amount to upwards of 8000, appeared from the direction of the Boulevards, but no one could exactly say from what place they came. They marched in procession, holding each other's arms, and sang the *Marseillaise* in one general chorus. When passing Duran's restaurant, they gave three cheers for reform, and then proceeded without stopping to the Place de la Concorde, their evident intention being to make their way to the Chamber of Deputies. At the bridge opposite the Chamber of Deputies, however, they were stopped by a large body of cavalry and infantry drawn up on the bridge. They were then brought to a stand still, and their numbers were so great that they filled the whole of the Place de la Concorde, one of the largest squares in Europe. Just at that moment a portion of the regiment of cavalry at the bridge charged upon the mass, separated it, and drove a considerable portion back towards the Boulevards, while the rest was driven into the Champs Elysees, and the rest down the Rue Rivoli. The whole of the place was cleared in less time than can be conceived, but the soldiers, though they did their duty with great determination and effect, so far from using unnecessarily harsh means, appeared to go about it with great humanity, and even good humour. The portion of the crowd driven back towards the Boulevards, and still marching in order, and arm in arm, had four National Guards at their head, armed with their sabres. In the Place de la Madeleine an attempt was made by the troops to disperse them, which was only partially successful, and shortly afterwards they met another large body, the leaders of whom fraternally embraced the National Guardsmen. On arriving in front of the "Hotel des Affaires Etrangeres" they stopped, and sang the *Marseillaise* in full chorus. They then began to cry out "a bas Guizot! a bas le Ministere!" and the excitement was evidently increasing. At length a very young man took up a large stone, which he hurled against the gate of the hotel, an example which was followed by the rest, who began knocking against the gate; a shower of stones was thrown at the same time, and broke several windows. During this time a body of the municipal guards were drawn up within the gates, deliberately loaded their muskets, and prepared for what might follow; but a body of cavalry emerging from the Rue des Capucines, at that moment, charged, struck some of the most active with the flat side of their sabres, and very soon succeeded in dispersing the crowd, and relieving the residence of the President of the Council from the danger it was in.

In a small street in the neighbourhood of the Rue Vivienne a body of ruffians attempted to break into a gunmaker's shop, but failed. They then attacked the shop of a poor *marchand de bois*, and plundered it of the small quantity of firewood it contained, which they formed into stakes. In the different attacks made by the troops some severe blows were occasionally dealt, and upon the whole a considerable number of persons received sabre cuts and severe bayonet wounds; but I did not hear of any one being killed.

I may as well mention that among the other cries which issued from the crowd was that of *Vive la ligne*, which was to be heard every time the compact bodies, which appeared from time to time, passed a regiment of infantry. A great number of prisoners were taken by the police, who had been caught in the act of uttering seditious cries or throwing stones. These are the principal incidents which came within my notice in the course of the

day. They were not very serious in themselves, but they are just of a nature that might, at any moment lead to a catastrophe. One thing must appear evident to any one who has seen the aspect of Paris during this day; and that is, that the Government, in determining not to allow the procession of deputies, and the enormous additional number of persons which would have assembled had it taken place, came to a wise determination. Whether they would not have done better had they given the orders for stopping it at an earlier period, and before the preparations were made, is another matter, I think they would. Had the notice been given three days ago that the meeting was not to be allowed, a great deal of the excitement and confusion of this day would have been avoided. The excuse of the Government is, that it did not interfere until the promoters of the banquet began to organize and arrange National Guards and other persons to form the procession. The excuse is hardly tenable, for it was known and clearly announced several days before, that the procession was to be one of the principal parts of the demonstration. It is rumoured that eleven of the twelve deputies of Paris have resigned their seats.

IMPEACHMENT OF THE MINISTRY.

At a meeting of the Chamber of Deputies on the 22nd, the deputies of the Opposition, to the number of 53, submitted the following proposition:—

We propose to place the Minister in accusation as Guilty—

1. Of having betrayed abroad the honour and the interests of France.
2. Of having falsified the principles of the constitution, violated the guarantees of liberty and attacked the rights of the people.
3. Of having, by a systematic corruption, attempted to substitute, for the free expression of public opinion, the calculations of private interest, and thus perverted the representative government.
4. Of having trafficked for ministerial purposes in public offices, as well as in all the prerogatives and privileges of power.
5. Of having, in the same interest, wasted the finances of the state, and thus compromised the forces and the grandeur of the kingdom.
6. Of having violently despoiled the citizens of a right inherent to every free constitution, and the exercise of which had been guaranteed to them by the Charter by the laws, and by former precedents.
7. Of having, in fine, by a policy overtly counter-revolutionary, placed in question all the conquests of our two revolutions, and thrown the country into a profound agitation.

[Here follow the signatures, M. Odillon Barrot at the head.]

M. Genoude submitted in his own name a proposition of accusation against the Minister, conceived in these terms:—

Whereas the Minister, by his refusal to present a project of law for electoral reform, has occasioned troubles, I propose to put in accusation, the President of the council and his colleagues.

Paris, Wednesday, 2 o'clock.

After I despatched my letters last evening, events of greater importance than had taken place up to that hour occurred. In several streets running into the Rue St Denis and the Rue St Martin, the people erected barricades, by tearing up the paving stones, seizing carts omnibusses, &c. Most of these barricades were soon carried by the municipal guards and troops; but at some of them severe engagements took place, notwithstanding the people were almost entirely unarmed. The markets, the Place de la Concorde, the Place du Carrousel, the Boulevards, the Rue St. Honore, and an immense number of other streets and places were occupied by the troops—in fact, the whole of Paris was occupied, as if civil war had been everywhere raging. The troops remained with their arms in their hands all night. As I turned into the Rue St. Denis, the dragoons, who were stationed close by the Porte, received orders to charge, and I saw them gallop down the street at a rapid rate, with their drawn swords gleaming in the sun. At the same moment detachments of light dragoons and infantry hastened after them. From that it was clear that additional assistance was required against the people in that quarter. On leaving the Rue St. Denis, I saw a vast multitude approaching, headed by a red flag. From the haste with which they advanced, it was plain that they were being pursued by the military. About an hour ago I observed artillery advancing towards the Boulevards, with the object no doubt, of being directed to the Rue St. Martin, and that neighborhood. The Rue St. Honore is occupied with an immense crowd—The Garden of the Palais Royal is closed. All the passages are also closed, and occupied with troops. You would find it difficult to conceive the mournful altitude of this usually gay city at this moment. Shops closed everywhere—soldiers everywhere—alarm and anxiety among all classes. Not a single omnibus to be seen; not a carriage, not a cart; only a few hack cabs. Here and there vehicles overturned; the pavement turned up—gas lamps smashed—and the remains of wanton destruction frequently visible.

Great numbers of fresh troops have been marched into Paris this morning, from the towns and garrisons within reach of the Capital.

In some streets the populace have destroyed the electric telegraph.

Three o'clock.

The Guizot Ministry has resigned. A deputation of the officers of the National Guard went to the Tuilleries to demand that it should

be dismissed, when they were told by General Jacqueminot, commanding the National Guard that the Ministry had given in its resignation.

The red aspect of the sky in the direction of Mont Valerien showed that an incendiary fire was raging there.

Four o'clock.

The intelligence of the resignation of the Ministry is spreading like wildfire through the city, and is everywhere received with demonstrations of joy. At this moment there is an immense crowd on the Boulevard shouting "Vive le Reforme." A General commanding the troops exclaimed, "You shall have Reform"—"and the dismissal of the Ministry?" Cried the people. "Their dismissal and accusation, and everything!" was the answer, and it was received with shouts of applause.

The fighting in the quarter of St. Martin still continues, and troops are proceeding to it. When, however, they shall learn the overthrow of the Ministry, it is believed that hostilities will immediately cease.

In passing the bank just now, I saw the mob had got possession of the Guard House at the Corner. They had torn down the flag and a fellow hoisted it on a large pole. Then there were shouts of "to the Tuilleries, to the Tuilleries."

Fresh troops are being summoned to Paris. The regiment of Carabiniers, in garrison at Provins, are momentarily expected. At Cluchy, the inhabitants have been told to prepare for the reception of troops.

During the last night the barricades of yesterday morning were removed. However, this morning, large numbers of the populace were under arms, and rebuilding barricades. The streets of St. Denis, St. Martin, Rambuteau, St. Saviour de Graveliers, and all the narrow streets adjoining, have been barricaded, and so well defended that, up to eleven o'clock, the troops had failed in their attempts to take possession of them. The Municipal Guard were refused to the Rue Montorgueil by the firing of the populace. The Garrison of 39,000 troops are all employed to guard the innumerable avenues to the Place Gerard. Many of the Regiments are overcome with fatigue. The Council of Ministers, and a crowd of parliamentaries have taken refuge in the chateau. Fresh troops are expected every moment by railway.

Half past Four.

All Government officials have been ordered to place themselves under arms as National Guards. The troops of the line have been provided with hatchets to cut down the barricades. The 2nd, 4th and 5th legions of the National Guard have mustered strongly, shouting "Vive la Reforme! A bas Guizot!" The revolt now appears to be concentrated in the St. Denis and St. Martin quarters, where a sharp fire is kept up between the insurgents and the Municipal Guards. It is rumoured that the artillery is directed to destroy the barricades, and that cannon have been fired in the streets.

Five o'clock.

The public joy increases at the resignation of the Ministry. At this moment a detachment of the National Guards, followed by a large crowd, is passing the Bourse shouting "Vive la Reforme!"

Half past Five.

As the resignation of the Ministry becomes more and more widely known the public joy becomes greater. It really seems as if no Ministry was ever so intensely or so universally detested. The shops still continue to be closed—The movements of troops are also continuing. The fighting has ceased in the quarter St. Martin, but great crowds still fill the streets, and the soldiers have difficulty in maintaining order.

POSTSCRIPT.

Abdication of Louis Philippe—A Republic Proclaimed—the Royal Family have quitted Paris—the Revolution is spreading—Dreadful loss of Life—the Communication with the Interior cut off. The Railroad Stations in Possession of the People.

PARIS, THURSDAY.

At half-past 4 it was hoped that the worst was over. About half-past 7, the Boulevard being then crowded, there arrived a column of the combatants, many of them armed with muskets, and singing the *Marseillaise* and the chorus of the *Girondins* which I have so often mentioned. They were received with uproarious felicitations by the people, and proceeded to the office of the *National*, which seems to be the organ of this formidable opposition. They demanded that the editors see that their liberties were not 'again' played with. M. Marrast, editor of the *National*, harangued them from the balcony, and assured them that their liberties would this time be secured. This scene was repeated six times during the night.

At 10 o'clock a column of 600 or 800 people of all ranks, who had been fighting, passed up the Boulevard. Among them were evidently many of the Communists, and possibly, some of those malefactors who will mix in all popular movements. The bearing and attitude of this column was terrible. The subsequent act of one of the party justified the apprehension which their appearance suggested.

Although M. Guizot had retired from the ministry, the Hotel des Affaires Etrangeres remained occupied and guarded by troops. About 10 o'clock a young man walked up to the officer in command and blew his brains out with a pistol. Seeing him fall, his soldiers without orders fired on the people, of whom four or five were killed.

The report of this discharge, at a moment when we flattered ourselves that all was tolerably well over, created a painful sensation. Twenty minutes afterwards, however, a most touching and melancholy procession arrived, and, as far as I could perceive, turned alarm into rage.

The buzz of an approaching multitude coming from the Boulevard des Capucines was heard, and a long song of death, "Mourir pour la patrie," was chanted by the throng instead of the victorious *Marseillaise*. Mingled with this awful and imposing chorus, the noise of wheels could be heard. A large body of the people slowly advanced. Four in front carried torches. Behind them came an open cart surrounded by torch-bearers. The light was strong, and discovered four or five dead bodies, partly undressed, which appeared to have been carefully ranged in the cart.

When the head of the column reached the corner of the Rue Lepelletier, the song was changed to a burst of fury, which will not soon be forgotten by those who heard it. The procession halted at the office of the *National*, and the whole party burst in unanimous shriek or cry of *Vengeance!* You know how sonorous is that word when pronounced in French. The dead bodies in the cart were those of the men who fell under the fire of the soldiers above mentioned.

The night was an awful one. The noise of workmen appeared to break on the stillness. Having heard a similar one in 1830, I guessed what was going on. Barricades—one immensely strong at the end of the Rue Richelieu, were in progress of construction. This has continued up to this moment (half-past 10). Every tree on the whole line of the Boulevard has been felled. Every one of the superb lamp-posts has been thrown down, and all converted into barricades.

At the corner of every street is a barricade, gentlemen, shopkeepers, clerks, workmen, all labouring at the work with an eagerness and an earnestness beyond description.

At 12 o'clock M. Odillon Barrot, accompanied by General Lamoriciere, repaired from the Chamber of Deputies to the Ministry of the Interior where he was formally installed, in presence of the National Guard and a multitude of citizens, who filled the court. Shortly afterwards the following proclamation was posted up on the gate, amidst universal acclamations:—

My dear Comrades,—I have been invested by the new Cabinet with the superior command of the National Guard of the Department of the Seine.

By your energetic attitude you have asserted the triumph of liberty. You have been, and will be, the defenders of order. I rely upon you, as you may rely upon me.

Your comrade,  
(Signed) General LAMORICIERE.

(Countersigned) ODILLON BARROT  
Paris, Feb. 24, 1848.

At 2 o'clock the following proclamation was posted on the walls of Paris:—

Citizens of Paris,—The King has abdicated. The crown, bestowed by the revolution of July, is now placed on the head of a child, protected by his mother. They are both under the safeguard of the honour and courage of the Parisian population. All cause of division amongst us has ceased to exist. Orders have been given to the troops of the line to return to their respective quarters. Our brave army can be better employed than in shedding its blood in so deplorable a collision.

My beloved fellow-citizens!—From this moment the maintenance of order is entrusted to the courage and prudence of the people of Paris and its heroic National Guard. They have ever been faithful to our noble country. They will not desert it in this grave emergency.

ODILLON BARROT.

On leaving the palace the King and his family proceeded to Neuilly under an escort of cuirassiers. After the troops evacuated the Tuilleries, the palace was immediately occupied by the insurgents, who destroyed everything in it—windows, furniture, pictures, &c. The throne alone was left entire, carried in procession through the streets and the Boulevards, and ultimately smashed to pieces. A similar scene of destruction took place at the Palais Royal. All the furniture was taken out and burnt in the court.

Marshal Bugeaud has been named at once commander of the Guard and of the troops of the line.

In the Chamber of Deputies, at one o'clock, M. Sauzet took the chair, in presence of about 300 members. Shortly afterwards it was stated that the Duchess of Orleans had arrived at the palace with her two sons. The Princess soon appeared at the left door accompanied by the two princes and the Dukes de Nemours and Montpensier. The young Count de Paris entered first, led by one of the members of the House. He penetrated with difficulty as far as the semicircle, which was crowded with officers and soldiers of the National Guard. His presence produced a lively impression on the assembly. Almost immediately afterwards the Duchess entered, and seated herself in an arm chair between her two sons.

The hall was then forcibly entered by a multitude of armed men of the lower orders and National Guards. The Princess and her children then retired to one of the upper benches of the centre, opposite the presidential chair.

The greatest agitation and uproar prevailed, and when silence was restored M. Dupin rose and announced to the assembly that the King