

NIGHT OF BLOOD.

Strikers Slaughtered by Russian Troops in St. Petersburg Streets.

VERITABLE REIGN OF TERROR WITH POSSIBLE REVOLUTION.

City Under Martial Law and Intense Excitement Reigns.

SEVASTOPOOL DOCKS ON FIRE--TROUBLE IN POLAND.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—The minister of the interior, Sviatopolk-Mirsky, at 11 o'clock this morning telegraphed orders to close the Workmen's Union, but this was done by the workmen themselves without police interference.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—11 a. m.—Up to this hour there has been no renewal of the disturbances and the city is quiet.

While the centre of the city is quiet ferment continues in the outlying industrial quarters.

During the night the police made house to house visits warning the householders that the rioters are threatening to divide into groups and sack the town.

The Official Messenger announces that at eight o'clock last night the total killed was 76, wounded 233.

The paper adds that the same precautionary measures as used yesterday will be adopted today.

Sevastopol, Jan. 23.—11 a. m.—The vast admiralty works are ablaze.

Sepastopol is the principal military port in Southern Russia, and is the best port on the Black Sea. It was founded in 1784 and is strongly fortified.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 23.—The troops were mostly withdrawn from the streets in the centre of the city during the night, but reported during the forenoon and assembled in considerable strength at the principal points.

Traffic across the bridges and over the ice is interrupted, but street cars including the electric lines, are running over the frozen Nava.

Sledges and heavy vehicles are circulating freely.

The strikers apparently are finding it impossible to reach the centre of the city in an organized mass, but are entering singly and in small groups, traversing the streets sullenly, without stopping to converse or to look at the windows, as has been their custom.

Many of the principal shops are closed. Those open keep the window gratings on.

A strong force of cavalry is patrolling the streets, and squads of infantry are posted at the corners.

Public anxiety is acute.

New York, Jan. 23.—A Paris despatch to the New York Times says: "A despatch from St. Petersburg gives an account of a public demonstration in Iodiz, a manufacturing town in Russian Poland.

The crowd carried flags and raised the cry 'Long Live Poland.'

Troops stationed in the houses along the route of procession fired upon the people through the windows.

Some persons were killed and several wounded.

Great excitement prevails.

THIS MORNING'S DESPATCHES.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 22.—This has been a day of unspeakable horror in St. Petersburg. The strikers of yesterday, goaded to desperation by a day of violence, fury and bloodshed, are in a state of open insurrection against the government. A condition almost bordering on civil war exists in the terror-stricken Russian capital.

The city is under martial law, with Prince Vasilchikoff as commander of over 50,000 of the Emperor's crack guards.

Troops are bivouacking in the streets tonight, and at various places on the Nevsky Prospect, the main thoroughfare of the city. On the island of Vassili Ostrov and in the industrial sections, infuriated men have thrown up barracks, which they are holding.

ROYAL FAMILY SEEK SAFETY.

The empress dowager has hastily sought safety at the Tsarsko Selo, where Emperor Nicholas II, is living.

Minister of the Interior Sviatopolk-Mirsky presented to his Majesty last night the invitation of the workmen to appear at the Winter Palace this afternoon, and receive their petition; but the emperor's advisers already had taken a decision to show a firm and resolute front, and the emperor's answer to the 100,000 workmen trying to make their way to the palace square tonight was a solid array of troops, who met them with rifle, bayonet and sabre.

The priest Gopon, the leader and idol of the men in his golden vestments holding aloft the cross and marching at the head of thousands of workmen through the Narva Gate, miraculously escaped a volley which laid low half a hundred persons.

SLAIN MAY NUMBER THOUSANDS.

The figures of the total number killed or wounded here at the Moscow Gate, at various bridges and islands and at the Winter Palace vary. The best estimate is 500, although there are exaggerated figures placing the number as high as 5,000.

Many men were accompanied by their wives and children and in the confusion, which left no time for discrimination, the latter shared the fate of the men.

The troops, with the exception of a single regiment, which is reported to have thrown down their arms, remained loyal, and obeyed orders. But the blood which crimsoned the snow has fired the brains and passions of the strikers and turned women as well as men into wild beasts; and the cry of the infuriated populace is of vengeance.

The sympathy of the middle classes is with the workmen.

If Father Gopon, the master mind of the movement, aimed at open revolution, he managed the affair like a genius to break the faith of the people in the 'Little Father' who they were convinced, and whom Father Gopon had taught them to believe, would right their wrongs and redress their grievances.

SAYS REVOLUTION HAS BEGUN.

Gorky, the Russian novelist, expresses the opinion that today's work will break the faith of the people in the emperor. He said this evening to The Associated Press:

"Today inaugurated revolution in Russia. The emperor's prestige will be irrevocably shattered by the shedding of innocent blood. He has alienated himself forever from his people. Gopon taught the workman to believe that an appeal to the 'Little Father' would be heeded. They have been undecieved. Gopon is now convinced that peaceful means have failed and that the only remedy is force. The first blood has been shed, but more will follow. It is now the people against the oppressors and the battle will be fought to the bitter end.

MILITARY HAD FIRM GRIP.

The military authorities had a firm grip on every artery in the city. At daybreak guards regiments, cavalry and infantry held every bridge across the frozen Neva, the network of canals which interlaces the city, and the gates leading from the industrial section, while in the palace square, as the storm centre, were massed dragoon regiments, infantry and Cossacks of guards.

Barred from the bridges and gates men, women and children crossed the frozen river and canals on the ice by twos and threes, hurrying to the palace square, where they were sure the emperor would be present to hear them. But the street approaches to the square were cleared by volleys and Cossack charges.

LIKELY TO END WAR WITH JAPAN.

Men and women infuriated to frenzy by the loss of loved ones, cursed the soldiers while they retreated. Men harangued the crowds, telling them the emperor had failed them and that the time had come to act. Men began to build barricades in the Nevsk Prospect and at other points, using any material that came to hand, and even chopping down telegraph poles.

A member of the emperor's household is quoted as saying today that this conflict will end the war with Japan and that Russia will have a constitution or Emperor Nicholas will lose his head.

STRUGGLE ON TILL MIDNIGHT.

With darkness it was feared the mob might begin to loot and pillage and even burn, but beyond the breaking of a few windows in the Nevsky Prospect and the pillaging of fruit shops, little disorder was reported.

Most of the theatres are closed, but at the People's Palace, which was open, two Liberals attempted to harangue the audience, proposing at the close that the audience testify to their sympathy with their fallen brothers. The orators were promptly arrested, but the audience walked out.

By midnight the sound of firing had ceased except on Vassili Ostrov Island, where the troops met a renewed demonstration with several volleys. In the meantime the strike leaders assembled and decided to continue the struggle with arms. No day was fixed for the next demonstration. The strikers are so excited, however, that trouble is expected tomorrow.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 22.—9.30 p.

m.—It is believed that 1500 people have been killed or wounded, but all estimates must, for the present, be accepted with caution. Popular rumors say that many thousands have fallen.

The city is now quiet. Troops are bivouacked around camp fires here and there in the streets.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 22.—6.45 p. m.—At the Narva gate the troops fired on a crowd led by Father Gopon and Father Sergius, the priests, carrying a cross, an ikon and a portrait of Emperor Nicholas.

Father Sergius was killed and the portrait of the Emperor was smashed.

At the Putiloff works the scenes resembled a shambles. There the workmen facing the troops when the order was given to fire, threw themselves upon their faces on the ground. The troops fired on them as they lay prostrate.

The most harrowing scenes of the day occurred around the palace square. This enormous place back of the Winter Palace is surrounded by gardens fronting the admiralty, and by a vast semi-circular building containing the offices of the general staff the ministry of finance and the foreign office.

Two companies of the Preobrazhensky Guards, which had been standing at ease in front of the palace, formed up and marched at double quick and marched at double quick loved with awful swiftness. "The commanding officer shouted, 'disperse, disperse, disperse.' Many of the crowd turned to flee, but it was too late. A bugle sounded and the men in the front ranks sank to their knees and both companies fired three volleys, the first two with blank cartridges and the last with ball. A hundred corpses strewed the sidewalk. Many women were pierced through the back as they were trying to escape.

The Associated Press correspondent standing behind the troops, saw mangled corpses of persons of all ages and both sexes strewn the ground. One boy of thirteen had his skull pierced and rent by bullets. Great splashes and streams of blood stained the snow. Only a few of the victims remained alive, for the fatal volley was fired at a distance of not more than twenty paces, and so the ambulances had little work to do. The police recruited a large number of droskys (sleighs) to carry off the dead. Heartrending scenes were witnessed as wives, husbands and mothers came up to claim their dead ones and were carried off with them in the sleighs.

Meanwhile the crowd had drifted up the Nevsky Prospect, yelling "murderers, murderers," and the square resumed its calm aspect, the troops returning to their stations.

It was now the turn for the crowd stationed at the Merskaia entrance to the square, where the Horse Guards repeated the exploit with which they had cleared the Moikay and drove the people pell mell down the thoroughfare.

SOLDIERS SPARED GOPON.

There was a very dramatic scene at the Narva gate when Father Gopon, in golden vestments and bearing aloft an ikon and flanked by two clergymen carrying religious banners, approached at the head of a procession of 8,000 workmen. Troops were drawn up across the entrance. Several times an officer called upon the procession to stop, but Father Gopon did not falter. Then an order was given to fire, first with blank cartridges. Two volleys rang out, but the line still did not waver. Then, with seeming reluctance, an officer gave the command to load with ball, and the next volley was followed by shrieks and cries of the wounded.

As the Cossacks followed up the volley with a charge, the workmen fled before them, leaving about 100 dead or wounded. It was evident that the soldiers deliberately spared Father Gopon. One of the clergymen by his side was wounded, but he escaped untouched and hid behind a wall until the Cossacks passed and he was then spirited away by the workmen.

Heathen Business Methods.

Business among the Chinese, according to a Russian traveler from Manchuria, is on a co-operative basis. There are neither proprietors nor employees, but all who work in an establishment are partners.

From time to time small allowances are doled out to them—barely enough to live on—but at the end of the year all the profits are divided.

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