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NO EXCELLENCE WITHOUT LABOR.

VOL. 2.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 10, 1905.

No. 18.

Sovereigns and Mobs.

NOT since the Tuileries were invaded by the mob in 1870, after the battle of Sedan, has the world been treated to such a spectacle as that which took place less than a month ago at St. Petersburg, when the populace marched upon the palace of its sovereign until routed by the rifle fire and cavalry charges of the troops. Opinions differ as to the intentions of those who were endeavoring to force their way to the presence of the Czar. According to some, their intentions were peaceful—and this is the view adopted almost without exception by the foreign press. But it must not be forgotten that their leader, the priest Gopon, having warned them beforehand that the authorities would oppose their approach to the imperial residence, had urged them to be prepared for resistance by coming armed. Be this as it may, the fact remains that the obedience of the troops of the garrison to the orders of their chief alone prevented the Winter Palace from being overrun by the populace, as were the Tuileries on that fateful September day at Paris, 35 years ago, when Empress Eugenie, abandoned by all, fled for refuge to the house of her American dentist. Indeed, had not the army remained true to the crown, it is possible that the provisional government contemplated by Gorky might now be exercising sovereignty at St. Petersburg in the place of Nicholas II.

To all the rulers of Europe the recent events in the Russian metropolis have served as a warning of the danger arising from the latent passions of the mob constituted by the lowest classes of the social scale in every great capital. These passions are easily awakened, either by crack-brained socialists, by revolutionists, who aim at upsetting the government, or by bold and clever international criminals who adopt the mantle of political anarchy as a means to rapine and to plunder. What a mob will do once it gets beyond control has been shown on several occasions, notably at Vienna, in 1848, when it literally tore to pieces the unfortunate minister of war, Count Latour, and in Paris, during the last days of the Commune, when it set fire to all public buildings and pillaged the private houses. It is a danger that is dreaded nowhere more than at Rome, since it is known that the sacking of the Vatican, rightly or wrongly reputed to be the richest treasure house in Europe, has long been a pet project of the Anarchist, and it has not escaped the attention of the police in Italy as well as in the other countries of the Old World, that whenever popular disturbances appear imminent in the Eternal City those who may be called the "captains of international crime," flock to the banks of the Tiber from all points of the

universe in the hope that the mob may get the better of the government and thus enable them to put into execution their cherished plans of looting the Palace of the Popes. Nor could the populace be permitted to obtain the upper hand in any of the big cities of the United States. Were the mob ever to get beyond the control of the police and of the troops in New York, for instance, where the aggregation of wealth along Fifth avenue and in Wall street is so great, there is no knowing what might happen, particularly when it is borne in mind how great is the number of alien anarchists and foreign criminals who honor the United States with their presence. In fact, there is no government official, high or low, no law-abiding citizen, possessing property or earning his livelihood in an honest fashion who will not, after sober reflection, agree that the mob, which, as a rule, is composed of the very scum of the population, must at all cost be kept under control, and that to allow it to get beyond bounds and to obtain the mastery is a danger not only to the immediate objects of its animosity, but also to the entire community.

FIRING UPON IT CONDEMNED.

It is for this reason that when the situation appears critical the government at once resorts to heroic measures, thoroughly aware, however, that the scenes of inevitable bloodshed that ensue, and in which the innocent are more apt to suffer than the guilty, invariably tend to excite against it the resentment of the people at large, both at home and abroad. Indeed, so thoroughly is this realized by those in authority that they rarely allow the troops to fire until no other alternative is left. The governments that have been compelled to resort to such extremities as these have always been overwhelmed with popular odium. King Frederick William IV. of Prussia was forced in 1848 to stand bareheaded on the balcony of his palace while the bodies of those who had been shot down by his troops in restoring order in the streets of Berlin were borne past him in procession, and the entire reign of Napoleon III. was blighted by the sanguinary scenes which signaled his advent to the throne when not merely lancer charges and musketry fire, but even artillery, with grapeshot, were used to clear the streets and to suppress the popular disturbance, which his seizure of the imperial crown had called forth.

NICHOLAS I. FACED IT.

The attitude of rulers when confronted by popular insurrections varies so much that a brief review thereof may be of interest. Some monarchs boldly face the danger, while others take to flight. Thus, Nicholas I., great grandfather of the present Czar, was confronted by

[Concluded on Third Page.]

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Students and Alumni of the University are invited to contribute.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 10, 1905.

A visit to some of the public meetings of last week, where could be heard the most spasmodic and emotional speeches outside of an anarchistic gathering, shows the great lack of information on the part of self-named leaders, as well as the inability to discuss vital subjects in a scholarly, Christian-like spirit.

Those who did not hear the lecture given by Rev. Babbit, D. D., of Brooklyn, before the National Sociological Society at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church last Wednesday evening, missed one the most masterly productions yet written on the Negro problem. It was inspiring to old and young. It made us see existing conditions as we had never seen them before, and left us with a new determination to go out into the world and face the battle of life with more zeal and vigorous effort than ever before. Dr. Babbit has devoted much time to the study of this great national problem, and has written many valuable articles on it. Some of his works can be obtained from Prof. Jesse Lawson, who is at the head of the society.

Personals.

Mrs. Alice Weston, of Henderson, Ky., formerly a member of the College Department, is now in the city visiting her mother.

Mr. John Cromwell, of Dartmouth, is in the city on a three weeks leave.

Mr. Craighead, Howard's famous old center, now captain of Williams College foot ball team, was showered with congratulations by his many admirers during his

short stay.

Miss Julia E. Brooks, of the Sophomore Class, was visited by Misses Estelle Trimman and Helen Garrett, of Springfield, Mass. The young ladies had a very enjoyable stay and left only on account of pressing duties.

Hon. Henry A. Brown, after whom the Henry A. Brown Prize Debate of the Alpha Phi Literary Society is named, has been visiting the University and making special inquiries into the work of the Literary Society.

Theological Notes.

Prof. Bruce, principal of the academic department of Tuskegee, visited the department Tuesday evening, March 1st. In response to an invitation to say something, he had this to say in substance: "There is a change in the sentiment of the people of the South toward the ministry. There was a time when the people accepted the preacher by reason of his office, but now they are turning their attention to the minister as a man; what are his abilities, his education, and what of his personal character, are the questions they are asking. The change is a healthy one and is destined to bring about a much-needed reformation. The people are demanding a cleaner and better ministry, and one of the most potent factors in the solution of this great problem is education in its fullest sense—education not only of the ministry but education of people."

A very important thing which he said was: "To help in the solution of the social problem of the people is one of the greatest means by which the minister can secure the highest development of his people."

"Evidences are accumulating each year that the cancer of divorce is rapidly spreading over the country and poisoning the fountains of the nation. Unless the evil is checked by some speedy and heroic remedy the very existence of our family life is imperiled."

Rev. John Watson, D. D. ("Ian Maclaren") predicts that the message of the next great revival will be one of social righteousness. In an address before the students of Bristol Baptist College, Liverpool, England, he said: "What one longs for is another of those great movements which suddenly break forth one knows not whence, and which carry the race one knows not whither, which in literature is called Renaissance, and in religion a revival, and which in any case is the restoring of the human soul. When it comes, it is like the blowing of the wind, or the rushing of the tide, or the step of spring, or the breaking of day: spiritual, invincible, inspiring comprehensive."

The influence of the church must be acknowledged whether people attend it in as large numbers as formerly or not. The church is going on and on from one degree of progress to another and will continue to do so until its mission shall have been accomplished. The triumph of the church will be through the living power of the gospel. Apostasy, weakness, and sin have no power to destroy the imperishable strength of Christianity.

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Sovereigns and Mobs.

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a situation even still more serious than that with which his namesake was required to deal last month. It was just after his succession to the throne, and the mob which marched on the Winter Palace was composed not merely of the working classes, students and of the scum of the population, but likewise of a large number of officers and nobles, who were all determined that Nicholas should make way for his brother Constantine, whose rights he was considered to have usurped, and who, it was understood, had promised to grant the people a constitution. Nicholas I., unlike his great-grandson, was unable to confide in the loyalty of his troops, aware that some of the principal regiments of the garrison of the metropolis and their officers were in sympathy with his opponents. He did not send any soldiers to oppose the march of the mob upon the Winter Palace, because he could not trust them. But when the people approached and filled the entire huge place in front of the palace he appeared among them, absolutely alone and unattended, his colossal stature and commanding figure towering above even the tallest of them. Taken absolutely by surprise, they were dumfounded and at a loss what to do or to say. Nicholas, quick to note and to avail himself of that moment of hesitation, rent the silence with a stentorian order of "Down on your knees!" and in a minute there was not a single man, woman or child in that immense crowd who was not kneeling in the snow. That was the end of the revolution, which resulted in hundreds of officers and nobles being hung and shot and thousands being exiled to Siberia.

There are some who believe that the present Emperor should have followed the example of his namesake and predecessor, should have permitted the mob to assemble in front of the Winter Palace, and should then have appeared among them alone and unattended. But the present Czar has neither the impressive stature nor the commanding aspect of the first Nicholas. He might have appealed to the mob, but he could not have dominated it. Besides, he was able to rely upon the loyalty of his troops, which his great-grandfather could not. In one word, it would have been, all things considered, dangerous to attempt once more, under different circumstances, the experiment which proved so successful 80 years ago.

The Theological Debate comes off tonight in the Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel at 8 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

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