

ing a revolution which no one would have anticipated a few short months before.

"Bloody Sunday," with its tragic massacre of unarmed men, and its raid on peaceful citizens who strove to avert bloodshed, will not easily be blotted from the memory of Russians, and may yet exact frightful retribution. The deeds of that day are the acme of the stupendous imbecilities of the oligarchy, whose last prop fell as the intelligence of the crime spread from one rural community to another. Since then open anarchy, with sanguinary outbreaks in the towns of Poland and in the Caspian oil region, the alarming disturbances among the peasantry of Saratov, Mirsk, Pskov, Orel, and other places, the chaos in the commercial centres of the south, the disaffection in the navy, the riots accompanying mobilization, the paralysis of local administration, the dissolution by the Government of commissions on industrial reforms, the renewed activity of the revolutionary federations—all reveal the distressful state of unhappy Russia.

And there is little light on the horizon. The lurid revelation of the profound corruption of the official class fills thoughtful men with despair. Patriotism has failed to check the ravages of wicked greed. The large sums of money received for the equipment of the hospitals, which

have mysteriously disappeared, and the shameful abuses in connection with the Red Cross Society which have sent a thrill of disgust throughout the Empire, shows the rottenness of the executive—of the herd of officials who are virtually irresponsible. Even Sir D. Mackenzie Wallace, the sanest and best informed writer on Russia, does not think there is any hope in the oligarchy. Unabated pretension, insolent bluff and brag, take the place of any intelligent estimate of the seriousness of the crisis, of clear recognition of failure and wise adaptation of means to retrieve disaster and save the national honor.

"It is to be feared," says Mr. Villari in his wise, strong book, "that Russia is in for a long period of trouble before she settles down peacefully as a Constitutional State on modern lines. Untouched by the great movements which have moulded the history of Europe during the last five centuries—the Renaissance, the Reformation, the French Revolution—she has to learn these three R's of political and intellectual development before she can evolve into a new nation. "The English revolution lasted from 1640 to 1689, that of France from 1789 to 1815 (or 1871), that of Italy from 1821 to 1870; it would not be surprising if even that of Russia lasted many years."

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#### THE ROMANCE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

O pale-faced Theologian whose soft hands  
And ink-stained fingers never gripped the oar  
Or swung the hammer; weary with your books,  
How can your slumbering senses comprehend  
The breadth and virile purpose of the men  
Who bore their joyous tale through quickened lands  
To the great heart of Rome: the shipwreck'd Paul,  
Wandering Ulysses-like to far-off isles  
And barbarous peoples; or those peasant kings,  
Who ever 'mid voluptuous cities wore  
No mediæval halo, but the air  
Of some free fisher battling with the wind  
That blows across the Galilean hills?

—*Elliot E. Mills.*