

a singularly lovable disposition. He loved his people and they loved him. He was wont to pool-pool the demands of his officers of state that he desist from his habit of going about without proper protection against just such an attack as that which has filled all Italy with sorrow. There are several ills which humanity is subject to which are declared to be fatal on the third attack. Assassination appears to come within the category

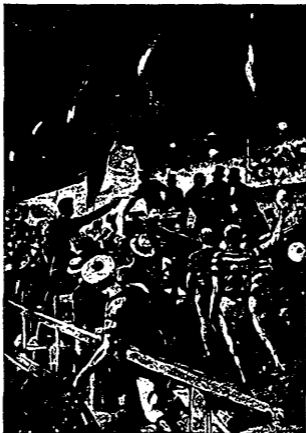
—at least it did in the case of King Humbert, the taking of whose life had been attempted on two previous occasions, when he succeeded in escaping uninjured. The third attack, however, was fatal. Personally, the Italian monarch was one of the most courageous of men. When the cholera was raging in Naples a few years ago, he went among

the patients in the hospitals, and even into the infected homes of hundreds of those who had suffered bereavement, totally disregarding—like the fatalist that he was—the protestations and warnings of those who, apart from their personal regard for him, saw in his act more than the daring of a mankind-loving hero, but the recklessness of a monarch whose life was jeopardized and on whom depended vital political,

if not dynastic, issues. At the time he fell a victim to the assassin's revolver, the King was about to leave Monza, where he had been distributing prizes. He had entered his carriage and was driving away amidst the cheers of a large multitude when the assassin dashed forward, sprang on the steps and fired three shots with fatal effect. Thus died a monarch whom men of lesser degree might well strive to emulate in unflinching devotion to duty, even being "steadfast in that which is least."

Sorrow has entered other royal households since our last issue, and while bearing the heavy burden of seeing her country at war, our own venerable Queen has been stricken with domestic woe, death carrying off her second son, Prince Alfred, Duke of Saxe-

Coburg Gotha, or, as he was more generally known to Her Majesty's subjects, the Duke of Edinburgh. The death of the Duke, from a sudden attack of paralysis of the heart, was, in all probability, a merciful visitation, as it saved him from the agony of a lingering death from cancer of the tongue, with which he was afflicted. Not only has the Queen to mourn a son dead, but she is called upon to contemplate her favorite



*Illus. London News.*

ASSASSINATION OF THE KING OF ITALY.

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