

A Bloody Insurrection.

A PAGE FROM RUSSIAN HISTORY.

On the 3rd of December 1825, the conspirators made simultaneous and preconcerted attempts in several of the large cities of the empire to fulfil the standard of revolt among such regiments of the army as were known to be disaffected toward the new czar.

At St. Petersburg, two regiments of the Imperial foot guards, under the command of Colonels Braganoff and Jesehuriz, left their barracks, and marched upon the principal government buildings.

The State Chancery fell an easy prey to them, but at the building of the War Department, which resembles a small fortress, they met with a determined resistance.

Nicholas, the new czar, who was believed by the conspirators to be at Tsarskoe Zelo, had returned during the night, and upon hearing of the revolt, collected five squadrons of the dragoons and Cossacks of the guard, and two sections of the light artillery, with which he made a sudden and furious onslaught upon the insurgents. The latter offered heroic resistance; but being mowed down by grape-shot, as they were, they finally had to surrender. Many of the soldiers and officers were slain by the dragoons after they had thrown down their arms.

Of the military prisoners, all the commissioned officers were sent to the fortress of Schlüsselburg, where they were thrust into the subterranean dungeons. The civilians were confined in irons in cells at the Krasnikoy jail.

An investigation was at once set, and through torture, the name of the ringleaders among the two regiments of the guard were easily ascertained. They gave as the most active among them, the two colonels, and beside, Majors Sikoff, Toalrog, Fokis, Captains, Zagar, Brohany, Czogroff and Lieutenants Tengen, Schenck, Virgiz and Buclot. The officers themselves re-oluntely refused to give any information.

On the 26th December the High Commission, composed of sixty high and civil military dignitaries, assembled at the large hall of the ministry of justice in order to try the conspirators. The czar and most of his male relations are present at the opening of the court.

The venerable General Gortschakoff presided. The prisoners were led in, all of them heavily ironed. Colonel Braganoff, upon seeing the czar, shouted to him in a sneering tone, German dog! German dog! But no notice was taken of the insult and the trial commenced. The proceedings were so summary that the whole trial did not last more than five days. Late in the evening of the 31st December the court pronounced the following terrible sentence:

All the commissioned officers caught with arms in their hands shall suffer death by shooting except Colonels Braganoff and Jesehuriz, whose tongues shall be torn out by their mouths by the public executioner, whereupon they shall be hanged until they are dead; the Second and Fourth regiments of the Foot Guards shall be decimated; the civilians shall receive one hundred strokes of the knout. The next day was New Year's, in the new calendar, and so the sentence was not executed until the 2nd of January, 1826, St. Peter-burgh, as may be imagined, was in a state of intense agitation from early dawn on this eventful and momentous day.

Immense crowds thronged the streets, and frequently were dispersed by the mounted police. At ten o'clock the sixty-four doomed officers and nineteen civilians were led out upon the Newski Prospect, where the execution was to take place. Colonels Braganoff and Jesehuriz were dressed in suits of coarse brown linen, and the executioner placed them under the huge gallows which had been erected for them. Both of them manifested remarkable fortitude, which did not disconcert the executioner a little. With visible embarrassment he told the two brave conspirators: I must now tear out your tongues! Colonel Jesehuriz allowed him to open his mouth and seize his tongue with a large steel forceps. The vast concourse of the spectators uttered cries of horror as the executioner violently pulled it out. The tongue, bleeding and horrible to look upon, came out. Jesehuriz, uttering a heavy groan, while a stream of blood poured from his mouth. He was immediately picked up by the assistant of the executioner, who stangled him on the gallows. Braganoff proved less tractable. The executioner had to force open his mouth, in doing which, he broke the front teeth of the unfortunate man. Five minutes afterward, Braganoff, too, had breathed his last.

Next the officers, who were to be shot, were led forward with their backs turned toward the Neva river. Twelve of them were selected to die first. They met their fate bravely. Shouting, Long live Russia! they received the volley of bullets which twenty-four picked riflemen fired at them. Five fell dead. The other seven had been but slightly wounded. Three more volleys were required before all of them had been put out of their misery. Four times more this terrible scene was re-enacted. At last all of the victims were dead. They lay in a large heap. The immense crowd of spectators was shuddering.

But now followed a still more thrilling scene, but fortunately it was not to end in a butchery like the one we have just described. Fourteen hundred soldiers, without arms were marched out in order to be decimated!

Nothing could be more frightful than the spectacle which these poor victims in their intense anguish and uncertainty presented. For none of them knew which were to suffer death and which were to be spared. They looked with horror and dismay upon the pile of corpses in front of them. An aide de camp of the Emperor appeared. He walked along the ranks touching every tenth man with his sword, and ordering those thus designated to step forward.

The poor men did so more dead than alive. When the whole of the victims had been selected, the adjutant said: 'You have deserved death; but his Majesty, the Czar, in his clemency, will pardon you! A deafening shout of relief, repeated again and again, went up from the dense throng of spectators. The soldiers, who had already looked death in the face, were overcome by their emotions. They embraced one another, and they cried and laughed by turns. But they were rapidly marched back to their barracks, and the police dispersed the spectators.

Thus was the reign of Nicholas the First inaugurated!

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Owing to an unusual stock of foreign and other important news demanding our attention to day, "Gus Hardy's" excellent biography of Uncle Joes is unavoidably omitted. Our correspondent shall have due attention in next issue.—The School of Political Iniquity" (by an Old Politician) has been received; but cannot appear in our columns, until we are furnished with the real name of the writer.



HARBOR GRACE, DEC. 3, 1873.

By advices from Bonavista, under date of Nov. 27, we are in receipt of very agreeable information concerning the result of the election there. Messrs Noonan, Barnes, and Winton, have been returned for that district, giving the Government a MAJORITY OF TWENTY, and proving the futility of falsehood and corruption, as well as showing that God in his own good time does not fail to "bring to naught the counsels of the wicked!"

The Tories do not take the news so cheerfully. Indeed some of the leaders of that party are utterly disconsolate—"seeking rest, and finding none!" We advised a few of the most woeful-looking to "solicit" the advice of their great Anthropophagus; but the only evidence of a sense of hearing on their part, being an ominous shake of the head, we readily concluded their case to be hopeless.

We congratulate the people on the general result of the elections; and here we would take the precaution to remind them of the evil of allowing themselves to be beguiled by hungry politicians with such atominable falsehoods as that made use of by the opposition during the late election.

We have reason to be proud that our liberty, as a free and independent people is still secured to us. Had it not been for the patriotism of many of our people, Newfoundland would to day be the property of Canada. And what then? Why, we should become a wretched colony, perhaps leased out to a company of Jews, and governed by a few tax-gatherers and excisemen, unless you may add six or eight native members, who might be found every session sleeping in their cloggers under the manger of the Canadian Minister.

ABOUT 9 o'clock p.m., on Monday last, the dwelling house of Mr. Maurice Connell, Water Street, was surreptitiously entered, and several articles of clothing—including a coat, and pair of gloves—pilfered therefrom. On the same evening, High Constable Fallon took up the trail, and yesterday morning succeeded in placing the stolen property in possession of the legal owner.

A Curious Superstition.

Some of the Canadian people have a superstition that if, while upon the road a rabbit crosses the path before them it is a sign of bad luck. A crowd of girls and boys were on their way to a country school when a hare, frightened from his burrow, ran across the road in front of the party. The girls instantly and with one accord, turned quickly around three times on their heels, pulled off their sun-bonnets, spat in them, turned them inside out, and placing them again on their head, wore them thus to school, congratulating themselves on the way that by these very essential manoeuvres they had averted some species of bad luck that was about to befall them. The boys likewise turned on their heels and spat in their hats. One of the boys who had never before witnessed such a silly proceeding, was very much amused and laughed heartily at his companions. The girls looked upon him with an expression of holy horror, and with clasped and winging hands implored him to follow their example. This he refused to do, and they set upon him with violence, pulled his hat from his head, and made him spit in it.

Twenty four lawyers are engaged, twelve on each side, in a Kentucky libel suit, and it is proposed to assign a couple to every jurymen separately.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[FOR THE HARBOR GRACE STAR.]

From Our Bonavista Correspondent.

Winter is fairly upon us, so of late, in this pretty, but much-exposed-to-weather town, we have had a succession of boisterous days, alternating with frost, rain, and snow. The winds have not prevailed from any particular quarter, but those from north and east were certainly the most severe. At times the harbor presents an appearance at once grand and awful, the sea pitching inwards in dense volumes with terrific force, breaking on the rocks and ascending skyward in sparkling spray, or rushing through interstices in seething foam.

There have already been several falls of snow, but that of yesterday was the heaviest, and being accompanied by a squally S. E. gale, the roads are to-day blocked in many places, snow having accumulated to a depth of several feet. Dogs are harnessed and slides are in vogue.

Electoral topics.—like every other nine days' wonder—have abated. Winton, Noonan, and Barnes, are again returned for this district, but it may be fair here to remark, that the Opposition Candidates secured a greater number of votes, and that their rejection is solely caused by an omission to administer the oath to one or more of the Returning Officers. This turn of affairs was not anticipated, and it is wonderful that there is so little interest manifested here in the ultimate result. Everyone seems satisfied with the decree; it might have been worse.

Communication with you will soon become a novelty, as travelling with mails will only at times be possible. I shall, however, at all times that opportunity offers keep you posted up in matters connected with this district.

The only public attraction here lately was an exhibition of Magic Lantern Views, displayed the other evening, the proprietor meeting with poor encouragement.

Melancholy Shipwreck and Loss of Life.

We noticed in a very short paragraph last week, the melancholy fact of loss of the Anglo-American Cable Company's steamship "Robert Lowe" not anticipating at the time that we should have to record to day the sad loss of so many valuable lives as the result of the calamity.

It appears that the "Robert Lowe" had been employed in the service of laying that portion of the Company's submarine cable between Island Cove, near LaManche, and Placentia; which work was successfully performed on the 18th inst. On the 19th she left Placentia, on her return to St. John's, where she was to be laid up for the winter.

For some time before and after the steamer left Placentia, the weather was thick and boisterous; and shortly after her departure a heavy south-west gale sprung up, bringing with it a heavy sea, thick fog, and a much stronger easterly set of the tide than was calculated upon. It was owing to this latter circumstance no doubt, the ship made such very considerable lee way, that, although Capt. Tidmarsh gave her a course which would, under ordinary circumstances have put her considerably to the westward, that she struck, when at full speed, upon a place called Sculpin Cove Point, about a quarter past four o'clock on the morning of the 20th, about twelve hours after leaving Placentia.

The sea was making very heavy when the vessel struck, and the after part of the ship was immediately submerged by the heavy seas. The life boats, together with the ship's boats, were at once attempted to be launched, it was found, however, impracticable to get the life-boats into the water, from their great cumbersomeness, as well as from the fact of their being already almost if not quite submerged with the ship. The smaller boats, however, were quickly got out, and in them such of the crew and officers as were eventually saved, reached the shore. It is believed that the captain, and those who remained by the wreck with him, in the hope of eventual succor from the shore, preferred that course rather than risk what appeared to be a quicker and more inevitable death, by trusting themselves to the boats in such a sea and amongst the dangers that surrounded them.

The first intimation of the accident reached Holyrood by one of the boats, which succeeded, not without great danger and difficulty, in reaching that place, and assistance was immediately despatched to the relief of the survivors. Some time necessarily elapsed before the people reached the scene of the disaster, but when they arrived there they found they were too late to do any thing, if indeed anything was possible to be done under the circumstances. The ship's pinnac was directed by the people to a safe place for effecting a landing, which was done; and the men got ashore at the foot of a cliff, up which they had to climb hand over hand, a distance of some three or four hundred feet by ropes which were let down to them from above. Several of them who were too much exhausted to accomplish this feat were hoisted up by ropes fastened about their person. In the meantime, the remains of the "Robert Lowe," with her noble captain, with Mr. Wickenden, a gentleman belonging to the company's staff, young, amiable and much esteemed by all who knew him, together with sixteen other valuable lives, were swept away by the cruel and remorseless waves.

The survivors arrived here from St. Mary's on Sunday morning last, in the steam-tug "Cabot," which was dispatched to the scene of the disaster immediately the tidings of it was received by A. M. McKay, Esq., the Company's General Superintendent. Many of the survivors reached shore in a nearly naked condition, but were of course treated with every attention and kindness by the people living in the neighbourhood of the disaster, by whom they were clothed and fed. Since their arrival here, Mr McKay has done all that was possible and necessary for their comfort and relief. Captain Tidmarsh, whose deplorable loss we have recorded above, is represented by those who are best acquainted with him as an excellent and amiable man and a seaman of great experience and ability, active and indefatigable in the discharge of his duties. This latter fact we have confirmation of in the knowledge that he took the bridge on board the "Robert Lowe" at 4 o'clock in the afternoon when she left Placentia only leaving it at 1 a.m. the next morning, for the purpose of making a change of his wet clothing, and getting a little rest. He was on the bridge again at three o'clock, and that without being called up. It will be a consolation, at least, to his bereaved friends to know that he died at his post with the unflinching determination to fulfil his duty to the last, a sentiment that has ever been the characteristic of true-hearted British seamen the world over.—North Star, Nov. 29.

Bonavista, Nov. 27.

A Polaris Council.

Monton speaks of a consultation between Hal and the officers of the Polaris held about the beginning of September, 1871, with regard to their mode of procedure. The question was, shall we go north or seek harborage here, if the turn of the season is now taking place? At this consultation there were present Buddington, Chester, Tyson, the Doctor and Mortou. The ice was beginning to come down in our channel in dense packs, but there were still two channels or leads along each of the shores. Hal asked the Doctor for his opinion, first—asking him first, ss Morton naively says, because he was probably the least capable of giving an opinion, being a landsman. The Doctor's opinion was to go to the west channel, where there was still some water, and to go north yet as far as possible. I was asked next, says Morton, and I concurred with the Doctor saying we had better push as far north as possible to prosecute the object of our expedition; but in the meantime, to look out for good winter quarters, in case we should be beset. Not to go back on any account, because up there every mile is a mile. Tyson followed, and said, Look out for winter quarters—for a harbor immediately. Chester said, Go ahead as long as you can make a mile. Buddington said, Get into winter quarters, and add, Morton, I think Buddington showed the white feather here, We should have gone on.

A bar of gold worth seventy thousand dollars, is a curiosity of the day in San Francisco.

There are said to be over twenty thousand working girls out of employment in New York.

Up to September 1st the total number of cases of cholera in Hungary has been 105,000.

Boss Tweed's trial in New York, is set down for Wednesday. Is there any use in waiting for the verdict.

There are said to have been one thousand three hundred and twenty l's in Andy Johnson's late speech.

Since 1848 gold to the amount of \$1,380,700,000 has been mined in California, the product in 1873 being \$93,000,000.

Four steamships, took out from New York an aggregate of 87,500 bales of cotton, besides large quantities of bread-stuffs.

A silk blanket for a respectable New York poold, cost sixteen dollars. The prospect is that some pooldks will get nipped this winter.

Latest Despatches.

LONDON, Nov 22.

Disraeli, at Glasgow yesterday, criticised Government and predicted great struggle in Europe between temporal and spiritual powers; feared conflict might result in anarchy, and declared partisans of home rule would unmask and show Great Britain their real defenders.

Immense home rule demonstration today. Sixty thousand persons present. Butt, Martiu and others orated. No disturbance.

Serious railway accident near Birmingham. "Times" says demand for surrender of Virginia could not with justice be made, but England might join United States in other demands made by the latter power.

LONDON, 26.

Latest Spanish complications is that unless Spain complies with American demand in 48 hours, Sickles will leave Madrid.

Sir John Duke Coleridge is to be raised to Peerage.

Fresh sentence pronounced against Archbishop Lodewowski for continuing unlawfully to institute priests. He is condemned to two years imprisonment with additional of 5400 thalers.

M. Beule, minister of interior, retired; Broglie takes his place.—Duke de Casas becoming foreign minister. These are the only changes in French cabinet.

NEW YORK, 26.

Jay Cooke gone into bankruptcy. Hudson river closed. Steamer gone into winter quarters. This is earliest closing of the century.

NEW YORK, 28.

Gold 109 1/2.

Tenor despatches indicate that Spain will accede to American demands.

LONDON, 28.

Madrid advices report another bombardment Cartagena, after which pastime rebels asked for 2 hours truce, believed with view of surrendering the city.

Rothschild announces Russian five per cent loan \$750,000,000.

PORT HASTINGS, 1.

Gulf Ports Company's steamer "Pictou" which left Montreal 14th for Halifax has not arrived. She was last seen off Father Point on 16th. "Alhambra" sent in search.

Thermometer zero.

NEWS ITEMS.

Over 100,000 persons attended the Northern Ohio Agricultural Fair.

A steam thrashing machine out in Iowa lately burned up 300 bushels of wheat.

A single county in New York produces upwards of seven million pounds of butter.

Paducah, Ky., has nine thousand inhabitants and seven newspapers, beating any other in the South.

The Washington "Chronicle" considers balloon ascensions public nuisances, and wants a law to prevent them.

The Sacramento, California, Beet Sugar Factory this year will make 8000 barrels of sugar, valued at over \$200,000.

Haverhill, Mass., was undoubtedly the first place in the United States where the tomato was first eaten as a vegetable.

Forty years ago there were twenty three miles of railroad in the United States, and now there are about 53,000 miles.

The Italian residents of Philadelphia have determined to erect a monument of Christopher Columbus. The statue will, it is proposed, be twelve feet high, and cost with the pedestal, \$19,000.

The colored operatives in two of the tobacco factories at Richmond, Va., notified their employers that, appreciating the difficulties of the present financial situation, they are willing to work for two or three weeks without drawing their wages.

The most extensive family wedding on record occurred the other day in Cincinnati. A widowed mother, three sons and two daughters were all married at once.

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