

RIOTERS IN SICILY

Violent Disturbance in a Number of the Larger Cities.

CASTEL-TRANO IN THE HANDS OF A MOB

Local Prison Demolished and All the Inmates Liberated.

HOUSES SACKED AND SHOPS DESPOILED

Citizens Organize and Make an Effort to Defend Their Homes.

AUTHORITIES FINALLY RESTORE ORDER

Large Bodies of Troops Rush to the Scene and After Desperate Fighting Arrest the Leaders of the Mob.

PALERMO, Dec. 31.—It would seem that the rioting and disorder which has prevailed in several parts of Sicily for some time past is not yet at an end and the arrival of strong reinforcements of troops is anxiously awaited by all law abiding citizens.

At Trapani, not far from this city, news has been received of a fresh riot and it is said that the reports in circulation have so excited the people of Trapani that disorder is anticipated at that place. The latest riot, according to dispatches from Trapani, occurred at Castel-Trano, a town of 20,000 inhabitants situated about thirty miles from Trapani. It appears that at a given signal a body of roadmakers left work and attacked the oil station. The men were evidently prepared for an outbreak, as they had secured possession of a number of cans of petroleum, which they had hidden by the roadside with a number of revolvers, heavy sticks and poles to make pikes or staves in case they were attacked. The roadmakers organized themselves into a column and with shouts of "Down with the oil!" and "Death to the municipal authorities!" marched on the oil station, burned the sentry box and two of the local oil offices and then set fire to the central oil office, the tax offices and the record office, destroying all the archives and doing other damage.

Citizens Prepared to Resist.

The whole town was soon in a terrible uproar, the peaceable citizens flying for their lives or locking themselves in their residences, which they promptly barricaded and prepared to defend to the utmost with such means as they had at their command. The mob in the meanwhile had broken into a number of winshops, and rolling the barrels of wine and spirits out into the streets, they soon drank themselves into a state of madness and were ready for further acts of violence.

A signal from the leaders of the mob, the column was reformed, and shouting and yelling like madmen and greatly reinforced by the lawless element of the town and its neighborhood, the disorderly roadmakers set the way to the municipal prison, which they attacked with stones and sledgehammers in spite of the gallant defense made by the authorities of the prison and the guards and keepers of that establishment.

Liberated the Prisoners.

Finally the mob forced in the doors, severely handled the defenders of the prison and succeeded in liberating all the prisoners, who soon joined with the mob in drinking the stolen liquors and in acts of violence. After celebrating the victory over the prison authorities the mob attempted to destroy the residence of the mayor, the banker and the post office.

The town had been practically in the hands of the rioters, the local police force being utterly unable to cope with the mob. The houses of a number of citizens who were obnoxious to the rioters were broken into and despoiled of their most valuable contents and their occupants were compelled to fly for their lives.

The local authorities, however, had been able to communicate with Trapani and other towns with the result that a force of troops and police were sent to the riot.

But though the troops and police were able to save the bank and post office from destruction, they were unable to restore order, though a number of arrests were made the officers in command of the troops were obliged to send for additional reinforcements which were hurried forward and as soon as possible the rioters were dispersed.

WILSON'S FATE UNCERTAIN.

Said to Have Been Cut to Pieces with His Whole Party.

CAPTOWN, Dec. 31.—A dispatch from Natal, dated December 29, states that Captain Wilson's party who arrived there state that there is no doubt now that Captain Wilson's party was surrounded and killed while fighting against heavy odds.

General Gourley's Side Paralyzed.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 31.—General Gourley's left side is paralyzed.

LEAST CONFIDENCE GAME

League Scheme of a Southern Politician for Raising Money.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 31.—W. R. Smith, a popular leader and orator of some prominence in the interior, is said to have charged with using the mails for fraudulent purposes. His scheme was to persuade local wandering sons who felt repentant and desired to return home. He represented all the advanced thought of the time in that nature and conducted quite a thriving business in collecting advances from anxious parents.

Had Nothing New.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The British steamship, Captain Leeker, from Rio de Janeiro, arrived at quarantine shortly after sunset this evening. She brings no news of a startling or exciting nature from the seat of war.

ITALIAN EDITORS INDIGNANT.

Verdict in the Case of Aigues-Mortes Riots Not Satisfactory.

ROME, Dec. 31.—The newspapers here express much indignation at the acquittal yesterday at Aigues-Mortes, France, of the French workmen and soldiers in the Aigues-Mortes riots, when over a score of Italian workmen were killed and many others were terribly beaten and severely injured.

The Biforma says that the verdict is a fresh obstacle to harmony between Italy and France. The Messagero expresses the opinion that the verdict virtually legalizes the massacre of thirty Italians.

Messieurs of Italy's Gains.

MASSACHUSETTS, Dec. 31.—Letters just received from Rio de Janeiro say a French vessel was fired upon by the Brazilian insurgent warship Aquidaban, which discharged a number of its machine guns, but did no damage. The French admiral determined to stop at Bahia, where the Aquidaban the next morning saluted the French flag with eleven guns.

Has Alarmed the Authorities.

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Nebraska's Interest.

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None of these aspirants have anywhere near this number as yet, so that the candidate who can secure the greatest number of second pledges for his name will lead after the first ballot.

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BURNED THEM ALIVE

Yesterday's Developments Do Not Mitigate John Cummings' Diabolical Crime.

MIGHT NOT HAVE WILFULLY UPSET LAMP

But He Refused Wife and Her Mother Egress from the Furnace of Fire.

SPRANG TO THE DOOR AND HELD IT FAST

Successfully Thwarted Their Struggles to Escape by Door or Window.

TRAGIC STORY TOLD BY TOMMIE FOX

Charred and Mutilated Remains of the Four Bodies at the Morgue Present a Sickening Sight—Facts About the Family—Home of Woe.

During the forenoon yesterday hundreds of people visited the morgue to see the bodies of John Cummings, his wife, his infant son and Mrs. Margaret Fox, mother of Mrs. Cummings, all of whom perished in the burning of their cottage, 515 South Fourteenth street, between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday morning, as described in yesterday's issue.

So numerous did the visitors become by noon that at that hour the doors were ordered closed to all except the relatives and intimate friends of the dead.

A Sickening Sight.

In the basement the bodies were placed in a row upon cooling boards. First was that of the baby, with his face especially badly burned. The little arms had fallen from their sockets and exposed to view the bottoms of the scapulae resting with their lining of white cartilage.

Mrs. Cummings lay beside the body of her son. Every vestige of flesh was burned from her head and now only the blackened skull remains. Her hands and arms up to the elbows were completely burned away.

The body of Cummings was not as badly burned as the others. His face and neck were unrecognizable. Mrs. Fox evidently suffered the least of any, for her head, breast and arms are not burned nearly as badly as the rest. It is evident that all died quickly by inhaling fire and smoke. The muscles in the lower limbs and arms are intensely contracted, showing the torture endured.

Rumor of Robbery.

It was reported yesterday to the police and coroner that Cummings was supposed to have a large amount of money, about \$1,000, on his person, and the theory of robbery against Cummings was advanced. Mr. Cummings, coupled with the fact that the front door of the house was found open by the fireman, gave the police something to work on.

First the rooms occupied by the family were thoroughly searched, but no money was found. The debris in the bedroom, where the fire started, was examined carefully with the same result. The police and coroner sat in the room, but no money was found. Mr. Cummings did not have any such amount of money. If he had any at all on his person it was buried with his clothing.

Inquest Tuesday Morning.

Coroner Maul took charge of Cummings' inquest at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, and locked the place up. Nothing was found except a little beer. The stock had either been allowed to run down or had been sold. Mr. Cummings' mother, Mrs. Fox, was present, but she did not have any such amount of money. If he had any at all on his person it was buried with his clothing.

What Later Inquiry Develops.

Inquiry yesterday developed few important additional facts concerning the fire. Whether Cummings had any money on his person at the time of the catastrophe will probably never be known. What took place at the time of the fire is the only question that has been asked to be placed in charge.