

rifles of the firing squad were turned upon him: "Aim straight! Long live the modern schools!"

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The news of Ferrer's death set Liberal and Socialist Europe aflame. A mass meeting to protest against his sentence had been held in advance of his death, in Rome (p. 992), and the news of the execution was followed by violent demonstrations in all the great cities of Europe, sympathizers with the progressive modern movements everywhere holding that their governments might at least have protested against putting Ferrer to death. Everywhere the Spanish embassies were the especial objects of attack. In Paris, 10,000 men, headed by Mr. Juarès, the leader of the Socialists in the Chamber of Deputies, and by Mr. Vaillant, also a Socialist deputy, marched on the day of Ferrer's death to the Spanish embassy, intending to hold a demonstration. Prevented from reaching the embassy by the police, the mob tore up lampposts, trees and benches, and in its work of destruction burned three autobuses. On the 14th violent rioting was reported from Lyons, from Vienna, from Florence, Milan and Naples, and in Rome a general strike was called. On the 15th rioting was reported from Toulon, Geneva, Lisbon and Pisa, where the famous cathedral with the leaning tower was injured by fire; and demonstrations were made in Havana and Buenos Aires. On the 16th there was more rioting in Paris and elsewhere in France, and in Lisbon; and the Spanish embassy in Berlin was stormed, and only saved by the police after desperate fighting. Students in St. Petersburg held a protest meeting. On Sunday the 17th Ferrer demonstrations were held in all the labor centers of Europe, in New York and other American cities, in Cuba and in Argentina. Berlin held meetings in three places, but thousands could not get into the halls. A mob in London gathered at Trafalgar square and moved on the Spanish embassy, but was driven back by the police. A similar attack was made on the Spanish embassy at Amsterdam.

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In the meantime Spain has been sustaining an attitude of enforced quiet, as far as news gets past the censorship. But there keep coming reports of mysterious bombs being thrown in Barcelona—twenty-seven of them in four days, if the news reports are true. The Epoca, a Madrid government organ, declared on the 14th, with naïveté, since to profess to be horror-stricken over Ferrer's execution takes courage:

The work of justice has been accomplished. Ferrer was given every right in the matter of his defense and the laws of the country were scrupulously observed. We believe that he had been condemned by the consciences of the majority of Spaniards, including those who now profess to be horror-stricken.

The Cortes convened in due course on the 15th, and the Republican deputies have asked permission to hold a public meeting protesting against the execution of Ferrer. In the Senate there has been effort to force Premier Maura to resign. To this is added an awakening on the part of King Alfonso to the odious light in which he has been presented to the rest of the civilized world, as he has slowly learned of the popular demonstrations against him in both hemispheres; and he was reported on the 18th to be charging Maura with having neglected to give him a chance to exercise the royal prerogative of clemency. The consequent fall of the Premier is looked for.

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Free Speech in Philadelphia.

Judge Wilson (p. 995) on the 16th sustained the Philadelphia police in their refusal to permit Emma Goldman to deliver lectures, by denying the injunction asked for on her behalf. The Philadelphia Record thus summarizes the positions of the Court:

While the Court knocks out some of the woman's contentions on the ground that she is not a citizen of either this State or the United States, it is declared that the real reasons for refusing the injunctions would apply just as strongly to a citizen. Interference by peace officers to prevent public utterances which might tend to excite disturbances and result in a breach of the peace, Judge Willson holds would be justified, not on the ground that the person affected was an alien or a citizen, but by the knowledge that sentiments tending to cause trouble would be uttered. To show that such sentiments have been uttered the Court called attention to the admissions of the Goldman woman in Court of her opposition to all government and other features of her doctrine. Had she avowed a determination to advocate wholesale assassination of certain officials, Judge Willson said nobody would have questioned the right to stop such utterance, and the Court can see no well-defined line between that and the threatened destruction of the life of the nation. Such speech, he declared, was an abuse of the liberty to speak freely on any subject.

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Backed by the above decision, the police refused to allow a meeting which they claimed was to be addressed by anarchists, from being held at Industrial hall on the evening of Sunday the 17th, in protest at the execution of Francisco Ferrer in Barcelona on the 13th. The meeting adjourned to a club room at 424 Pine street, which became so crowded that the police cleared the room on the ground of over-crowding.

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The Panama Canal Libel Suit.

In the Federal court at Indianapolis on the 12th, Judge A. B. Anderson decided that Charles R. Williams and Delavan Smith, proprietors of the