

THE ANARCHISTS IN AMERICA AND EUROPE.

The murder of Humbert I, king of Italy, on July 29, 1900, the anniversary of which was last week made the occasion of public rejoicing and addresses by anarchists in Paterson, was the fourth of a series of anarchist assassinations of the rulers of nations which have startled the world during the last four years. In all four cases the assassins were Italians. President Carnot, of France; Canovas, prime minister of Spain, and Elizabeth, empress of Austria, all perished at the hands of men who were subjects of the king who was himself the last of anarchy's victims.

Gastano Bresci, Humbert's assassin, who recently took his own life in his cell in San Stefano prison, came from Paterson, N. J., where his American wife survives him. Since Bresci's suicide foreign dispatches tell of frustrated plots by Italian anarchists to kill the kaiser of Germany and the king of Spain. The starting point of both murders was said to be the United States. This country is without doubt the center and headquarters of the Italian anarchist movement, which is far more dangerous than any of the forms which have preceded.

ITALIAN LATTER DAY ANARCHY

More Dangerous Than Any of the Preceding Forms.

In theory it has progressed not a particle beyond the universal system of government destruction which was founded by Bakunin, but both in spirit and application it is different. The Italian anarchist does not cherish that blind personal hatred of individuals and institutions that characterized the cart tail oratory preceding the Haymarket riot in Chicago. He has little to say about his own hard lot or starvation wages. Almost without exception the Italian anarchists are regularly employed in some trade at fair pay. Some have comfortable savings bank accounts.

To understand them we must understand the Italian character and its capabilities for devotion to a purely theoretical liberty. These Italian anarchists have the spirit which found utterance in the liberty fervor of Mazzini in '48, whose contagion started revolutions.

On Mazzini's banner were the four words, "God and the People." For the Italian anarchist the first obligation is of course eliminated, but the seed is an altar on which he considers his life a small sacrifice, and for him the voice of his people says only, "Kill."

SELDOM SPEAK IN PUBLIC.

Their Method to Make Proselytes by Individual Persuasion.

Latter day anarchists seldom preach or agitate for their faith. Publicly they seldom speak of it. By individual persuasion they try to make proselytes to their cause, but never in the open. They labor with a prospective convert as a missionary might with one whose soul he was trying to save. They are sure that he enrolls under the red flag with his eyes open, and that he realizes the hatred, persecution, and possibly even death that awaits his devotion to anarchy. They are more like a sect of perfect heretics apart, studying to perfect themselves in their religion.

None of the four great recent anarchist assassinations has been accomplished by any of the melodramatic scenery or effects that one is apt to expect of an anarchist maneuver.

No palaces were undermined with dynamite. No bombs were thrown into royal processions. In every case the anarchist killed his victim with a simple weapon as calmly and as stolidly as a premeditated suicide might walk off a Battery Park pier with a policeman looking on.

In nearly all the continental nations to be even suspected of being an anarchist is equivalent to being a criminal punishable with imprisonment or exile. For a man who has been known to actually advocate law destruction there is really but one escape, and that is America. The consequence is that the men and women anarchists who have come to this country during the last seven or eight years have all been graduates of anarchist antecedents in Italy. The era of doubt and questioning with them is over. They have reached a point where they are out and out anarchists, else they would not have been obliged to leave their native land. The Italian anarchist in America is a veteran, not a cadet. Ninety per cent of the anarchists of Italy are found in the northern provinces of Lombardy and Piedmont, the section of the country where education is most general. Silk weaving in the mills is one of the chief industries of that part of the country. When the first of the present Italian group came to the United States they naturally drifted to Paterson, N. J., where enormous silk industry afforded them an opportunity of continuing the trade they had learned in Italy. For the others who followed there was the additional inducement of living with their fellow townsmen who had preceded them. The result is that Paterson has come to be the center of what is probably the most important anarchist group in the world. Once regularly employed in Paterson, and realizing American free speech, the anarchist makes no secret of his political faith. To be sure, he does not shout it from the housetops or bore every one he meets by talking about it, for that is not his way; but if asked for a sincere expression he never hesitates to tell you that he believes the greatest immediate benefit that could be conferred upon humanity would be the destruction of all its rulers.

FAVORITE MEETING PLACES.

In Each Other's Tenement Rooms After the Day's Work.

The anarchists had little in common with the rest of the Italian population in Paterson. Their favorite meeting places were each other's tenement house rooms, where, in the evenings, after the day's last yard of silk had been run off the bobbins, they met and studied and discussed.

Paterson does not contain all the latter day anarchists of America. There is a very large colony of them in West Hoboken, N. J., many live in Macdonough and Houston street tenements in New York city, while others are scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific; but, wherever they are, they constantly are in touch with the group in Paterson, whom they recognize as the center of anarchist activity in the western hemisphere. It was in the midst of this group that Enrico Malatesta appeared in 1898.

To say that Malatesta ever arrives at

CZOLGOSZ'S CHARACTERISTIC SMILE.



The above snapshot of Leon Czolgosz, the notorious assassin of the late President McKinley, shows the peculiar sneering, defiant expression that his countenance continually assumes. He wore this sneer throughout the trial and, observers say, will carry it with him to the execution chair.

Malatesta's appearance in Paterson was unheralded and unexpected. He was seen by some of his old friends one day drinking at the bar of an Italian saloon called "The Bartholdi." From that moment anarchists recognized the group at Paterson as the most important in the world. The genuine spirit of anarchy dwelt in its midst.

THE PATERSON ANARCHISTS.

Become Aggressive Workers in the Cause of Destruction.

From students and enthusiasts Paterson anarchists became aggressive workers in the cause of destruction. In a little upstairs back room on Market street was founded La Question Sociale. For a while Malatesta was its only editor, and then, as the scope of his labors and plottings increased, he brought over a Spanish anarchist named Pedro Esteve to assist him as subeditor. There is no denying that in its way La Question Sociale is a well written paper. It is much freer from personalities and denunciations of individuals than one would expect from an anarchist organ. Its articles are nearly all along editorials that are intense but not rabid. In none of them does the writer seem to have lost his self control. Many of them are cynical and sarcastic, rather than violent. Malatesta's stay in Paterson was long enough to learn the personnel of his admirers very thoroughly. He knew the capacities of each—how far each man's brain and nerve could be trusted for carrying out his share of the plot which the master mind was planning. Then Malatesta disappeared again. Anarchists say that he went to South America to look after the building colony of his followers in Buenos Ayres. But it is largely a matter of conjecture. It is quite as likely that he is living under an assumed name in Italy as that he is openly organizing anarchy in Argentina.

One day in the fall of 1899 a man walked into a little cafe in Macdonough street in New York and shook hands with the proprietor. The visitor was Malatesta, come back again to America.

FAMILIAR IN NEW YORK.

Refined Face Partly Hidden by His Slouch Hat.

For several months following, his refined face, partly hidden by his carelessly slouch hat, was a familiar figure on Brecker and Houston streets. He lived in lodging houses and 15 cent hotels, with the poorest of laborers. During the winter at a hall on Bleeker street, not far from Mills hotel No. 1, he delivered a series of lectures on anarchy to Italian workmen. The lectures constituted a regular course, to which the auditors subscribed by ticket. Malatesta conducted them with all the decorum and dignity of a college professor before his class. Thoughtful questions he answered, and he endeavored to make plain the hard points of anarchy. But there was no violent discussion, none of the ebullitions of ignorance which have always in the past marked anarchists' gatherings. Through the lectures Malatesta drew around him a small circle of men whom he understood better than they understood themselves, and whom he inspired with a burning desire to do something for anarchy. One of these was Gastano Bresci. In anarchist vernacular he was one of the humblest of proletarians, a weaver, 35 years old. He possessed that ignorant "little learning" which has been a "dangerous thing." He was the sort of man who has many limitations, but can do more things well—keep a secret and strike a blow. Bresci came to West Hoboken six years ago from Prato, a suburb of Florence. His parents were extremely poor, and his early education was so limited as is usually the case with children of the working class in Italian following the Meris tragedy a cable-cities. A brother of Bresci was a shoe-gram of congratulation was sent to the

maker; another, Angelo, entered the Italian army as a private, and by good conduct and devotion to duty rose to the rank of lieutenant. Bresci was an anarchist when he came to West Hoboken, and the letters of introduction he brought with him from Europe readily gained him admittance into the anarchist group of Paterson.

During his second year in America he was married by a justice of the peace to Sophia Knieland, an American of about his own age. He worked at his trade, first in West Hoboken and later in Paterson, up to the day he sailed for Italy to kill the king. During the week he boarded with some fellow anarchists in a hotel in Paterson. His Sundays he spent with his wife and child in their tenement house home in West Hoboken. In appearance Bresci was delicate even to the point of being consumptive looking; he was thin and sallow, and had the factory stoop of the shoulders. His mouth was firm and his lips thin and compressed. His eyes were small and bright. He spoke English only very imperfectly.

UNITED STATES AN ASYLUM.

Only Nominal Restriction to the Wildest Utterances.

In the present status of modern anarchy, England and the United States are the only asylums in the entire civilized world for men who believe the king killing philosophy. Without press censorship, with only a nominal restriction of their wildest utterances, anarchists find an opportunity for the spread of the propaganda in Great Britain and America, which is denied them elsewhere. Their creed has never yet in this country been the slightest hindrance to their earning a livelihood. They thoroughly realize this, and know that these favorable conditions would be reversed if American sentiment were once aroused by an attack on the chief executive of the nation. In a recent editorial on the death of Humbert, an anarchist paper in San Francisco said: "The anarchists are treated with sufficiently gross injustice, even in this country. But they are at least allowed the right of conducting a peaceful propaganda; and the consequence is that McKinley, hated and despised though he is, needs no body guard to protect him from the attacks of revolutionists. So, in it in Great Britain. No official there has ever been killed by an anarchist. England has adopted a comparatively liberal policy toward revolutionary propagandists, and is reaping the fruits of her wisdom in the security of her ruling class."

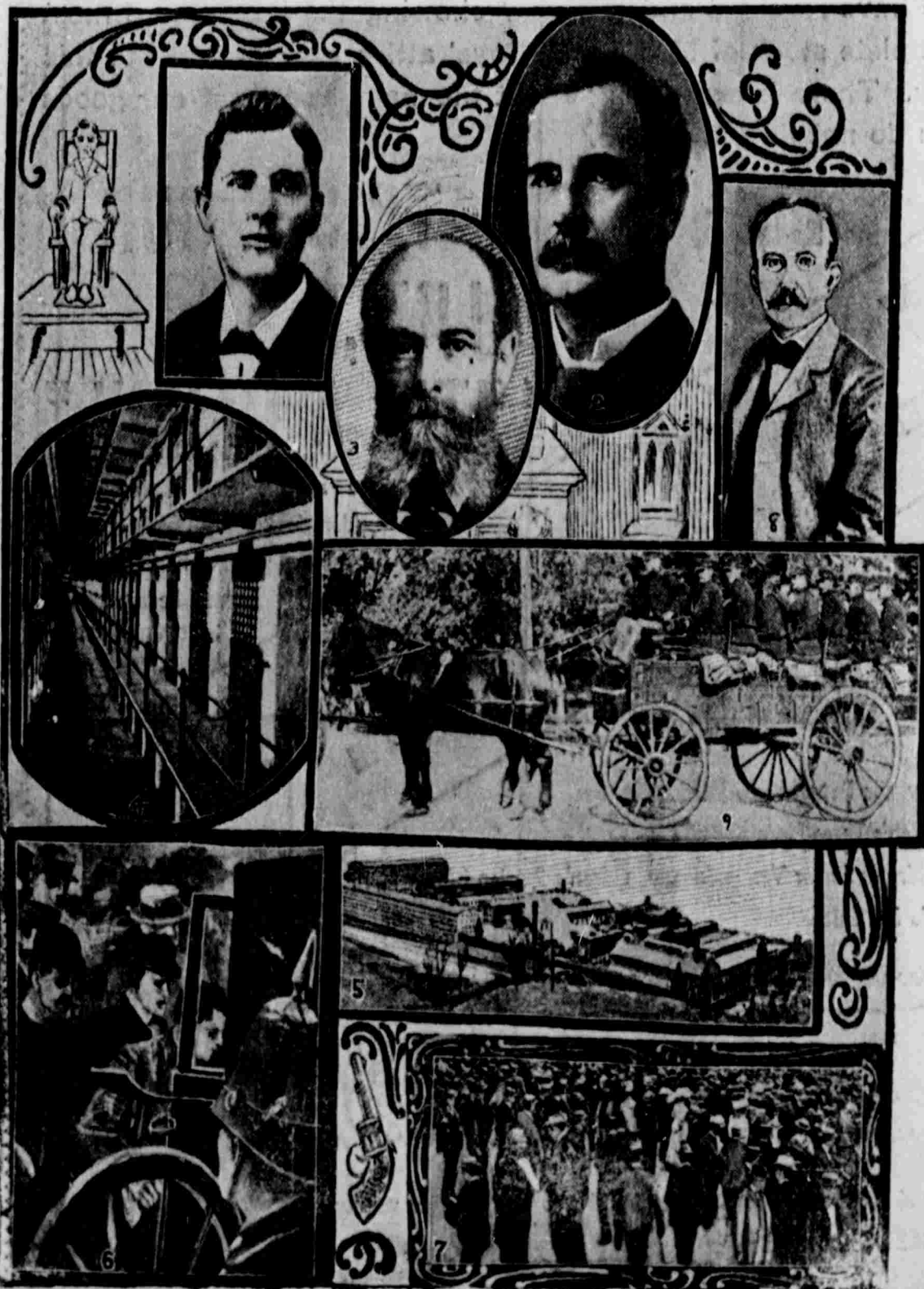
Enrico Malatesta, when last heard from, was living quietly over an Italian bakery in an obscure corner of London. The Italian foreign office is said to be making appeals to England to have him extradited and sent back to Italy by international courtesy.

PRACTICED WITH REVOLVER.

Carried Out His Plot to Kill the King of Italy.

It would be hard to imagine a plot more simple, or an instrument more obscure. It was without dynamite, secret rendezvous or cipher dispatches. Only a latter day zealot, carrying a cheap American revolver. But his obscurity and the plot's simplicity were his chief protection. Had the Italian secret service been forewarned of his intention they would have declared its accomplishment impossible. To a Mulberry street detective it would have seemed ridiculous. But Bresci, his aim perfected by practicing in Weehawken woods, carried out his mission, and killed the king in his carriage at Monza. The news that Bresci had realized the hopes with which they had bade him farewell in Paterson caused great rejoicing in the group there. On the day children of the working class in Italian following the Meris tragedy a cable-cities. A brother of Bresci was a shoe-gram of congratulation was sent to the

PERSONS AND PLACES PROMINENT IN TRIAL OF CZOLGOSZ.



The above photographs show persons and places prominent in the trial of Czolgosz. 1—Governor Ben C. Odell, of New York, who will sign his death warrant. 2—Dr. Mann, who operated on the distinguished victim. 3—The cell the condemned man will occupy. 4—The prison at Auburn, where he will be electrocuted. 5—The prisoner being taken from the court. 6—The crowd outside the Buffalo court house. 7—District Attorney Penny, prosecutor of Czolgosz. 8—Military patrol to protect prisoners. 9—Enrico Malatesta.

a place is almost a misapplication of terms. No one, not even the anarchists themselves, knows the reasons which cause his advent anywhere. For almost 29 years he has appeared among men of his creed in almost every large city of the world. His visits are sometimes short and sometimes prolonged into months and even years. After his purpose, whatever it may be, is accomplished he disappears again, perhaps not to be heard from for a long while, and he may then turn up in some distant corner of the globe.

MOST IMPORTANT FIGURE.

Enrico Malatesta, Silent, Cold and Plotting.

Enrico Malatesta is, without doubt, the most important figure in the anarchy of these latter days. He can not correctly be called either an agitator or a prophet, because he never appeals publicly for his cause. Silent, cold plotting, he is, rather, the living, working genius of anarchy itself. With these men whose lives are devoted to the destruction of all authority Malatesta's word is law. When he advises or suggests any ambitious member of an anarchist group throughout the world for some act of assassination, the man selected feels honored at the choice and becomes the object of his companions' envy. For him to weaken or show the slightest degree of hesitation would make him a coward to his own conscience and bring upon himself the death by secret assassination by which anarchists punish traitors. Malatesta is now about 40 years old. He is one of the very few anarchists who originated in southern Italy. He belongs to an old family whose legacy to him would have been wealth and social position, but Malatesta turned his back on the allurements that would have appealed to the ambition of most men.

GRADUATED WITH HONOR.

Family Disowned Him and Government Hunted Him.

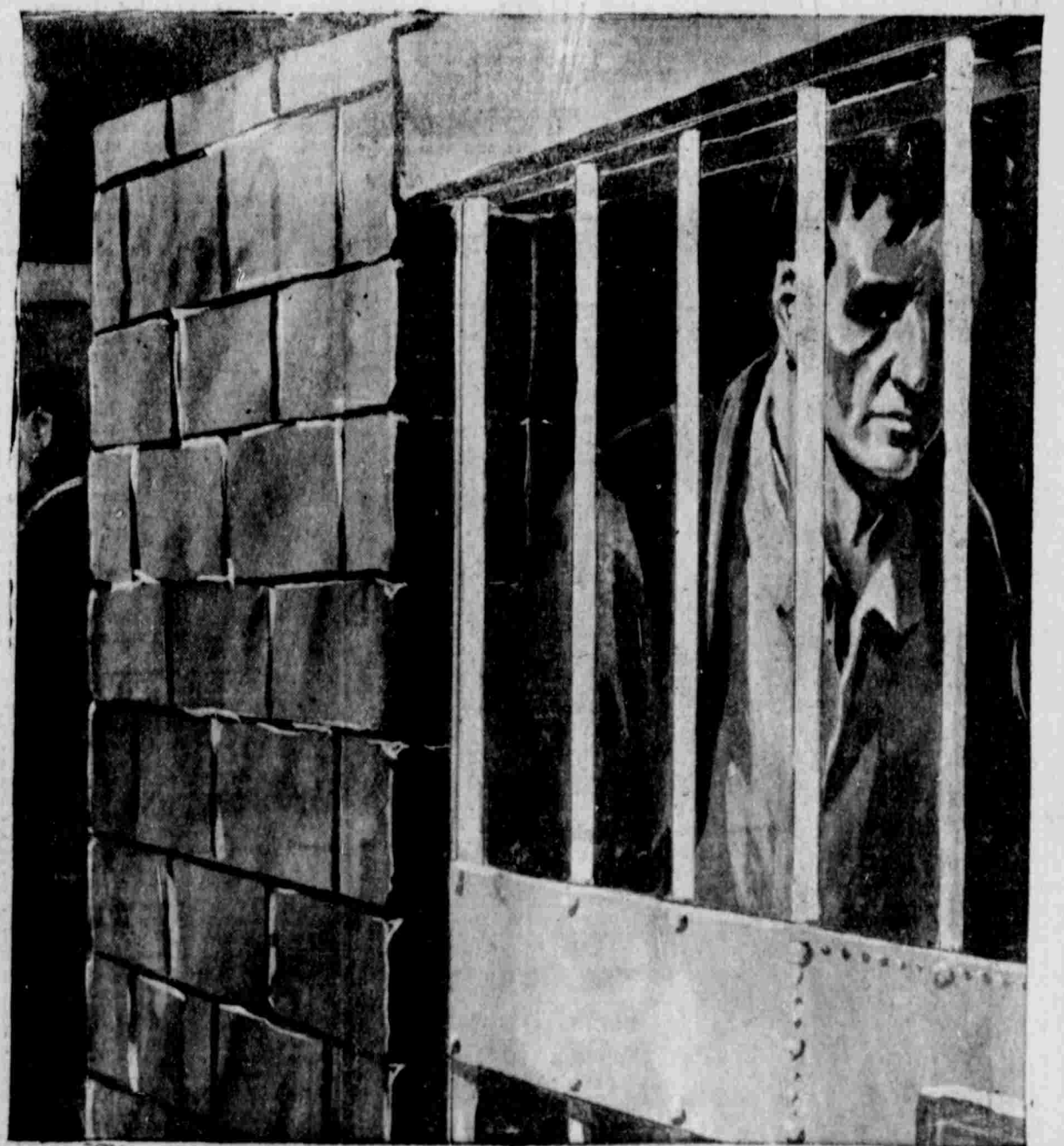
After graduating with honor from an Italian university, he became an anarchist. His family disowned him and the government hunted him. He was driven into exile and began the mysterious nomadic wanderings which he has continued ever since. As his power and influence grew among anarchists all over the world, he became dreaded and feared as much in other countries as in Italy. With the exception of England the appearance of Malatesta in any nation in Europe would at once be the signal for his immediate arrest and close imprisonment. Yet there is no doubt that, incoherent, he has lived for long periods in the capitals where he is dreaded as an evil spirit. He is known to have been a resident during the last five years of both France and Spain.

His residence anywhere is said by European detectives to be always followed by an attempt to kill the head of the nation. This may be something of an exaggeration, but there can be little doubt that Enrico Malatesta was the head and moving spirit of all the conspiracies which have recently startled the world by the awful success which attended their execution. Personally, he is quiet and reserved to the point of taciturnity. In manner he is mild

and gentle; his conversation in any of the several languages of which he is master, is that of an accomplished man of the world. He is described as having a very pleasant smile, but seldom laughs.

As at every previous move in his life,

CZOLGOSZ IN HIS PRISON CELL.



The above snapshot presents an interesting view of the wretched Czolgosz as he dejectedly peers through the bars of his prison cell. To the left of the picture the right figure of the grim jail guard may be seen. It is the refusal of these officials to hold converse with the unfortunate prisoner that does much toward driving him into a state of frenzy.