

hal fanatics, or, at the worst, the temporary explosion of criminal minorities and the great forces which, in the vast majority of men, make silently and beneficently for progress.

Wilkes Booth represented only a handful of conspirators, upheld by a public sentiment in the southern states whose cause they ignorantly believed themselves to be championing. Galtieri represented only himself. Caligula, like Cesare, Santo, Lucchini, Angelo Bressi and a host of others, represented the anarchists, an order which overthrows the civilized earth, to be sure, and whose baser elements preach the annihilation of princes and rulers, but who assert the principle of human autonomy and whose baser elements themselves leave the actual practice of their murderous precepts to individuals or to scattered bands of conspirators.

The assassination of the king and queen of Serbia belongs in a different category. To find an exact parallel in a civilized country one must go back to the declining years of the Roman empire, when, as in Serbia, it was the army which dethroned and murdered the rulers who had gained the hatred of their people. Later parallels in semi-civilized countries are the murders of Abdul-Aziz in the Turkey of the nineteenth century and of Peter III in the Russia of the eighteenth. These acts of violence had a definite object in view. They wrought a revolution. They accomplished—they changed the history of the world.

FOUNDED BY BLOOD.

The empire of Rome may be said to have been founded in blood. The assassination of Julius Caesar, the defeat of his enemies, Brutus, Cassius, and their co-conspirators, and the dissensions between his friends Antony and Octavius, culminated in the establishment of the latter as Augustus Caesar, Imperator.

Augustus died peacefully. But the story of the long line of Caesars who followed him is largely written in blood.

His five immediate successors, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero and Galba, came to violent ends. At staccato intervals thereafter the Praetorian Guards, who eventually became the real masters of Rome, rose against their nominal master, murdered him and bargained off the empire to a successor who was constantly in danger of a similar fate.

At last the line which began with one Augustus, terminated in another whose insignificance was indicated by the contemptuous diminutive of Augustulus and further emphasized when he was dismissed into pensioned obscurity instead of being condemned to penal mortality.

LINES OF TRAGEDY.

The story of the Romanoffs, dating from 1547, when Michael, the first of the line, was crowned czar of Russia, has been almost as full of tragedy as that of the Caesars. Peter the Great at the tender age of 10, escaped assassination only through his mother's intercession. His half sister, had determined that her own idiot brother, Ivan, should succeed to the throne. In pursuance of this object she asked the palace of Peter's maternal ancestors, but he and his mother, Natalia, found refuge in a sanctuary. Thither they were followed by a band of sacrilegious soldiers. One of them had actually drawn his sword upon the child when Natalia sprang forward and imperiously demanded how he dared kill his tsar. The soldier quailed and hesitated. That moment of hesitation saved Peter's life. The sound of approaching horsemen was heard outside. The soldiers turned and fled.

Peter had a great revenge upon Sophia when he came to the throne. He had her beautiful hair shaved clean away from her skull and confined her in a convent. Three conspirators communicated a plan of rescue to her. The letter was intercepted by Peter's spies. The three conspirators were seized and executed. An arm was severed from one of the corpses, the letter was thrust into its stiffened fingers and the hideous trophy was hung in Sophia's bedroom. Inured as she was to scenes of blood, this proved too much even for her iron nerves. Before the flesh had rotted from the bones she herself was in her grave.

After Sophia's death Peter's hate concentrated itself on his own son, Alexis. He forced him to marry a girl of low rank and later accused him of beating the unloved wife. The charge may have been true. But Peter was hardly the man to bring it. He was wont to exercise his own husbandly and imperial authority by beating his successive barrettes and the ladies of the court, to say nothing of kicking his generals downstairs. Alexis deemed it best to flee from Russia. Peter lured him back with promises, trumped up fresh charges against him, threw him into a dungeon, and then had him quietly and unobtrusively poisoned. Years afterward an officer of Peter's court divulged the secret.

FOUND DEAD.

On Peter's death, another son, Ivan Antonovich, then only three months old, became his successor. Thirteen months later, the child's elder sister, Elizabeth, who had inherited his features and some of the qualities of her ferocious sire, had herself proclaimed empress. One of her first acts was to thrust Ivan into prison. There he was kept for years and languished in despair, brando to destroy his intellect. He had a dim notion in his muddled brain that he ought to be tsar, and when, after Elizabeth's death, the usurper, Peter III, visited him, he naïvely remarked that some day he would become emperor and put all his enemies to death. That settled his fate. One morning Ivan was found lying in a pool of blood, his body pierced with 25 wounds.

Nemesis visited Peter in the shape of his wife, the formidable Catherine, known to posterity as the Great. She lamed the popular discontent

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against her husband for his servility to Frederick of Prussia and his general lack of patriotism. A conspiracy, headed by Catherine's admirer, Alexis Orloff, was formed among the nobles. Peter was dethroned and cast into prison. His wife was proclaimed as Catherine II. She promptly dispatched Orloff to poison her husband. Peter detected the drug in a glass of wine that Orloff had given him. Refusing to drink a second glass, Orloff strangled him on July 17, 1762.

Catherine's son and successor, Paul III, was a dangerous man. Again the nobles of the palace conspired against their tsar. They forced an entrance to his bedroom, found that he had flown, followed him to his refuge, pinned him to the floor, and while one of the Zuboffs broke his arms with a club others ran his body through with their swords. Finally he was strangled.

MURDER NO MORE.

Since that time the Romanoffs have refrained from assassinating members of their own family. Outsiders took up the job they had relinquished. Repeated attempts were made upon the life of Alexander II, the present tsar's grandfather. He was shot at in Paris in 1867; he was shot at in his own capital in 1879. In the latter year a train in which he was supposed to be traveling was blown up by an elaborate mine beneath the railroad track. In 1889 a destructive explosion by dynamite occurred in the imperial apartments in the Winter palace at St. Petersburg. Once more the tsar was absent. Early in the next year the world was shocked by the news that the Nihilists had succeeded in their plots, and that Alexander II was dead.

He had been assassinated by the explosion of a bomb while driving from the parade to the Winter palace, on Sunday, March 13, 1881. Grinevsky, the man who threw the fatal bomb, was killed in the explosion, but several of his fellow conspirators were arrested and put to death or sent to Siberia.

PLOTS THAT FAILED.

It is remarkable how many attempted assassinations have failed, even when they have been planned by expert and resolute men. The two Napoleons, uncle and nephew, were many times saved by what seemed the direct interposition of Providence. As early as 1800 Damiensville and 24 of his accomplices were arrested the day before the execution of their well planned plot to kill the first consul. In the same year a bomb burst in the Rue Nivaise 40 seconds before Bonaparte was expected to pass the spot.

In 1804 Moreau, Pichegru and George Cadoudal were arrested for conspiring against Napoleon. Cadoudal alone was proved guilty. In 1807 a Protestant clergyman, Frederick Slaby, walked up to the emperor, dagger in hand, and was only prevented from plunging it into his heart by the rapid interposition of a soldier of the guard. Napoleon ordered Slaby a pardon, which he refused, saying that he would never rest until he had accomplished his object.

Napoleon III escaped almost miraculously from the knife of Greppo, the revolver of Planier and the bombs of Orsini. Planier's attempt was made in 1857. He actually seized the bride of the emperor's horse, in the Champ Elysees, despite the presence of a contingent bodyguard of innumerable police agents in citizens' clothes, and fired a pistol in Napoleon's face. The muzzle was so close that the shot burned the mustache, but missed its aim, although Planier was reputed one of the best shots in Europe.

Orsini's attempt and its failure recall the failure of a similar attempt which Fieschi planned against Louis Philippe in 1835. The king, followed by his son and a brilliant staff, was reviewing the troops on the boulevards when a loud report shook the houses, and immediately the ground around him was strewn with dead and wounded, among them Marshal Mortier, Duc de Trevis.

The king and his sons were unhurt. Fieschi was arrested in the little yard of an adjoining house, whence he fired a succession of rifle shots through the blinds of the third story. He was taken, tried, sentenced and executed, with his accomplices.

Another striking instance was presented by young Blind's attempt upon the life of Prince Bismarck. Blind was an expert marksman—he had won the Wimbledon cup—yet, though he discharged the six chambers of his revolver while grappling with the German chancellor, none of them took effect.

In England Queen Victoria escaped from no less than five attacks upon her life, and King Edward, when



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Prince of Wales, from an attack made in Belgium. In Rome Pope Pius IX. barely avoided the gun of a man hidden behind the horses of Emperor William I. was fired at by a Prussian soldier in the unrelenting of the colonial states of Germany. In Spain Queen Isabella was wounded in the arm by the knife of the priest Merino, who aimed at her heart as she was going in state to return thanks at the sanctuary of Atocha for the birth of the son who subsequently "usurped" her throne. In Spain again, in the Call Alcala, a Madril, a ruffian, whose name was never ascertained and whose chief was killed on the spot by a detective, fired in 1872 into the carriage containing King Amadeus and his queen. In Austria Emperor Francis Joseph miraculously escaped the dagger of an assassin. A votive chapel was erected in Vienna on the spot as a mark of thanksgiving to Providence.

Living at an out of the way place, remote from civilization, a family is often driven to desperation in case of accident, resulting in Burns, Cuts, Wounds, Ulcers, etc. Lay in a supply of Buckle's Arnica Salve. Its the best on earth. 25c, at Z. C. M. I. Drug Store.

EXTRAORDINARY CASES.

With the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, on April 14, 1865, there began an extraordinary series of successful assassinations, which have progressed almost a geometrical ratio up to our day.

Michael, prince of Serbia, was mortally wounded on June 28, 1879; George Pym of Spain, on Dec. 28, 1879; George Danby, archbishop of Paris (by the Communists) on May 24, 1871; the Earl of Mayo, governor general of India, on Feb. 8, 1872; Sultan Abdul-Aziz, on June 1, 1876; President Garfield at Washington, on July 2, 1881; Lord Frederick Cavendish and T. H. Burke, in Phoenix park, Dublin, on May 6, 1882; President Carnot of France, at Lyons, in 1894; Stefan Stambuloff, in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 1895; Empress Elizabeth of Austria, at Geneva in 1898; King Humbert of Italy, at Monza, in 1900; and President McKinley, at Buffalo, N. Y., in 1901.

Of all of these the murder of the Sul-

tan Abdul-Aziz, as already noted, bore the closest resemblance to the crimes that have now sent a thrill of horror through civilization. That act (if it was indeed a murder, which has never been proved) has a distinct political motive. Until the downfall of Napoleon III, the Second Empire had been Turkey's main reliance. After Sedan the rival Russian influence became all powerful at Constantinople. When the revenues were so low as barely to pay interest on the public debt, a revolt began in Herzegovina (1875), and soon extended to Russia. An imperative demand of the powers for radical reforms was embodied in the "Andrassy note" (Dec. 20, 1875), and the progressive constitutional party ("Young Turkey") demanded the sultan's abdication.

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Aside from the size and importance of the building itself, the erection of the new station for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railways on Van Buren Street, Chicago, has been of great interest because of the dispatch with which the work has been carried on. The specifications of the station were placed in the hands of the contractors in the fall of 1901. The original plans called for an eight-story office structure, to occupy a frontage of 215 feet on Van Buren street, and to extend south 157 feet, beyond which the concourse and trainshed were to be built to Harrison street, a distance of 625 feet. The original plan was changed somewhat, the office building now being 12 stories high.

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