

Edited by SCOTLAND LIDDELL.

UNIMAGINABLE BOLSHEVIK  
HORRORS.

## WHAT THREE IRISH WOMEN SAW IN KIEFF.

The following telegram has been received from Reuter's special correspondent with General Denikin's army at Kieff under dates Sept. 11 and Sept. 7.

Sept. 11. The figure of 4000 Bolsheviki victims at Kieff is evidently much below the total. More corpses are constantly being found in various parts of the city, mostly in cellars, and are often revealed by the stench. Some were found in the Bolsheviki war commissariat. Two Bolsheviki leaders remaining in Kieff, disguised, were arrested in the street. They were overheard saying in English that they had made a great mistake in not burning the corpses, thereby destroying the evidence of wholesale killing and avoiding a foreign outcry.

Three sisters Eva, May, and Eileen Healy, daughters of the ex-M. P. Thomas Healy, and nieces of the ex-M. P. Tim Healy are among the forty or so Britishers who remained in Kieff during the last six months of Bolshevism. They furnished me with the following statement.

"We, three liberty-loving Irish girls working for our living, with no brief for the old régime in Russia, knew its weakness, faults, and crimes and rejoiced when it was overthrown and when freedom seemed to be won. But freedom was short-lived, and the autocracy of the Romanoffs, with all its evils, was Paradise compared to the Bolshevism Hell, now, thank God, nearing its end. When the Bolsheviki proclaimed that the British workers threatened to strike if Britain interfered in Russian affairs, we knew that, if this were true, there could not be a conception in Britain of the unspeakable horrors of Bolshevism, with its slaughter-houses in which thousands of the best Russian workmen and peasants have perished with the cream of all other classes of society. How we longed for representatives of our people to come to Russia and see for themselves what was being done in the name of liberty and equality!

"Our first experience of Bolsheviki liberty in Kieff was in 1918 when over 3,000 officers were shot, their only crime being in having defended their country against the Germans. We saw long rows of corpses, clad in under-

linen, in the square facing the Palace, inside which drunken Jews were playing the cakewalk on the piano and their drunken female comrades were dancing and capering.

"The last six months, when the majority of the Kieff Chresvychaika were always under the influence of drink and drugs, have transcended any imaginable awfulness. In every Chresvychaika, huge heaps of empty spirit and wine bottles with scores of morphine and cocaine bottles were found. The members of the chief Chresvychaika sat before a cage of wooden bars reaching to the ceiling. The prisoners were marched through the cage to be reviled and receive the death sentence. They were afterwards stripped naked and carted off to the slaughterhouses.

## Champagne and Crucifixion.

"The proceedings of another Chresvychaika were conducted in the open air of a beautiful garden, the "judges" sprawling over a table, and pronouncing death sentences wholesale with intervals of champagne swilling. Among the exhumed bodies was that of a young woman with a child two or three years old tied to her. Both were shot in the head. A Sister of Mercy, named Martinova, accused of sheltering officers, was violated and had her breast cut off before being killed.

"A lady, over sixty, imprisoned in one of the Chresvychaika, was taken out on several successive nights, placed against a wall and shots fired all round her head to extract from her the whereabouts of an officer's son which she did not know. She was finally murdered. Similar barbarities, including the crucifixion of a priest, could be enumerated. The Bolsheviki explained that all such deeds were committed for strategical purposes.

"When armed Bolsheviki ruffians robbed us of our clothes and linen, and even of a few flower-pots, the leader said it was done in pursuance of Bolsheviki strategy. As a matter of fact, articles pillaged in the houses usually found their way to the markets a few hours after the visitations. The chief guilt of Russia's bloody era falls on the trio, Lenin, Trotsky, and Peters, who did not lose any opportunity of fanning the lowest criminal instincts into

flames which they hope will devour all capable of working for the regeneration of Russia."

I heard in many quarters high praise of the courage displayed by the Misses Healy in hiding officers and others from Bolsheviki blood-suckers whom they defied, again and again, in the name of their nationality. The Misses Healy hope to start for England shortly.

## Burning Sealing-wax Tortures.

Dr. Trachtmann, who superintended the post-mortem examination after exhumation, told me that many gravepits contained large pieces of human flesh which did not belong to the victims buried therein, but were tracked from other tortured persons. Dr. Trachtmann added that all accounts agreed that the executioners were nearly always extravagantly gay, especially when they had devised any new Satanism. Several officer prisoners had burning sealing-wax and metal poured down their shoulders. It is positively stated that the condemned in one of the Chresvychaika were made to swallow the brains of the previous victims. Some doctors and Red Cross sisters were slaughtered, among the latter was Mademoiselle Chaikowsky who was laid flat on the ground and shot in the head. The conditions of imprisonment were worse than the black hole of Calcutta. Three hundred were crushed in a standing posture into quite a small room.

As showing up the proceedings of Bolsheviki, Dr. Trachtmann said they were searching for a Pole, named Jeromsky, and murdered five persons by the name of Jeromsky who were unconnected with the Jeromsky sought after. Similarly, in the case of a "wanted" professor Petrovsky, who strikingly resembles the late English actor Sir Arthur Bancroft, the professor was not found, but four other Petrovskys, not in the least resembling the Petrovsky "wanted", were arrested and executed.

## Cannon-Ball Crusher Tortures.

Sept. 7.—Kieff, "the mother of Russian cities" suffered more than most other cities from the Bolsheviki. Peters of Sydney Street notoriety saw to that. He came to Kieff to superintend the organisation of the butcheries and found a congenial spirit in another Lett named Latzitz, President of the Ukrainian Chresvychaika.

I visited numbers of the slaughter-houses. In one was a square hole in

the blood-drenched floor. While one batch of victims was killed and then thrown down into the cellar, another batch was driven in.

In another slaughter house was a rough executioner's block on which some victims, bound so that they could not move, lay face upwards with a large cannon-ball suspended directly above their head through a hole in the ceiling. The cannon-ball was suddenly dropped periodically within a few inches of the face. When the torturers were tired of this they allowed the cannon-ball to crush the face.

Lieutenant Shumensky was crucified, fire being simultaneously lighted under his feet. Several victims were placed in cauldrons and water slowly heated to boiling point in order to extract information.

## The Women Executioners.

Anti-Jewish feeling is so high in connection with the Chresvychaika that it looked at one time as if pogroms were unpreventable. General Bredoft, Military Governor, however, issued the sternest warnings against pogroms and sent detachments of troops to the Jewish quarter of the city.

Several of the Chresvychaika Bolsheviki are now confined pending trial, including the examining magistrate. Fully half of them are women and girls. I myself saw among them one Jewish girl of about 17 years old. These Bolsheviki women were quite as ruthless as the men, their fiendishness being particularly directed against officers whom they used to shoot from the knees upwards to the shoulders.

General Maievsky, C. in C. of the Western front, this afternoon reviewed the victorious troops. Many British uniforms were to be seen. Some British officers and a party of American Red Cross had a splendid reception, Maievsky calling for three cheers for the British. Volunteers are flocking to General Denikin's colours, 177,000 having come in two days.

Towards the end of the occupation many of the Chinese mercenaries of the Bolsheviki, sick of the appalling bloodshed, refused to carry out the executions and the Bolsheviki shot 25 of them.

According to Swiss reports a Jugo-Slavian delegation will depart for America in order to propagate there a Jugo-Slavian Fiume. Delegation, it is said, will be supported by American bankers interested.

# EDITORIAL.

## Kutais.

Last Sunday we spent a day in Kutais—a day of sheer delight. Never before have we been amidst such beautiful scenery. The town of Kutais is really a garden and as for the surrounding country, mere words cannot express how perfectly wonderful it is. We really had a very crowded day, and we cannot do better than tell you all about it—beginning, of course, at the beginning, which was in Tiflis itself.

## Saturday Night.

On the Saturday night we were a little tired and we felt that we must get away from our writing for a little, so we went down to the Georgian Club. Alas! the summer is almost over and we found the Club already preparing for the colder weather. The tables in the open air had all been taken indoors. Parts of the Club were being closed up until another summer. The theatre was already shut and it was altogether depressing. We sadly left: sadly we walked into the street again. Who should we meet but the long lost Mr. Ghambashidze! "Come with me to Kutais", said he, and we were in such a frame of mind that we would even have gone to Erivan (where we are told we would not be welcome!) so we immediately said "All right". Half an hour later we were at the station: an hour later, at 11—30 p. m., we were already off to Kutais.

## Sunday Morning.

After an excellent sleep in a most comfortable, clean coupé, we arrived at Rion before 8 a. m.. We had travelled through a wonderful fertile valley, past great fields of maize, past orchards and vineyards, past great tracts of land already ploughed for the sowing of the winter wheat. We had tea at Rion, then we went in another train to Kutais, where we arrived soon after eight. We breakfasted at the station, but our breakfast was not the conventional English one. Instead we had toasted goats' milk cheese and stewed chicken and tomatoes. (We tell you all the details so that you can understand what a great day we had).

## The Barber's Shop.

The station barber's saloon had been crowded on our arrival, but after breakfast we went to have a shave. Imagine the scene, there-

fore: Mr. Ghambashidze in one chair, and ourselves in another, with a little crowd of station loiterers at the window arguing as to whether we were English or Italian or from America. Then Ghambashidze, *deshabile*, having his morning scrub at the barber's tap and ourselves busy cleaning our boots...

## On Bishop's Mountain.

We attended service at the Cathedral then drove to the top of the Bishop's Mountain to take some photographs. The town stretched out beneath us—a wonderfully lovely town with the swift Rion river running through it. Every house seemed to have its own garden with its own pomegranate trees and its Indian corn and vines and other fruits. We saw the ruins of the old cathedral on the hill and we admired the wonderful stone carving on the walls. We saw the school where Mr. Ghambashidze attended as a boy, and we talked politics with the old man who used to be the school porter. Then we visited another church and then we went to a little lonely graveyard amidst trees at the top of the hill where we attended a brief memorial service beside two graves....

## The Metropolitan.

Afterwards we visited the Metropolitan of Kutais, a charming old man whose house commanded the splendid view of the town and the surrounding mountains. Then we had lunch in a restaurant overlooking the river, visited the fruit market, bought some native pottery, and set out in a phaeton for the Gaenatsky Monastery. For a time we drove along a road that followed the winding river, then we commenced to wind our way up over the hills. Then down into another valley before climbing up again to the beautiful monastery.

## The Gaenatsky Monastery.

The monastery was built in the ninth century. It is a wonderful place, full of sacred pictures and ikons that are quite priceless. An elderly monk entertained us in his simple rooms to a glass of native wine, made by himself, and to maize bread and goats'-milk cheese. He invited us to remain for a few days—and we would dearly have liked to accept the invitation. Indeed, we promised him that whenever we were free to take a holiday we would certainly

return to the monastery to spend a little time. It was such a lovely spot. The old buildings and the lawn in the centre of the monastery: the valley below and the hills beyond, blue-grey, with the setting sun turning all the sky to flame red: the air and the peace and the calm. One had the wish to remain in the monastery far from all newspapers and from all news until the time when the world should recover from its madness.

## The Return.

Back to Kutais in the fading light. Past an old mill into which we went to see the maize being ground to flour: past peasant's cottages and tiny little farms: past woods where chestnuts and figs were growing in profusion: past vineyards and tobacco fields. And so to Kutais where the lamps were already lit and where their lights were pricking out in the darkness. Supper at a clergyman's house—then to the station in time to get the midnight train to Tiflis. Tired and contented with impressions that will never fade. Memories of beautiful valleys and high hills: of lovely blue-eyed little girls and boys: of fertile fields and woods: and of great hospitality and kindness from all we met. And this was the "lawless" Georgian country! All was perfectly quiet and at peace, and what is very significant is the fact that we never saw a policeman or a man with a gun the whole time.

## An Apology.

We had such a great day that we find we must apologise for our very poor description of it. Words are so poor to express nature at her loveliest. If one could fill one's pen with the colours of the fields and woods and mountains and sky.... But even then one could not do justice to the scenes. If you, the reader, have not been to Kutais, go now before the winter comes. It is very convenient to travel there. You leave Tiflis at 11-30 at night, arrive soon after 8 in the morning, spend a whole day there, leave on the return journey at midnight, and arrive back again in Tiflis at 9 in the morning. If you can get Mr. Ghambashidze to go along with you, so much the better. He is an enthusiast, and he has the gift of inspiring one with his enthusiasm.

## Autumn.

The days are shortening: soon we will have the long nights of late autumn and winter here again. Soon, too, we will have the

anniversary of the Armistice, yet the world is not very much nearer peace than it was a year ago. Denikin is nearer Moscow, but he is still a long way off. The Russian question cannot be decided this year. The Fiume pot is boiling over and events are far from reassuring in that part of the world. There is as yet no word of the Turkish terms of peace, and as yet there is no final decision regarding the future of the Caucasian states. We know the enormous amount of work and the enormous difficulties that the Peace Conference has. Georgians can, anyway, congratulate themselves that their country is at peace and that they are escaping all the horrors that Russia is undergoing now.

S. L.

## General Harbord's Letter.

General Headquarters—American Expeditionary Forces—American Military Mission.

On Board U. S. S., "Martha", Washington, October 7, 1919.

Mr. Noe Jordania, Prime Minister of Georgia, Tiflis, Georgia.

My dear Mr. Minister.

My visit to your city and government leaves me with no regret except for your unfortunate illness which deprived me of the pleasure of meeting you.

I received your message at the hands of Mr. Ghambashidze and beg to thank you for the sentiments therein expressed.

I very much enjoyed meeting the Georgian people socially on two occasions, and my interviews with your ministers was most interesting and profitable from the standpoint of our mission. I trust that your health will soon permit you to resume your duties.

Asking you to convey to my colleagues my gratitude for many courtesies received from your people and my appreciation of their interest shown in the work of our mission, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours, J. G. Harbord  
Major-General, U. S. A.

## France to S. Russia Air Mail.

Paris, October 3.—The service of organization in view of establishing communication by air with southern Russia and the Caucasus will be inaugurated on Sunday next when the first mail for Kieff will leave Paris. The new aerial service is a private enterprise. The postage for a letter is 1 franc. The pilot, a Russian airman called Fedoroff, will carry over 30 letters on the voyage.

# "WHAT WAS MISSING"

## Armenian Newspaper's Reply to "Georgian Mail" Article.

Under the heading of "What was missing", the Tiflis "Ashkhatavor", which is evidently the little brother of the Erivan "Ashkhatavor", publishes an article regarding our leading article of October 8. Here is what it says:

"Long ago we were used to the fact that Russian newspapers of a certain type, such as "Novoe Vremia" and "Moskovskia Vedomosti", and other different publicists of the "Black Hundred" such as Menshikov, Velitchko and "tutti quanti", made endless attacks on the Armenian people, heaping on their heads all kinds of fantastic political aspirations and plans regarding their neighbours and the Russian government. Those accusations were well-known to all—Armenia as far as Rostov-on-Don", "Great Armenia within the bounds of Russia", and so on.

"After the great Russian revolution and the fall of the Tsarism regime, we felt sure that we were saved for ever from that type of press and pressmen who were living and feeding on the sins of Tsarism.

"But it is true that after the establishment of the Trans-Caucasian republics certain organs of the Georgian and also of the Azerbaidjan press renewed these attacks but in this case the attacks were directed not straight against the Armenian people but against a certain party, namely, Dashnaktzutun, knowing well that this party is the true representative of the Armenian people's aspirations and the devoted defender of their needs. These papers knew that by their continual attacks and by their propaganda for the persecution of the Dashnaktzutun they were indirectly kicking the Armenian people.

"But we must confess that the Georgian and Azerbaidjan papers in all their accusations never went so far as to remind us of the insinuations of the notorious Menshikovs and Velitchkos.

"This honour has been kept, to our great surprise, for an English publicist, Scotland Liddell, who is now the editor of the Georgian newspaper, "The Georgian Mail".

"This editor has already been in Tiflis a long time, and in his official position in the English staff as director of the Press Bureau is known to our office. He sometimes tried to refute the different wrong communications in the Armenian press and to make various suggestions to newspapers. Not satisfied with this modest role, he soon appeared as the editor of the 4th. page (in English) of the "Tiflis Gazette". During this time he became the object of a very strong attack from the part of the Georgian paper "Groussia", against which he wrote very hard words in the pages of his paper. At

this time he never said or wrote in his paper a single unfavourable word about the Armenian people.

"But the evolution of that editor was going on and about two months ago he took up the position of editor of the "Georgian Mail". And in the latest number (10) of that paper the English editor has shown his true colours.

"He has re-printed in his paper a leading article from "Aiastani Ashkhatavor" which appeared about a month ago in the hardest days that Armenia has had to live, when the Turko-Tartar forces and the Kurdish bands were attacking from all sides and the English troops were hastily evacuating the country. One can understand that in such hard conditions the said paper allowed itself to pronounce bitter words against the English High Command which the same paper would never have used in other circumstances.

"But one must not forget that the paper directs all its attacks against the local English command, never saying a word or giving a hint against the English government or especially against the English people. The paper, as well as we ourselves are, is sure that the English government and especially the English people will treat this case in quite another way and just by this very article the paper makes a kind of appeal to the conscience of the great English nation and to their government which expresses their will.

"This being so, we cannot understand the position taken by the local English editor and his strange articles.

"To this question he has devoted in the "Georgian Mail" two long articles which occupy two whole pages of the paper. Well—the things that he does not utter against "Dashnaks" and Armenians on this occasion... "Instead of urging their fellow-countrymen to live in peace with their Tartar neighbours and to await such a time as the Peace Conference would settle the many questions in dispute, many Armenian leaders, Dashnaks and others, incite the people against the Mussulmans".

"The matter has come to such a pitch that this editor says such things as we have never heard even from our worst enemies.

"Armenian leaders", says he, "have a foolish idea that wherever there are Armenians there must be Armenian laws and none other. And their dreams of the future great Armenia so far run away with them that they have the idea of an Armenia with an outlet on three seas—the Black, the Caspian and the Mediterranean. If such an Armenia as they have in mind ever be established, there would be a population

of which only three per cent or so would be Armenian".

"And declaring such strange ideas, the author has still the insolence to accuse the Armenian press and to call upon the Armenian government to restrain such papers and to limit to a certain extent the freedom of the press in Armenia".

### Our Comments.

Now, there is something in this "reply" that reminds us of the idiotic French grammars of our schoolboy's days. You must surely know the books we refer to? "Have you the pen of my aunt?" says the question, and the answer is, "No, but here is the pen-knife of the gardener". Or else the question in the book is, "Is the son of the uncle diligent?", to which the grammar gives as the response, "Yes, but Charles has two pears and three good apples". For really this article of "Ashkhatavor" is no reply at all. Just consider what we wrote and what "Ashkhatavor" has published. We wrote that the provoking attack made on the British policy by the "Aiastani Ashkhatavor" was absolutely false and untrue. The Tiflis "Ashkhatavor" ignores all this and confines itself to several irrelevant remarks, some of them untrue, about attacks on Armenians, etc., and to a few paragraphs about our own personal history.

We hesitate to give any advice to the "Ashkhatavor" staff, but we feel that we must make a few plain statements which they may or may not care to take to heart. The first is that in any newspaper controversy the most important matter is to be sure of one's facts. And the second thing is to stick to the point. Truth is the real important thing. There is no gainsaying a plain statement of fact. But when one writes even so much as a single lie one is immediately lost: the whole story falls down. Moreover, the writing of an untrue statement immediately gives one's opponent an opening to attack. As regards sticking to the subject in question little need be said beyond remarking that when one is talking about an article against the British policy being totally untrue and false from beginning to end, it is idle to reply by referring to the "long ago" and to former Moscow newspapers and to the "strange evolution of an English editor".

Let us now point out where "Ashkhatavor" fails to write the truth. The Erivan newspaper, as we stated two weeks ago, said this: "It is not to be believed that the British Generals in Trans-Caucasia act not in accordance with their Government. Undoubtedly they are fulfilling the projects which are fore-designed by the whole of the British policy. During many months the Commanders-in-chief of the British forces in Trans-Caucasia, Generals Thomson, Walker, Cory and Beach, have carried out according to the instructions of their Government secret negotiations with Azerbaidjan

leaders about the formation of an independent Azerbaidjan under a British protectorate. Etc., etc."

In its defence of its Erivan brother the Tiflis "Ashkhatavor" says, "One must not forget that the paper... never says a word or gives a hint against the English government".

Comment is unnecessary: our readers can compare these two statements for themselves.

Then again, in reference to ourselves, "During this time he became the object of a very strong attack from the part of the Georgian paper "Groussia"... Well, well... The "Groussia" is dead: *de mortuis*, etc. And again, "He never said or wrote in his paper a single unfavourable word about the Armenian people". Of course we did not! And we have never written a single unfavourable word about the Armenian people in the "Georgian Mail" either. But we have written against the agitating Dashnaks and we have written against the stupid provocateurs who are continually harming the Armenian cause by their stupid and lying propaganda. And in the "Tiflis Gazette" (№ 87) of April 30 we wrote very many unfavourable words about the Tiflis "Ashkhatavor" as the editor of that paper knows very well.

It was the Tiflis "Ashkhatavor" that published an alleged interview that President Jordania had with General Thomson, in which the latter was said to have declared that the Peace Conference did not recognise the Caucasian republics and that they would all go back to Russia again. "Ashkhatavor" then went on to say that Mr Jordania begged General Thomson not to let this be known as it would cause great unrest amongst the people, etc. But "Ashkhatavor" published the whole pack of lies! Shall we remind "Ashkhatavor" what we said on this occasion in our article in the "Tiflis Gazette"?... We said that the editor who allowed this false and provoking statements to appear in his paper was either a fool or a knave—or both. We have nothing further to add to these words.

Finally, we cannot believe that the Dashnaktzutun party is the "true representative of the Armenian people's aspirations and the devoted defender of their needs". Surely Armenia has suffered quite enough in the past without this! And as for the fact that we have had the "insolence to accuse the Armenian press and to call upon the Armenian government to restrain such papers", we have only to state that the Erivan "Ashkhatavor" is closed.

We leave the matter at that.

President Wilson's condition still gives cause for anxiety. It is believed that he is resting to avoid apoplexy and it is added that he has slight facial paralysis. One American senator, a friend of the president, says that it is even possible that Wilson's active career is ended.

## ROBBERY AND TERROR IN ODESSA.

### How a Briton was Treated by the Bolsheviks.

The following extracts are taken from a letter dated Odessa Sept. 14th written by a representative of large British interests there who had lived through the Bolshevik regime. The extracts give a vivid idea of the tyranny of terror and exactions which was established in the city by the Bolsheviks.

\* \* \*  
You say that you are wondering how I am getting on. I must say that it is a surprise to me that I am still on my legs. It is absolutely impossible in a letter to give you even an idea of what I have gone through. It would take long days to tell.

The day after the Bolsheviks entered Odessa, I was arrested as a British spy and for trying to protect British interests. Money got me off. Next, a contribution of 500,000 Roubles was demanded and I was arrested again for refusing to pay it. I paid 50,000 and a bribe besides and got free again for a while. Then began the real troubles. For 20 weeks I was either in hiding or locked in prison in the "chresvichaika". Not a single night did I spend in my house. Many a night I spent in the Store, locked outside, and many days I went without food and drink.

With revolvers at my head the Bolsheviks demanded that I should tell them where the 800,000 pounds sterling were which I brought from England. They came to search our premises every other day and laid their hands on anything they could carry away. We were robbed of money and goods by the simplest methods of "highway robbery". The total sum of contributions imposed on our firm was over two million roubles. I got the sum down to 650,000 roubles on the condition that I should pay it within 24 hours. Otherwise the sum was to be doubled, I was to be arrested and shot and the whole of the firm's property as well as my personal property was to be confiscated.

I had to submit, but this did not relieve my troubles. On account of the big sum of contribution that I had paid I was put on the list of "Noted Persons" and was arrested as a hostage. I was amongst those who were to be shot. Once I got away by bribery and a second time I was allowed to go by a Bolshevik mistake as they had on their list the name of the firm instead of mine.

On Friday night, the eve of their departure, the Bolshevik assistant commandant came personally to my house with a polite invitation from the commandant. I did not accept. Seventy-five people were invited in the same way and every one of them was shot on the Saturday morning when the *dobrovol'sky* troops came in. We had to submit to any and every demand

for goods and whenever we refused the goods were either taken by force or I was arrested.

This will, I believe, be enough information for you for a start. When the troubles began I could have run away, but if I had done so, no button would have been saved, not to speak of my children whom I could not leave behind. As it is, I managed to save a lot and to secure proper evidence of what was robbed. I have paid heavily for it with my health and nerves. I am totally broken down. People generally—and the Bolsheviks themselves—were surprised how calmly I stood every thing and how reservedly I talked to the rascals. They provoked me many a time and one careless expression or a loud word would have settled me. Thanks to your British schooling, I stood everything and all insults and assaults with the nerves of a real Briton.

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The letter concludes with a vivid picture of the state of affairs under Bolshevism in Odessa, where corruption increased and morals sank to a very low level.

This letter is written by a man who can be absolutely trusted not to exaggerate. He has represented British interests in Odessa for years and his description of his personal sufferings and of the wholesale robbery of British property by the Bolsheviks ought to give some pro-Bolsheviks something to think about.

## Don Province Money.

### The Question Of Its Validity In Georgia.

Mr. Gegetchkori, the Georgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, sent the following note to Mr. Oliver Wardrop, the British Chief Commissioner in Trans-Caucasia, on October 11:

"Your Excellency. In a report of October 8, the Governor-General of the zone of expropriation of the Georgian railways says the following: On October 8 to the station Kobulethi came Colonel Kuviazev, a Russian by nationality, chief of the Kintrish district, and presented to the cashier a 25-rouble note of the Don province. The lady cashier, Kobahidze, and the station-master, Tsintsabadze, stated that they could not accept this money as it was not valid currency in the Georgian republic. Evidently this explanation did not satisfy Kuviazev, who, having surrounded the ticket-office with his armed guards, gave orders to arrest the

cashier and the station-master, and insulted them as well as some other officials.

"Owing to this violence and owing to the fact that he was quite defenceless, the head of the station was obliged to submit to force and to accept the money given by the colonel.

"Referring to this, Governor-General Sulakvelidze writes that if the Russian officials of the administration of Batoum repeat such proceedings, the railway officials, apprehending the continuation of such occurrences as the above, will have to resign.

"Bringing this to the notice of your excellency, as a supplement to my note No. 7060, I am charged by my government to ask you not to refuse to issue a notice that will put an end once and for all to such proceedings on the part of the Batoum administration."

## Musulmans in Armenia.

In this article, the writer Zeinalov, says that when leaving the Azerbaidjan diplomatical Mission he met several Mussulmans, refugees from Erivan and Kars, some of whom were his acquaintances. They were going to Azerbaidjan through Tiflis and came to the Mission to state the licentiousness of the Armenians against them during their journey. Five families have left all their property in Kars and went to great expense in order to leave that town. In Alexandropol the authorities took all their things and let them go. They were glad to save their families. Even money was taken from the Erivan refugees.

"What is the general position of the Mussulmans in Armenia?" asked Zeinalov. The position of the Mussulmans in Armenia is similar to the position of those confined in prison who are expecting to hear every moment their death sentence. They are afraid to leave Erivan because there is no guarantee that they will cross safely the frontier of "free" Armenia and, bearing in mind the possibility of being deprived of their last money, they are remaining in Armenia silently and without complaints, undergoing all persecutions. The position of well-off Mussulmans in Erivan is somewhat better than that of the others. Everyone of them employs one or two Armenians—"Mauser-ists", for a considerable compensation, of course, in order to secure themselves from the violence of others. Such is the situation regarding Mussulmans in Armenia at present. What will be further is not to be foreseen.

## THE WEEK'S NEWS.

The Reds are retreating and an official communiqué states that many prisoners have been taken as well as ammunitions and machine-guns. The army of Rodzianko is within five versts of Pskov.

The Sh. h of Persia, who has been in Switzerland for three weeks, left for Paris. He is accompanied by numerous attendants.

The Hungarian delegation has been invited to Paris for the purpose of receiving the peace conditions.

The German Government has not yet given an answer to the note of the Allies claiming the withdrawal of Von der Goltz.

The Council of Italian Ministers has asked the King to approve the Versailles treaty as he is authorised to do so by the constitution in order to give new proofs of the solidarity of Italy and the Allies.

The French Senate has ratified the peace treaty with Germany.

Clemenceau presented to the Chamber the project of a law fixing the legislative elections on November 9.

Venizelos arrived in London for fortnight's stay.

The United States has undertaken to supply Admiral Koltchak's Government with munitions while British supplies which have hitherto been sent to Siberia will be concentrated in Southern Russia.

Vienna cabinet Council resolved to sell art works in state possession to foreign countries in order to be able to pay at least for most necessary virtual purchases.

German Press points to the fact that Lithuania has only temporarily been acknowledged as an independent state by the British Government.

Food conditions in German Austria have lately considerably deteriorated. Food supplies are only possible until autumn. For the winter supply the reparations commission will have to care.

Colonel Haskell, the Allied High Commissioner in Trans-Caucasia, recently left Tiflis for Paris.

On October 10, Admiral de Robeck, the British High Commissioner for Turkey, paid a flying visit to Tiflis.

General Gourand has been appointed French High Commissioner in Syria and commander-in-chief of the French armies in the Levant.