the officers and battalions of the Guards interests of national unity. came over. Thirty thousand regular troops at least were at its call, as well as the armed masses of the people. At first many of the troops had fired on the growd, because they thought the disfurbances had been got up by Germans, but now they understood. Soldiers and people were as one. By midnight fourfifths of the city was in their hands. For all military purposes the Duma's triumph was already assured. Twentyfour hours more saw that triumph complete. By Tuesday morning, what remained of the Governand its forces surrounded, and fiercely in the Admiralty and the Government buildings in its neighbourhood, but all these edifices and their occupants were soon captured. In little more than twenty-four hours, between one morning and another, the Revolution had stamped out all resistance with surprisingly little bloodshed by comparison with an event which will loom so large in history.

the postal, telegraph, and telephone serfrom the Grand Duke Nicho- years. las, General Brussiloff, and General Ruszky and other leaders at the front supporting the popular cause, with which General Alexeieff, the Chief of Last, but not least, let us

VII.—PARLIAMENTARY

shot down on Sunday it became evident to a constituent assembly. that the leaders of the Duma must grasp their nettle. That night they convened a secret meeting of the Legislature for the next morning (Monday). On reachon foot were met by an Imperial with these sentences:--

some person enjoying the confidence which binds all together. of the country shall be charged to form a new Government. Delay is fall on a crowned head.

certainty to a disastrous revulsion. At the situation.

more shorn.

A Government was finally formed including Octobrists, Cadets, Progres-Rives, as well as Socialists on one wing, Premier and Minister of the Interior is Prince George Lyoff, who has won uni- Entente as a whole. versal confidence and admiration as President of the Zemstvos. The Foreign

Fresh troops came marching into the ling appointment, but is probably as THE REVOLUTION FINAL SCENE WITH THE SITUATION HOUR ZEPPELIN RAIDER city to join the forces of the Dums. All shrewd a move as could be made in the

VIII.—THE TSAR'S ABDICATION.

But the result, of all these change was bound to remain in doubt until it could be known definitely what course would be taken by the Tsar. Wild rumours had run through the city. The Tsar had suggested General Alexeieff as dictator. The Tsar was about to arrive in person. His train had been twice stopped by the soldiers. His whereabouts were unknown. No; he was at Pskoff. There must have been some negotiations which cannot yet be revealed. There was no hope in negotiation. The sovereign, as we have shown, had thrown away his last chances. He was inseparable from the influences surrounding him, and these never could be trusted again.

In the end, Nicholas II. bowed his head to bitter necessity, and not only that, but acted in every way with perfect patriotism and dignity. On Thurs day his final consent to abdication was By Wednesday the fires were extingiven. He entrusted the Grand Duke guished; the railways were working like Nicholas with the supreme command of the armies in the field, a nomination vices; the shops were open; the price which will doubtless be accepted by the of bread had fallen just as the supplies whole nation willingly and with unhad mysteriously increased. The giant bounded enthusiasm. For the rest, the troopers of the Preobraiensky Guards, Tsar, in the manifesto which will be with their officers at their head, had found elsewhere, declares that he abdimarched to the Duma to swear fidelity cates for the sake of union and victory. in due form. Even the Tsar's cousin, the He calls on his people to conduct the Grand Duke Cyril, like a gallant sailor, struggle to a glorious close. In touchhad answered in the same sense for him- ing words, he adds that, desiring not to self and practically for the fleet. The be separated from his beloved little son, whole General Staff College followed. he transfers his heritage to his brother, General Sukhomlinoff was brought in the Grand Duke Michael, and bequeaths and cut off his own epaulettes, which it with his blessing, calling upon him at would otherwise have been torn off—a the same time to take an inviolable oath sign of Russia's determination to wipe of fidelity to the national representatives out every memory of shame in connect of the Fatherland. So Nicholas the tion with the waging of the war. Second lays down the Crown which he The Grand Duke Michael has accented Messages had already been received has worn for twenty-three chequered

Some sentences in this pathetic document may seem incompatible with the temper of the new order in Russia, but Staff, is well known to be in sym- nothing in the difficult reign of Nicholas II.—and it had some fine episodes—he record that Moscow, the heart of Russia, came him better than this farewell to with all its forces, had been won for the the throne. Simply by refusing all popular cause in an hour and a half formal consent to the results of the Rewithout the shedding of a single drop of volution, he could have left a legacy of moral embarrassment to the Duma. The Regent Michael—morganatically married to a connection of the Moscow GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED business classes—is, for his part, en-But now we must turn to follow the tirely a man of the new order, and he still more memorable political events is careful to announce that he holds his MANIFESTO TO THE PEOPLE which went parallel with these military position pending final approval by the transactions. After the people had been representatives of the nation summoned

IX.-"IN THIS SIGN CONQUER."

It is too soon to prophesy, but there ing the Taurida Palace, the majority is much indeed to fill us with high confidence that what has happened is a Rescript suspending the sittings for two great and saving event. The enemy is months. To submit would have been encamped in the land. That peril to the fatal, but there was not one moment's whole nation is not removed. That thought of submission. M. Rodzianko, peril still menaces not only the Imperial the President, and his colleagues acted power and aspirations of Russia, but with the historic resolution of Mira every ideal of liberty and progress that beau in a similar crisis. A loyal has inspired the Revolution. More than telegram was sent to the Tsar at the ever the German is the enemy. This front, describing briefly the chaos and fact is a corrective of the influences anarchy raging. The message concluded which would make for dangerous internal dissension in normal times. Indo-It is immediately necessary that mitable patriotism is the hoop of steel

In our judgment there is far more impossible. Delay means death, chance now for the stable maintenance Pray God that this may not be our and gradual consolidation of the new responsibility and that it may not regime than would have been the case if a revolution of this scope and magnitude had taken place in time of peace. The leaders of the Extreme There was no answer. After some Left know that nothing can stand hours a second message was sent, but without the continued support and again there was no answer. The Duma approval of the army and its unanimously carried the motion in that leaders. Patriotic Conservatives are Twelve members were named well aware that the workmen in as a Committee of Public Safety. Thus the towns, and above all in Petrograd, on that great Monday, March 12, the must be induced and encouraged to keep political revolution was accomplished as the munition works at full pressure if well as the military transformation. Next there is to be any chance for Russia in day. Tuesday, the members of the the war. Some of the factories never Camarilla began to be brought in as stopped even in the midst of the Revoluprisoners. M. Protopopoff, now a tion—a remarkable proof of patriotism physical wreck, gave himself up still pro-testing that he had meant all for the have returned. The direct military good of his country. Amongst those bearing of the Revolution on the war arrested were the Metropolitan, Pitirim, we discuss elsewhere. We are conand the aged ex-Premier, M. vinced that the freedom and union of Goremykin, still wearing the impassive Russia under the new order are wellface of unchangeable mediocrity. Never nigh like the accession of another Great did men who went out for wool return Power to the ranks of the Allies.

On the one side, the feeling and At first there were very peril- leadership of Russia's armies being ous contingencies. It seemed doubt- what they are, while the whole ful whether the support of Socialist nation is united in the fervour and Labour leaders, like M. of a patriotic crusade, the con-Kerenski and M. Cheidze, could be ditions of government, liberal yet secured except on terms so Republican strong, are at last established in and otherwise extreme as to lead with Russia in a way that must enable that empire to bring its war-making energy last they were partially satisfied by the to a maximum. On the other side, the promise of a constituent assembly on a whole Entente is incalculably strengbasis of universal suffrage, by a wide thened by the fact that pro-German inrecognition of the right to strike, and fluence in Russia is extirpated, and that by other provisions of an advanced the whole Grand Alliance is for the first character. Some of these articles seem time in full moral unison. The whole alarming in the abstract, but in prac- case for the Allies' ideals was tice they are not likely to compromise embarrassed, marred, prejudiced, in the sight of many neutral witnesses by the Russian conditions, which suggested so glaring a contradiction. Now at last great Russia shares the same light of liberty, and and Conservatives on the other. The marches with the progress of the world. The United States is more drawn to the

Above all an example is given Office goes to M. Miliukoff, well known to the Kaiser's subjects-political as one of the ablest and most determined slaves now by comparison with statesmen in the Grand Alliance. For emancipated Russia-which will shake the present the Minister of War and to its foundations the German govern-Marine is M. Gutchkoff, whom many of ing system which caused the war. Our us in England know as a man of high age has grown too wise, or at least too and solid character, as well as of signal wary, to echo the exultant outburst of executive energy. Each of their col- Fox on the fall of the Bastille. Yet leagues would deserve a note if we had we can say that the triumph won by the room, but we can only mention that M. Duma and the Army together for free Kerenski, the extreme orator of what dom and modern government is one of may be called the Labour-Socialist the greatest and best things of time. Group, becomes Minister of Justice, The breath of a new morning is felt not which at first sight may seem a start-lonly by Russia but by all mankind.

RUSSIA.

MANIFESTO BY THE TSAR.

THRONE BEQUEATHED TO HIS BROTHER.

THE GRAND DUKE'S CONDITIONS.

NATION TO DECIDE.

ORDER RESTORED AT PETROGRAD.

GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS TO LEAD THE ARMY.

The revolution in Russia has so far progressed without a hitch. The reactionary forces and the extreme forces alike showing no sign of giving trouble.

The Tsar has issued a manifesto announcing his abdication and that of his son, and handing over the Duke Michael.

Russian State.

The Supreme Command of the Russian Armies has, it is stated, been handed over by the Tsar to the Grand Duko Nicholas.

ABDICATION OF THE TSAR.

PETROGRAD, March 16, 10 p.m. The following is the text of an Imperial Manifesto by the Tsar to the Russian

By the Grace of God, we, Nicholas II., Emperor of all the Russias, Tsar of Poland, Grand Duke of Finland, etc., to all our fauthful subjects ha it known

In the days of the great struggle against a foreign enemy, who has been endeavouring for three years to enslave our country, it pleased God to send Russia a further painful trial.

Internal troubles threatened to have a obstinate war. The destinies of Russia, the honour of her heroic army, the happiness of the people, and the whole future of our beloved Fatherland demand that the war should be conducted at all costs to a victori-

The cruel enemy is making his last efforts and the moment is near when our valiant army, in concert with our glorious Allies, will finally overthrow the enemy. In these decisive days in the life of Russia we have thought that we owed to our people the close union and organisation of all its forces for the realisation of rapid victory, for which reason, in agreement with the Imperial Duma, we have recog nised that it is for the good of the country

Russian State and lay down the supreme Not wishing to separate ourself from our beloved son, we bequeath our heritage to our brother the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, with our blessing for the future of the Throne of the Russian State.

that we should abdicate the Crown of the

We bequeath it to our brother to govern in full union with the national representatives sitting in the legislative institutions and to take his inviolable oath to them in the name of our well-beloved Fatherland. We call upon all fuithful sons of the Fatherland to fulfil their sacred and patriotic duty in obeying the Tsar at the painful moment of national trials and to aid him, together with the representatives of the help Russia.—Reuter.

STATEMENT BY THE GRAND DUKE.

CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF THRONE.

PETROGRAD, Saturday. The following declaration from the Throne was made yesterday by the Grand Duke

Michael Alexandrovitch :-A heavy task has been entrusted to me by the will of my brother, who has given me the Imperial Throne at a time of unprecedented war and of domestic strife. Animated by the same feelings as the entire nation, the Russian troops were greeting the namely that the welfare of the Fatherland announcement of the revolution."—Reuter. namely, that the welfare of the Fatherland overshadows all other interests, I am firmly resolved to accept the supreme power only if this should be the desire of our great people, who must by means of a plebiscite and through their representatives in the Constituent Assembly, establish the form of of the Russian State.

Invoking God's blessing, I therefore request all citizens of Russia to obey the Provisional Government set up on the initiative of the Duma and invested with plenary powers until within as short a time as possible the Constituent Assembly elected on a basis of universal equal and secret suffrage shall express the will of the nation regarding the form of government to be adopted.-Reuter,

THE GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS.

PETROGRAD, March 16 (9.38 p.m.). The Tsar has transferred the supreme command of the Russian Armies to the Grand Duke Nicholas.—Reuter.

THE TSAR.

"WHY I ABDICATE."

A MIDNIGHT INTER-VIEW.

PETROGRAD, Saturday. A striking account of the abdication of the

Tsar, which took place at Pskoff, is given by member of the Executive Committee of the Duma. At midnight on Thursday, one of the new

Ministers, accompanied by General Russky and several other high personages, waited upon the Tear, informed him of the latest from the front to Petrograd, as every soldier became a revolutionary when he approached the capital.

"What do you want me to do?" asked the Tear.

"Abdicate," was the reply. After a few minutes silence the Tsar

" It would pain me to be separated from my son. That is why I abdicate in favour of

The Tsar then signed the decree of abdication, which had already been drawn up .--Reuter.

THE IMPERIAL FAMILY.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday. The " National Tidende" announces that the Tsar and certain intimate members of sovereignty to his brother the Grand his family have been escorted to the Crimes by a military guard.—Central News.

According to a Stockholm report the Tsar the throne on the condition that the is to be taken to the Crimea "to recuperate." people by plebiscite and through the Constituent Assembly establish the form of Government and the new fundamental laws of the another says that the Dowager Empress's sympathies are with the revolutionaries.
The "Frankfurter Zeitung" asserts that

the Tsar, while travelling from Petrograd to Moscow, was arrested by the Revolutionists, who compelled him to abdiants A Control News tolegram from Petrograd,

dated March 16, says that the Tsaritsa was at Tsarskoe Selo, and that the Tsarevitch and one of the Princesses were suffering from measles of an aggravated type.

IMPERIAL ARMS REMOVED.

PETROGRAD, March 16. Between two and three o'clock this afternoon men with ladders began removing the Imperial arms from public buildings and The obvious conclusion was soon confirmed by announcements of the Tsar's abdication in windows and in newspapers. The arms were mostly burned in the streets. Some were hurled on to the ice in the canals. The news of the abdication reached Petrorad during the night, and therefore caused l

and the "Marseillaise." There was a burst of cheering outside the Duma when a mounted troop bearing a flag Socialist Republic of All Countries," drew in the Petrograd district. cein.—Reuter.

THE CASUALTIES.

PETROGRAD, Saturday. Reports from Moscow state that the Kremlin and the Arsenal are in the possession of the revolted troops. The Officers' Corps have also joined the movement, following instructions from the new Government. When the full story of the revolution comes to he told it will probably be found that the casualties in killed and wounded do not exceed 1,000.—Central News.

FINLAND GOVERNOR ARRESTED.

PETROGRAD, March 16. The Provisional Government has appointed the deputy, M. Reditcheff, Minister for the Affairs of Finland, and he has received orders to proceed to-night to Helsingfors.

By order of the Provisional Government the Commander of the Baltic Fleet, Admiral Nepenine, has arrested the Governor of Finland, M. Zein, and the Vice-President of the Economic Department of the Finnish Senate. M. Borovitinoff.—Reuter.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday. General Ignatieff, the General Officer Commanding in Finland, issued a proclamation requesting the troops to join the revolution. The whole Finnish garrison promised to support the new Government with the exception nation, to conduct the Russian State in the of the Sveaborg garrison, which became mutinway of prosperity and glory. May God be in a state of slege.—Exchange.

REPORTED SUICIDE OF PRINCE GOLITZIN.

STOCKHOLM, Saturday.
The journal "Sociale Demokraten" publishes a private dispatch reporting that the ex-Prime Minister, Prince Golitzin, has committed suicide in prison.—Central News.

CHEERING IN THE TRENCHES tioned at fair prices.

AMSTERDAM, Saturday. A Vienna telegram says:—

"The German newspapers on March 15 published reports from various trenches on the Eastern front to the effect that in the opposing trenches the Russians were heard to be cheering loudly. It is now known that

THE ALLIES AND THE GOVERNMENT.

PETROGRAD, March 15. The Executive Committee of the Duma government and the new fundamental laws and the commander of the garrison of Petrograd, Colonel Engelhardt, to-day received the diplomatio representatives and military attaches of Great Britain, France, and Italy, who appropried that they were prepared to enter immediately into business relations with the Executive of the Duma as the sole nuthority in Russia.—Reuter.

ALLEGED PEACE INTRIGUE.

GOTHENBURG, Saturday. The Copenhagen correspondent of the Aftenpost ? reports that the revolution in Russia came only in the nick of time, as negotiations for the conclusion of a separate peace had already been started by Protopopoff in Stockholm, and had been proceeding continuously for some time past.

BY HOUR.

GEN. RENNENKAMPF ARRESTED.

RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

"GRANDMOTHER OF THE REVOLUTION."

A' MILITARY HERO.

PETROGRAD, Saturday, 2 p.m. General Brussiloff on Thursday evening events, and advised him not to send troops authorized the publication in Kleff of teleagrms announcing the Revolution.

> Apart from the killing of a few hated officials, including the reactionary Governor of Tver, no bloodshed is reported from the provinces. Confidence in the Duma, which seems to have been the guiding star of the movement, was shared by the military, who spontaneously went over to the people,

The chief of police of Moscow was arrested and the headquarters of the secret police were

A wonderful reception awaits the venerable Madame Breshko Breshkoffsky, known as the "Grandmother of the Revolution," who has now been released from the Siberian prison where she has spent most of her life,

but her spirit is unquenched. M. Burtzeff appeared in the Duma yesterday with M. Pianykh, a member of the Duma. They have been released aften ten years in the Schlusslburg. Both were chaired by the soldiery, and the lobby rang with

The ruins of the Russian prisons in which political prisoners have been confined will e preserved as historic relics.-Reuter.

3 p.m. Rennenkampt, the ruthless suppressor of the served. She was evidently damaged, herevolution of 1905, and M. Krijanowsky, a former Secretary of State and framer of the electoral law restricting the suffrage. The control of the control

Regarding the reports received at an early tage of the Revolution that Government roops were hastening to Petrograd from the front, the "Daily News" bulletin contains the following:—

"The Ministry of Communications learns that with one exception the passenger ser- 5,600 yards. The gas caught for and in a few seconds the airship was a monster vices on all railways have been normal. The hitch was caused on the North-Western Railway by General Ivanoff, who was in comway by General Ivanoff, who was in com-mand of a train, and everywhere threatened gardens below, where abe broke her back employees with summary punishment if he across the wall dividing the gardens. was delayed, The threats, however, were in vain, and the troop train got no further than Vyritza, from which it returned.' - Reuter.

PETROGRAD, March 16 (1 p.m.). To-morrow there will be a great parade of little stir. During the day Reuter's repre- the troops of the Petrograd district before the twelve. sentative met only one big procession of Ministers. The popular, here is General soldiers and civilians singing patriotic songs Korniloff, who fought to the last in Galicia when surrounded by the enemy and was wounded and taken prisoner. He escaped, fatal effect on the further progress of this on which was inscribed "Long Live the and was appointed commander of the troops

The ex-Premiers, Golitzin and Goremykin, troops, General Khabaloff, the ex-Ministers,

the Bar to Jewish lawyers, from which they have hitherto been excluded.

The speeches in the Duma to-day of MM. Kerensky and Cheidze, staunch champions of the rights of the lower classes, will undoubtedly go far to counteract the extravagant demands of many importunate demagogue orators.—Reuter.

LONGING FOR ORDER.

Everyone except the Extremists is longing for "order" in contrast to the corrupt disorganisation and internal anarchy of the old regime. Order continues to rival Liberty as the watchword of the revolution. Telegrams rom the previnces are all couched in similar terms, announcing active measures for the introduction of order.

hitherto idle wagons are now rushing supplies tion from the criminal hand of the Turanians, to populous centres, which were actually We shall hear, if God wills of similar good

Estates of over 125 acres are being temporarily taken over by local committees, on which all classes are represented. The Government has appealed to the consciences According to the Berlingeko Tidende, and sense of duty and humanity of the Major Moraht, in the Berliner Tageblatt, peasants in urging them to bring in grain. 'Give what you can," it says, "as in England the nation is placed on its bonour to do

this."

As regards Petrograd the confidence is clearly justified. As a minor instance of the popular feeling it may be mentioned that a few cases of intoxication in the streets gave rise to such indignation that the culprits were rise to such indignation that the culprits were romptly placed in the look-up. Reuter.

ESCAPED CRIMINALS:

ESCAPED CRIMINALS.

3 p.m.

The State Bank and all private banks responded to day.

The State Bank and all private banks responded to day.

Stringent orders have been issued for the summary rearrest of oriminals who may have escaped from prisons. Some persons wearing stolen uniforms have been entering private houses, ransacking them and threatening the householders. These manualers will be shot down if they resist arrest. Genuine search parties and patrols of the town of Tsaritzin has telegraphed to Petrograd hailing the Duma as the saviour of Russia.—Reuter.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BERNE Saturday.

The Austrian Press at if first pretended to doubt the news of Bagdad is fill. Not till words shele; were filled to doubt the news of Bagdad is fall. Not till words shele; were filled to the war in a polocy in the country surrounding Bagdad is fall. Not till words shele; not fill words and retirement single the saving black.

The Turks that usually lat this season all the beautiful the country surrounding Bagdad is flooded, but unfortunately this year it was not so, the British being thus afforded an immense advantage. Above all, the newspaper complaints the property in the property of the certain property of the certain property in the present and patrols of the country and the saving decrease of the property of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain of the property of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain property in the present and patrols of the certain property in the present and property in the property in the present and property in the present

DESTROYED.

L39 BROUGHT DOWN IN FRANCE.

ALL THE CREW KILLED

The French communiqué issued yesterday afternoon contained the following:-This morning at about 5.30, Zeppelin L39, which had flown over the region of Paris, was hit at a height of 3,500 metres by our anti-aircraft guns above Compiègne. L39 fell in flames in the town gardens. Neither the fall of the sirehip nor the

explosion of her bombs did any damage. All the members of the crew of the ship perished. -Router. COMPIEGNE, Saturday. The Zeppelin L39 which was brought down

between two gardens in the town itself. The whole crew were burnt to ashes. All that remains of the airship is a shapeless mass of

(From Reuter's Special Correspondent.)

FRENCH HEADQUARTERS, Saturday. I have just returned from a visit to the clace where the Zeppelin was brought down at Compiegne this morning. All that is left of her is an indescribable tangle of torn and twisted and blackened strips of aluminium and steel wire, which lies sprawling across a large kitchen garden on the outskirts of the

During the night the Zeppelin slarm signal vas sounded at a number of places between the front and Paris. The course taken by the raider has not yet been clearly ascertained, but, she had evidently been winged, by a French aviator or anti-aircraft guns, because she was staggering homewards with

French aeroplane in pursuit when she appeared over Complegne this morning.

A French officer who witnessed the destruction of the airship told me that it was just The latest arrests include those of General six o'clock this morning when also was obcause as far as he could see she was not moving at all, although anti-aircraft guns were subjecting her to a terrific fire. It was al-

ready daylight, and the pursuing acroplane was tapidly coming up. Suddenly an incendiary shell fixed from no of the French batteries struck the airship high up astern. It was a magnificent shot. Instantly a ripple of flame was seen to shoot along the whole length of the airship, which was then at an altitude of between 8,000 and flaming torch blazing from end to end. She hung suspended in the air, burning for many The Zeppelin's cargo of petrol and incendi-

ary bombs blow up before she reached the ground, and no damage was done except to the garden wall. The crew were all burnt to death. A few EX-PREMIERS UNDER ARREST of the bodies were seen to drop from the falling airship; the rest were found in a charred condition in the wreckage. It is

| believed: that the vessel's crew numbered THE KENT RAID.

BOMBS DROPPED BY THREE ZEPPELINS.

and the former commander of the Petrograd troops, General Khabaloff, the ex-Ministers, General Sukhomlinoff and Belaieff, and MM. Protopopoff, Shtcheglovitoff, Maklakoff, Makaroff, and Kurloff, have been placed in hard about eleven o'clock. At 1.45 am. Makaroff, and Kurloff, have been placed in the Peter and Paul Fortress. Other prominent persons who have been arrested continue to be temporarily lodged in the Duma building.

The Minister of Justice has prescribed that the Minister of Justice has prescribed that the making for the coast. In this area all the bombs fell in open fields. In this area all the bombs f

to have been about twelve explosions in all Zeppelins were in another Kentish locality from 11 p.m. to about 12.30, the sound of engines being heard but the aircraft were not seen. No bombs were dropped in the near neighbourhood. It is stated that one incendiary and one explosive bomb fell six miles off, doing practically no damage.

At another place about 2.0 clock yesterday morning it is authenticated that seven bombs, all high explosive were dropped which how-

all high explosive, were dropped, which, how-ever, all fell in meadows or open land, result-ing in no damage to life or to buildings except that some windows were shattered at a farm-house and some cottages near. After dropping these bombs the airship steered way.

It is the opinion of observers that at least three airships were sailing around.

THE FALL OF BAGDAD.

THANKS OF THE KING OF THE

transgressed upon.

Sir Reginald Wingate has returned a suit-

ably reply warmly thanking the King of the COPENHAGEN, March 16. writing on the fall of Bagdad, after remarking that the whole of Western Persia may come into British possession, says : By this success the British have attained two chief

AUSTRIAN PRESS ON BAGDAD.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BIG DRIVE ON THE

SOMME. THE TOWN IN

FLAMES. FIFTEEN VILLAGES

GREAT BRITISH AIR VICTORY.

OCCUPIED.

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

The following telegraphic despatch here this morning fell in flames on a wall was yesterday received from British Headquarters in France:

9.35 P.M.—Bapaume has been capfighting with the German rearguerds. The town has been systematically pillaged by the enemy. All private houses and public buildings have been destroyed and everything of value has been carried off or burnt. Our advance has proceeded repidly

during the day on both banks of the South of the river we have entered the enemy's positions on a front of about sixteen miles, and have occupied the villages of Frosnes, Horgny, Villers, Carbonnel, Barloux, Eterpigny, and La Maisonette.

North of the river, in addition to the

North of the river, in addition to the town of Bapaume, we are in possession of Bihucourt, Achiet le-Grand, Achiet le-Petit Ablainzeville, Bucquoy, and Essarts. We also hold Quesnay. Farm, 1,500 yards to the north-east of the last named village, and have gained the western and north-western defences of Monchy au-Bois.

Wa carried out successful raids this, morning least and north of Arras. The

enemy's support line was reached and two

machine-guns and a number of prisoners were captured.
A hostile raiding party was driven off during the night porth-east of Vermelles. An encounter took place yesterday beand sixteen enemy machines. As a result of twenty minutes, fighting the hostile formation was broken up. Two German aeroplanes were destroyed and two others were driven down damaged. All our machines returned.

HOW BAPAUME WAS TAKEN.

TERRIFIC PUNISHMENT OF THE ENEMY.

(From Reuter's Special

Correspondent.) WAR CORRESPONDENTS HEAD

QUARTERS, Saturday. The fine dry weather of the latter half of the week, resulting in the rapid hardening of the ground, has witnessed great activity in the zones of the Somme and the Ancre. The main successes to be chronicled in the general story of British progress are the capture of Bapaume after stiff fighting, the occupation of Le Transloy, and Achiet le Petit and most probably (although the news is not yet confirmed to this effect) Villers au Flos, Bihucourt, and Biefvillere. It is more than probable that even while I am writing this Peronne has also fallen into our hands. Since the place has now become quite untenable to the enemy, the only question is as to whether the destruction of the bridges across the Somme will have hindered the pro gress of our men. The clearance of the St. Pierre Vaset Wood must be added to the list f our week-end successes.
There has been a good deal of fighting throughout to day, because our patrols are pressing the German rearguards everywhere Except at Bapaume, where apparently our

troops, were upon the enamy before he could get olear away, there has been no tharp con thot. The Germana are doing everything they can to avoid action. our advance began early this morning, and the enemy covering troops at once com-monded to withdraw. From the rapidity s with which they retired it was evident that the main body of the German Army had a

clear sunlit atmosphere if her been possible to see many fires, and at times the landscape has been blurred with the smoke of the destructive conflagrations.

The enemy set light to Bapaume in many. places as he retired, and it is evident that he had completed all his plans for going. The fresh wind and dry weather, has made the :: introduction of order.

The Zemstvos and municipalities are in the forefront of the endeavour. They have enlisted the co-operation of the railway employees, the soldiers, workmen, and peasants. The train services have been continued throughout the revolution. Hundreds of hitherto idle wagons are now rushing supplies to populous centres, which were actually we shall hear if God wills, of similar good written at home recarding this retreat. I am a contrast to perfect the mid and dry weether, has made the in blaze a pretty effective, one. But to night our troops are well through and beyond the single court troops are well through and beyond the mid and dry weether, has made the indicate the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night our troops are well through and beyond the single court troops are well through and beyond the mid and dry weether, has made the indicate the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night our troops are well through and beyond the single court troops are well through and beyond the mid and dry weether, has made the indicate the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night our troops are well through and beyond the mid and dry weether, has made the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night our troops are well through and beyond the mid and dry weether, has made the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night our troops are well through and beyond the single court troops already grappling with the flames.

Indeed, upon a front which cannot measure a pretty effective, one. But to night to our troops are well through the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night to our troops are well through the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night to our troops are well through the laze a pretty effective, one. But to night to our troops are well through the laze are a pretty effective, one. But to night to our troops are well through the sure troops are well through the sure in a pretty effective and the sure in a pretty effective and the sure in a pretty effective and the sure in a pretty effective a

to populous centres, which were actually faced with starvation while the vultures of the war were gorged with profiteering. The grain stores everywhere have been requisitioned at fair prices.

We shall hear, if God with, of similar good written at home regarding this retreat, I am now from the Western front. I pray the stating nothing more than the literat truth Almighty to grant victory and success to all whan I say that every phase of it so far has those who are defending instinct, civilisation, developed just as we had foreseen and the liberty of nations, which has been transgressed upon. oldiers has frequently forced the pace beyond the enemy's original intention. But, then this result was only rendered possible by aracious divination of those intentions: In the same way the various conclusions as. o tue strutegio purpose which underlined this Pho/Germans are going back upon a prepared; position, for ro, other reason than that they had to. The evidence we are finding of the terrible punishment our guns have been in-ficting upon them flor mouths past loave toom for nothing but wonde ment that they should have endured the ordeal so long ...

But this ceaseless and long meintained liams mering had left them in no state to face heavy attack! To have done so would have been to court disaster. To the Germans have chosen the alternative and have gone back to beyond the immediate reach of our techning