

appears from the story, for there is no record of his having taken any part in the subsequently ghastly proceedings.

On Easter Monday, 24th April, at noon, the storm burst in Dublin, and for the following six days the city and the suburbs were the scene of grave loss of life and destruction of property. The Sinn Fein Society claims that it organised the revolution, and that the Irish National Volunteers carried it out. The object of the movement, as stated in a proclamation (printed in full in another page) issued on the day of the outbreak, was to "proclaim an Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State." How far that object has failed is indicated by the fact that two-thirds of the Sinn Fein Army has been killed, wounded, or taken prisoner, and that the whole plot has been blown to pieces.

Preparations for the insurrection had been active for months past; large quantities of arms and ammunition were known to have arrived in Dublin, and an unusual activity in the way of "bluffing" the police had been going on. "Let sleeping dogs lie," was the policy of the Executive authority, and no visible effort was made to deal with the situation that was developing in the city. Then came Easter Monday, when the minds of most people were directed to holiday-making. No one took more than a passing interest in the Sinn Fein Volunteers as they passed along the streets in twos and threes to their appointed positions. Twelve o'clock in the day was the hour fixed for the beginning of the operations, and at that time or shortly afterwards bodies of armed Sinn Feiners quietly entered the buildings to which they had been assigned, turned out the occupants, and took possession. Anyone who resisted was promptly shot. In this way the principal buildings in the city were captured, and the rebels at once set about erecting barricades, and taking precautions against attack.

THE PRINCIPAL FORTRESS.

The General Post Office in Sackville street seems to have been the principal rebel "fortress." It was here that P. H. Pearse, the "Commandant-in-Chief of the Army of the Republic and President of the Provisional Government," made his headquarters and issued his orders. All corner houses commanding the approaches were garrisoned with snipers, who were hidden behind sandbags. Kelly's ammunition shop at the corner of Bachelor's Walk, and Hopkins's jewellery shop at the corner of Eden quay, were held in this way in great strength. Other houses on each side of Lower Sackville street were garrisoned in like manner, and then the work of provisioning the various garrisons having the Post Office as their centre was actively proceeded with, every variety of foodstuffs being commandeered at the point of the bayonet. All the telegraphic wires were cut, thus isolating the city from the rest of the country.

The proceedings at St. Stephen's Green Park was somewhat similar. At midday small groups of Sinn Fein Volunteers were standing about the entrance gates, and at a given signal they quietly walked inside, closed the gates, posted armed guards at them, and then set about clearing all civilians out of the Park. In half an hour the Park was cleared of non-combatants. The next move of the rebels