

THE NAMELESS WAR

accomplished.

It now only remained to strike the blow or series of blows, which were to rob France of her throne, her church, her constitution, her nobles, her clergy, her gentry, her bourgeoisie, her traditions, and her culture ; leaving in their place, when the guillotine's work was done, citizen hewers of wood and drawers of water under an alien financial dictatorship.

From 1789 onwards a succession of revolutionary acts were set in motion ; each more violent than the one preceeding it ; each unmasking fresh demands and more violent and revolutionary leaders. In their turn each of these leaders, a puppet only of the real powers behind the revolution, is set aside ; and his head rolls into the basket to join those of his victims of yesterday.

Phillipe Égalité, Duc d'Orleans, was used to prepare the ground for the revolution ; to protect with his name and influence the infancy of the revolutionary club ; to popularise freemasonry and the Palais Royal : and to sponsor such acts as the march of the women to Versailles. The "women" on this occasion were mostly men in disguise.

d'Orleans was under the impression that the King and Queen would be assassinated by this mob, and himself proclaimed a democratic King. The real planners of the march, however, had other schemes in view. One main objective was to secure the removal of the royal family to Paris, where they would be clear of protection from the army, and under the power of the Commune or Paris County Council in which the Jacobins were supreme.

They continued to make use of Égalité right up to the time of the vote on the King's life, when he crowned his sordid career by leading the open vote in voting for the death of his cousin. His masters thereafter had no further use for his services ; and he very shortly followed his cousin to the guillotine amidst the execrations of all classes.

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Mirabeau played a similar role to that of Égalité. He had intended that the revolution should cease with the setting up of Louis as a democratic monarch with himself as chief adviser. He had no desire to see violence done to the King. On the contrary, in the last days before he died mysteriously by poison, he exerted all his efforts to get the King removed from Paris, and placed in charge of loyal generals still commanding his army. He was the last of the moderates and monarchists to dominate the Jacobin club of Paris ; that bloodthirsty focus of revolution, which had materialised out of the secret clubs of the Orient Masons and Illuminati. It was Mirabeau's voice, loud and resonant, that kept in check the growing rage of the murderous fanatics who swarmed therein. There is no doubt that he perceived at last the true nature and strength of the beast, which he had worked so long and so industriously to unchain.

In his last attempt to save the royal family by getting them out of Paris, he actually succeeded in shouting down all opposition in the Jacobin club. That evening he died by a sudden and violent illness ; and, as the author of *The Diamond Necklace* writes : "Louis was not ignorant that Mirabeau had been poisoned."

Thus, like Phillipe Égalité, and later Danton and Robespierre, Mirabeau too was removed from the stage when his role had been played. We are reminded of the passage in Number 15 of the Protocols of Zion :—

"We execute masons in such wise that none save the brotherhood can ever have a suspicion of it." And again :—

"In this way we shall proceed with those goy masons who know too much."

As Mr. E. Scudder writes in his *Life of Mirabeau* :—

"He died at a moment when the revolution might still have been checked."

The figure of Lafayette occupies the stage on several important occasions during these first revolutionary stages.