

*Through the Russian Revolution*



Kerensky on the Champ de Mars.

*[Frontispiece.]*

*Through the Russian  
Revolution : Notes of an  
Eye-Witness, from 12th March  
—30th May. By Claude Anet*

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ILLUSTRATED BY 34 PHOTOGRAPHS

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## PREFACE

THIS is a book about the first months of the Revolution in Russia. A book? Nay, a collection of pages scribbled each evening, amid the fever of those marvellous days through which we have lived, and sent red hot to Paris to be printed. Of this great drama, possessing a human interest which nothing can surpass, I have been a witness from day to day at Petrograd. One will find here many things that I have seen and few actual reflections. Nevertheless, I have been unable to forbid myself these last. When I saw such measures taken by the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates, how could I fail to predict the effect which they would produce on the country and on the Army? It was not necessary to be a clairvoyant to discount the results of the famous Prikase to the soldiers. "He who sows the wind reaps the whirlwind." At the hour when I write this preface, the disbanding of the Army, the loss of Galicia and the Bukovina, the menace to Roumania, prove, alas! that what I wrote three or four months ago was well founded.

Have I been an impartial witness of the Russian Revolution?

No, we are all partisans in the pathetic drama which is being enacted in Russia. It is for the sake of Russia that we entered the war which is rending Europe in pieces.

Could I be an impartial witness of a tragic event which modifies, to our disadvantage, the balance of the forces engaged in a conflict in which we are struggling for the most sacred rights of humanity ?

Let my Russian revolutionary friends pardon the severity of some of these pages, written amidst the revolutionary turmoil. Whilst carried away by their ardour to destroy a detested régime, they think only of the Revolution. I think also of the War. •

10 August, 1917.