

GARABEDIAN'S FAREWELL

At First Meeting This Season of Armenian Revolutionists.

Nishan Garabedian, who figured as the principal instigator of an Armenian riot, in which several heads were broken at Providence, R. I., Sunday, September 23, was in Worcester, yesterday, and, last evening, made a farewell address at the first meeting of this season held by Worcester branch of the Huntchagist revolutionary party.

Garabedian enjoys the distinction of being delegate primate to America, and official organizer of the revolutionary party. But he is to be succeeded in these high offices by another man this month, and will, therefore, leave America about the 25th. He says he intends to visit Paris, and from there return to Athens.

"I will never come to America again," said Mr. Garabedian to a Telegram reporter last night. "I am going to work for my party in Athens, and hope to remain there. The American newspapers have misrepresented me. They have called me an anarchist. The Boston Herald says I am a Russian Jew and have no right to claim Armenian birth. The papers lie. I am a socialist and an Armenian seeking to better the condition of my oppressed countrymen."

Garabedian has visited Worcester a good deal within the last year, for it is claimed, quite reasonably too, that the Worcester branch of the revolutionary party is the strongest in America. He spoke at a number of the regular meetings in Grange hall last season, and on each occasion created much enthusiasm among the members by fiery eloquence and recommendations that radical measures, revolutionary tactics, rebellion against the sultan of Turkey and should be the means of procuring Armenian autonomy.

He made such a speech a week ago at the meeting which broke up in a riot at Providence. The Armenians in that city are pretty evenly divided for and against the Huntchagist movement, as they are in Worcester. All Armenians in this city were invited to attend the Providence meeting, and, naturally, both factions were represented. Garabedian appeared with Iknadions Bagdasarian of Boston, and during his speech is said to have urged the slaughtering of Turks and other deeds of violence. The opponents of such bloodthirsty deeds arose in a mass and started for the door of the hall. Reports of what followed differ from what Garabedian says. It is reported that he ordered the doors closed. At any rate they were closed and a free fight ensued. A dozen men were disabled. Garabedian, it is stated, hid in a closet while the police raided the place and arrested the rioters.

He got out of town that night.

In speaking of this trouble last evening, Garabedian denied that he had ordered the doors locked or that his speech started the row. "The opposition started it," he said, "and they got the worst of it."

It seems the opposition did get the worst of it, as far as broken heads and fines in the police court go. But the Huntchagist meetings in Providence hereafter will be very tame if they are in strict conformity with orders issued by the police department.

Last night's meeting in Grange hall was attended by 200 men, including a score of opponents of the party. Mr. Garabedian's speech was in the nature of a farewell, and was not so full of fire as some of his former addresses in this city. He said he wanted the party to continue in the progressive lines already followed and expressed the hope that his successor would be received as he had been, with enthusiasm by all true Armenians in America. Then he reviewed the work done since he arrived in America 16 months ago. "We have in this country," he said, "between seven and eight thousand Armenians, and fully 1000 of them are true to the Huntchagist party, while sympathizers are to be found everywhere, not only among our own people, but also among Americans. We have over 50 branches. Worcester branch is the largest and strongest. The cause is being strengthened everywhere, and I believe the time is not far distant when we will be ready to strike a blow against Turkish tyranny, at the common enemy of all Armenians."

At the close, he was surrounded by those present and they bade him farewell individually. Mr. Garabedian is short in stature, round shouldered, after the style of a man who has been used to a sedentary, easy life, has small beady black eyes and wears a foil beard and long hair, both of an inky hue.

He says he was born in Russia, but that his parents are Armenians, and that he will be a true Armenian until he dies. "I am not afraid of death," he said to a Telegram reporter. "If I was not an Armenian I would not risk my life as I have been doing, by criticising Turkish government."

"Tomorrow I am going to Fitchburg. The rest of the month I will spend in other parts of New England where we have branches of the organization."

"Do you intend to visit Constantinople when you leave America?" asked the reporter.

"Well that depends," answered the delegate. "It's rather a hard thing for a Huntchagian to do under present circumstances. But I will if I can for there are some things there I want to see."