

BELLIGERENT SYRIANS DISPERSED BY POLICE

Gathered in and Around Butler
Street Court This
Morning.

RIOT AVERTED BY CAPTAIN.

Bishop Hawaweeny Was the Center of
the Excitement and Was Rushed
Out of Harm's Way.

A riot was only averted by the forethought of Captain Zimmerman of the Butler street station, when a hundred Syrians, who had been to the Butler street court as spectators and witnesses in the assault case in which the Syrian Bishop Raphael Hawaweeny figured as one of the alleged assailants, were coming out of the court room about noon to-day.

It was confidently expected by the Syrians of both warring factions, that the case would certainly come to a hearing to-day. Yesterday, when the Bishop and his followers failed to appear Magistrate Dooley forfeited the bonds of the six men charged with attempted assault. This expectation drew a large crowd to the court room. Many were inside and many more lined the curbs about the Court House. Rich Syrian women, finely dressed, and well-to-do Syrian business men, and some from the professional classes of the Syrian colonies were on hand.

Ex-Assistant District Attorney James W. Osborne had sent to Magistrate Dooley an affidavit that he was unable to appear in court on account of imperative legal engagements in the Supreme Court in Manhattan. This was whispered about the court room before the case was called and caused considerable irritation among both factions.

This tension was increased by the somewhat inflammatory address to the judge by Attorney Charles E. LeBarbier, of Manhattan, who represented the opponents of the bishop. Mr. LeBarbier repeated, with great warmth, his charge of yesterday, that his clients were not safe on the streets at night.

The hearing was put over to October 17. The crowd about the desk separated, and it became evident that the turn things had taken was not at all to the liking of the many who had come from Manhattan and other parts of the city to witness the trial. The story spread to the sidewalk in advance of the Syrians, who were making their way to the street.

Captain Zimmerman was a spectator in the courtroom, and sent a patrolman to his station house. A dozen bluecoats soon appeared at the entrance to the courtroom on Court and Butler streets.

Just how the row started is not quite clear. But, as if by magic, men rushed together like maddened animals, ready to gore and bite. Bishop Hawaweeny was one of the men who came out of the court with the band of Syrians. Several men rushed at him but were turned aside by some of his followers who had gathered about him as a body guard. He was partly pushed, partly dragged to a Court street car that was passing at the time, safely getting aboard.

The policemen did the rest. Sticks were drawn and the officers plunged into the mass of angry men, whom they dispersed.

The one man who maintained his composure was Bishop Hawaweeny. For over an hour he sat in the clerk's room without opening his mouth. He looked wan and worried, but was entirely unruffled by the happenings in which he himself was the central figure.

Last night over 100 Syrians came over from Manhattan and stationed themselves in the vicinity of the Amity street police station. Acting Captain Brophy of that station took them in hand with his reserves, dispersing the crowd and served notice that they would be summarily dealt with in case a disturbance was started. Captain Brophy doubled the patrol on all streets in his precinct where trouble might be expected.