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The Events of Sorrowful Days

In the strained atmosphere that prevailed in Poland following the suppression of the revolution in the years 1905-06, Polish antisemites found fertile ground for their activities against Jews and, in this context, riots also occurred in Częstochowa. I want to relate one of these occasions.

This event took place at the close of the *Shabbes*. My father, Reb Berisz Tiberg, was returning from the "Third Meal" at the Aleksander *shtiebel* on ul. Rzeźnicka, accompanied by Reb Duwid Bruk and Reb Jakób Krymolowski. To shorten their way, they crossed a side-street in the direction of their homes on ul. Garncarska and ul. Nadrzeczna. There, Polish ruffians fell upon them and severely wounded them with their daggers, after which they fled the scene. The victims barely made it home alive. My father lost a great deal of blood along the way and fainted as soon as he reached home. For several weeks, he lay in bed recovering, treated by Dr Wassertal.

On that same Saturday evening, over twenty assaults were perpetrated upon Jews, many of whom were seriously injured. There were attempts to raid their homes and loot them. The marauders also used firearms but, thank heaven, all the wounded survived.

(Such were our lives in Poland, even in normal times! But our "good neighbours" showed their true colours, most notably after the invasion of Poland by the Nazis, in whom they found "kindred spirits" in their cruel operations to exterminate the Jews.)