RED HORRORS IN THE SASOUN.

The Atrocities in Armenia Not Exaggerated.

Revolutionary Conspirators Are to Blame.

What a Correspondent Learned in the Blood-Stained Country--Bombs Made of Human Beings.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—A letter has been received here from a special correspondent of the Associated Press who was sent to Armenia from London to investigate the reported Armenian atrocities, and who at present is in Armenia. For reasons that will be readily understood, the name of this correspondent is withheld, but he is a newspaper man well known in America, and he was instructed to make an impartial investigation of the stories told of Turkish cruelty. The correspondent spent a week or more in Constantinople before starting for Armenia, during which time he investigated the reports current there and continued his journey. His first letter has just reached here after having been posted by a trusted messenger at Tiflis, Russia. It contains the first authentic news from Armenia direct and says:

"Whatever secrets may lie under the snow on the Armenian mountains, it seems beyond dispute, from what I have heard from many lips, that the published stories of ferocious butchery and red horrors in the Sasoun villages have at least a reasonable foundation of truth, and that any change, authorized by further investigation, will deal more with numbers than with the degree of the horrors.

HUMAN BOMBS.

"But no matter what light we throw upon the spasmodic wickedness of the Turk or upon the ingenious deviltry of the revolutionary conspirators, we find that it is still the innocent that suffer most. The Turk declares that the Armenians have inflicted shocking outrages upon Turkish men and women and from what is already known of conspiracy methods it is quite likely that the assertion is true.

"For instance, it is reported that as a means of inciting the Turks to commit outrages that will bring down upon them the wrath of a civilized world, Armenians have thrust gun cartridges into the bodies of living Turkish men and women and have exploded them and that in the case of one man, a hole was made just below the bones of the chest for the insertion of a quantity of gunpowder which was then ignited as a sort of bomb.

"These facts are known to the embassies at Constantinople and probably they have been transmitted in reports to the various governments.

"The impartial truth of the Sasoun massacre will probably never be known, for the dead tell no tales. A careful sifting of all the facts obtainable from trustworthy sources in Constantinople, Sasoun, Kerasund, Trebzonde and Bitlis indicates that this is what happened:

THE CRUEL KURDS.

"Certain Armenian peasants to the number of several thousand were tending their herds and flocks in their summer pastures in the Sasoun mountains along the borders of Kurdistan. They were living in mere temporary villages which they inhabited only during the summer pasture season, their winter herds going far down the valley. They were under contract to defend them against the raids of cattle stealers and Kurdish bands. A short time before the villagers were ready to return to their homes in the valleys with their fattened cattle, a band of Kurdish bandits, industriously searching for a winter's supply of provisions, raided their stock. The villagers and their Kurdish protectors made a vigorous defense. They would have ended it but before the fighting was over the Turkish government came into the affair and then the real trouble began. Some of them telegraphed that a conspiracy was in progress among the Armenians in the mountain villages and the order came straight from the palace:

"Punish the villagers to the utmost extremity."

The palace has not paused to inquire into the truth of the rumor and the officers entrusted with the execution of the order did not investigate the facts when the troops arrived on the ground. The Kurdish band joined forces with the Turkish regulars and even the Kurds, who had been defending the Armenians, turned traitors and swelled the numbers of the government troops. The poor Armenian peasants were then left at the mercy of a force of Turkish regulars and two bands of Kurds. The massacre began. For the Armenians it was a fight without hope, but still they fought as only men can to defend their wives and children from outrage and death. They took refuge in their houses and barricaded themselves in, but the Kurdish cannon made short work of these, and when the men in terror from their hiding places ran, they were slain without mercy, man, woman and child. The outrage of Armenian women and children by the Turks in that part of the country is so common a thing, even at times of absolute quiet, that there can be no doubt this massacre was attended with outrage and atrocity to horrible too think of. The Armenians in Athens and Constantinople assert that 42 villages were destroyed and nearly 10,000 persons massacred; but more impartial and equally informed persons put the number at 25 villages and from 1000 to 3000 persons killed. The exact number will never be known.

A FRADULENT COMMISSION.

As for the Turkish commission, it is such a fraud that it is a waste of breath to talk about it. The sultan's promise of reform will not be binding upon the Armenian revolutionary agents, no matter what may come, and until the revolutionary agitation is provided for one way or another by the Christian powers of the world, there will be no end to the disturbances in Armenia. This is the revolutionary party's opportunity and it will make the most of it. If Christianity does not step in now and put an end to the question once for all, crimes, massacres and the nameless atrocities will continue.

Not only should the Sassoun massacre be probed to the bottom, but all the attending circumstances should be carefully considered. For one thing the state of morals in Armenia, and especially along the Kurdish frontier, should receive the closest scrutiny. The facts that are now and then told as merest matters of course, are most appalling in the depths of depravity. When an Armenian girl is to be married she is taken from her home and outraged by bands of Turks and Kurds, and any member of her family who lifts a hand in defense of her honor is shot down.

THE ARMENIAN CHRISTIAN MUST SUFFER.

On the Kurdish frontier the ravishers do not even wait for the approach of a girl's wedding, but they seize her when she has reached a certain age and carry her off to the mountains where she is most shamefully treated. In a few days she is allowed to return to her home. This infamous practice is so common that it is declared there is not a young Armenian woman living along the Kurdish frontier who has not been a victim of it. Even children of tender years are not exempt, and some have actually died in the most frightful agony. Any attempt of the Armenians to combat this question, or to punish the perpetrators of the outrages, is met by severe measures. It is a significant fact that outrages are never perpetrated by Turks upon other Turks, or by Kurds upon their fellow tribesmen. It is always upon the Armenian Christian that Turk and Kurd let loose their depravity. It is the difference of religion that is the basis of all this injury, oppression and wrong. What will the practical Christianity of England and America do about it? Will it help the Armenian revolutionist party to form an independent state in order that the women and children may be protected against outrage and death? Will it give Armenia to Christian Russia, where already many thousands of Armenians are living in peace and prosperity? Will it drive the Turks from power and divide their empire among the nations of Europe? Whatever practical Christianity decides to do it will not do it as a result of the report of the Turkish commission of inquiry.

As the situation now stands, one is forced to believe both Turk and Armenian are in the wrong.

INCIDENTS OF ARMY LIFE.

Unpleasant Social Experiences Sometimes Experienced In Posts and Garrisons.

Notwithstanding the fact that the officers of the American army are the very pink of courtesy, they sometimes in post and garrison life have very unpleasant social experiences. An officer in a garrison is assigned quarters not according to the necessities of his family, but in accordance with his rank.

It therefore comes out quite frequently when a new officer is sent to a post that there are many changes of quarters, so as to make room for him. When a new major arrives, for instance, he selects the quarters that suit him best, it matters not who occupies them, provided the occupant is below him in rank. He can turn out a major lower on the list or any captain or lieutenant, and each of these when dispossessed can choose for himself what quarters suit him best if occupied by an inferior in rank. One move, therefore, may make a dozen others. The women of the army, it is said, are greater sticklers for their rights than the men. But the men themselves, while preserving all the forms of highest courtesy, sometimes push their authority to the fullest limit.

For instance, at a two company post in the west some years ago a captain of infantry was in command, as his commission was of older date than that of the captain of cavalry also there. The two captains were mutually antipathic. In their official intercourse all the forms were observed, but still it was plain to all that they cordially disliked each other. One day the senior captain ordered the junior to take a file of men to the forest and cut the firewood needed for the winter. This duty ordinarily would have been given to a sergeant or corporal. The cavalry captain had no recourse and was obliged to obey. Just as he got outside the post the mail, which came only now and then at intervals of a week or so, arrived, and the cavalryman stopped for letters. One of these brought him his commission as major. He at once issued an order taking command of the post and then another order assigning the wood chopping duty to the late commandant.—Chicago Times.

PAINTINGS OF CHRIST.

The Face as Depicted by Some of the More Modern Artists.

Among the more modern paintings representing the Saviour is that by Correggio, painted in the sixteenth century. It represents Christ with short curly beard, with long waving hair, surmounted by a crown of thorns. There is a look of mute anguish on his face that is heartrending, but nevertheless the face is rather weak.

The most terrible likeness is that painted at about the same time as that of Correggio by Albert Durer. It represents a powerful face, with a Grecian cast of countenance, with eyes distorted by pain and anguish, and even a trifle of anger is apparent.

The Christ of Raphael, a contemporary of both the above, is an essentially Italian work, the face being Italian, although the model for the forehead and upper face was evidently a woman. The Rembrandt Christ of the seventeenth century wears an unpleasant expression about the mouth and has too long a face to be perfect, yet it is one of the great artist's last efforts.

Perhaps the most fantastic picture of Christ is that painted in the fifteenth century by Leonardo da Vinci. It represents the Saviour looking over his shoulder, a cynical smile on his face. A hand may be seen in his hair, evidently drawing the head to one side. It cannot compare in beauty, however, to the same artist's face of Christ in the famous "Lord's Supper."

The noblest and the grandest is that by Titian, painted in the sixteenth century. It is a face of resignation, of firmness—strong, yet mild; mild, yet strong. Titian was 90 years old when he painted this, and it is considered as one of his masterpieces.

Of the absolutely modern paintings of Christ those of Munkaczy, Ary Sheffer and Gabriel Max rank highest. Still every one of these is an imaginary production, and the Saviour will still continue to be the "Man of Mystery."—Edgar Mels in Home and Country.

The Mystery of It.

Mrs. Sniffwell—Why, Bridget, you have been eating onions!

Bridget—Shure, mum, you're a moind reader.—Quiver

MEXICO'S FINAL ULTIMATUM.

Message Will Be Sent Out on Monday.

Little Doubt But War Will Be Declared.

The American Warships Alert and Ranger Dispatched to San Jose de Guatemala.

CITY OF MEXICO, Feb. 2.—President Diaz will give out on Monday, February 4th, what is expected to be Mexico's final ultimatum in the dispute with Guatemala. If current rumors and state of public feeling are to be believed, it will be a declaration of war.

A MATTER OF MONEY.

In the Way of Settlement Between Mexico-Guatemala.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 2.—Minister Mariscal and President Diaz have held another consultation on the Guatemalan matter, in which the subject of indemnity for Mexico was further discussed. Mr. Mariscal intimated to the newspaper correspondents that the amount and general nature of the indemnity due from Guatemala is practically the only question that is being considered at the present time. The Tiempo says Guatemala has sent a cablegram to Mexico, in which it acted to the demand of this republic in every particular, agreeing to pay to Mexico full indemnity for all losses incurred in the invasion giving rise to the present unhappy state of affairs, but this is denied. It is hinted at the palace that there may be a speedy outcome to affairs now pending. A long session of the representatives from the various departments, including the treasury branch, was held with General Ignacio Escudero, commander of the Mexican forces and chief of the war department, in the absence of General Pedro Hinojosa. General Escudero immediately left his office and held a conference with President Diaz, but its outcome is not yet known.

Summarizing the applications of Americans and the amount of followers the applicants can place on the field, it is estimated that 2500 men from the United States are ready to enter the service of Mexico without incurring any expense to its treasury.

THE ALERT AND RANGER.

American War Vessels Ordered to Guatemala from San Diego.

SAN DIEGO, Feb. 2.—Orders were received by Commander Ide of the U. S. S. Alert today to proceed at once to San Jose de Guatemala. Captain Watson of the Ranger received similar orders. Coal was taken on immediately and preparations made to sail tomorrow or next day. It is probable that the vessels will meet and accompany the Bennington which has been ordered to the same port and is now on the way.

The orders were regarded as an indication that the Mexico-Guatemala question is beginning to assume a serious phase and that war will occur.

REX MORITUR EXSUL

"We know no king, no God, no master, we!"
What wonder when your passions know no master?
When morbid, moonstruck, measureless vanity,
The mock of nations, whirl you faster
Toward the steep doom of downfall and disaster—
A ruin deeper than the unfathomed sea?
Vainglorious fools, your chronic rage is vain!
Birth royal is nature's gift, as brawn or brain,
And natural right thrones high above your mob
Of silly mouths and maws, whose slender sense
The froth of individual impotence
Stirs to ridiculous rage that fain would rob
The sun of right to shine in heaven, if thence
Absinthe nerves might thrill and pothouse pulses throb.

—C. J. B. in Academy.

POLICE AND THE POODLES.

Ladies Who Want Officers Detailed to Protect Their Pet Dogs.

"Some folks have strange ideas as to the duties of the police force," said the desk sergeant.

"When I was at the North Chicago avenue station, for instance, I remember a case. A lady rang me up one afternoon and said she wanted two policemen sent to her residence at once. She lived on Dearborn avenue, and when she told me her name I recognized it as that of a well known business man. I asked what the policemen were wanted for.

"'They will be told when they get here,' said she.

"'But, madam,' said I, 'I couldn't send two policemen to your house without knowing what they were going for, even if I wanted to. It's against the rules.'

"She thought it was a very strange rule, she said, which compelled her to state her private business over a telephone, but she finally told me what the trouble was. She said she had been out walking with her little dog, and that two very suspicious looking men had been watching her from the other side of the street. She was sure they meant to steal the dog, and she wanted them locked up. When I explained to her that we couldn't arrest anybody on such evidence, she gave a few more opinions about the police and rang off.

"I had a call something like this from a residence in Bellevue place. This one came by phone, too, and was from a lady. She wanted the patrol wagon sent to her house right away. She declined to tell me at first what it was wanted for, but when I refused to do anything until I knew something further she said an ugly dog was hanging about her back steps, and that she couldn't let her dogs out to play in the yard, as this dog insisted on playing with them and was not the kind of a dog she wanted her dogs to associate with. I told her that I couldn't send the patrol wagon on such an errand, but said I would have the dog taken to the pound by the wagon on its way there next day. She said she didn't want the dog there overnight, and I suggested that perhaps he would go away of his own accord when he saw he was being snubbed. She hung up her phone with a bang, and as I learned afterward reported me at headquarters."—Chicago Times.

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A STRIP OF FLESH COLOR.

Boston Aldermen Were Greatly Shocked.

Costumes of Pretty French Dancers the Cause.

An Accommodating Manager Submits a Job Lot of Tights to the City Fathers.

Special to THE HERALD.

BOSTON, Feb. 2.—The aldermanic committee on licenses last night objected to the narrow strip of flesh color between the ends of the stockings and trunks of the four pretty French dancers in The Passing Show, at the Columbia theater, and gravely notified the manager of the company that some other color must be substituted.

Frank W. Martineau, the manager, today visited the city hall and carried with him 16 pairs of tights of all colors, for the purpose of giving the committee an opportunity to select a suitable color Great curiosity has been aroused as to the color the aldermen will pick out for the foru dancers to wear.

Castle Square theater has been billing highly artistic pictures of scenes and incidents in Aladdin, jr., which is to be produced at that theater next week. The pictures showed in life-size the figures of a score or more girls whose bewitching forms were to grace the stage in the ballet portion of the performances. Several of the girls were hown gazing at a sculptor and his model, their shapely forms and underpinnings hidden from view only by the thinnest of tights. An inkling of the crusade which the aldermen started reached the management of the theater, and during the night the limbs of the shapely beauties which attracted the gallery gods yesterday were hidden from view beneath short underskirts, suggesting that the young ladies had been surprised in the act of donning their outer garments.

THE REIGN OF THE BICYCLE.

The Present Passion For the Wheel Is Not Likely to Die Out Ever.

What may be called not improperly the bicycle passion has full possession of several leading countries of the world. England and France, notably those parts of them in and about London and Paris, have been so given over to it for some time that a large proportion of their population come and go on their errands of business or pleasure on a wheel. Americans who have recently traveled abroad have been astonished at the general use of the bicycle there and have been still more astonished on returning to their own country during the past year to discover what headway the passion had made here. It is said to be a conservative estimate by competent authorities that during the year now closing 250,000 bicycles have been sold in this country, and that the number of riders approaches 1,000,000. There are said to be over 50,000 in New York and its neighborhood and fully half that number in and about Boston. The latter city caught the passion from Europe some time before New York did and has a larger proportion of its population, male and female, regularly devoted to it.

Observers of the phenomenon are wondering whether it is merely a passing whim or whether it has come to stay, whether those who have taken it up will continue it after the novelty has worn off or whether they will drop it for the next new fad that shall come along. There are many reasons for thinking that its stay will be permanent. Undoubtedly many of those who take it up because of its vogue will tire of it after awhile, but these will not constitute a large proportion of the whole number. The great body of riders find in the bicycle a new pleasure in life, a means for seeing more of the world, a source of better health through open air exercise, a bond of comradeship, a method of rapid locomotion either for business or pleasure and many other enjoyments and advantages which they will not relinquish. The bicycle has, in fact, become a necessary part of modern life and could not be abandoned without turning the social progress of the world backward. Few who have used it for a tour through the country would think for a moment of giving it up and returning to pedestrianism instead. Aside from the exhilarating joy of riding, which every bicycle devotee will assure you is the nearest approach to flying at present possible to man, there is the opportunity of seeing a constantly changing landscape.

The bicycle is indeed the great leveler. It puts the poor man on a level with the rich, enabling him to "sing the song of the open road" as freely as the millionaire and to widen his knowledge by visiting the regions near to or far from his home, observing how other men live. He could not afford a railway journey and sojourn in these places, and he could not walk through them without tiring sufficiently to destroy in a measure the pleasure which he sought. But he can ride through 20, 30, 50, even 70 miles of country in a day without serious fatigue and with no expense save his board and lodging. To thousands of men and women the longing of years to travel a little as soon as they could afford it is thus gratified, virtually without a limit, for a "little journey in the world" can be made on every recurring holiday or vacation.—Century.

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