

CRIMES OF THE TURK.

American Christians Tell of the Slaughter of Armenians.

MURDER AND PILLAGE.

Thousands Put to Death and Their Homes Razed by Moslem Bands.

MASSACRE THEIR PASTIME.

Official Accounts of Repeated Uprisings of the Oppressed Race Are Fabrications.

[Special Correspondence of The United Press.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, Turkey, Nov. 27.—The following matter has been handed to the European manager of the United Press, who is now in Constantinople. The latter from full confidence in the American Christian man who sent it and from careful personal observation is able to forward it to the American press as an impartial statement of facts.

"During the month of October a considerable part of the Armenian district in the provinces of Trebizond, Erzerum, Bitlis, Van, Harpoot, Diarbekir and Sivas has been laid waste, and a number, not yet fully known, of the Armenian inhabitants have been killed by men intent on crushing into impotence the Armenians in Turkey. As the awful tidings have come in by dribbles the Turkish Government has diligently telegraphed abroad in regard to each place that Armenians had attacked Mussulmans, thus arousing a frenzy of indignation which could not easily be controlled, but that order had been restored after some loss of life.

"The effect of these telegrams has been to create a belief that there has been some general uprising of Armenians, and that we are in the presence of a calamity which is merely the result of lawless proceedings on the part of the Armenians themselves. Natural indignation with the Armenians for rising at the very moment when the reform scheme was about to be put into operation may be moderated when it is known that up to this date the only authentic uprising of Armenians has taken place at Zeitoun, in the province of Aleppo, and far from the scene of the massacres.

"Moreover, in such cases as offer opportunity for examination, several circumstances cited in the Turkish dispatches as causes for the bloodshed have proved to have been incidents and not causes of the massacres. Men who found themselves assailed by the mob and happened to have arms in their houses, in a number of cases defended their lives and their families to the last. At Diarbekir, where the Christians are generally armed, they made a hard fight for life, and some 1500 Moslems are said to have been killed. But aside from this case, the destruction of from 10,000 to 15,000 Christians has not cost the Turks more than 200 or 300 lives.

"Proper comprehension of what has taken place depends upon knowledge of what went before. In the latter part of September, while the powers were renewing their demands for the acceptance by Turkey of the reform scheme, word began to come in from all of the provinces that the Moslems were being armed, while the disarmament of the Christians was being pressed with great determination. In some cases the Government officials openly distributed arms and ammunition to the Moslem phalanxiers. In many cases Moslems were found buying arms in the open market who had no money to buy bread. In other cases the officials sold to the Moslems the arms which they confiscated from the Christians, thus making a useful profit.

"At the same time the Kurds of the mountainous district of Dersin, lying between Erzingan and Harpoot, began to assemble, saying that they had received orders from Seikki Pasha, the commander of the fourth army corps, to devastate the Armenian villages, taking the plunder for their pay. Whether such orders were given no one knows. They promptly began to seize the cattle and sheep of the Armenians in all of the surrounding regions, seeming anxious to secure the flocks and to get them out of harm's way before the serious work began.

"During the early days of October, Turks in all the six provinces openly declared they were going to massacre the Christians. The Armenian Patriarchate and some of the foreign Embassies at Constantinople were overwhelmed with piteous appeals, based on blood-curdling threats, for protection from the Moslem population. Terror reigned among all the Armenians of the region because they were helpless and unarmed in the midst of a seething mass of hate and fanaticism. In Erzerum about this time large numbers of Moslem villagers, it is said, began to come into the city, eager to buy empty sacks. It was a curious fact, this passion for empty sacks. The price of empty bags tripled. At last the Armenian dealers began to suspect some uncanny secret behind the demand for sacks. It was afterwards shown that they were used to carry off the property plundered from the massacred Armenians.

"The statement sketches at length the horrors of the assault upon the Armenians, the destruction of their villages and the terrible slaughter to which they were subjected, showing that a region 600 miles in area from Trebizond to Diarbekir, and from the Russian frontier at Erzerum to Sivas has been given up to massacre and pillage, and gives a detailed statement of the number killed in cities and villages, aggregating, so far as known, 13,200. A very low estimate of the number thus reduced to absolute want by the loss of all of their movable property is 200,000 souls, of whom three-fourths are the wives and children of the ruined traders or farmers.

All trade is broken up. All agriculture in the devastated district is blotted out, the implements generally burned. All the poor semblance of manufacturing industries in these districts has been wiped out. Many who were wealthy are on the verge of starvation, and the strongest faint will add to their calamities. The statement, continuing, says: "America cannot send armies to avenge the crime against humanity. Let it rise in a National movement of irresistible force to send out wise, unpartisan men, equipped and supplied with means from the wealth

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FAVOR FREE COINAGE.

Trans-Mississippi Congress Delegates Stand by Silver.

PACIFIC ROADS DEBTS.

Congress Urged to Cause an Immediate Foreclosure or Reorganization.

CABLE TO THE FARALLONES.

The Project Indorsed in the Resolutions. Salt Lake the Next Place of Meeting.

OMAHA, Neb., Nov. 27.—The third and last day's session of the Trans-Mississippi Congress was by far the most interesting and exciting of all. Omaha was selected as the city for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition of 1898. Salt Lake City was selected for the next meeting of the congress, and after an exciting debate the free-silver resolutions were adopted by a large majority.

The congress has in all adopted the following resolutions, which have been reported favorably: For Statehood for New Mexico; expressing sympathy with Cuba in its struggle for independence; favoring the construction of the Farallon cable; for the improvement of the harbor of San Pedro; short line to the coast of California and Utah Railway; the fortification of San Diego Harbor; a Bureau of Forestry; an establishment of a United States commission for the survey of semi-arid portions of the country for the purpose of irrigation; completion of the Hennepin canal; to restore American shipping; prompt completion of the Nicaragua canal; free coinage of silver and legislation on Pacific railways.

The first fight came on the passage of the resolution on Pacific railways, which had been introduced by W. J. Bryan. Vice-President Doniphan was called to the chair, and Bryan delivered a speech in favor of the resolution. Carlisle of California opposed it, saying:

"I am a railroad man. I believe in railroads. In California we are suffering from the monopoly of one railroad, and we want more roads; I want competing lines, and I believe that competition will regulate rates."

Mr. Carlisle told of existing conditions in California, and argued against the wording of the original resolution. He declared there was too much fighting of different interests in the West, and that if Legislatures were bribed by railroads the blame rested on the people who elected the legislators. After a long discussion the resolution was passed as offered, with a slight alteration, thus:

Resolved, That the people of the trans-Mississippi region are especially interested in legislation relating to the Pacific railroads. We favor either the immediate foreclosure by the United States Government of its liens against the roads, or such a reorganization as will prevent fictitious capitalization and secure to the patrons of the roads the use of transportation facilities at rates which will realize for the general interest of the people a reasonable income on the money actually invested.

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After several enthusiastic speeches the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The question of the location of the congress for next year came up and Portland, Des Moines, Deadwood, Salt Lake City and Boise City had their champions. The location was fixed at Salt Lake City, and George Q. Cannon extended a hearty welcome to that city on that occasion.

The great debate of the congress was on the free silver resolution introduced by Mr. Bryan. This debate lasted from 4 to 6 o'clock P.M. and was masterly. President Bryan appointed Governor Prince of New Mexico to lead for the silver men and Hon. John L. Webster to speak against free silver. Governor Prince declined, and on motion Mr. Bryan was requested to leave the chair and lead for the silver men, Vice-President Hazlett of Iowa presiding.

The opening was made by Mr. Bryan in a five-minute speech. He was followed by Colonel Bradshaw of Montana, S. S. James of Utah, Colonel Doniphan of Missouri, Governor Prince of New Mexico and Congressman Strothoff of Denver, for the free coinage; C. M. Hart of Iowa and Mr. Eddy of Oregon spoke against free silver. The two great speeches were delivered by John L. Webster and Mr. Bryan. Mr. Webster is a leading attorney of Omaha and a very able political speaker. His half-hour address on "The Folly of Free Coinage" called for the long and frequent applause of the anti-silverites. The hall was filled, and some of Omaha's leading citizens were present.

President Bryan closed the debate with a characteristic and brilliant address, which set the convention to cheering again and again. At its close the audience gave him an ovation.

The vote resulted 124 for free coinage to 50 against it.

For silver Utah cast 22 votes, Missouri 3, Montana 10, California 10, Colorado 10, Iowa 1, Nebraska 20, Kansas 5, New Mexico 8, Wyoming 10, Idaho 10, South Dakota 8 and Oregon 5—Total 124.

Against free silver coinage Missouri cast 7, Iowa 21, Nebraska 10, Kansas 5, South Dakota 2 and Oregon 5—Total 50.

The resolution as adopted read: WHEREAS, An appreciating money standard impairs contracts, bankrupts enterprises, makes idle money profitable by increasing its purchasing power and suspends productive forces of our people; and whereas, the spoliation consequent upon the outlawry of silver in the interest of the creditor class by constantly increasing the value of gold is undermining all industrial society; therefore be it Resolved, That we demand the immediate

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DUMAS' WORK ENDED.

Death of the Distinguished Author and Dramatist in Paris.

PASSES AWAY SUDDENLY.

The Invalid Seized by a Nervous Convulsion After Drinking Tea.

SURROUNDED BY RELATIVES.

Shortly Before the End Came He Had Seemingly Rallied From His Weakness.

PARIS, France, Nov. 27.—Alexander Dumas,