September 5, 1895

September 10, 1895

RUSTEM PASHA MOVED TO TEARS

Salisbury Said that Turkey Would Yield
To the Demand of the Powers or
Would Be Dismembered.

LONDON, Sept. 4,? The Post will to-morrow publish a dispatch from Paris saying that a Constantinople letter is published in Paris containing what purports to be the text of a dispatch sent by Rustem Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador to Great Britain, to the Turkish Foreign Minister, giving an account of an interview the Ambassador lately had with Prime Minister Salisbury. The letter says:

"I began telling Lord Salisbury that the Ottoman Government did not oppose the execution of Article 61 of the treaty of Berlin, and that it was in perfect agreement with the signatory powers, but that it could not admit control by an international commission.

"Lord Salisbury interrupted me, saying:

"I have only to repeat to you what I have said, namely, if your Government refuse, we shall appeal to the powers. We shall demand the assembling of a congress and apply Article 61, with an international commission. Now, I beg you to understand that if your Government continue further opposition, this will be the signal for the dismemberment of Turkey."

"Tears come to my eyes, and I feel overcome. I am telegraphing to you an account of this painful interview."—"RUSTEM PASHA."

The Post will also publish a dispatch from Constantinople saying that the demand of Great Britain, France, and Russia that they be represented on the permanent committee controlling the execution of reforms in Armenia causes the Sultan much concern.

He prefers to accept the original scheme of reforms proposed by the powers. He has given greater latitude to the Grand Vizier in order to facilitate his efforts to arrive at a settlement of the pending questions.

ANOTHER ARMENIAN HOLOCAUST

Five Villages Burned, Five Thousand Persons Made Homeless, and Anti-Christians Organized.

LONDON, Sept. 9, ? The Daily News will tomorrow publish a dispatch from Kars, stating that fresh outrages have been perpetrated in the Erzinslan district.

A band of brigands attacked a company of Turkish gendarmes on Aug. 12, killing a Sergeant. Therefore, the Turkish authorities, without making any inquiry, decided that the assailants were Armenian revolutionaries from Kemakh, who intended to release exalted Armenians who are still in the prison at Kars.

A force of 1, 000 Turkish troops was sent to Kemakh, and five villages were pillaged. Five thousand persons were rendered homeless. Men, women, and children were tortured. Four monasteries were sacked.

It is reported that the Turkish minor officials have formed an anti-Christian society to slaughter Christians if the Porte accepts the scheme of reforms the powers insist upon.



WEDNESDAY APRIL 21, 1909

MOSLEM MASSACRES TAKE 5,000 LIVES

Fresh Outbreaks Reported at Marash and Hadjin, and in Vicinity of Alexandretta

TURKS BLAME ARMENIANS

Turkish Governor Refuses to Allow Party to Land from British Warship to Relieve Armenian Village.

Foreign Office Says They Killed Rogers and Maurer While the American Missionaries Were Fighting a Fire.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 20.- No less than 5,000 persons lost their lives in the massacres that have been going on in the vilayet of Adana during the last eight days as a result of the outbreak of Moslem fanaticism. Of the total 2,000 were killed in the City of Adana, and of this number more than 200 were Moslems. This information was received in Constantinople this morning through Consular channels.

Adana at present is quiet, but there have been renewed attacks on Christians at Marash in the vilayet of Aleppo, about eighty miles northeast of Alexandretta. The Consular advices describe the situation as extremely precarious. The excitement at the port of Alexandretta is intense, although the presence of the British cruiser Diana at that port is expected to have a tranquilizing effect..

Disturbances are reported from Hadjin, in the northern extremity of the Adana vilayet, where a large Armenian community is counted upon to defend itself vigorously.

A special dispatch from Mersina says that massacre and pillage continue in the interior, and that the authorities are either indifferent or are conniving in the slaughter. The British warship which sailed to relieve Deurtyul, an Armenian village on the coast, returned to Alexandretta to-day without having accomplished anything.

The commander of the vessel applied to the Governor of the district for permission to land a relief party, but the permission was refused.

There appears to have been a preconceived plan for the extermination of the Armenians throughout Anatolia, directed by some occult influence in the capital. People of position here, says the dispatch, were duly forewarned weeks ago, and great indignation is expressed at the callousness and incredulity of Europe.

The Foreign Office, replying to an inquiry made by Ambassador Laishman regarding the killing at Adana of the American missionaries Rogers and Maurer, says it appears that the two men came to their death at the hands of Armenians who were firing from their dwellings near where the missionaries were helping to put out a fire in the house of a Turkish widow. The foreign Office puts the entire blame for the killing of the missionaries on the Armenians.

BEIRUT, Syria, April 20. - Moslem fanaticism has broken out in the immediate vicinity of Alexandretta, and great excitement prevails in that district.

Houses in flames can be seen from the streets of Alexandretta.

LARNACA, Cyprus, April 20.- Advices received here from Adana by way of Latakia, Syria, state that massacres began in the markets at Adana on Wednesday morning. The Armenians retired to their own quarters and resisted for forty-eight hours. The Christian bazaars were looted and burned. For several days the villagers came in from the surrounding country in hordes. They were armed by the authorities, who pretend to regard them as military reserves.

Women and children were horribly mutilated. The missionaries, Rogers and Mauer, were shot dead while fighting the fire. The massacres then spread to Tarsus and other places. The whole district is in a shocking condition. Thousands are homeless and famine is imminent. The 4,000 refugees in the yard of the American College are in a pitiable condition. Provision, clothing, and physicians are urgently needed.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1909

AMERICAN WOMEN IN PERIL AT HADJIN

Five Missionaries, Entirely Defenseless, Send Out Appeal for Immediate Aid.

ANOTHER TOWN WIPED OUT

Entire Population of Kirikan Massacred. Fire and Pillage Throughout District Outbreak Due to Fall of Young Turks.

BEIRUT, April 22.- Five American women missionaries ¹ are in danger at Hadjin, in the vilayet of Adana, Asiatic Turkey. One of them, Miss Lambert, has sent a message down to the coast asking for immediate help. The message is dated April 22, and says:

"Hadjin has been surrounded for a week by the villagers of this district, who are awaiting the opportunity to storm the place. All roads are closed, and shots are being fired into the town irregularly. The dwellings on the outskirts have been burned. The authorities at Adana have been appealed to for aid, which has not been sent. A rumor from the outside says that an assault will be made on this place to-night".

The women are entirely alone and defenseless. The villages surrounding Hadjin are in flames, and Hadjin itself is invested by nomad tribesmen. Messages from the interior are being suppressed by the authorities.

The situation in the country north, east, and west of Alexandretta, arising from the anti-Christian outbreaks, is most serious. The entire population of Kirikan, between Aleppo and Alexandretta, massacred, not even young babies being spared.

The French mission at Ekbaz is besieged by fanatical Moslems.

The Armenian village of Deurtyul is surrounded, and according to a messenger who crawled through the

Arab lines at night and made his way to Aleppo for help, the situation there is hopeless. The buildings on the edge of the town already were in flames when he escaped. There have been massacre and pillage at Antioch, and rioting at Birejik. Aleppo is in a state of panic.

There are only 400 soldiers in the city. Business is at a standstill, and there is every reason to fear a serious outbreak. The city is full of Bedouin Arabs, Kurds, and Circassians.

Released Murderers Join Mob.

At Ayas, on the west coast of the Gulf of Alexandretta, 418 murderers have been released from prison. They at once joined the mob and began committing depredations.

At Tarsus 100 persons have been killed, 800 houses have been burned, and there are today 5,000 persons without homes.

Several native pastors from Aintab were killed while on their way to attend the district missionary meeting at Adana.

The massacres are being carried out with ferocity. Neither women nor children are spared. The motto of the Moslems is, "No twig of the accursed race shall be suffered to live."

The Armenians, recognizing that the massacres have been organized and carried out by adherents of the Old Turkish regime are looking to the Young Turks for future protection. The Turkish Government officials at Mersina have done everything possible to check the trouble. The result of their efforts has been very limited, but in spite of this they deserve praise for their work.

¹ Among these five women missionaries was Rose Lambert, an American missionary with the United Orphanage and Mission Society, stationed in Hadjin. For an extensive eyewitness account of the massacre of the Hadjin American Massacres," Fleming H. Revell Company, Pub. London. 1911.



MARCH 20, 1915 (4:3)

WHOLE PLAIN STREWN BY ARMENIAN BODIES

Turks and Kurds Reported to have Massacred Men, Women and Children.

London, March 19. — Appalling accounts of conditions in Armenia have reached the officials in London of the Armenian Red Cross Fund and have been given out by them.

The latest recital is from an Armenian doctor named Derderian, who says that the whole plain of Alashgerd is virtually covered with the bodies of men, women, and children.

When the Russian forces retreated from this district the Kurds fell upon the helpless people and shut them up in mosques. The men were killed and the women were carried away to the mountains.

The organizers of the Red Cross Fund say there are 120,000 destitute Armenians now in the Caucasus.





April 28, 1915 (2:1)

APPEAL TO TURKEY TO STOP MASSACRES

Ambassador Morgenthau Instructed to Make Representations on Request of Russia.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 27. — An appeal for relief of Armenian Christians in Turkey, following reported massacres and threatened further outrages, was made to the Turkish Government today by the United States.

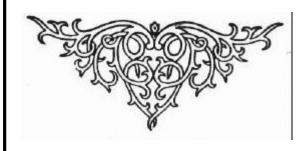
Acting upon the request of the Russian Government, submitted through Ambassador Bakhmeteff, Secretary Bryan cabled to Ambassador Morgenthau at Constantinople to make representations to the Turkish authorities asking that steps be taken for the protection of imperiled Armenians and to prevent the recurrence of religious outbreaks.

Ambassador Bakhmeteff Called at the State Department late today with a dispatch from his Government, which included an appeal to the President of the United States for aid, forwarded through the Russian Government from the Catholicos of the Armenian Church at Etchmiadzin, in the Caucasus.

"The request from the head of the Armenian Church to this Government, forwarded through the Russian Ambassador," said Secretary Bryan, "is the first official notice the department has received of the reported Armenian massacres. Our action was taken as a matter of humanity." The Russian Embassy today gave out a translation of a recent speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Duma, in which the

presence of Russian troops in Persia was explained. The Foreign Minister said:

"The presence of our troops in Persian territory by no means involves a violation of Persian neutrality. Our detachments were sent to that country some years ago for the definite purpose of establishing and maintaining order in districts contiguous to our possessions, of high economic importance to us, also to prevent the seizure of some of these districts by the Turks, who openly strove to create for themselves there, especially in the district of Urumiah, a convenient base for military operations against the Caucasus. The Persian Government, not having the actual power to maintain its neutrality, met the Turkish violation of the latter with protests, which, however, had no results.



SEPTEMBER 24, 1915 (2:3)

500,000 ARMENIANS SAID TO HAVE PERISHED

Washington Asked to Stop Slaughter of Christians by Turks and Kurds.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Sept.23.4 Charles R. Crane of Chicago, a Director of Roberts College, Constantinople, and James L. Burton of Boston, Foreign Secretary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, visited the State Department today and conferred with Acting Secretary of State Polk and other officials regarding the slaughter of Armenians by Turks and Kurds in Asia Minor. They will attend a meeting of a general committee, to be held in New York within a few days, to devise a plan for appealing to the American people for funds and aid for as many of the unfortunate Armenians as can be helped.

It was learned, in connection with the conferences held here today, that general representations have from time to time been made to the Ottoman Government by Ambassador Morgenthau for humane treatment of Armenians. Despite these representations, the slaughter of Armenians has continued.

The records of the State Department are replete with detailed reports from American Consular officers in Asia Minor, which give harrowing tales of the treatment of the Armenian Christians by the Turks and the Kurds. These reports have not been made public. They indicate that the Turk has undertaken a war of extermination on Armenians, especially those of the Gregorian Church, to which about 90 percent of the Armenians belong. The Turkish Government originally ordered the

deportation of all Armenians, but some time ago, after representations had been made by Morgenthau, the Ottoman Government gave assurances that the order would be modified so as not to embrace Catholic and Protestant Armenians. Reports reaching Washington indicate that about 500,000 Armenians have been slaughtered or lost their lives as a result of the Turkish deportation order and the resulting war of extinction. Turkish authorities drove the Gregorian Armenians out of their homes, ordered them to proceed to distant towns in the direction of Bagdad, which could only be reached by crossing long stretches of desert. **During the exodus of Armenians across the deserts** they have been fallen upon by Kurds and slaughtered, but some of the Armenian women and girls, in considerable numbers, have been carried off into captivity by the Kurds. The reports that have been sent to the State Department by its agents in Asia Minor fully confirm these statements made in the appeal sent to this country by Viscount Bryce, formerly the British Ambassador to the United States, to try to stop the slaughter of the Armenians. Viscount Bryce stated that the horrors through which the Armenians have passed have been unparalleled in modern times.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALEXANDRIA, Sept. 23, (Dispatch to The London Morning Post.) 3/4 British refugees from Urfa, who arrived in Alexandria yesterday, brought terrible tales of sufferings of interned allied subjects. They were not supplied with food, furniture, or servants, and were housed in an Armenian monastery the monks in which had been massacred.

They witnessed the Armenian massacres of Aug. 19. Urfa was the centre of ghastly scenes. The Turks systematically murdered men and turned women and children out into the desert, where thousands perished of starvation.

The last batch of women and children left Urfa on Aug. 24. They were delayed a fortnight at Alexandretta, awaiting a ship in filthy quarters and half starved. They finally embarked for Alexandria in an American warship.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 7, 1915 (3:5)

ALREADY HAS \$75,000 TO HELP ARMENIANS

Rockefeller Foundation Leads Donations to American Committee with \$30,000.

The Rockefeller Foundation contributed \$30,000 yesterday to the fund being raised to aid the Armenians who are being driven from their homes by the Turkish Government. This brings the amount already collected up to \$75,000.

In connection with its appeal for funds to aid the victims of Turkish abuses, issued on Monday, the American Committee on Atrocities in Armenia, from its offices at 70 Fifth Avenue, made public yesterday letters received in New York within the last two or three days detailing the reported misdeeds of the Turkish authorities in their treatment of the Armenians. In giving out the new reports, Professor Samuel T. Dutton of the committee said:

"We assume that a large number of the Turkish people are not unfriendly to the Armenians; in fact we know of many specific instances where individual Turks protested against the outrages, and American missionaries highly esteem many of the Turks, particularly of the higher class. This movement is dominated from the centre."

Included among the new details is a long letter from an officer of Euphrates College, The American institution at Harput, which had 600 students before the present persecutions began.

American College Nearly Wiped Out.

"Approximately two-thirds of the girl pupils," he says, "and six-sevenths of the boys have been taken away to death, exile, or Moslem homes. Of our professors four are gone and three are left.

"Professor Tenekejian, who was the Protestant Azbaked and representative of the Americans with the Government, was arrested on May 1. No charge was made against him, but the hair of his head, mustache and beard was pulled out in a vain effort to secure damaging confessions. He was starved and hung by the arms for a day and a night and was severely beaten several times.

About June 20 he was taken out toward Diarbekir and murdered in a general massacre on the road.

"Professor Natigian who had studied at Ann Arbor, was arrested about June 5 and shared Professor Tenekejian's fate on the road.

"Professor Vorperian, a Princeton man, was taken to see a man beaten almost to death and became deranged. He started into exile under guard with his family, about July 5, and was murdered beyond Malatia.

"Professor Boojicanian, an Edinburgh graduate, was arrested with Professor Tenekejian, suffered the same tortures, and in addition had three finger nails pulled out by the roots, and was killed in the same massacre.

"Of the male instructors four were killed on the road in various massacres, and three who have not been heard from probably suffered the same fate. Two are sick in the American Hospital; one is in hiding, and two are free.

"Of the female instructors one is reported killed in Chunkoosh, one reported taken to a Turkish harem; three have not been heard from; four others started out into exile, and ten are free.

"Of the Armenian people as a whole we may put an estimate that three-fourths are gone, and that this three-fourths include the leaders in every walk of life."

Charles R. Crane, Treasurer of the Committee, has just received the following communication from the State Department:

"In reply to the telegram sent to the American Ambassador at Constantinople at your request on Sept. 22, inquiring whether he could advantageously use \$50,000 or \$100,000 at the present time for the relief of Armenians in Turkey, the Department has received a telegram from Mr. Morgenthau, dated Sept. 24, in which he states that he could most advantageously use \$100.000 for the purpose mentioned; and that while such a sum, carefully administered, would make a good start, it would not suffice.

The Ambassador states that the money received would be distributed through missionaries at Konitsa, Adana, Tarsus, and Ourfa, and through the American Consul at Aleppo; and that the condition at present is simply appalling." Mr. Morgenthau closes his telegram as follows: "I implore my friends to do their utmost to assist liberally."

Public meetings will be held in New York and elsewhere, following the example of the meeting announced in London, which is to be addressed by Lord Bryce, Contributions may be sent to Charles R. Crane, Treasurer, and 70 Fifth Avenue.

NOVEMBER 1, 1915 (4:2)

AID FOR ARMENIANS BLOCKED BY TURKEY

Attempts to Send Food to Refugees Frustrated, Says the American Committee.

PUTS VICTIMS AT 1,000,000

Careful Survey Shows 55,000 Persons Killed in the Vilayet of Van Alone.

The American Committee on Armenian Atrocities, among the members of which are Cardinal Gibbons, Cleveland H. Dodge, Bishop David H. Greer, Oscar S. Straus, Professor Samuel T. Dutton, Charles R. Crane, and many other prominent citizens, issued a statement yesterday in which it was said that authentic reports from Turkey proved that the war of extermination being waged against the Armenians was so terrible that when all the facts were known the world would realize that what had been done was "the greatest, most pathetic, and most arbitrary tragedy in history."

Attempts to furnish food to the Armenians ordered deported to distant parts of the empire were blocked by the Turkish authorities, the committee said, the Turkish officials stating that "they wished nothing to be done that would prolong their lives."

In the statement the committee makes public a report received a few days ago from an official representative of the neutral powers, who, reporting on conditions in one of the Armenian camps, says:

"I have visited their encampment and a more pitiable sight cannot be imagined. They are, almost without exception, ragged, hungry and sick. This is not surprising in view of the fact that they have been on the road for nearly two months, with no change of clothing, no chance to bathe, no shelter, and little to eat. I watched them one time when their food was brought. Wild animals could not be worse. They rushed upon the guards who carried the food and the guards beat them back with clubs, hitting hard enough to kill sometimes. To watch them one could hardly believe these people to be human beings. As one walks through the camp, mothers offer their children and beg you to take them. In fact, the Turks have been taking their choice of these children and girls for slaves or worse. There are very few men among them as most of the men were killed on the road. Women and children were also killed. The entire movement seems to be the most thoroughly organized and effective massacre this country has ever seen."

"They all agree," adds the committee, referring to the reports," as to the method of procedure, the thoroughness and cruelty of the destructive work, and the confessed purpose of the plan to wipe out the Armenian nation. The fact that the central government at Constantinople refuses to permit Armenians to leave their country is further evidence of their purpose of extermination.

"The Turks do not deny the atrocities, but claim they are a military measure to protect them against a possible attack of a race that is disloyal.

"It is impossible to estimate how many have already perished. A careful survey in the Van Vilayet gathered the names of 55,000 persons who had been killed. Others were able to escape by flight to Persia and Russia. An eyewitness who has recently made an extended journey across Asia Minor saw over 50,000 poor, dazed, helpless, starving refugees camped by the roadside in a region almost desert, with no provision for their food supply. Probably it is not an overestimate to say that 1,000,000 of the possible 2.000,000 Armenians in Turkey at the beginning of the war are either dead or in Moslem harems, or forced to profess Mohammedanism, or are on their sad journey to the desert and death."

The committee says it has cabled \$106,000 to Ambassador Morgenthau at Constantinople, of which \$100,000 was for relief of Armenians in Turkey, and the remainder for Armenians who had escaped into Egypt. The office of the committee, of which Mr. Crane is Treasurer, is at 70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1915 (3:2)

THOUSANDS PROTEST ARMENIAN MURDERS

Only One Man and One woman Dissent from Resolutions Denouncing Outrages.

TURKS HAVE KILLED 500,000

Evidence taken from State Department Shows A Quarter of a Million Women Violated.

A great audience that packed the Century Theater, Central Park West and Sixty-Second Street, yesterday afternoon, had just acclaimed its approval of a resolution deploring the atrocities committed against the Armenians by the Turks, when a man, who said his name was Brown, arose and demanded a chance to discuss the resolutions.

A woman, who said she was Mrs. Brooks, shouted encouragement to the disturber and demanded that he be heard. He was forcibly ejected from the theater, but in a few minutes was back, angrily demanding to have his say.

The meeting, held to condemn atrocities in Armenia, was under the auspices of a committee of prominent Americans and well-known Armenians. Hamilton Holt, editor of The Independent, presided, and the speakers were the Rev. Dr. James L. Barton of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions., Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, the Rev. Father John J. Wynne, S.J., editor of the Catholic Encyclopedia, W. Bourke Cockran, the Rev. Dr. Ernest Yarrow of Van, Turkey, and Rev. William J. Haven.

The resolutions adopted read as follows:

Whereas, the civilized world has been shocked by a series of massacres and deportations of

Armenians in the Turkish Empire; and

Whereas, These crimes and outrages committed upon an industrious, thrifty, and peace-loving people, find no justification, viewed either in the light of law or humanity; Whereas, Those Armenians who survive are in great need of succor and relief, be it hereby

Resolved, That as American citizens, we make our most solemn protest against these cruel and inhuman practices and implore all officials and others having influence in the Turkish Empire, to put an end to these wrongs and to render every aid to the American Ambassador and others who would rescue and repatriate a people, who, by their history and achievements have been a credit to the empire,

Resolved, Further, That war, whereof and by whatsoever nation waged, affords no warrant for inhumanity toward innocent persons. The slaughter of noncombatant men, the tortures, mutilations, and outrages committed upon women and children wherever committed have given to the fairest places upon the earth the semblance of hell. In the name of the God of Nations and our common humanity, we call upon the nations at war to cease these crimes against civilization and morality.

Father Wynn seconded the resolutions and Mr. Holt had put them up for approval when Brown arose, red with excitement.

Several men hurried to the disturber and started him down the aisle. Mrs. Brooks then demanded that the man be heard and followed those who were ejecting him.

The audience was on its feet, as were those on the stage, among the latter, Mgr. Lavelle, who represented Cardinal Farley; Charles R. Crane, of Chicago, the Rev. Dr. H. P. Mendes, Professor William W. Rockwell, Professor Samuel P. Dutton, and a score of other prominent men.

Angrily denouncing his ejectors and struggling every inch of the way the man was forced from the theatre.

"This meeting," said Mr. Holt in his opening address, "is called for the purpose of deploring the greatest hecatomb known to history. The massacres now being perpetrated in Turkey are the most atrocious in the history of the world, and if they are to stop we must prevail upon Christian Germany, who alone can save the Armenians. The appeal may not be listened to in Constantinople, but it can be heard in Berlin."

THOUSANDS PROTEST ARMENIAN MURDERS (cont'd)

Dr. Barton was the first speaker. "We are here," he said, "to consider facts that bear upon the Armenian situation in the Turkish Empire, facts from which we cannot escape."

Referring to the report made by the Armenian Atrocities Committee, Dr. Barton said the disclosures were for the most part taken from official documents in the State Department at Washington.

"The committee," he said, "took steps to get only facts, and went to Washington and examined the official reports to the State Department. They ask why we did not publish the names of the persons who made the reports. The reason is obvious. One of the laws of Turkey is retaliation. One of our Consuls asked that his name be withheld because he would have to quit his post if his name became known."

Dr. Barton held up a great mass of papers, all copies of official reports to the State Department. Excerpts were read telling of terrible tortures, in the thousands of instances causing death.

Dr. Barton read a statement by a well-known Armenian, a graduate of an American university, just arrived in this country. He told of the fate of 1,215 men. These men were herded together and then in groups of twenty-five were sent away "by order of the Government and all of them brutally slain." The executioners, he said, were Turkish gendarmes and murderers and other criminals freed from jails to assist in the killing of Armenians.

"The reward of these murderers," said the statement, "was the money and valuables found on the bodies of their victims. One of these men boasted that he had killed off fifty in one night and that he got 150 pounds in Turkish money for his night's work."

Bourke Cockran said he had been informed that between 500,000 and 800,000 Armenians had been massacred and that 250,000 women and girls had been outraged. The problem of Armenia, Mr. Cockran said, is the problem of the Cuba of 1898 aggravated a million times.

Rabbi Wise was the last speaker. He was present, he said, not as an opponent of Turkey, nor as a champion of Armenia, but to protest against inhumanity, whether committed by Germans against Belgians, by Russians against Jews, or by Turks against Armenians.

He said that Germany and Austria could do much toward ending the Armenian atrocities, and if they did not doso, he said those nations may find that "certain victories are more disastrous than any defeats."

"If the Germans would alienate the good will of those who still remain neutral," he said, "let them say to the Turks: 'Not one more drop of blood must be shed.'"

In all the seats were petitions, with blanks for signatures, addressed to the Kaiser and the people of Germany, imploring them to use their good offices to end the atrocities in Armenia.



Nov 12,1916 (I,18:1,1)

ARMENIAN HORRORS SEEN BY GERMANS

Documents in Possession of the French Government Give Details of Atrocities.

TURKS BLAME IT ON BERLIN

German Nurses, Nuns, and Consuls Testify to the Sufferings of Thousands of Victims

The French Government has come into possession of a number of documents, in every instance written by a German or a Turk, in which the writers, among them German Consuls in Turkey, German soldiers, teachers, sisters of charity, and civilians, resident, or until within a year resident, in Turkey tell of the atrocities committed against the non-Turkish population of the Turkish Empire. Copies of these documents have been received by the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, and constitute, it is stated by the committee, the first accounts of the atrocities committed in Turkey which have been received in the United States from German sources.

The "absolute dependability" of the documents and the stories they tell, the American Committee states, have been vouched for. In all instances but one the names of the authors of the documents are withheld for "reasons of obvious prudence." The names, however, are known to the committee and are to be found in the French Government archives in Paris.

Here follow translations of some of these documents which were made public by the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, 1 Madison Avenue, yesterday:

''Dr. Martin Niepage," the statement reads, "who is a professor in a German high school in Turkey, is the author of the document whose name may be published. His letter is in the possession of the French Government.

He says:

"The cultured Moslems are under the impression that although the German people disapprove of this outrage the German Government will not interfere on account of consideration for their Turkish confederates.

Mohammedans Moved to Tears.

""Cultured, sympathetic Mohammedans, Turks as well as Arabs, shake their heads disapprovingly, yes, they do not even try to hide their tears when they see these poor deported people traveling through a city, being beaten by the soldiers. They cannot believe that their Government countenances these outrages, and try to blame the German Government for the atrocities which we know Turkish soldiers have performed. Even the Mullahs in their mosques say that not the Turkish but the German Government ordered these abuses and annihilation.

" 'The things which one has witnessed here for months will remain a blot on the scutcheon of Germany in the memory of the Orientals.

" 'We know that the Embassy in Constantinople, through the Consulate, has heard of all these things, but since the deportation rules have not been altered, we conscientiously believe that it is our duty to issue this report.

"At the time of writing this report Consul General Hoffmann succeeded the former representative to Aleppo. Consul Hoffmann told me that the German Embassy was time and again advised by the Consulates in Alexandretta, Aleppo, and Mossul of the things which were occurring. Consul Hoffmann took pictures of the people who were opposite the school and was interested in what I had to tell him of conditions there.

"The German Consul at Mossul told in my presence in the German Club at Aleppo, that on the way from Mossul to Aleppo he had in many places seen such quantities of chopped off hands of little children that the streets might have been paved with them. At the German Hospital in Urfa there is a little girl whose two hands have been chopped off.

" 'We refuse to admit that German Consuls organized the massacres. The belief of the Turkish people that we organized them will not be refuted unless German officers and diplomats work energetically to disprove what is now believed."

Others of the accounts report sentiments similar to these. One Turkish soldier is quoted as reflecting the feelings of his fellows: "This time Germany has given these unbelieving pigs a lesson they wont forget." The same writer reports that after thirty-four Armenians, among them 12-year-old boys, had been shot in Marash, crowds paraded to the German Hospital, crying, "Three cheers for Germany."

"A German-speaking Turkish Major," says the same writer, "complained, "The General of the staff is a German, and so many Germans are in our army! Our Koran does not allow such treatment as the Armenians are now receiving."

Nov 12,1916 (I,18:1,1)

What German Nurses Saw.

German nurses write: "Refugees were driven past our house. The procession was a huge mass, but with only two or three men; the remainder were women and children. Many cried like mad women. They screamed, 'Save us, save us! We are willing to become Moslems or Germans or whatever you want us to become, only save us! We are to be taken to Kemagh-Boghosy to be beheaded!"

Extracts from a German Consular report of July 11, 1915, tell of the beginning of the deportation from Charput (Harput) of the Armenians.

"On the 11th," says the report, a proclamation was issued that all Armenians without exception were to leave the city.

"During the first days of July one saw in Erzerum and Erzingan the first shift arriving, ragged, dirty, starved, ill. They had been on the way two months, almost without nourishment, without water. They were given hay to eat like the animals; they were so hungry that they threw themselves at it like animals, but they were forced back with sticks, and several were killed in this way. Mothers offered their children to any who would accept them. The Turks sent physicians to the young girls to question them in regard to their health and to pick out the prettiest for their harems. After the sentence of these unfortunates most of the remainder were killed by Kurds, many died of hunger and exhaustion.

"Two days later the arrival of a new shift. Among these were three sisters, who spoke English and belonged to one of the wealthiest families in Erzerum. Of 25 of the family, 11 had been killed en route. The husband of one of them and her old grandmother had been killed by the Kurds before her eyes. A boy of 8 years was the oldest 'man' among them. When they left Erzerum they took horses, money, and baggage with them. Everything had been taken from them on the way, even their clothes—one of them was entirely naked the other two had a shirt. In one of the villages the gendarme had given them some clothing of the inhabitants.

"The daughter of the Protestant minister of Erzerum was there, her entire family had been killed by Kurds, first the men and then the women and children. Everything was well organized, as at all previous massacres.

"In Harput the deportation started by taking the men into custody. There were several thousand of them. They were at first taken into the nearby mountains. Among them were the Armenian Prelate, professors of the Armenian college and the highest officials of the city, also all Armenian soldiers, and those who were in service but were exempt from duty. They were told that all that were led to the mountains would be killed.

Shot in Groups of Fourteen.

'In the morning of the fifth of July some more were taken, and at 6 o'clock they were to be found in the deserts. There they were bound together in groups of fourteen-this was the limit that the rope could hold and then they were shot. In a neighboring village

some of them were taken into a mosque and empty houses and then locked in; there they were compelled to remain for three days without nourishment and without water, then they were driven into a nearby valley, stood up against a rock and shot; some were killed with bayonets and knives. No crime was charged against any of them; there was not even a pretense of a charge.

"On the tenth of July there was a new massacre of several hundred in a city two hours' distant. The same things were happening all around; 300 were killed in Etschme and Ihabar.

"Later the Government permitted the families whose men were gone to remain in the city. All men were compelled to go. The proposition of the Americans—that the children whose parents were dead be put in an orphanage—was immediately rejected, with the answer that the Government would take care of them."

The letters of two German nuns who were nurses in Erzingan say in part:

"The personnel of the Red Cross were forbidden all association with the Armenians, and all further walks and rides were forbidden for the reason that 'a shot might take the wrong direction."

"The Armenians had a few days in which to sell their belongings, which, of course, brought ridiculously low prices. On the 11th of June the first transport started; we heard they were people in comfortable circumstances who were in a position to rent wagons. They are supposed to have arrived at Harput; at least a telegram to that effect was received. On the three following days further transports left. It was said that many children had been taken in by the families of Moslems. Later we were told that these, too, had been sent away. The Armenians in our hospital were also compelled to go, even to a woman who was ill with typhus. Even the plea of the physician who was attending her, (Dr. Neukirch) was of no avail, only that she was allowed to remain in the hospital two days longer.

"One of the soldiers with us who was acting as shoemaker lamented mostly over his year-and-a-half old baby girl. 'You never saw such a pretty child,' he said. 'It has eyes as large as plates. If I could but crawl like a snake I would follow her.' He cried like a baby. The next day the man came quietly and said: 'Now I know it; they are all dead.' It was only too true. Our Turkish cook told us through her tears how the Turks in Kemagh Boghasy attacked the defenceless mass, plundered them, and killed many.

"Two young Armenian teachers who had been educated in the college at Harput, and who were among the refugees, told how they had been taken under crossfire by Kurds and under the half-regular troops of a certain Talaat. They threw themselves on the floor and feigned death and afterward they were able by taking a roundabout way to reach Erzingan. They gave money to all the Kurds they passed. One teacher was accompanied by her betrothed, who was disguised in woman's attire. When they reached the city a gendarme wanted to take

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the girl as his wife. When her fiance protested he was shot down. Both of the young girls become Mohammedans. They bade us, through a young physician who was visiting an Armenian patient in our hospital, take them to Harput. One girl wrote: If she had but poison to take! Of the fate of the other she could say nothing—it was too dreadful.

Too Honified to Shoot.

"On the following day we heard the soldiers tell how they threw the women on their knees and threw the children into the Euphrates. 'It was awful', a young soldier said; 'I could not shoot. I only made believe.' In fact we often heard the Turks express their pity and sympathy. The people said that wagons were ready to take the corpses to the river.

'From that time there was a continual stream of refugees, who were all brought to the same place to be killed, as we were told by many people. Our Greek coachman told us that the condemned had their hands tied and were then thrown into the river from a high rock

"Sister X. and I discussed the problem of helping these people, and came to the conclusion that the best way would be to follow an expedition to Harput. We did not know at that time that the persecution had been ordered by the Government, and hoped to be able to stop the abuses of the gendarmes and also the attacks of the Kurds as we knew their language and had some influence with them."

Referring to an unnamed German official the nuns say:

"He did not believe that the atrocities had been ordered by the Government, but allowed himself to be convinced by the lies of the officials that everything was in perfect peace.

"On the same evening, while the German physicians were at a garden feast which a Turkish official was giving in appreciation of his recovery, a gendarme met us and told us that ten minutes' distant from the place a train of refugees was halting. He told us in a horrified way how the men had been killed, one after the other. 'Kess, Kess, geliorlar!' (Kill them! Kill them! They are coming!) How the women were abused wherever they arrived, how the little children had their skulls crushed when they cried or said they were tired. " 'I had three corpses of women buried in order to do something good.' In this manner he concluded his gruesome tale.

"On the following morning we heard how the refugees were being driven past our house, on their way to Erzingan. We ran after them and accompanied them to the city, a distance of about one hour. Some remained silent and tramped along patiently with their few belongings on their backs, holding their children by the hand. Others begged us to save their children. Many Turks came and took children and young girls without permission of the parents. There was no time for thought; they were simply driven on and on.

"The entrance to the city, where the road leads to Kemagh, looked like a slave market. We ourselves took six boys, their ages ranging from 3 to 14 years, who clung to us, and a little girl whom we put in the care of our Turkish cook. She wanted to put her, as an assistant, into the house of — until such time as we could take her, but one Riza Bey's deputies hit the woman and threw the child down. With a pitiful wail the mass continued on its sorrowful way, and we returned to the hospital with our charges. N— gave us permission to keep the children in our room until we had packed our belongings. 'Now we are saved!' they cried, when we had taken them, and would not let go of our hands. The youngest one, the son of a rich man in Baiburt, a little fellow whose face was swollen from crying, and who had been hiding in his mother's coat, could not be consoled. Once he rushed to the window, and pointing at a gendarme, said: 'He killed my

"The boys gave us their money, 475 piastres, the amount their father had given them, in the hope that it would not be sought for in this way. We rode to the city in order to get a permit for the boys. We were told that the high court was in session to decide the fate of the refugees. Sister X--- was able to speak with an acquaintance who allowed us to take the boys along, and who offered to give them different names for the journey. Greatly pleased, we rode back, and in the evening, with the bag and baggage and the boys, we went to a hotel in Erzingan.

Stole Money of Dead Boys.

"We left them there and went to the 'Muttessarif,' whom we had not as yet met. He looked like the living devil, and his looks did not belie his manner. With a voice of thunder he screamed at us, 'Women should stay out of politics and respect the Government!' We told him that we had acted that way, and that this matter had nothing to do with politics. He would not listen to us, and forbade our going to Harput for our belongings, but he said he would send us to Sivas. And, hardest of all, he would not allow us to take the boys. but immediately dispatched a gendarme to take them out of our room. We passed them on our return trip, but they were taken away so quickly that we were not able to give them back their money. We later asked Y. to attend to this matter, but in order to get to them he had to ask a Turkish officer. We later learned that they were dead, and soon after that Riza Bey sent a soldier for the money, saying he wanted to give it to the boys.

"On the way to Sivas, on the first two days we saw fifteen corpses lying on the road, among them a woman. This body was dressed; the other bodies were not, and on one the head was missing.

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"With us there were two Turkish officers, who were really Armenians, as our gendarme told us. They warned us in regard to their incognito and remained very retiring. On the fourth day they were not with us, and when we inquired about them we were told that the less we worried about them the better it would be for us.

"We stopped at a Greek village. There we saw a man with a gun who was keeping watch. He started a conversation with us and told us how the Government had given him this post in order to kill all passing Armenians. He had already killed 250. "They all deserved death: they were all anarchists, neither Liberals nor Socialists,' he said. He told the gendarme that he had received telephonic instructions to kill both of the gentlemen who were traveling with us, and so they, as well as their Armenian coachman, had evidently been killed. We could not keep from speaking to this murderer; but when he went away the Greek coachman warned us not to say a word, 'Or--' and he pretended to level a gun. There had evidently been a rumor spreading that we were Armenians and would meet death.

"We had spent the previous night in Endere, a day's journey from Kara Hissar. As usual, an empty Armenian house was given us for the night. On the wall there was an inscription in Turkish: 'Our home is on the mountain top, we no longer need a room; we have already drunk the draught of death; we no longer need a judge.' On the ground floor of this house there were still some women and children, who, the gendarme told us, would be taken away the next day. They did not know this themselves, and were uneasy about their husbands, but had not given up hope. After I had fallen asleep I was suddenly awakened by the report of guns in the immediate vicinity. The shots followed one another in rapid succession, and I could plainly hear some one commanding. I knew immediately what had happened, and was really relieved to know that these poor people had been removed from all earthly sorrow.

Another Sorrowful Cortege.

"Several days before we had met a train of refugees, who had bidden farewell to their homes and were now on the way to Kemagh Boghasy. We had to wait a long time to allow them to pass. Never will we forget the sight. A few men, many women, fine figures, with strong features, and a few nice children, some of them light haired and blue-eyed, who looked at one listlessly. One little girl smiled at us, but the others looked as serious as death. But not a sound was heard. Quietly and in perfect order, many of the children on ox-carts, they passed by; some of them nodded at us. Most of them are now standing at the Throne of God, telling Him of their sorrows. One very old woman was being taken from a donkey. She apparently could not help herself. I wonder whether she was killed at once? Our hearts turned to ice.

"The gendarme who was accompanying us told us he had seen a caravan of 3,000 women and children who were being taken from Mama Chatun, near Erzerum, to Kemagh Boghasy. 'All that came are dead,' he said. We asked: 'But why were they compelled to suffer so long before? Why did they not kill them in

their own villages? Answer: 'That was the right way to do. They must first be made miserable, and what would we do with the bodies? They would smell.'

"Our people told us that in the preceding night 10 Armenians had been shot, (those were the shots I had heard,) and that now the civilians were on the hunt. We saw them hurrying about with guns. We saw two of them sitting under a tree dividing the clothing of one of the unfortunates. They were holding up a pair of blue trousers. We saw puddles of blood, the corpses had been done away with. These were the 250 of whom the man had told us. We met some of these workers, who had previously done their duty. They were divided into three sections. 1–Moslems, 2–Greeks, 3–Armenians. Near the last section there were some officers. Our young 'Hasson' called: 'They will all be killed.'

Lined Up to Be Slain.

"We continued on up the side of a mountain. Our coachman, with his whip, pointed into the valley and we saw how 400 people were being placed against the edge of a low piece of ground. We knew what was to happen. Two days before we had seen the same tragedy, the bayonets of the soldiers gleaming in the sunshine. In the Mission Hospital we spoke with a man who had escaped with his life. One hundred Armenians were to be killed; 10 gendarmes used their guns. The remainder of the task was completed by Moslems with knives and stones. Ten Armenians escaped. The man with whom we spoke had a dreadful wound in his neck, and suddenly became unconscious, but came to and dragged himself to Sivas in two days.

"Twelve hours from Sivas we spent the night in a house belonging to the Government. For a long time a gendarme sat before our door and sang continually, 'Ermeniery, hep kesdiler!' ('The Armenians are all dead,') and in the neighboring room there was a telephone conversation to the same effect.

"We were compelled to spend one night in an Armenian house where the women had just received word of the death of their husbands. It was dreadful to hear their lamenting. Without avail we tried to comfort them. 'Cannot your Kaiser help?' they screamed. Our gendarme saw our misery and said: 'Their screaming annoys you. I will stop it,' but listened to us when we spoke to him and told him not to dare stop them. He seemed to enjoy showing us and telling us dreadful things. He kept saying to his assistant: 'Now we are killing the Armenians, then the Greeks, then the Kurds,' and I suppose he would have enjoyed saying, 'And then the strangers.' Our poor Greek coachman had to take many an insult. The gendarmes would say to him, 'Look down there in the pit; there are some Greeks too.' "

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REPORTS ASIA MINOR LOOKING TO AMERICA

Bishop Fout Says That Turks, Syrians, and Armenians Want Her as Mandatary

70% OF ARMENIANS KILLED

Rev. P.F.B. Chappell Quotes British Authority for His Figures – Syrians Still Starving

ROME, June 4. (Associated Press.) —The people of Armenia, Syria, and Turkey are most eager that the United States shall have the League of Nations mandate for their countries, according to Bishop H. H. Fout of Indianapolis, the head of one section of the American Commission for Relief in the Near East. The Bishop, who belongs to the United Brethren, arrived in Rome today on his way to the United States, accompanied by seventeen other members of his commission.

"These people," he added, "look to the United States in their present appalling condition. They cry out for the United States. America is their first choice, with Great Britain second.

"Turkey by her inhuman treatment, in my opinion, has lost the right to be entrusted with authority to rule. From various estimates I have reached the conclusion that out of the Armenian nation of 3,000,000 at the outbreak of the war, 1,000,000 were massacred. The condition of the remainder is most appalling.

"There is plenty of mute evidence in the hundreds of thousands of skeletons scattered throughout the Turkish Empire that the Turks sought to exterminate the Armenians by systematic massacre. The Armenians were driven like herded cattle from one locality to another until they were exhausted by tortures and torments of unbelievable character. In addition the Turks sought to wipe out the clergy of Armenia. Only eight out of forty-four Bishops survive, while only 10 per cent of the clergy

is living today."

The Rev. Paul F. B. Chappell of Nashville, Tenn., told the correspondent of what he had seen in traveling from Port Said to Aleppo.

"Poverty is most profound, although the prospects for the next harvest are good," he said. "Even at the present time the people fall dead in the streets from the effects of Turkish treatment. The Turks could not invade Syria as they invaded Armenia, but they were successful in preventing food from going to Syria. Starvation is wide-spread throughout the region.

"Colonel Hawker, the British commander at Beirut, told me he thought it would be found that only 30 per cent. of the Armenians were living when final accounts were taken. He said the Armenians were hounded and driven over an area 1,200 square miles in extent. They were harassed by armed and mounted Turks who worked in relays.

"The Turkish plan was to take all the able bodied men from the community and tie them up. Then they would torture them by cutting their flesh and burning the wounds. Finally, they would cut off their heads in the presence of the wives and children of the victims. The old men, women, and children were herded together and driven from place to place."

A large number of photographs taken in Armenia, showing piles of skulls and skeletons and pictures of deformed children and tortured women were shown the correspondent by the Rev. Samuel T. Bartlett of Toronto, a member of the committee who penetrated into Eastern Turkey.

"At Ourfa," Mr. Bartlett said, "I saw a deep well filled with skulls of dead Armenians. There must have been several thousand of them. At Malatee there is a pit containing thousands of skeletons. A little girl at Sivas told us the Turks had taken her father and other men, tied and tortured them and then killed them.

"The Turks also took all the babies in the town and threw them into the river until it overflowed its banks. They let out the priests, put red-hot iron shoes on their feet, tied them to wagons and forced them to walk long distances. The finger and toe nails of the priests were pulled out, and the priests finally were compelled to say the rites over the dead, while the Turks looked on and laughed and mocked. At other places they pulled out the beards of the priest and tortured them until they fell dead from exhaustion. It was a tale of bloody butchery that we heard."

Mr. Bartlett said that the committee traveled across Central Asia Minor from Aleppo to Samsun to Constantinople, they were the guests of Rear Admiral Mark L. Bristol, the American commander in Turkish waters, on the Destroyer 149.