

ROME'S EYE ON TURKEY.

Armenia's Cry for Help Is Listened To at the Vatican.

FURTHER REPORTS OF ATROCITIES.

Kurds Nail Victims, Head Down, to
Posts and Drench Them Alternately
with Hot and Cold Water.

WHOLESALE BUTCHERY IN VILLAGE.

Governor-General of Van Tells the Porte It
Can Get Rid of Christians and
Possess Their Land.

ROME, Nov. 30.—The Pope has received an account of the Armenian atrocities and is taking steps to obtain further details.

Urgent appeals to use his good offices in their behalf with the Sultan have come from Armenians in several quarters and from people in England who believe none of the powers is willing to assume the responsibility of opening negotiations with other powers for joint intervention.

From inquiries at the Vatican to-day it is gathered that the Pope desires to proceed with great caution, being anxious to avoid giving offense to the Porte while he is endeavoring to reunite the Eastern and Western churches.

A despatch from Constantinople reports that the locum tenens Armenian patriarch there, in a sermon on Nov. 5, announced that the Sultan has at last consented to the election of a patriarch in the regular way. It is thought here that Mgr. Izmirlian will be elected and that the Sultan will confirm his election.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 30.—Mgr. Mikirtitch, Catholicos of Cilicia, an ancient division of Asia Minor, the second dignity in the Armenian Church, died recently at Aleppo.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Dr. G. Thoumalan, who was one of the Armenian physicians at Herrick College, Marsovan, Asia Minor, and was sentenced to death and forced to undergo terrible, disgusting tortures, being finally released, in July, 1893, through the intervention of Great Britain, wrote to the Associated Press to-day, giving these details of Turkish outrages which have just come to his knowledge:

"The Chief of Police of Moosh, headquarters of the Sassoun District, went with a number of gendarmes to the village of Tchurig and nailed the headman and some others, head downward, to posts, beat them and drenched them alternately with hot and cold water.

"The Chief of Police then attempted to assault the wife of one of his victims, but the woman, seizing a knife, plunged it into his brain. Thereupon the gendarmes made a general attack upon the peasants. A stubborn struggle resulted, in which many of the peasants were wounded and thirty were taken to prison at Moosh. The whole village of Tchurig was charged with sedition and the gendarmes were not reprimanded, as they were only carrying out orders of their superiors.

"The Armenian villages on the plains of Moosh and Bitlis, in the vicinity of Sassoun and Van, have been fired and their streets made to run with blood. From Marnig over one hundred oxen and

1,000 sheep have been driven off, and the same has occurred at Colossig and Hava-borig.

"The villages of Kozloo and Shelk-Aghoob have been sacked by Kurds and two young girls were made captives. At another village a miller was burned alive. At Hanzashelk three Armenians were murdered.

"This is only a daily tale of the horrors in the villages on the plains of Moosh. If these authentic details come from the villages on the open plain what must the truth be in distant places in the mountains of Sassoun?

"In September 112 Kurds appeared in the village of Baghezlig, ostensibly to buy supplies, eating, drinking and carousing all day. They plundered the village, robbed the church of its costly vessels and rode away.

"The next day the band of Kurds raided the village of F'aroagh and stole fifty head of cattle and a herd of sheep belonging to the celebrated Monastery of Varaka.

"In the village of Daghveran two youths were openly butchered by Kurds before the eyes of helpless relatives.

"I could give pages and pages of such horrors done to my people. None of these wrongs has been redressed; none will be so long as Bahri Pasha, himself a Kurd, remains Governor-General of Van. He is the greatest enemy of the Armenian race. When the Porte tried to hinder the Armenians from emigrating to Russia and Persia this ferocious fanatic explained that the Porte could get rid of the Christians and at the same time get their land.

"Since October, 1893, 179 families have emigrated from Aghpac to Persia.

"Quite recently Bahri Pasha made a tour of that district and confiscated all the property of absent Armenians, including those who had gone away on business. Those who returned were thrown into prison.

"In order to support Bahri Pasha's exterminating policy a number of Kurdish Beys who had been imprisoned for misdeeds were sent into the Sassoun district by the Turks, who marked their prison sheets with the word 'escaped.'

"Unless the powers act promptly there will be a succession of hideous outrages."
