

# THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

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Great Britain Will Send a Special Commissioner to Investigate the Atrocities.

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[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, Dec. 11, 1894.—The Manchester Guardian says that as the result of a conference between Lord Rosebery and Lord Kimberley yesterday, the British government demanded absolute freedom in the matter of reporting upon the situation in Armenia, and that the demand was at once conceded. Great Britain will immediately send to Armenia a special delegate, who will be selected by Sir Philip Wodehouse Currie, the British Ambassador at Constantinople.

Despatches from Constantinople indicate that the Armenian question is likely to lead to the resignation of the Turkish Ministry. The Sultan is believed to be greatly exercised over the movement of the Powers in the matter, and to await the result of the commissioners' inquiry with concern. It is believed that Russia, France, Italy and possibly Austria, will support Great Britain, which is supposed to be awaiting the moral support of the Powers before taking further action.

## THE TURKISH REPORT TO BE CONTROLLED.

The Daily News correspondent in Constantinople says:—"There is reason to believe that an arrangement will be made whereby the report of the Turkish commission of inquiry will be controlled. Probably under this development, which is consequent upon united action by some or all of the Powers, Mr. Jewett, the United States Consul at Sivas, will not be

ordered to report on the result of the inquiry. The latest suggestion is to appoint only the foreign Consuls at Erzeroum—namely, those of England, France and Russia."

The Daily News correspondent in Berlin says it is improbable that Germany will join in representations to the Porte, being disinclined to support Great Britain.

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## WANTS PROOF THERE IS A GOD.

Arterius Zemendi Asks, "Did He Suffer the Massacre in Armenia?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

"O God! if there is a God," cried Robert Burns, and now we hear the cry, "O God! bless Armenia!" O God! send us protection!

And in the same letter, "So America will be the real savior of Armenia."

It almost freezes the blood of every man and woman in this land to read of the terrible murders of innocent women and children—innocent women and helpless little ones—and they feel like arming and going at once to the protection of that unfortunate people, and if the ocean were not between us half a million of Americans—young, honest and true—would volunteer to rush to the protection of the Armenians or anybody else. They know it would be impracticable, but were Armenia near at hand the thing would be practicable, and instead of calling on an imaginary God to do something let the government at Washington act in this matter. If the powers there have any sense of justice the Cabinet will meet and direct the President to remonstrate with the Moslem fanatics and the harem supporting Sultan, a beast who is not fit to breathe the air of honest human beings.

Fifty millions of men, women and youths will say at this moment, "Speak out, America!" speak for humanity, for the innocent, for justice! Let the present Congress do something. What God is this that the Armenians and Americans call upon to save and help them?

Is it our God? Archbishop Corrigan's God? Bishop Potter's God? The Pope's God? The old Jewish God of the Bible? If it is that God, then they call in vain, for that God—if there is one—ordered murders nearly as bad as those of Armenia.

Is it the God of Mahomet? If there is such a God, He must sanction it, and a great number of so-called religious Moslems will say it is right to kill the Christians. They have said so, at least the masses have, ever since Mahomet, and in some parts of Islam they do it now.

But the point I desire to make and to settle is, if there is a God of any kind, except a wooden or stone God, resembling a human being or a spiritual being, or any kind of a God out of the hundreds that are supposed to exist, did that God suffer the massacre in Armenia? As gods are supposed to know everything and do everything, did Archbishop Corrigan's God or Bishop Potter's God or any god order or suffer the murders to be done, and could any god—or the supposed real God—have prevented the massacre?

If He, or it, or whatever this thing is that many people call God and call upon, could stand by and see such horrible butchery as has been reported from Armenia that he, or it, is as bad as the Kurdish Bashi Bazouk fiends. Is there any such God, or is there any God at all, except the intelligent energy of nature? I say there is no God, or gods, and never was.

If there is any God let us know it. Let us have some plain, common sense argument or proof. Just one clear bit of proof that would stand before the Supreme Court of any nation, or would be taken by the scientists of any land. These sentiments are those of not less than five millions of citizens in this country and the Continent of Europe. Let us have the proof that there is or ever was any God.

ATERIUS ZEMENDI.

No. 561 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, Dec. 8, 1894.

## ARMENIA IN THE SENATE.

### President Cleveland Sends in All the Documents Relating to the Reported Massacres.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HERALD BUREAU.

CORNER FIFTEENTH AND G STREETS, N. W.,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 1894.

The President sent to the Senate to-day a lengthy letter relating to the Armenian outrages, together with the letter of Secretary Gresham. In the letter to the Senate President Cleveland replies to the resolution passed by that body on December 3, to the effect that "the President be requested, if in his judgment not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Senate any information he may have received in regard to the alleged cruelties committed upon Armenians in Turkey, &c." In response to the resolution the President says:—"I beg leave to inform the Senate that I have no information concerning cruelties committed upon Armenians in Turkey, or upon persons because of their being Christians, except such information as has been derived from newspaper reports, and statements emanating from the Turkish government denying such cruelties, and two telegraphic reports from our Minister at Constantinople. One of these reports, dated November 28, 1894, is in answer to an inquiry by the State Department touching reports in the press alleging the killing of Armenians, and is as follows:—

"Reports in American papers of Turkish atrocities at Sassoun are sensational and exaggerated. The killing was in a conflict between armed Armenians and Turkish soldiers. The Grand Vizier says it was necessary to suppress insurrection, and that about fifty Turks were killed. Between three and four hundred Armenian guns were picked up after the fight, and he reports that about that number of Armenians were killed. I give credit to his statement."

"The other despatch referred to is dated December 2, 1894, and is as follows:—'Information from British Ambassador indicates far more loss of lives in Armenia, attended with atrocities, than stated in my telegram of 28th.'"

The President continues:—"In the absence of such authentic detailed knowledge on the subject as would justify our interference, no expostulations have been addressed by this government to the government of Turkey in regard to such matters. By a treaty entered into at Berlin in the year 1878 between Turkey and various other governments, Turkey undertook to guarantee protection to the Armenians and agreed that it would periodically make known the steps taken to this effect to the Powers, who will superintend their application. Our government was not a party to this treaty, and it is entirely obvious that, in the face of the provisions of such treaty above recited, our interference in the proposed investigation, especially without the invitation of any of the Powers which had assumed by treaty obligation to secure the protection of these Armenians, might have been exceedingly embarrassing, if not entirely beyond the limits of justification or propriety.

The Turkish invitation to join the investigation set on foot by that government was, therefore, on the second day of December, declined. On the same day, and after this declination had been sent, our Minister at Constantinople forwarded his second despatch, tending to modify his former report as to the extent and character of the Armenian slaughter, at the same time the request of the Sultan for our participation in the investigation was repeated, and Great Britain, one of the Powers which joined in the treaty of Berlin, made a like request.

In view of the changed conditions, and upon reconsideration of the subject, it was determined to send Mr. Jewett, our Consul at Sivas, to the scene of the alleged outrages, not for the purpose of joining with any other government in an investigation and report, but to the end that he might be able to inform this government as to the exact truth. Instructions to this effect were sent to Mr. Jewett, and it is

supposed that he has already entered upon the duty assigned him.

"I submit with this communication copies of all correspondence and despatches in the State Department on this subject, and the report to me of the Secretary of State thereon.

"Signed GROVER CLEVELAND.

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 11, 1894."

# INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO MINISTER TERRELL AND CONSUL JEWETT AT THE SULTAN'S REQUEST.

The following telegram was sent to Minister Terrell at Constantinople, under date of December 5:—"Since my telegram of the 2d inst., declining participation of this government in proposed investigation of reported occurrences at Sassoun, your supplementary telegram of the same date has been received. The Turkish Minister yesterday repeated the Sultan's desire that an American join the Turkish Commissioners in the investigation; and, moreover, the British government, a party to the treaty of Berlin, has expressed its desire that a capable and upright citizen of the United States participate and report his individual conclusions. The President therefore directs that Mr. Jewett, Consul at Sivas, accompany the Turkish commission—not, however, as a member of it—to the district in which the alleged atrocities were committed, and after full and impartial investigation report the facts for the information of his government. He will not join the Turkish or other Commissioners in any report. You will inform the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and if necessary ask proper escort for Mr. Jewett.

"GRESHAM."