

ESTIMATED 15,000 WERE KILLED.

Additional Particulars as to the Slaughter of Armenians Told in Letter from Reliable Source.

Letters have been received by well-known parties in this city from reliable sources in Turkey, giving still further testimony regarding the outrages in eastern Turkey. The following letter comes from a city not a great distance from the scene of the outrages.

The writer of the letter is a man in whom the highest confidence may be placed, who has spent more than a third of a century in that region, and knows the country and people perfectly. This testimony is from a source which is entirely independent of any which has been given before. Later accounts increase, if possible, the horrors of what has taken place. The letter just received is as follows:

"The Armenians, oppressed by Kourds and Turks, said, 'we can't pay taxes to both Kourds and government.' Plundered and oppressed by the Kourds, they resisted them; there were some killed.

"Then false reports were sent to Constantinople that the Armenians were in arms, in rebellion. Orders were sent to the müshir at Erzingan to exterminate them root and branch. The order read before the army collected in haste from all the chief cities of eastern Turkey was: 'Whoever spares man, woman or child is disloyal.'

"The region was surrounded by soldiers of the army, and 20,000 Kourds also are said to have been massed there. Then they advanced upon the center, driving in the people like a flock of sheep, and continued thus to advance for days.

"No quarter was given, no mercy shown. Men, women, children, were shot down or butchered like sheep. Probably when they were set upon in this way some tried to save their lives and resisted in self defense. Many who could fled, but the majority were slain. The most probable estimate is 15,000 killed, 35 villages plundered, razed and burned.

"Women were outraged and then butchered. A priest was taken to the roof of his church and hacked to pieces and set on fire. A large number of women girls collected in a church were kept for days, violated by the brutal soldiers and then murdered. It is said the number was so large that the blood flowed out of the church door.

"Every effort is being made and will be made to falsify the facts and pull the wool over the eyes of European governments. But the bloody tale will finally be known, the most horrible, it seems to me, that the 19th century has known. As a confirmation of the report, the other day several hundred soldiers were returning from the seat of war and at a village near us one was heard to say that he alone with his own hand had killed 30 pregnant women. Some who seem to have some shame for their atrocious deeds, say: 'What could we do, we were under orders.' "

Cabled Their Thanks to Gladstone.

In consequence of a meeting of the Armenians of Boston, held in Friendship hall last Sunday evening, the following cable was sent late yesterday afternoon:

Boston, Mass, Jan 1, 1895.

To Hon William E. Gladstone, London, Eng:

The Armenians of Boston thank you for your sympathy and aid.