

RUSSIAN VIEWS ON ARMENIA.

The Alleged Atrocities Exaggerated, and Probably Arose from
Rebellious Conflicts.

WORK OF REVOLUTIONARIES.

Their Aim Is Nothing Less Than the
Restoration of the Ancient
Armenian Kingdom.

COULD NOT STAND ALOOF.

Why Russia Was Forced to Join Eng-
land and France in the Inves-
tigation Commission.

[BY THE COMMERCIAL CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

The HERALD'S European edition publishes the following from its correspondent:—

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 31, 1894.—I send you an accurate impression of the manner in which the Armenian agitation is regarded here, not only by public opinion, but in Russian official circles.

It is generally considered, in the first place, that the Turkish atrocities of which the Armenians complain are greatly exaggerated.

Second, that they themselves provoked them by their refusal to pay taxes, thus placing themselves in the position of rebels.

Unfortunately, when an armed force is composed of Asiatics it is almost certain that the repressive measures will be cruel and barbarous. The Russian public, who are persuaded that the Armenian subjects of Turkey in Asia Minor are really prosperous, do not attribute their refusal to pay taxes to want. They regard it rather as the result of the machinations of the Armenian Revolutionary Committee in London, which seeks by every possible means to enfranchise the Armenians, not only in Turkey, but also those who are subject to Persia and Russia.

NO SYMPATHY WITH THE REVOLUTIONISTS.

As Russia has no desire to lose her Armenian possessions, she can scarcely sympathize with the views of the London committee, which aspires to neither more nor less than a restoration of the ancient kingdom of Armenia. She fully comprehends the tactics of the Revolutionary Committee—namely, in stirring up revolt among the Armenian population in order to force Turkey into a policy of repression, and thus excite the indignation of the civilized nations of Europe against Mussulman atrocities, which have some foundation in fact, but which are grossly exaggerated for political purposes.

If, in spite of this way of regarding recent events in Armenia, Russia has associated herself with the inquiry into the alleged atrocities which the Turkish government is about to make,

It is because Turkey has also asked England and France to take part in it. Russia would not consider it prudent to allow the British Commission to act alone in Armenia, which is close to the Caucasus frontier, without being able to watch over its action.

Russia's abstention would have the double effect of facilitating the intrigues of England and of weakening her own prestige in the eyes of her Armenian subjects. In order to avoid the possibility of such inconveniences, she prefers to expose herself to future complications by taking part in the inquiry rather than to remain an impassive spectator.

Moreover, it is not thought here that the inquiry can lead to any practical results, for the severity of the temperature, the bad state of the roads and other local conditions will probably prevent the English, French and Russian Consuls from obtaining any accurate information. This is the more probable as the Ottoman Commissioners will doubtless arrange to hinder the real facts from becoming known rather than to half get at the truth.

ARMENIA'S WORST ENEMY IS THE TRADITIONAL FOREIGN OFFICE.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, Dec. 31, 1894.—One of the Armenian delegates to the conference held at Chester, on Saturday, on the subject of the Armenian outrages, said in the course of an interview to-day:—"Our deadliest enemy is the traditional policy of the British Foreign Office, which is now assisting Turkey to avoid exposure by assenting to the imposture of a Turkish commission to inquire into the atrocities, when documents from the consuls in Turkey, giving details of the outrages, are in the possession of Lord Kimberly. The Foreign Office has concealed, during the past four years, records which laid bare a conspiracy with the Porte against the Armenians. Such a state of affairs is a disgrace to the Christian government of England."

ARMENIANS AND TURKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Armenians of this city want to know how much the HERALD received from the Turkish government for its attitude. It is shame for a newspaper claiming to be fair and independent to publish such trash as authentic news, and comment thereon editorially. Armenians loved the HERALD, and swore by it. When Armenia is relieved from Turkish barbarity they will have very little to thank the HERALD. Your paper has always been on the wrong side of every public question. In this case it is a cowardice to kick the fallen dead and slander a nation of over five millions, as falsifiers and rebels, and to praise the tyrannical Tartar.

Yours, &c.

MELIRAN KESHISHIAN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30, 1894.