

DIFFICULTIES IN THE COMMISSION'S WAY. THE ARMENIAN INVESTIGATION IMPEDED—NEWS- PAPER MEN TO BE BARRED OUT.

London, Jan. 12.—The report of the commission inquiring into the Armenian atrocities is not expected to be made for several months. The district in which the atrocities are alleged to have been committed is now covered with deep snow, and the temperature is almost unbearable to persons not accustomed to the climate. The British consul at Erzeroum has suggested the advisability of a preliminary inquiry at that place for the purpose of hearing the testimony of refugees and other witnesses with a view of expediting the work of the commission. Several of the London daily newspapers who have sent or are about to send special correspondents to Armenia have been advised that the

Porte will not allow representatives of the press to accompany the Commission of Inquiry, and these journals have decided to institute an independent inquiry. In these circumstances the final reports may be expected to be varied and conflicting.

"The Chronicle," in an article on the subject, says that Germany has been a great source of embarrassment to the sincere investigators of the Armenian outrages. The German Government has refused to take part in concerted action in the matter on the ground that the affair does not concern Germany, a decision which it is needless to say has given great satisfaction to the Government of Turkey.

A MEETING OF ARMENIANS.

About 150 Armenians gathered in Studio Hall, on Twenty-third-st., near Sixth-ave., last night, to express their great sympathy for their fellow-countrymen in Armenia. A committee, consisting of J. S. Dionian, president of the Philarmenic Association; Dr. Ayvazian, P. M. Ayvad and Dr. Haygorim, was appointed to make arrangements for a mass-meeting. The committee will also cable the head of the Armenian Church in Russia, and request him to petition the Czar to intercede in the Armenian cause. A vote of thanks will also be cabled to the Russian periodicals for the truthful reports they have published of the outrages in Armenia and for their taking up the Armenian cause.

A number of those present made short addresses, among them J. S. Dionian, Mr. Hagopian and Dr. Attarian. The latter spoke in English, and made a temperate reply to those critics who had lately tried to show that the reports of the Turkish atrocities in Armenia had been much exaggerated. He said there had been columns of news cabled from Europe, published in the newspapers, telling of the horrible massacres and cruelties practised by the Turks. News was hard to get, because the Turkish Government had placed a cordon of soldiers around the Valley of Sassoun and no one could escape. The cause of the massacre was that Armenians would not renounce Christianity and embrace Mahometism. Nobody who had not lived in Armenia under the Turkish Government could imagine the vicious and inhuman cruelties which the agents of that Government could perpetrate.
