

# FEAR A MASSACRE.

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Affairs in Turkey Are Gloomy, and No One  
Knows Where the Lightning Will  
Strike Next.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 31.—A report, generally believed to be correct, is to the effect that three Armenian nobilities of Trebizond, including a prominent ecclesiastic, are to be executed on the ground that they are responsible for the rioting there.

Armenians here say about eight hundred Armenians were killed during the fighting at Bitlis with the Turks. The loss of the latter is said to be trifling.

Advices from Moosh say that leading Armenians have been conferring with the representative Turks of that city in order to prevent an outbreak.

The Turks stipulated that the American missionaries who are distributing relief to the people of Sassoun withdraw from there in three days, otherwise they fear there will be another massacre.

United States Ambassador Terrell has advised the American missionaries to withdraw temporarily from Sassoun. At the same time Mr. Terrell has notified the Turkish Government that the United States will hold it responsible for the lives of the missionaries.

The British Charge d'Affaires has made representations of a nature identical with those of Mr. Terrell to the Porte. The result is that the Turkish officials have decided to send troops to protect the missionaries.

The Kurds of Sassoun, however, are only held in check by the presence of the missionaries, fearing to commit excesses while they remain, and they threaten to plunder the Armenians after the departure of the missionaries.

The Armenian Patriarch has appealed to the different embassies to intervene in time to prevent another massacre. The Turkish officials again assert that all the recent outbreaks are the work of the Hintchek, or Armenian secret society.

There are all sorts of rumors regarding the movements of Russian troops on the Armenian frontier and the preparations for trouble being made by the Turkish Government.

The financial situation, however, is so transparently weak here that the efforts of the Porte to put down insurrections in Armenia or meet more serious foes at the frontier are terribly hampered.

In any case, it is considered certain that the present state of affairs cannot last much longer.

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