

MORE TURKISH DENIALS.

The Reported Arrest and Condemnation to Death of Armenian Prelates Officially Contradicted by the Porte.

[BY THE COMMERCIAL CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

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

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 26, 1894.—The Turkish Ambassador at St. Petersburg, Housmy Pacha, denies formally the statement made in certain journals to the effect that the Archbishop of Marash, the Bishop of Moush, Sister Elizabeth and twenty-five other persons have been arrested in Armenia.

The same official denial is given to the report that the Bishop of Hadjin, the Archbishop of Zeltoom and Father Baraska had been condemned to death, and that the church at Ballan had been closed and that fifteen notables of Aleppo had been imprisoned.

ARMENIAN CHRISTIANS FORCED TO EMBRACE ISLAMISM.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, Dec. 26, 1894.—The Daily News correspondent in Odessa says that numerous Armenian refugees from Moosh and Bulshlyk are arriving at Sarakamysh. They are on their way to Etchminizin. All are in wretched condition. The correspondent says that several conspicuous Armenians in Moosh have been forced to embrace Islamism to save their lives and property and the honor of their wives and daughters.

HAS CEASED MEDDLING.

Mr. Gresham Gives Up His Attempt to Force an Independent Armenian Investigation.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

HERALD BUREAU,
CORNER FIFTEENTH AND G STREETS, N. W.,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1894.

It was officially acknowledged at the State Department to-day that the contemplated investigation of the Armenian troubles by Consul Jewett has been declared "off." In response to the cablegram received yesterday from Minister Terrell, announcing the Sultan's refusal to grant Mr. Jewett permission to make the investigation, Secretary Gresham to-day wired the Minister to cease any further efforts in the direction of securing authority for Mr. Jewett to visit Sassoon. A general sigh of relief has gone up from public men here, now that Secretary Gresham has been compelled to cease meddling with the Armenian affair. It is probable that a resolution will be introduced into the House immediately after the holidays calling for the correspondence regarding Mr. Gresham's efforts to involve the United States with the European Powers in the Armenian matter. There are some jingoists in Congress who think that the Secretary has not gone far enough to satisfy some of the church societies, and in calling for the papers their main object is to show that he has displayed a lack of interest in carrying out their demands. There are many others in Congress, however, who will willingly let the resolution go through for the sake of having a public expose of the Secretary's unwarranted attempt at foreign interference.

THE PORTE'S OFFICIAL DENIALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

I read in the HERALD that the Porte, through its agents at Washington, officially denies the reports recently circulated, that the Archbishop of Marash has been imprisoned and the Archbishop of Zeltoon and the Bishop of Hadjin have been condemned to death. This "official denial" is not accompanied by confirmatory testimonials from any foreign Consul resident in those provinces, and in the absence of such confirmation the Armenians are not disposed to repose in this latest denial a confidence they have declined to accord to previous ones.

If there is any truth in this "official denial," and if the Porte cares to vindicate its credit in the civilized world, nothing would be easier for it than the official publication of statements from foreign representatives at Aleppo or Marash, confirming the allegations of its latest denial.

TIGRANE SUNI.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26, 1894.

DISAPPOINTING, BUT NOT UNEXPECTED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

The Sultan's refusal for an independent American investigation to be made in Armenia, while disappointing, is not at all contrary to the expectations of the Armenians in this city. An old Turkish saying, "He that steals a church steeple must prepare a bag to conceal it in," has oftentimes been quoted as part of a reprimand to a criminal by the presiding Judge in a Turkish court. The Sultan's dread of Mr. Jewett accompanying the Armenian commission, which was to result in a scrupulously impartial report to this government, in accordance with the aforesaid old saying would have caused a rip in the bag in which they would try to conceal their crime.

Notwithstanding the honesty of the investigation to be conducted by the European members of the commission, it is almost impossible that they will be able to get at the truth. All the inquiry has to be made in the presence of the Turkish members of the commission, and through interpreters. The already terrorized Armenians will not dare to relate the details, as to do so would undoubtedly jeopardize their lives.

An Englishman visited the prison, in company with a Turkish official, where Dr. Toumalian was chained to the wall, and asked how he felt. The latter, though cruelly treated, yet expressed a feeling of content, for he knew the result if he had not done so.

Unless the investigation be conducted within easy reach of the Russian army, as a guarantee of the safety of the witnesses when the commission has departed, the truth will never be known. I have no doubt that if the Sultan had allowed Mr. Jewett to accompany the Armenian Commission, he being able to speak

Armenian and Turkish and being also a missionary, the Armenians would have more readily confided in him, and his report to this government would have been a more thorough expose of the facts.

ARSHAM ANDONIAN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26, 1894.