

# TESTIMONY TROUBLES TURKS.

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Five Witnesses Tell the Commission They  
Saw Children Slain—Sassoun Mas-  
sacre Story Retold.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 20.—The latest news from Moosh worries Turkish officials. Five witnesses testified before the Armenian commission that they saw Armenian children slaughtered.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 20.—A letter from an Armenian eye-witness describing the march of Mooshir Pasha into the Sassoun district last September is printed by the Republic. It is dated Moosh, Jan. 7, and says:

"The number of our dead countrymen in the four towns visited will be not far short of 7,500. This is from the bodies counted and known to have perished.

"The first town entered was Shinik. Father Johannis, with forty leading men, went to meet Mooshir to beseech him to have mercy. They were surrounded by soldiers long before they could get to Mooshir and every one was killed. Their bodies were put in the church and burned. Then the four villages were burned.

"Mooshir left Shinik to go to Alyon. The people retreated to Chi, because of its rocks and steppes. They stayed in the mountains about twenty days. When all food was gone they fled. Two thousand bodies were left at Chi.

"Gali-Gazen was next. The people, with all the food they could carry, had fled to the hills. There they stayed thirty days. At last, driven by hunger, they made a terrible dash down the mountain sides and attacked the tyrants instead of waiting to be killed. Patriot Virtan was like a god and killed ten men with his own sword before he fell dead. Father Bedres was a soldier, too, and encouraged his children. When he was at last killed his body was cut to bits and given to the dogs.

"Aloag was the last town visited. Most of the people had escaped, but when Mooshir went away 1,500 dead bodies were found. Many more were burned."

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