

MASSACRE CONFIRMED.

Letters from Armenia Tell of the Outrages by the Turks.

To the Editor of The Globe:

As I have heard considerable doubt expressed concerning the correctness of the reports of the late Armenian massacre, I would like to say that there is no exaggeration, as I have here letters direct from that region, which I procured from prominent Americans of Boston to whom they were sent.

A copy of the letters, in part, is given below, but I withhold the names of the persons addressed and the signatures, as I was specially requested to do so.

BITLIS, Oct 1, 1894.

There have been most shocking outrages and massacres committed in this region upon the Christians. I do not dare write any more, but you will hear more of it soon.

EZEROUM, Oct 17, 1894.

For a long time there have been various rumors afloat of a most serious state of affairs west of Bitlis. Things have been very bad; 1876 has been repeated. This is on good authority. Many leading Kurds are here in prison, apparently as an offset to cover up red tracks.

I would like to state from news received from my other correspondents, both from England and elsewhere, that the outrages committed were of the blackest and foulest kind, ending with torture and death. The tortures inflicted were of the most horrible nature, some having kerosene poured over them and then being burned alive.

In one place 300 or 400 women, after having been forced repeatedly to submit to the soldiery, were hacked to pieces with swords and bayonets. In another place 200 weeping women begged at the commander's feet for mercy. The commander, after ordering that they be outraged, had them all dispatched with the sword. In one case, 60 young brides and maidens were driven into a church and were violated and butchered until their blood flowed from the doors.

A large company, headed by a priest, knelt near the church, begging for compassion, averting that they had nothing to do with the culprits who killed the Kurds. It was in vain; all were killed. Several attractive women were told they might live, if they would recant their faith. They replied: "Why should we deny Christ? We have no more reason to do so, than had these," pointing to the mangled bodies of their husbands and brothers. "Kill us too." This was done. Even babes were impaled on the same weapon with their mothers.

More recent news states that the cholera is raging throughout the district, owing to lack of people to bury the dead. These outrages were committed by the regular troops under the direct order of the governor of Bitlis. Now, why should there be any doubt? It is only what is being done all the time by the Turks, only on a larger scale. Have we forgotten the massacres of Damascus and Bulgaria?

There is nothing too bad to be unbelievable to any one acquainted in the slightest degree with the methods of the unspeakable Turk in dealing with his subjects in the interior. As Mr James Bryce Hogland says, in his speech of May, 1892, "The whole policy of the Turkish government would make one believe that they were following out the principle laid down by a Turkish prime minister, that the only way to get rid of the Armenian question, was to get rid of the Armenians."

Many prominent citizens of Boston and its vicinity have decided to hold an indignation meeting in Faneuil hall, next week, in which some resolutions will be passed protesting against such outrages and massacres. These resolutions will be cabled to all the powers in Europe and to Washington. We invite you all to come and help us in our efforts to secure immunity from further outrages and massacres to this long-suffering Christian people.

M. H. Gulesian,

Secretary of United Friends of Armenia.

Boston, Nov 21, 94.