

ARMENIANS WERE DRIVEN TO DEATH AND EXILE MID SCENES OF SAVAGERY BY YOUNG TURKS WITH GERMAN COMPLICITY

Book by Dr. Herbert Adams Gibbons
Proves That Massacres Were
Deliberately Ordered,

missionary colleagues, not only Armenian refugees, but even German missionaries.

The plan was adroitly laid. The male population in Armenia was summoned to the colors. Those who were inert or too old were disarmed. When all, by one measure or the other, had been rendered helpless, the diabolical order was issued from Constantinople that the local authorities throughout Armenia were to take steps in advance to prevent any possibility of "the Armenian uprising."

A Modern Inferno.

The hint was understood. And the murder of a nation was consummated. Unarmed villagers were collected in groups and their throats cut. Armenians were slaughtered at home or in the street. Armenian dwellers in coast towns were shipped to other parts and disappeared overboard on the voyage. Detachments of mobilized Armenians were set, unarmed, to work on the roads and shot down in cold blood by Turkish troops.

When only women and children and the aged remained, the arch-fiends in Constantinople decided to complete their work thoroughly. The entire population was assembled at convenient centres in the various districts. Only a few hours' notice was given. Nobody was exempted. Infants, women with child, invalids, the decrepit—all were driven to the meeting-place. Then, foodless, with only the clothes they wore, unprotected from icy winds or the scorching sun, bounded on by hands of armed ruffians, these pitiful human herds began a ghastly exodus on foot toward undisclosed destinations. The ailing or feeble stumbled along under the lash until death released them. Woman gave birth to babes and with them were left to die of exposure and inanition by the roadside. Girls committed suicide to escape from their brutish guards. Mothers, maddened by hunger, thirst and suffering, murdered their children to end their misery. Those who fell out of the ranks were shot or transfixed by a lance-thrust. Staggers fell a prey to bloodthirsty Kurdish bands. Death was the only release, and thinned the ranks of the sufferers with ever-increasing rapidity.

The story reads like a page from another Inferno. But, instead of being the product of a mighty imagination, it is a record of fact. Not even a Dante could conjure up scenes surpassing, or even equalling, in horror and anguish the scenes that were enacted along this via Dolorosa of a nation. The evidence cannot be disputed. It is furnished, not by the enemies of Germany and Turkey, but by American and Swiss witnesses. It is confirmed in the "American Report on the Armenian Atrocities," in documents published by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, in letters from correspondents of the "Tribune de Genève" and the "Gazette

Males Having Been Disposed Of, Women and Children Were Hounded From Homes.

de Lausanne." All the evidence concurs as regards one dominating fact—cold-blooded attempt has been made only too successfully, to exterminate an entire people.

By-whom? Dr. Gibbons does not shrink that question. He shows that the Young Turk Junta is primarily responsible. But he cannot acquit the German Emperor of an awful share of the responsibility. Germany, not Turkey, would benefit from the victory of the Central empires. The victory would place the Ottoman territory as completely in the power of Germans as the Young Turk clique is already. But the trade of Armenia, Mesopotamia and, generally speaking, of all Turkey in Asia, is in the hands of Armenians. Even German business cunning and tenacity would be blocked by Armenian competition. To clear the ground of the Armenians was, therefore, a necessity for the success of German designs. Germany might have hesitated to murder the Armenians; but she was not going to prevent Turkey from murdering them. That the German Government, in other words the Kaiser, was ignorant of the projected massacre is as unbelievable as is the statement that the Kaiser was ignorant of the terms of Austria's ultimatum to Serbia. When the German Government pleads ignorance of either of these crimes, it presumes too much on the credulity of neutrals. It knew that the Armenians were to be massacred; it did nothing to prevent the massacre; on the contrary, one American missionary reports that Turkish artillery which moved down Armenian civilians in one town was commanded by a German officer; and German functionaries have endeavored to defend the "deportation" (1) of the Armenians.

But Dr. Gibbons is not pleading against the murderers; he is pleading for sufferers who have escaped. In spite of the drastic thoroughness of the Turco-German policy, some Armenians still exist in Armenia. For how long? The capture of Erzerum will seal the fate of thousands. It is to save as many as possible that Dr. Gibbons calls on the Powers to act. The Entente Powers are doing all they can to stem the tide of barbarism. It will be the eternal glory of France and Russia and England that they went instantly to the rescue of imperiled civilization. It will be the eternal shame of Germany that, in Belgium and Serbia and Asiatic Turkey, she trampled on every law of honor and humanity. Will it be the eternal regret of the "neutral Powers" that they held aloof from such a struggle; that each relied on agonized appeals:—

"*And I my brother's keeper!*"

And the Lord said unto Cain,
Where is Abel thy brother?
And he said, I know not: Am
I my brother's keeper?

History records few crimes more fiendish in conception, appalling in scope and merciless in execution than the cold-blooded massacre, last summer, of an entire race, the Armenian race, a massacre deliberately planned and ordered by the Young Turk adventurers and connived at by the German Government.

No one who reads the terrible pamphlet which Dr. Herbert Adams Gibbons has devoted to the Armenian massacres and has just published, at Berger-Levrault's, in a French translation, "*Les Derniers Massacres d'Arménie*," will retain the slightest doubt either of the comprehensiveness of the crime, the responsibility of the Young Turks or the moral complicity of the German Emperor.

Dr. Gibbons has passed many years in Turkey. He was a professor at Roberts College in the early period of the new régime. He knows personally most of the Young Turk leaders and confesses sorrowfully that he shared the first illusions created by their advent. He was at Adana in 1909 during the massacres that drenched the region in Christian, that is Armenian and Syrian, blood. He has remained in constant communication with the missionaries laboring in Asia-Minor, Mesopotamia and Armenia. He writes, therefore, with knowledge and without prejudice, though he now realizes that when the Young Turks overthrew the Old Turk régime they retained all its abuses and added some ferocious abuses of their own devising. All this makes his arraignment of the Enver, Talaat, Ahmed Riza, Djavid, Djemal clique and its Teutonic governmental, diplomatic and consular accomplices all the more convincing. The evidence he produces is irrefutable, and the verdict unavoidable: the Young Turks and the Old Germans are a blot upon humanity.

If there still exists a human being who believes in the good intentions of the Young Turks, if there still exists a human being who doubts the blood-guiltiness of the German Emperor, let that man read Dr. Gibbons' little book. It costs only forty centimes and consists of only forty-seven pages. But in these forty-seven pages are contained evidence that will dispel every remaining illusion and shatter every lingering doubt. The eye-witnesses whose evidence Dr. Gibbons not only his American