

ARMENIAN OUTRAGES

A Great Mass Meeting Held in London.

Protest Against Acts of Turkish Officials.

British Government Called on to Take Action.

The French Cabinet Comes Very Near a Crisis.

The Scandals in Rome Cause a Great Impression.

LONDON, Dec. 18, 1894. The mass meeting to protest against the Armenian atrocities was held last evening, under the auspices of the Armenian Society. Several delegations from foreign cities were present.

Francis Scymour Stevenson, M. P., chairman of the Anglo-Armenian Association, presided and opened the meeting with a brief speech of welcome to the great audience. He read a letter from Mr. Gladstone, who was unable to accept his invitation to be present, but sent these words of encouragement:

"The terrible statements from Armenia have riveted the attention of the world. I heartily wish well your and every other effort to bring out the truth. Should the horrible allegations already made be sustained, they will prompt the civilized world anew to ask: 'How long are these things to be endured?' I will not try to anticipate the result of the examination, but I feel morally certain that the administration will not rest without a most thorough inquiry into the matter in which, under the Cyprus convention, we have a separate, deep and painful interest. It is my present hope that the Ottoman government will, for its own honor, cordially concur in this searching examination."

Cardinal Vaughan and Hon. James Stansfield, M. P., also wrote to express their sympathy with the objects of the meeting.

Mr. Stevenson spoke at length concerning the atrocities. The information which had reached the Anglo-Armenian Association from various independent and reliable sources, he said, showed that the newspaper reports of the massacres had been substantially correct and that action by her Majesty's government would be fully justified.

The other speakers were Canon Malcolm Mac Coll, Mr. Clayden, editor of the Daily News, and Commoners F. A. Channing, E. J. Morton, C. E. Schwann and Sir J. W. Pease.

The resolutions passed by the meeting recorded the indignation caused by the Porte's continued violation of the principles of humanity, and expressed regret that the sixty-first article of the Berlin treaty was allowed owing to the indifference of the signatory powers, to remain so long inoperative.

The British government was called upon to take the initiative in insisting on the immediate introduction of definite reforms in Armenia, in accordance with the pledge given at Berlin by Turkey.

One paragraph said: "While approving the international consular commission, we believe that the mere punish-

ment of a few offenders will not change the situation. What is really required is concerted and vigorous action by the powers."

The meeting also protested against the continued refusal of the foreign office since 1889 to publish the consular reports relating to Armenia, and called for early information concerning Armenians, either untried, or who, after mere mock trials, had been imprisoned and maltreated.

A few persons dissented from these resolutions because, they said, they feared that the reports of the atrocities were due partly to Russian statecraft.

The Daily Chronicle correspondent in Moscow says: "Dispatches from Tiflis say that encounters between Armenian and Turkish villagers on Russian territory are becoming more frequent and serious. The Governors of Erivan and Kars have taken energetic measures to quell the Armenians. A gentleman just here from the Caucasus learns that the outrages in the Bitlis and Van districts were far less serious than reported, and that cases of torture and murder will be found to be rare."

Prof. Bryce, president of the board of trade, said in a speech in Aberdeen last evening:

"Nothing so dreadful as the Armenian outrages, in savage cruelty and revolting lust, has been reported since the Bulgarian atrocities. If the reports be proved true, the government which has permitted them will be on trial before Europe. Great Britain especially is bound by action in connection with the Berlin treaty, but I trust that others, especially Russia, will join her in securing effective protection for Armenia. I am glad to be able to state that Russia, France and Italy, acting in concert with Great Britain, are jointly arranging for a thorough inquiry."

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says: The Novosti says that the best pledge England and Russia can give of the mutual sincerity of their understanding is joint, forcible intervention in Armenia. The writer advocates a policy which will culminate in Armenia's independence.

A dispatch from Berlin says: The Cologne Gazette urges the powers not to place any reliance upon the promises of Turkey in regard to the situation in Armenia, as it is plain that the Sultan's government is putting every obstacle in the way of the commission until the setting in of the rigorous Armenian winter, which may be depended upon to furnish any amount of impediment.