

sufficiently advanced—and at last when Roland had reached, as he thought, the moment of success—the mob rose, and because he and his represented Law—not genuine Law, but still Law—they removed them all from the path of license. When the frightful massacres took place in September, 1792, Roland and his wife refused to compromise with the murderers. Here opens a curious passage in Madame Roland's life. We have seen her marry a man much older than herself. She had lived with him many years. All of a sudden, in the crisis of her fate, she fell in love with a man younger than herself, Francois Buzot. Buzot was, himself, married, but his wife was an unattractive woman of no special intellectual cast, so he and Madame Roland apparently found themselves exactly suited to one another. Miss Tarbell is very frank about the situation. "Madame Roland and Buzot declared their love. But this was not enough for her; she felt that she could not deceive Roland, and she told him that she loved Buzot, but that since it was her duty to stay with Roland she would do it, and that she would be faithful to her marriage vows." Roland acquiesced—in fact, he could not do much else. The general opinion was that Madame Roland was the minister, and judging from her impetuosity and the flabby nature of old Roland, it seems more than likely. The end was not far off. On the 31st May, 1793, Roland was arrested, and the same night Madame Roland was taken to the abbaye. Released on the 24th June, she was rearrested immediately, and was thrown into prison where she remained until her execution on the 8th November. During this five months' interval she wrote her farewell to Buzot. For years these letters were lost. The truth did not come out until 1864. Miss Tarbell recounts their discovery. While in prison she also wrote an account of her career, called "Historical Notes," but it was destroyed by the person to whom it was confided from fear of consequences if he was discovered in possession of it. Her other manuscripts were happily saved. The last scene is described as follows: "At the foot of the guillotine, so tradition runs, she asked for a pen to write the thoughts which had arisen in this awful journey to death, but it was refused. Sanson, the headsman, in a hurry, pressed her to mount the short ladder which led to the platform; for there was a grim guillotine etiquette which gave her the right to die first, but she asked him to give her place to her cringing companion and spare him the misery of seeing her die. Sanson demurred. It was against his orders. 'Can you refuse a lady her last request,' she said, smiling, and he, a little shamefaced, consented.

"Then her turn came. As they fastened her to the fatal plank, her eyes fell on a colossal statue of liberty, erected to celebrate the first anniversary of the 10th of August. 'O liberté,' she cried, 'comme on t'a jouée.' Then the axe dropped, the beautiful head fell; Madame Roland was dead."

Her husband committed suicide; nobody knows exactly how Buzot died, but his body was found near Bordeaux in a wheat field half eaten by wolves.

Unhappy France! All this suffering was endured for thy sake! What return was made for it by thee? A century ago these three people, like hundreds of thousands more, died that France, the world, might be free. The world has followed the example, but France herself threw away her ideals, surrendered herself to false gods, and lies humiliated and betrayed. *Resurgat utinam, et diffundantur inimici.*

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The Sword of Islam.*

MR. CASTELL HOPKINS gives us here a really excellent and well-written volume on a burning question of the day and the hour. He might have called it "The Sword of Islam and Suffering Armenia," for at least one-half of it deals with the Turk generally, and not with Armenia in particular. But it is difficult to say which of these questions is of more absorbing interest. If, as Carlyle says, the unspeakable Turk is less and less of a danger, more

and more of a nuisance—becoming intolerable, certainly he has not ceased to be a danger to that part of the human race which is most unfortunately under his rule. Surely if ever blood cried to heaven for vengeance, it calls now; and this will be the disgrace of Christian Europe if it does not now intervene.

In thus speaking we intend no reflection against the present British Government. It is hardly possible—it is hardly conceivable—that they should, single-handed, go to the relief of Armenia (there may be some question whether they should not at once do something for Crete); but there will be a serious responsibility lying upon those European powers which may refuse to co-operate in bringing relief to the victims of Turkish oppression.

To return, however, to Mr. Hopkins. He begins with the history of the Turks, then gives a chapter to the Mahometan creed, as explaining the power and the weakness of the peoples by whom it has been adopted. He then describes the steady downfall of Turkish power, bringing down the history in outline to recent times. We should notice, here, that we think Mr. Hopkin's essay-like method very well adapted to his purpose, and conducive to clearness of perception on the part of his readers. Thus he is enabled to present, in succession, sketches of Constantinople as the centre of the great Mahometan system, of the relations between Russia and Turkey, of the Greek Church and Eastern Christianity, and the struggles by means of which Greece has been gradually and increasingly emancipated. Next came some chapters on the relation of the northern principalities, Bulgaria, Servia, etc., to the Ottoman Empire. In dealing with the Armenian question, he first takes up its history and its religion. In regard to the theology of the people, Mr. Hopkins, perhaps wisely, does not go very minutely into their relations to the so-called Catholic and orthodox Churches. But this affects very little the main question before us. And here, we may note, a curious misprint has got into the table of contents. Mr. Hopkins knows quite well that Arminians and Armenians are widely different; and this is given for the benefit of the printer or the proof-reader.

Mr. Hopkins shows us that the present state of affairs in Armenia is no mere accident. It is quite likely that the suspected alliance between Armenian Christians and Russia gave occasion for the terrible outrages which have been perpetrated of late. But it hardly needed this; and, at least, it seems quite certain that the cruelties perpetrated by the Kurds and others were in no way checked, but on the contrary were encouraged by the government at Constantinople.

Mr. Stead, of the Review of Reviews, has given us the facts in ghastly array, and Mr. Hopkins, without going into the same detail, tells us that the massacres and outrages are too terrible for description, and far exceed the Bulgarian horrors which were so fiercely denounced by Mr. Gladstone twenty years ago. We are not quite sure as to the part which, Mr. Hopkins suggests, the United States should take in this matter. From one point of view, indeed, it concerns the whole world; and, if Islam should arise in its strength and make this a war of religion, we should desire nothing better than a new crusade, in which all Christendom should unite to put down this most hideous and corrupt misgovernment. But, whether in this or in any other manner, the crying wrongs of the subjects of the Turk are to be righted, it is desirable that we should be acquainted with the historical facts, and these are given well and attractively in the volume before us.

BRIEFER NOTICES.

"Paul's Dictionary of Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda and Vicinity." (Buffalo: The Peter Paul Book Company).—The object of this volume is to serve as a guide to Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda and near-by places. It is accompanied by a useful map and numerous illustrations, and, as its title implies, requires no index or table of contents, being arranged on the dictionary plan. All who may cross the lake for a trip, we recommend to purchase this useful little book. The price is low, being only 30 cents, and any visitor or tourist will find it worth double the money, in the way of time saved by having just such information as all visitors need, supplied in a concise way.

* "The Sword of Islam or Suffering Armenia—Annals of Turkish Power and the Eastern Question." By J. Castell Hopkins. Bradley, Garetson Co. Brantford and Toronto. 1896.