

# Victoria Weekly Times.

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PART 2.

## WORSE AND WORSE.

Armenian Massacre Becomes More Horrible as Details Reach the Outside World.

Turks Make a Feeble Attempt to Justify Their Action in the Matter.

London, Dec. 5.—A private letter received from an Armenian resident of Constantinople says: "Twenty-three villages of Armenia have been compelled to embrace Islam. During the massacre the soldiers ripped open women, struck their unborn babes on spears and marched through the streets in triumph. To complete the misfortune the Sultan while expressing his horror, has sent a special deputation with presents and flags for the guilty troops as signs of his approval. Which of our misfortunes shall we lament? The massacre of our brethren or the lot of those left in misery, to be subjected to the most cruel treatment by the commission? The news of our calamities is widely known, yet none dare to speak. We look into each other's faces and there read the sorrow and pain of the heart." The writer of this letter, which bears the date of November 6, was obliged to hide it for days owing to the domiciliary visits made by the police.

The representative of the United Press Agency, Mr. A. J. Aikin, of the Anglo-Armenian association, in which the latter stated that on the 3rd inst. the Earl of Kimberley, secretary of state for foreign affairs, held an hour's private conversation with Mr. F. S. Stevenson, M. P., president of the association. It is understood that the Earl will, at the request of the Porte, select an independent commissioner, whom he may select one of the great powers to appoint. The official statement of Lord Rosebery and the Earl of Kimberley is expected to be made public this week, but the prompt execution under European control of article 61 of the Berlin treaty, which decrees that the Porte shall effect reforms in Armenia without delay, will alone satisfy the association. The Turkish commission appointed to investigate the atrocities recently committed is not satisfactory, as it is claimed that such a body should be purely European.

The Anglo-Armenian association is already moving and has presented a memorial to the foreign ambassadors in London in relation to the massacre. The memorial states that the statements are now, as they have been heretofore, false. The Armenians have been attacked for sixteen years. The execution of Sack Ki Busha, who commanded the force which committed the atrocities, and his inferior officers will not be sufficient. The massacre were due, it is asserted, to the Porte's deliberate orders. The association will ask the assistance of the Armenians in the United States and will also demand that Armenia be forthwith placed under European control. The association has given expression to its gratification at the resolution adopted by the United States senate the other day protesting against the atrocities and directing that the remonstrance of the government be communicated to Turkey.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The Turkish legation has received the following communication in regard to the Armenian troubles: Towards the end of July last and under the instigation of an Armenian named Hamartozum the men of ten Armenian villages near Mosul formed separate bands, and armed with guns, daggers, hatchets and other instruments attacked the tribe of Dikan, killed a few men of that tribe and afterwards fell on the tribes of Bekirli and Bekirli. The bands burned alive Hadji, the nephew of Emmer Agha, one of the chiefs of the Bekirli tribe, and not only outraged the Moslem women of the village of Kulliguzat, but also put them to death in an atrocious manner. Men were also tortured in an atrocious way. Not satisfied with all these lawless and criminal proceedings, the same bands burned also a few villages inhabited by Mussulmen. Thanks to the measures taken by the lawful authorities, the hands in question were dispersed and the insurgent chief Hamartozum, as well as the priest Mighinditch of Kizil-Kiliez, and other guilty persons, were arrested and brought to justice.

The statement often published in some of the European newspapers to the effect the regular troops fired on defenceless men and women is utterly untrue. No person not carrying arms was killed, 20 insurgents, having surrendered, were treated with all possible consideration, and after their depositions before the legal authorities of Mosul were taken they were set free. It was these twenty insurgents who indicated the places where the chief Hamartozum and his accomplices were hidden. The above facts show that among the insurgents only twenty surrendered, and that with the exception of the brigands who broke out in revolt no one else was ill treated.

## ENGLISH COMMENTS.

Opinions of the Pall Mall Gazette and the Globe.

London, Dec. 5.—The Pall Mall Gazette's comment on President Cleveland's annual message to Congress, says this afternoon: "President Cleveland reiterates his faith in free trade, but we do not expect to get anything more out of the tariff controversy. That chance is lost until the Democrats return to power with a little sense in their heads. America is going to bid for the supremacy of the sea. While we do not fear the contest, this policy in time will seriously affect our carrying trade."

The Globe says: "There is no touch of spreadeagles in the message nor the slightest desire to twist John Bull's nose. On the contrary, President Cleveland has the courage to display a friendly attitude to Great Britain on certain questions, which, if roughly handled, would easily provoke international umbrage. We advisedly call his language courageous, for his careful avoidance of other sort of talk is certain to provoke the wrath of Irish Americans. As in foreign affairs, so in domestic affairs, there is ample proof that he has the courage of his convictions."

## CABLE NEWS.

Destructive Land Slide in Tyrol—The Czar Pardons.

London, Dec. 5.—An honorary British colonel, Emperor William has telegraphed to the acting colonel of the Scots Greys his congratulations upon the appointment of Nicholas II to be honorary colonel of the regiment. He says he is sure the regiment will appreciate the distinction, in view of the warm comradeship of the regiments forming the union brigade at Waterloo.

In addition to his former gift of £1000 for the relief of the sufferers in Italy, King Humbert today made a donation of £4000 to be devoted to the same purpose.

Lord Carrington, who went to Russia on behalf of the Queen to attend the funeral of Alexander III, said in a public speech in Cambridge this evening that the late Czar's love of peace and many other admirable qualities had been recognized universally. He had found that in Russia Lord Rosebery, Lord Salisbury, the London press and the British people were held in high esteem. The comments passed by the English newspapers on the late Czar's reign had done much to promote better relations between the two powers and to foster a spirit of mutual confidence and good will. The sympathetic attitude of the Prince of Wales had also a strong influence toward the renewal of the international friendship.

A landslide damaged part of Glare in the Italian Tyrol and killed many cattle. No person was injured. Many extensive vineyards in the neighborhood of the village were buried.

Prof. Bergman told the German Medical Society this evening that he could not hope to soon settle the question as to the value of Behring's anti-diphtheria serum, but would not be able to form a final opinion in less than a year. Prof. Virchow referred to the surprisingly good results obtained in the Emperor Frederick hospital, and he said it was the duty of every physician to use the serum, despite the injurious effects that might result from it. He thought years would pass before the value of the serum could be fixed definitely.

Deputy Ascarato, republican, elicited a storm of groans and hisses from the Monarchists in the Spanish chamber today for advocating the autonomy of Cuba. Premier Sargasta replied that Spain would spend her last dollar and shed her last drop of blood before she would relinquish the Island. The Monarchists cheered this declaration tumultuously, the Republicans protested, and the house became so disorderly that the debate was suspended.

The Daily Chronicle's Rome correspondent says: "The Czar has informed the Pope that he has pardoned many condemned Poles, and His Holiness has sent an autograph letter to encourage his majesty in his liberal policy."

Berlin, Dec. 5.—The new reichstag building was dedicated to-day with imposing ceremonies. The Emperor subsequently opened the session. In the speech from the throne he invoked the blessing of God upon the reichstag and upon the welfare of the empire. He said a bill would shortly be submitted extending the criminal laws and increasing the protection of the state for better maintenance of order. Referring to the financial condition of the empire, the Emperor said a new source of revenue was necessary in order to cover the existing deficit in the national treasury, and a bill providing for the taxation of tobacco would be introduced. He declared the relations with all powers were friendly and that the good spirit of Germany's alliances continued. Referring to the death of the Czar, the Emperor said "In the death of the Czar of Russia I mourn a friend and tried co-laborer in the works of peace."

## THE TACOMA SLIDE.

Sixty-five Feet of Water Where There Was Formerly Five Feet.

Tacoma, Dec. 5.—Diver Harrison made another descent to-day, but the fog overhanging the bay was so heavy that nothing could be done. Mr. Harrison reports that at the site of the old warehouse office, where formerly there was barely five feet of water at low tide there is now 65 feet. He says that he found the bottom to be harder. It is thought that the refuse and sawdust from the old Hatch mill had filled in there, and a layer of dirt washed down by the Puyallup river formed what had been called hard pan. The alleged deposit of quicksand, it is said, was nothing more than this sawdust.

The Northern Pacific will probably build a sea wall of 800 carloads of heavy stone and drive piles to hold this in check. Slips, instead of one long wharf, will probably be built hereafter.

## SCENES AT PORT ARTHUR.

The Japanese Soldiers Showed no Mercy for the Wounded Chinese Soldiers.

Chinese Fleet Despoils of Taking a More Prominent Part in the War.

London, Dec. 4.—The correspondent of the Times telegraphs as follows from Hiroshima: I have just returned from the seat of war and had a conversation with Viscount Mutsa Munemitsu, the foreign minister, in regard to the misconduct of the Japanese at Port Arthur. I informed him that I had watched the Japanese army enter the town. The Chinese resisted to the last. I saw Chinese in plain clothes with firearms concealed on their persons. I also found explosive bullets. The Japanese reported that civilians fired upon them from the houses, and they therefore deemed it necessary to exterminate them. The Japanese were further excited by finding the mutilated remains of Japanese prisoners. Some of these prisoners had been burned alive. I saw no resistance in the town during the next four days. The Japanese pillaged the whole town and killed almost every man. Very few women or children were killed. Those who were killed were probably killed unintentionally. I saw scores of Chinese prisoners, pinioned, dismembered and dismembered. Many bodies were partially buried. The foreign minister expressed himself as intensely surprised and grieved. Hitherto, he added, the Japanese army had been admired for its humanity and discipline. He was unwilling to believe it possible that they acted as reported or to express an opinion on the subject until a detailed official report arrived. Meanwhile he authorized me to say that he was certain the government was sincerely determined to act on principles of humanity and civilization, and was firmly resolved to maintain the honor of Japan and refute Chinese slanders. I am satisfied the government desires neither to conceal the truth nor to permit slanders.

A Chefoo dispatch to the Times says it is reported that the Chinese fleet is desirous of taking a more prominent part in the war. The fleet was seen off Weihaiwei, but has now disappeared. The Chinese fleet was still inside the harbor. Reinforcements are being poured in from the coast of the army when Cleveland command. He is a brave and competent officer, and is assisted by several foreigners. The Chinese people fear that if peace is made the disbanded troops will commit outrages. In a few days the fleet will sail north will sail. The Japanese will have to act quickly if they intend to attack Pekin. The last reliable reports received in Chefoo state that Japan has informed the American minister that she will negotiate if China sues for peace. The Chinese has done so, so an armistice is likely to be arranged.

A dispatch from Berlin states that China has accepted the English offer of a 4 1/2 per cent loan of £1,200,000.

Paris, Dec. 4.—The Figaro urges France to temporarily occupy some point in China as a reply to the English demonstration at Chusan, which it interprets as an intention to occupy the island.

Tokio, Dec. 4.—Peace negotiations are proceeding. The minister of foreign affairs has handed to United States Minister Dun a counter proposition for transmission to United States Minister Denby. Owing to the secrecy surrounding the negotiations it is impossible at this stage to discover the exact nature of this counter proposition, but it is supposed to differ from Minister Denby's original proposition mainly in respect to the amount of indemnity named by Japan and in the addition of certain rather onerous guarantees for the faithful execution of China's pledge. It is rumored that one of the guarantees is the continuation of the Japanese occupation of Port Arthur until the treaty conditions are fulfilled, and it is apprehended that such a demand may involve Great Britain, to which nation such occupation would be obnoxious.

Yokohama, Dec. 4.—Mr. Dietrich, the envoy who visited Japan for the purpose of negotiating a peace, and whose mission proved a failure, the prime minister declining to meet him, has written a private letter to the prime minister denying that he was sent to Japan by Li Hung Chang.

According to the semi-official press, Japan has decided to insist upon heavy conditions of peace, which will be increased as the war is prolonged. If the war is concluded now Japan would accept 400,000,000 yen and the cession of the territory now occupied by her forces. If Taku and Shunhaiwan cannot be taken up on Japanese terms, peace is impossible. The war will be pushed in other parts of China. No armistice will be granted unless China formally sues for peace and surrenders Pekin and gives other pledges in proportion to the demands of Japan. It must be stipulated that Japan's power is absolute.

London, Dec. 4.—The Central News says that China has offered all the money that the treaty powers are likely to allow Japan to borrow as minimum on the basis of a 4 1/2 per cent gold loan, secured by the uncharged revenues of the treaty ports.

The Central News correspondent in Shanghai says that the British steamer Guy Manning is landing there from Hamburg war material valued at \$175,000.

A Central News dispatch from Chee Foo says that Commissioner Dietrich, who returned on Sunday from Japan, repeated in an interview to-day the statements he made on Monday, that he was empowered to negotiate for peace with Japan in the name of the Chinese board of foreign affairs and that he was recalled because the negotiations for peace had passed into the hands of the American ministers to Japan and China.

Commissioner Dietrich added that Col. Hanneken, commander-in-chief of the Chinese forces, is raising 100,000 soldiers to be officered entirely by Europeans, mostly Germans. Some of these officers have already arrived and others are on their way to China. Seven thousand soldiers have been ordered to reinforce Chee Foo and are being supplied from Wei-Hai-Wei.

The Standard's Paris correspondent says: "It is rumored in diplomatic quarters here that France means to have a share in the powers seized any territory in the event of the disruption of China. It is supposed that she covets Formosa, which Admiral Courbet blockaded in 1884, occupying Kelung and the mines in the vicinity. Anyhow, it is doubtful whether she will allow Japan or any other power to seize Formosa without protest. It is understood here that the Japanese have set their hearts on signing a treaty of peace in Pekin. The Japanese minister here stated recently that Japan meant to have a treaty of Pekin, as the Europeans have a treaty of Paris."

A dispatch from Seoul, Corea, dated December 3, says: "Count Inouye, the Japanese minister, is taking vigorous measures to restore internal order. Radical changes are being made in the departments of the interior, justice and education. A combined force of Japanese and Koreans, was conveyed by steamer to Asan, and marched thence to Kong Ji to attack the Tong Haks. The force routed thousands of the Tong Haks and killed a large number."

Tokio, Dec. 4.—Japan has notified China that no further peace proposals will be considered unless by a regularly accredited ambassador from the Chinese court. At the same time Japan renews China that it is not Japan which is suing for peace. Japan is dissatisfied with China's temporizing policy and claims that China is seeking concessions in advance of a formal conference looking to a settlement.

## SEALERS' INDEMNITY.

Court of the army when Cleveland command.

Toronto, Dec. 5.—The Globe's Washington special says that the \$425,000 that President Cleveland spoke of in his message will probably not pass congress and be paid to the Canadian sealers, as the members are opposed to it on various grounds. It is claimed primarily that the amount is excessive.

Recommutation.

Think They Will Be Allowed to Enter Russia.

Salvationists Pleased.

New York, Dec. 5.—The members of the Salvation Army here are very highly pleased with the courteous and kind reply which the new Czar of Russia, has made to the telegraphic dispatch of congratulation sent to him from London by General Booth. Some of them take an unexpected reply as an indication that Nicholas II will be most favorable to the Salvationists than his father was. They even think that the Salvation Army may hereafter be allowed to organize and operate in the great northern empire. Up to this time it has not been permitted to enter Russia and even the name of Booth has been interdicted by the press censor. The sanguine opinions entertained by many Salvationists here are wholly discredited by an officer of the army who is acquainted with the Russian system. He says that the new Czar's reply to General Booth was merely of a prefatory nature, resembling hundreds of other acknowledgments made in his name, of the congratulations which he had received. The Salvation officer adds that it would be impossible for bodies of uniformed religiousists to march up and down Russia blowing their trumpets, singing hymns, holding mass meetings and preaching in the street. It would be in violation of Russian law, the authority of the Greek church, the police methods, the customs of the people and the peace of the country. It is probable, however, that some of the English members of the Salvation Army will soon petition the new Czar for permission to enter Russia in order to render services in the line of "rescue work" such as is not performed by the orthodox church and has never been attempted by the other churches.

Dominion Elections.

Understood that the Government Will Order the Elections Very Shortly.

London, Ont., Dec. 3.—The Advertiser (Liberal) editorially says, it has reliable information that the premier, Sir John Thompson, and his colleagues, have resolved to order the Dominion elections at the earliest opportunity. It is asserted that a panic prevails at Ottawa because of the fact that he deficit of \$5,000,000 has to be faced when parliament meets, involving large additional taxation on the country. The cabinet ministers, it says, do not care to meet this situation.

## TO-DAY'S CABLE NEWS.

Exciting Scenes in the German Reichstag—The Socialists Create a Row.

The City of Paris Runs Aground at Southampton But is Again Floated.

Berlin, Dec. 5.—The first sitting of the reichstag in the new building was held to-day. The president, after a brief address in honor of the occasion, called for cheers for the emperor. All responded except the socialists. The action of the socialists incensed the other members. They howled and shouted at the socialists to get out. The socialists paid no attention to the cries. Five minutes elapsed before the tumult was quelled.

Berlin, Dec. 6.—In the reichstag Herr von Manteuffel declared the revolting action of the social democrats would result in the house making an inquiry into the charges of "lese majesty" more strict than ever.

The social democrats during the discussion called the other members rowdies. Herr von Lesezewski censured the socialists for not responding to the call for cheers for the emperor. Herr Singer, socialist leader, replied that he would never join in cheers for a man who told the soldiers that at his command they must fire upon fellow citizens. This reply was greeted with cheers by the socialists and a greater row than before prevailed.

Southampton, Dec. 6.—The American liner Paris, from New York, went aground off the dock extension this morning. She was floated at high water.

London, Dec. 4.—The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Duke of York, reached London on their return from St. Petersburg this afternoon. They were given enthusiastic greetings.

Paris, Dec. 6.—Nearly all the silk weavers in Lyons have struck.

## TRYING TO BUY SUPPORT.

The Two Controllors in Manitoba—Election Probabilities.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 6.—The members of the government who were advertised to speak last night upon political questions were met at the depot by Senator Hoffman and Messrs. W. A. Macdonald, Q. C., A. Kelly and G. B. Caldwell, Q. C., and were driven through the city. At 4 o'clock Controller Wallace

men of the city to which that gentleman made a pleasant reply. In the evening a meeting was held in the city hall and was addressed by Mr. Wallace and Mr. Wood. Senator Kirchhoff occupied the chair. Mr. W. A. Macdonald, before introducing the speakers of the evening made a brief speech in which he explained to the audience the objects of the secret delegation which recently visited Ottawa. He stated that the delegation was invited to Ottawa to discuss with the government the Hudson Bay railway scheme. The results of the visit were satisfactory to them, and he assured his hearers that the construction of the Hudson Bay railway was on the government's programme and would, as the gentlemen with them would say, be the next piece of public work to be undertaken by the government. Mr. Macdonald was followed by Mr. Wood. Mr. Wood said he had come to Brandon to present to the people the policy and position of the government upon all questions affecting the welfare of the people of Manitoba and the Northwest and to counteract the effects of the tour of Mr. Laurier recently made through the country, and not to advise the people to go in for mixed farming. He spoke for nearly an hour and a half, defending all the acts of the government since it took office in 1878, depicting the prosperous condition of Canada compared with other countries. His speech did not seem to impress the people very satisfactorily, and once in the course of his remarks, order had to be called by the chairman. Mr. Clarke Wallace was the next speaker. He had visited this city in 1882 and was greatly struck with the improvements made since that visit. He referred to the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier's visit to Manitoba, and stated that Mr. Laurier in advocating a free trade policy such as Britain's did not know what he was talking about and that he was totally ignorant of what Britain's trade policy was like. He proceeded to explain the kind of policy now in force in Great Britain by quoting the taxes payable upon articles in daily use and the rates levied upon any unusual privileges enjoyed. The people, he said, were taxed, and that as heavily as they could bear, and asked if this state of things was to be desired in Canada. After treating his audience to a few of the old arguments and telling laughable little stories, he concluded his speech. The speeches of Messrs. Wood and Wallace were remarkable for what they did not say in reference to the Hudson Bay road. Mr. Wallace concluded his speech without the slightest reference to the subject. Mr. Wood simply said that from investigation and inquiries made by himself he was satisfied that the bay was navigable for six months in the year, and that he thought it very desirable that we should have the railway.

The Pope conferred to-day with Cardinal Rampolla and other cardinals who attended the eastern church conference, and arranged steps to give effect to the decisions of the conference.

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