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# THE MOORS IN MOROCCO

## Fiendish Cruelties Practiced by the Moors on Helpless Europeans—Raisuli Tells Why He Took the Field Against the Sultan. Bodies of Victims Horribly Mutilated.

A Blood-Curdling Story of Events Leading up to French Intervention in the Sultan's Domain—France's Policy Justified by all Other Powers.

EUROPEAN POWERS FAVOR THE POLICY OF FRANCE

Support is Received from All Quarters—France Must be Prepared for a Costly War

His Side of the Story is a Picturesque Recital of What He Believes Was Unfair Treatment—His Desire Has Been for Fair Play

TANGIER, Aug. 31.—Neither the best intentions of European governments, nor the well founded fears of international complications can avert trouble in Morocco. Events in this disordered country, distracted as it is between the conflicting claims of three native potentates, cannot fail to force the hands of the Powers concerned. Bankrupt in finance and a prey to anarchy, the country is powerless to help itself, and is a menace to the peace and order of Africa as well as of Europe. Its position at first glance seems at once to demand and to forbid energetic European intervention. Without intervention the anarchy must endure and grow perpetually more dangerous, yet so soon as intervention becomes a fact, European jealousy must break out.

Probably the only effective remedy in all the circumstances is immediate and effective intervention and the strong action of France and Spain in bombarding Casablanca deserves praise. French honor was at stake. The repeated murders of French subjects called for retribution and the fear generally expressed by Europeans in Casablanca and Tangier was that France would not act firmly were damages to French prestige consequently, France was compelled to act, and so act most decisively.

The claims and interests of France in Morocco are undisputed. The special interests of Spain are also obvious. But the claims of Germany in Morocco are no more than her claims in Asia Minor or Persia—they are not important and tangible international interests, but mere demands. Whether the French act at Casablanca cuts the Gordian knot of the Moroccan problem or not, there need be no hesitation in saying that any strengthening of the German position on any portion of the African continent would be a public misfortune. France and Britain are, and must remain the paramount Powers in Africa. The English are wholly to the interest of England to support France with energy in the measures she is now taking. The most effective way of doing so would be to despatch a strong naval force to the spot to second the French forces with cordial goodwill and active assistance in establishing order in Morocco.

Refugees who have arrived here from Casablanca describe the town as a desolate waste, the large depots of grain, both European and Moorish, having been destroyed, while the few houses spared have been completely pillaged by Moors and Jews. It having been found impossible to carry off the sacks of grain from the large depots, are lying in the streets. Over 800 corpses of Moors and Jews were withdrawn from the dwellings in a deplorable condition, and more than twenty cart loads of corpses were collected in the streets and carried outside the town for cremation, an epidemic being feared.

A large quantity of arms and ammunition having been discovered in the dwellings of the richer Moors, several of these latter have been seized by order of the French commandant. The Spanish consulate has been pillaged, and the four priests in the convent only escaped by hiding and running to the roof. After the arrival of the Spanish detachment at the Spanish consulate an officer and four men were despatched to reconnoitre the convent, and discovered the priests, who are now in safety, distributed among the consulates. The State Bank has been pillaged, and the safe having been broken into, many drafts were also stolen. The looks of two other safes were tampered with, but the Moors did not succeed in opening them. The Moors have brought in many stolen jewels for sale here.

It appears that the Governor of Casa Blanca had at first declared himself powerless to assure the safe embarkation of the French colony on the English trading steamers lying in the bay, but that, on being pressed by the consular body, he promised the required escort, on condition that the consuls should guarantee that France would not attack the town with armed force. In this emergency the agreement was made, the Governor provided an escort of 200 soldiers, and the French colony was safely embarked. The gates of the town were then closed, and no further Europeans were allowed to leave. The Governor again broke into the safe, but did not find the jewels, but did find a list of names and addresses of the consuls who remained to keep order and aid him in maintaining order.

The following day fifty horsemen of the Chaulas came into the town to parley with the chief of the Sultan's troops, Mulay Ahin. They threatened that if the Governor did not stop the harbor works and the French control of customs within five days they would come in in numbers and not only destroy the works, but kill all Europeans and completely loot the town. The chief of the troops hesitated, saying

that there were instructions from Fez to allow the introduction of both reforms. The tribesmen, furious at their failure, withdrew with threats that they would return. On the following morning a neighboring Marabout went through the town with his symbol of office, openly preaching a holy war, and advising all native servants to abandon their "dogs of masters." He was a young Portuguese who appeared to be deriding his counsel. The consular body met and waited upon the Governor to claim redress.

On the same afternoon the Chaulas returned from their vengeance. After blocking the railway line with stones, they threw the French engine-driver to the ground and savagely dispatched him with knifed thrusts; stoned and killed one of the European workmen who tried to escape and proceeded to deal in similar fashion with the other Europeans on the train. One poor fellow threw himself into the sea, but an Arab horseman followed him and as he came to land heaved him down with a cut of a heavy sword, and grotesquely mutilated the body. Another, a rather robust man, was literally ripped open while some other of the natives stored him with small stones and others thrust their knives into the quivering flesh, glowing with rage. A big Moor stuck his sword into the mouth of one of the victims and literally cut his head off. Five Frenchmen, two Malians, two Spaniards, and a Jew were despatched and mutilated. The shapeless and deformed remains were piled on one of the trucks, the blood streaming all over the railway track, and the truck was then saturated with petroleum and ignited, with the intention that nothing should remain by which the individuals could be recognized.

The native regulation by which it is forbidden to bury the dead in the towns, being pleaded. Dr. Merle, a French physician with an escort of ten men accompanied by ten European volunteers, went out to perform as far as possible the last rites over the dead. When he arrived at the scene his "escort" deserted him and the natives ran in the direction of the town. One Frenchman was closely followed by a mob of the walls and he was drawn up out of the reach of his pursuers. The doctor and his devoted friends were surrounded by women and children, who rent the air with the Moors' cry of rejoicing. For all these indignities France, of course, has prepared a terrible revenge.

The European powers have shared the full and just horror provoked by the massacre at Casablanca, but the alarm which the outbreak of Moorish fanaticism and cruelty has excited in all the towns where foreigners dwell practically without effective protection. This feeling is aggravated when the Moors (slaves or prisoners) parade the streets of the native quarter preaching the holy war and inciting the people to attack the Christians and Jews. Some of these firebrands have been arrested and thrown into prison. Agitation undoubtedly exists among the Moors, many of whom come from Casa Blanca. There has been some talk of disarming them, but this cannot be done until reinforcements arrive. The savagery of the Moors and their bravery in the face of almost certain death. Not until the full force of the Sultan's army arrives, they show any signs of weakness. Many fearful encounters took place between the French and Spanish landing parties and the hordes of natives who from time to time attacked them. Many sanguinary hand-to-hand encounters took place. A Spanish corporal engaged in a desperate struggle with a gigantic negro. Failing to kill him, even after bayonetting him, he forced his hand down the negro's throat and finally choked him to death.

The ferment is spreading in other parts of Morocco, and attacks upon the Europeans are threatened at Mazagan, Rabat, Larache, El Kasr, Fez, and even Tangier. The population of the latter, though still quiet, are said to be secretly excited by agitators playing an anti-French role. Casa Blanca, one of the eight ports of Morocco open to foreign trade, is on the Western or Atlantic Coast of the Empire. Its population is estimated at some 20,000, and these three-fourths are Arabs. There are some 3,000 Jews, and there is a European colony, chiefly French and Spanish, numbering a few hundred. The present town was founded by the Portuguese in the early part of the sixteenth century, but no doubt it existed as a native settlement long before that time.

The fanatical section of the Moors chose a fitting scene for their murderous protest against the advance of civilization. With the possible exception of Tangier, Casa Blanca has for years been the most remarkable example of pacific domination which, without needlessly offending native susceptibilities, has been of benefit to Europeans and Moors alike. Judged from a Moorish standpoint the trade at Casa Blanca is considerable, and it has been steadily growing. At this time of year it is not unusual to see in the port ten or a dozen steamers, some loading with barley, beans, linseed and other country produce, and others unloading tea, English cottons and sugar which are the main imports. English merchants in Casa Blanca have always taken the lead in everything for the good of the town, and it is largely due to their efforts that a small Moorish town has been turned into a thriving business centre, where Europeans can lead a European life, and where, despite difficulties from Moorish officials, straightforward commerce can be carried on to the satisfaction of Moor and Christian alike. The English colony has always been popular with the natives, and through all the disturbances of the last few years, when the country, up to the walls of the town, has been at the mercy of lawless tribesmen, more than one English family has lived in peace and security. The English colony has been a little more disturbed a mile or two outside the town, without a guard of any sort.

The tribes round Casa Blanca have for the last few years been free from the oppression of the Moors, and most of their evils have been driven out—a fact which has made it possible for the English colony to flourish. The foundation of the wealth of the province has been made by the practice of "protection," which has never been more widely of utility than at Casa Blanca. Each of the principal European firms has numerous native agents, who by virtue of their position, are officially recognized by the Moorish government as being under the "protection" of their employer's flag to the extent that they are not molested by the Moors. The employer has been informed. Theoretically, the Moors are not to interfere in any way with the European colony, but, practically, owing to the publicity which is ensured, those who fully possess this right are free from any oppression on the part of their own government. The slave of all Moors, from the most powerful to the humblest water-carrier, are safe from hourly danger of plunder, imprisonment, and death. The Moors of the principal men in the tribe round Casa Blanca are in this way "protected," and by this means the province has acquired great resources of money and food, which, added to the natural fertility of the country, has made it very powerful, and a valuable outlet for Casa Blanca trade.

Despite bad harvests, erratic seasons, and many other evils, the town and country have mutually thrived, but fanatical feelings have at times been kindled by the Moors. The sense of the benefits which Europeans have conferred, and unfortunately, the example of Casa Blanca seems likely to be followed in other towns where Europeans live. Leaving Tangier out of the question, Europeans, in greater or smaller numbers, are living in Fez, Marrakesh, and all the coast towns from Larache to Mogador. The Moors who inhabit this part of Morocco, are mainly farmers, hardened by centuries of cruel oppression and continual inter-tribe fights, but with more than Arab love of money and trading. This always tends to restrain any outbreak which would unduly interfere with chances of adding to a little store of money hidden in field or mud hovel.

As fighters their value is doubtful, though they certainly possess courage. They affect to despise infantry, and their ideal fight is carried on by horseback at full gallop, firing from the saddle. The country south of a line drawn from Fez to Rabat is for the most part very open, treeless, and, indeed, featureless. At this time of year and for the next two months the hard-baked black and red earth of much of the country offers a very good substitute for roads. Fez, the northern capital, is within a few days' march from the coast, and with the exception of the narrow ridge of hills, known as the "Zebecel," there are no considerable natural obstacles to a direct advance.

The heart of Morocco—the fertile plains south of Fez—lies for the time being at the mercy of any well-guided expedition. The Moors have never for generations been united, each man distrusts his neighbor, and each tribe distrusts all other tribes. It may be that fanaticism will provide the bond of union.

Support is Received from All Quarters—France Must be Prepared for a Costly War

PARIS, Aug. 31.—The crisis precipitated in Morocco has greatly disquieted the French Government, which has to deal not only with a difficult diplomatic situation, but is faced with the possibility of further massacres of French subjects in the Sultan's dominions. So many powers are interested in Morocco that the problem bristles with difficulties, but it is felt here that the only way out of the question is for France to come to an agreement with the other powers and take over the control of the country. She has given the Moorish Government unlimited chances of establishing order, but these have been entirely ignored, and the Sultan and his ministers have demonstrated conclusively their inability to maintain any form of sound government. It is the general opinion that the lives of foreign subjects in Morocco will never be so long as the French Government maintains the over-cautious attitude it has recently pursued. M. de Caix, in the "Debate," points out that France must not lose a moment and must either act promptly or abdicate her rights for ever. Any shrinking from the call of her dignity," he says, "will only lead to more and more power taking her place, and the creation of fresh international complications." The "Temps," the leading diplomatic organ justifies the bombardment of Casa Blanca, which it declares is in agreement with the spirit, even if it be in violation of the letter of the Act of Algiers.

In short, the Paris press is practically unanimous in its approval of the action taken at Casa Blanca, and manifests a desire that it should be followed up, if necessary, by equally energetic measures for the repression of a fanaticism which is found to be far more dangerous and more self-confident than was supposed. The French regular troops took part in the attack upon the French is regarded as conclusive evidence of the utter incapacity of the Moors to maintain order in the maintenance of order. Nothing could be more significant of the complete breakdown of the Moors' power than the request addressed to the French naval commander to fire upon the tribesmen who threatened a concert of powers says the Austrians and against whom the Moorish commander himself was powerless. Surprise is expressed at the fact that the Moors' soldiers guilty of firing on the landing party were not shot immediately after falling into the hands of the French. The general recognition that the action taken was not merely justified but inevitable, as reported from the principal European capitals, further confirms French public opinion in its approval of what has been done. "Germany no longer holds aloof from the action," says the "Frankfurter Zeitung," "and we can go ahead."

It is the understanding that to go ahead means no adventurous policy of conquest. A leading British journal says: "Europe and the Latin world favors the French movement. France's ally, could not, and would not oppose it, Germany and Austria are the only two Powers who may conceivably interfere, and, fortunately there are signs that Germany and Austria are prepared to howl to the inevitable. With the assurance of France that the Sultan's authority and the open door will both be respected, Germany will probably rest content and stand aside while France establishes her unequalled predominance in the country. The only spot from which grave trouble is now to be anticipated is Morocco itself.

Travelers who know the Moors insist that they will fight. It is freely stated in the Moorish ports that a "holy war" against the French is almost certain to follow the punitive acts. If such a war arises, France will not draw back from it. The government have behind them an approving country. On the confines of Morocco itself they have a military instrument with which to combat any attack by the Moors—a force redoubtable in numbers, expert in tactics, and with a high degree of morale and enthusiasm. If the Moors precipitate themselves on the French in the endeavor to fling them into the sea, they will find their Moroccan allies well matched by the invincible armor of the Gallic soldiery. Should this great collision occur, must eventually carry France far beyond the provisions of the Act of Algiers.

The immediate result of an inland uprising of the Moors would be the closing of the country to Europeans, except the six ports of Tangier, Rabat, Casablanca, Mazagan, Safi and Mogador. This is all well realized, and so

is the fact that the real Morocco question is now only just beginning. Some complain that the disquiet, particularly of France, in organizing the police force, is at the bottom of the difficulty. Scores of officers in Algeria have applied for months past for position in the Moroccan police force, and have not even been answered. Policing will now have to be done on a considerably more generous and less scale than before. However, this country, though its eyes are being opened to the magnitude of the business, is as determined as ever to stick to it. In the Press, M. Jaures' paper "L'Humanite," is alone in calling Morocco a horrible nest, out of which France ought to turn back at once. Everybody else, while fully recognizing the presence of horrors, is determined that France had got to go in and make them out.

Prince Bismarck used to say that the next great struggle would originate in a scramble for the territory of the Soudan, and it is well known that the late Lord Salisbury of England was for a long time disposed to share this view. A great many things, however, have happened since then. Whatever the result of the Algerian Conference, one conviction was brought home to the minds of all the representatives of the powers, and that was that the country—or countries—authorized to maintain decent order in Morocco was to be pitted rather than to be pitted against France and Holland had had some experience of the sacrifices involved in dealing with insurrections among people who were not quite savages, and yet were far from being civilized. Every colonial power has now learned the lesson which has been taught by the English in the Philippines Islands and the Germans in South Africa have learned from bitter experience how disproportionate to the apparent results is the task of enforcing law and order in remote countries where the whole of the world is not understood even the meaning of the words. Yet the duty of putting down barbarism is expected of it, not merely by France, but by the civilized world.

CAIRO, Aug. 31.—The official programme of that section of the Liberal party which supports the existing government and the British occupation of Egypt has been published. Native politicians are roughly split up into three divisions: the "Liberal Loyalists," who are the supporters of the British occupation; the "Liberal Nationalists," a party created by Moustapha Pasha Kaveli; and the followers of Hafsa Awad, who lie between these two. The manifesto indicates that the policy of the party is to safeguard the autonomy of Egypt under the protection and with the support of Great Britain, to extend the fullest hospitality to foreigners resident in the country, to further the interests of the primary schools, to give a wider range to the subjects taught in Arabic—not to make the language obligatory, but to aim rather at the instruction in the Mother-tongue being as good as that given in any other language—to break down prejudice still existing against sanitary reforms, and to prove to the British and European nations, given the time necessary to educate the people, that Egyptians are capable and worthy of representative institutions.

COLONIZATION SCHEME FAILS.

LONDON, Aug. 30.—Among the passengers who will leave on the Empress of Britain on the 6th of September will be Deputy Minister of the Interior, Corey, W. D. Scott and Colonel Lamb. The latter is going to Canada to arrange Salvation Army matters in Ontario. The Canadian Associated Press learns that the scheme for colonization of Northern Ontario with Salvation Army immigrants has fallen through.

WATERLOO, N. Y., Aug. 30.—Geo. Rynoldson, aged 60, a prominent citizen of this city, was struck and killed by a street car last night.

LONDON, Aug. 31.—Raisuli, the outlaw and bandit, who captured Kaid Maclean near Tangier and now thinks that he "held a wolf by the ears," tells a queer story in his own defence. He says:—

"Abdul Rahman, former Basha of Tangier, was the cause of my first quarrel with the government. He oppressed me and seized my property and that of my relatives and friends. I am of Shereddian birth and have in my possession letters addressed to my ancestors by Sultans who owe their throne to my people, conferring commands and was ever intruding against me and seeking to deprive me of my liberty. Finally he caused me to be arrested on a charge of which I was innocent. I was taken to Magador and cast into prison, where I remained five years with head bowed before the will of Allah. I lifted my eyes and besought the Most Merciful to hear my prayer. The days of man are numbered, and even chains cannot bind me for all time. The Most Merciful heard my cry and opened the prison door. I went forth to my village."

"What did I find? Not a vestige of my possessions remained. Even my papers had been taken by the Basha and his people. Meanwhile Rahman had been appointed Basha of Fez, and his place was taken at Tangier by Sadek Bargash. I took no measure of revenge, but put myself under the wing of the government, hoping that it would do justice. Bargash promised restitution. That promise was never fulfilled."

"Then did I shoulder my rifle and demand justice. Again the Basha asked me with fair promises. My friends advised me to lay aside my rifle. I consented. Still nothing was done. I could not even recover my private debts. Despairing of Justice I went to the tribe Gharbia, six hours from Tangier, where I had a farm. I desired to live in peace. But again my friends advised me to take arms. I spoke evil of me. Bargash sent men to surround my farm, and when I came out they fired on me. But Allah cast a shield before me. The men of the village came to the rescue, and drove off the soldiers whom the Basha had sent to slay me. Complaints to Tangier had no reply. Friends wrote me that the Government was bent on my destruction. I feared to go to Tangier, but went and saw Torres, then minister of war and a man of great influence."

"I told him I was just released from prison at Mogador, and that the Basha had been another attempt on my life. Torres replied: 'The man who has no fire may borrow an ember from his neighbor. Return to your village to those that are kind to you be kind; those who are unkind repay in the same coin.' I went back to my village and after a short interval departed for Arzila, whose kaid, Absalom bin Abdul Sadak, cousin of mine, I had met. He was my greatest friend. He invited me to live at Arzila and escape the jurisdiction of Bargash."

"I stayed two months in Arzila, eating out of the same dish of the Governor. The Pretender then took the field and the Basha of Fez sent soldiers to seize me. By God's mercy I was not at Arzila, having gone to the country of Gharbia, to look after my property. Letters from Fez, Tetuan and Tangier warned me that the Governor of Arzila sought my life. I did not believe it, for we were not the best of friends. Soon afterward I sent men to Arzila to buy provisions. Soldiers refused to permit them to enter unless they laid aside their arms. The men returned and told what had happened."

"I was amazed at the conduct of my kaid. I received information that the Governor was plotting with my cousin to seize me and sent men to intercept the servants of the Governor. I searched them and found on their letters saying that they were only waiting for me to come to Arzila to lay me by the heels. In despite of my continued protestation I lifted my eyes to Heaven and exclaimed: 'Walilah Houlah Uthah Koowat-Sain ila Belah.' There is none more sublime, powerful, just, and merciful than God. I was ever man in such straits! Fate has turned her face against me, but Allah will protect me."

"At this time the hill tribes were in revolt. I went and extinguished the fire of their discontent, for still I leaned to the side of the Government. My recompense was another attempt on my life. Rebellion spread, the roads were closed and Arzila was besieged. With the aid of the Sheriffs I induced the besiegers to depart. Arzila was saved and peace restored in the mountains. This I did hoping that the for-

tain representatives would see I was a good man and not a violent outlaw. "What followed? Soldiers camped near my village. I thought they had come to investigate my claims. No. They attacked my village, took me by surprise, and burned and sacked the village. That was my reward. I was forced to flee to the people of my ancestors, the Beni Aros tribe. A reward was offered for me dead or alive, but none were tempted. Soldiers moved in to the country of the Beni Aros, pillaging, plundering, and murdering. When I saw how the people were oppressed I went secretly to Tangier and stole a Christian, Perdicaris, the American. This I did that Europe might know how I was persecuted and hunted down. I did not want open war with the Government, but I thought a Christian the best weapon. My idea and hope was that Europe would investigate, for I know that Europeans are just and will see that justice is done. "Allah has his vicegerent on earth. The Sultan has his viziers, the viziers have the people, and it is the duty of the viziers to look after the welfare of the people, but in Morocco the viziers are wolves and the people sheep, and there are two wolves at the heels of every sheep. When the ropes of oppression became too tight I took the American, Perdicaris, and his squire, an Englishman, hoping that these two powers would let the Sultan know the true state of his kingdom. Perdicaris I know to be a talented gentleman, and to him I told all. He gave my story to the American Government. El Torres also knew, for I was in constant communication with him."

"The inference to be drawn from Raisuli's statement is that he seized Kaid Maclean for the purpose of again drawing the attention of Europe to the wrongs and the injustice of the Government, but the plain fact is that while Raisuli is a man of no mean ability he is an unconscionable rascal."

THE INDIAN PRESS IS LESS VIOLENT IN TONE

Writers Now Want Reform by Statesmanship Instead of by Bullets.

ALLAHABAD, India, Aug. 31.—There are indications that the Bengali agitators are becoming impressed with the necessity of being more cautious in their utterances in public. Even the redoubtable Surendranath Banerjee is singing a sadder tune. Addressing a faithful band of students on the subject of the coming anniversary of the boycott movement the "King of Bengal" said:

"The time for much speech-making is past and gone. The orator has achieved his work, and it is now for a statesman to enter the arena. I cannot help thinking that the atmosphere is surcharged with a spirit of distrust. Our rulers distrust us, and we reciprocate the compliment by distrusting them. Why should they send detectives and policemen after us to watch our proceedings, and send us to jail if we are caught tripping? We are not revolutionaries. We are not revolutionaries; we are anxious for reform, not sham reform, but genuine, real reform. Autonomous self-government under British protection is the goal of our aspirations, and we are resolved to have it. We may be persecuted, and sent to jail for it, we are resolved to avail ourselves of the constitutional means at our disposal for its attainment."

"Constitutional means" have not always been part of the Bengali platform. Possibly the presence of police in the audience exerted a restraining influence on the Bengali speaker.

THE KING'S PROGRAMME IS STILL UNSETTLED

LONDON, Aug. 31.—The king's plans for next spring are rather unsettled and no definite steps in this direction are likely to be taken for some weeks to come, until, indeed, he has returned from his continental tour. It is believed, however, that a visit to Spain, accompanied by Queen Alicia, will form a prominent part in His Majesty's arrangements for the first half of next year, and should this be the case, it is more than likely that their majesties would travel via Lisbon. For this trip it is probable that the new royal yacht, Alexandria, would be employed for the first time, their majesties travelling in it as far as Lisbon, subsequently residing at one of the Spanish ports.