

within fifteen day's march of Ujji, where he doubtless arrived last month. He is amply supplied with men and means sufficient to enable him to solve the great problem still left open to his undaunted courage and splendid gifts as a traveller. It will gratify all our readers to know that Stanley mentions in his letters that his white friend, Frank Pocock, is well, and that his own health is unimpaired.

The Bulgarian Atrocities.

DEBATE IN THE BRITISH COMMONS.—THE LONDON "TIMES" ON THE SUBJECT.

London, 8th.—There was an animated debate in the House of Commons last night on the Bulgarian atrocities. The *Times* says: "Once more the massacres in Bulgaria have occupied the attention of the House of Commons. In a few days the members will have separated, but for this we might expect a series of debates, in comparison with which that of last night would be gentle and subdued in tone, for there can be little doubt that we are on the verge of revelations surpassing anything the imagination of civilized man could have conceived. The barbarities of the Tartar conquerors, the wild and senseless destruction of human life which modern students of history have been disposed to look upon as fabulous, find a parallel in the deeds perpetrated within the last few weeks, at a few days' journey from our own shores, in our age. We must turn to Ashantee or Dahomey for anything similar to the ghastly spectacle now presented by a Turkish province, according to the testimony of which there can be no reasonable doubt. The helpless inhabitants of the district about Tartar Bazardjik and Philippoli, men, women and children have been slaughtered by thousands, and their towns and villages utterly destroyed. It seems likely that those whom humane incredulity has led to suppose that the accounts were exaggerated will have to abandon that supposition. The testimony of eye witnesses, and the admission of a member of the British Embassy, charged with the investigation of these massacres, give reason to believe that there has been nothing less than a general massacre of the population, against which the Turkish Government let loose its bands. Furthermore, there is the strongest evidence that these atrocities have not been the work, wholly, or even principally, of the Circassian settlers; but of the Turkish irregular troops, commanded by duly appointed officers, sent into the country expressly to strike terror into the population. What was said last night in the House of Commons shows the astonishment and horror these deeds have aroused. Mr. George Anderson, the Liberal member from Glasgow, introduced the subject, and one member after another rose to express his indignation, and to protest against the attitude of indifference on the part of the British Government, and still more against the official communications. Hon. Mr. Baring, one of the Under-Secretaries of the Foreign Department, assured the Premier was not disposed to treat the subject with leniency, but on the contrary would give it his anxious consideration. It was incumbent on him not to say a word without the gravest circumspection, until he had ascertained the exact truth, but if the atrocities turned out to be true no man would more sternly vindicate humanity. Then the old plea of exaggeration was put in once more, and the news-

paper correspondents were taken to task as persons satisfied with a very small amount of evidence, and who took a great deal of their information second hand. We may venture to suggest to the official speakers that with respect to the business, the time is past when this style of apology will have any effect. Mr. Bourke read a despatch from Mr. Baring, one of the Secretaries of the British Legation at Constantinople, dated July 22, at the outset of the enquiry, in which he cannot estimate the number of victims, and till he has visited the villages, he hardly dares speak, and says Mr. Baring, "but my present opinion, which I trust hereafter to be able to modify, is that about 12,000 Bulgarians have perished. We shall see shortly in what direction Mr. Baring's opinion will be modified, but we fear that if with prepossessions prevalent at the embassy, it should be anticipated that the killed amounted to 12,000. They are likely to surpass very much that number."

The *Times* further remarks in connection with the debate on the Bulgarian massacre: With respect to Mr. Bourke's defence of Disraeli and Sir Henry Elliott, British Ambassador at Constantinople, we desire to speak with due respect for their official obligations. But when the Under-Secretary takes it upon himself to rebuke a member for his opinion that Disraeli had treated the subject with levity, and when he says that such an expression did not exist in any of the minds of the members, except those who had just addressed the House, we must beg leave to tell him that his tone is a little too confident. It is time that the Government should be made aware that a more worthy part of England's society was deeply pained by the frivolity of the Minister, as well as by his evident desire to diminish or excuse what had happened. If these massacres bear any proportion to the statements which have been made, and which seem likely to be confirmed, the ambassador's communication to the Government will require some explanation. It is inconceivable that an ambassador should not have been able to obtain information of events at a few hours' distance from Constantinople, and of which numbers of people at that capital had more or less knowledge, yet, two months after this occurrence, we find him writing in a style which might make any one in Europe believe that there were serious doubts as to the character and proportion of the affair. When the inquiry which we are happy to know is not being prosecuted by official investigations, has come to a conclusion, we shall be able to adjudge whether Sir Henry Elliott's despatches convey anything like a fair indication of the events which have occurred.

The *Times* further says:—On this point Lord Harrington spoke frankly and becomingly last night. It seems a remarkable thing, he said, when there has been a slaughter of this description—I do not say whether a cold blood or not—in one of the Provinces of Turkey, that no intelligence of the occurrence should apparently from these despatches, have reached Sir Henry Elliott. I cannot but think, if the hon. gentleman at the head of the Government had been in possession of the information, which ought to have reached him, he would not have treated the first question put to this House in the manner he did. The country will agree in these opinions, and will be anxious to know how such ignorance was possible in Pera and Westminster.

Pickering fishing is all the rage at Port Colborne at present.

The Turkish War.

HEAVY DEFEAT OF THE SERBIANS.

Vienna, 8th.—The *Tablatt* says Turkey will admit the intervention of the Powers in the case of Montenegro, but will refuse in that of Servia. After occupying Belgrade Turkey will order the Skuphtina to elect a new prince.

London, 9th.—A despatch to the *Standard*, dated Paratchin, 6th, says:—The fall of Satchar is confirmed. The Turks who fought a Gurguzovatz advanced down the banks of the Timok, driving the Servians before them. They carried the heights of Satchar, commanding the town and pass of Vlatovnic, and opened fire yesterday afternoon. Before sunset the Turks were in possession of the town. The road from Satchar, Gurguzovatz and Alexinat to Paratchin, are crowded with Servians who, with their wives, children and goods are flying before the invaders, spreading terror everywhere. The authorities show courage, and deny that Satchar has fallen. They say the peasants are terror stricken because the Turks fired some villages on their march. The country around Gurguzovatz is depopulated and villages all burned. The Servians now build hopes on the expected attack of Tchernayeff on Nisch. The fact that the pick of the Servian army has not been engaged inspires confidence. Tchernayeff has fortified the passes of the Klisura country, which is mountainous, and military operations are difficult.

The *Standard's* Vienna special reports that the Servians are throwing up fortifications at Borji. A guerilla warfare will be carried on in Southern and Eastern Servia. Of the whole Servian army, only 50,000 men are serviceable. General Tchernayeff has quarreled with Prince Milan, and asked that his resignation be accepted, unless he was given command in chief. The Prince yielded to his demand.

The Paris correspondent of the *Spectator* says:—It is believed in German military circles that the war will end in a fortnight. It is stated that Bismarck declared that Germany would not abandon Russia, and if necessary, would follow her into the battle field.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily News* states that the Porte intends to prosecute the perpetrators of the atrocities in Bulgaria. Fifty officials in that province are reported to have already been discharged for misdemeanors. The Sultan has granted from his private purse \$50,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

A despatch to the *Hour* from Vienna says: It is believed that the Powers have arrived at an understanding in respect to the basis of discussion for an European Congress, to meet in Vienna. The Porte has given its assent in principle to the following points—1st. The re-establishment of statues 'quo ante bellum' in Servia. 2nd. Montenegro, to receive an accession of territory, including a seaport on the Adriatic. 3rd. Bosnia and Herzegovina to be re-united and form one province under a special charter, by which a considerable measure of self-government will be granted.

The *Times* states that at a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps, held on Sunday in Belgrade, it was resolved that Russian and English delegates be sent to Prince Milan, to advise him to accept armistice, with the object of permitting European mediation.

A large purchase of arms has been made for Servia in Berlin, for which Roumania promises liberty of transit through her territory. The new Roumanian ministry means war or neutrality favourable to the Servians.