

follows: Dr. Michael Turner was present in the Crimea, and in active service on the medical staff, during the Anglo-French Invasion of 1855, and witnessed the capture of Kertch. At that period, its population was estimated at between seven and eight thousand; and was composed of Tartars, Cossacks, Greeks, Russians, and a sprinkling from the tribes bordering on the shores of the Black Sea. More than two-thirds of the whole population of the Crimea are a mixture of the pure Asiatic Mongol Tartar with the modified European Turk; and except among the nobles, or murses, and partially among the population of the northern valleys, they abundantly indicate their Tartar origin in their features.

The antipathies which the mutual wrongs of Russian and Turk have created, have obliterated in the minds of the latter any idea of kindred with the Tartar, or semi-Turkish population of the Crimea; and after the sack and pillage of the town of Kertch, the Turkish troops carried their violence so far, as to open and spoil the graves in the Christian cemeteries; and on finding trinkets and relics in some of the first they opened, a general desecration ensued. The articles found consisted of rings, beads, and amulets, and also of crucifixes, and images of the saints; and these were sought for, and appropriated by the Turkish soldiers, with the utmost indifference to the condition in which they left the ravished occupants of the desecrated graves. Whilst strolling in the neighbourhood of the city where such shameful spoliation had been carried on, Dr. Turner passed through a large cemetery, which he was led to believe had been confined exclusively to members of the Greek Church, from the number of large marble crosses heading the graves. Most of the latter were opened, and rifled of such of their contents as could tempt the cupidity of the spoilers; and the skeletons and partially desiccated remains of their former occupants lay strewed about the ground. On looking into one of the open graves which had been thus despoiled, he was tempted to examine the nature of the sepulture, as the body still remained in its original position; and also to ascertain whether the marauders had left anything of value behind. He accordingly jumped into the grave, and turning over the loose soil with his hands, he was struck, on uncovering the head, by its long black hair and beautiful teeth. The body was not yet returned to the dust, so that the interment was one of no very remote date from that of the disturbance of what cannot properly under such circumstances be