

## SLAUGHTER OF THE JANISSARIES.

On the night of June, 1826 the last revolt of the Janissaries took place. They laid out their kettle in imposing array for the last time. Their ranks were speedily reinforced by crowds of miscreants of every hue, who flocked from every part of the city in hopes of new plunder, and were led on by the dervishes, who stired up fanatical spirit by declamations against the infidel customs. They attacked the palace of their Agha, who barely escaped with his life. They sacked his palace and that of the Grand Vizer, and once more the city was in their hands. Sultan Mahomond at once came to the seraglio from his palace at Beshiktash, on the Bosphorus, and after ordering the whole force of Topjis from Scutari and Tophane to rendezvous in the seraglio grounds, he sent a demand to the rebels to lay down their arms. His demand for surrender was rejected with scorn and he at once summoned about him the Ulema, who declared the Janissaries to be enemies of the true faith.

With the dawn of day on the 16th the holy flag of the Prophet was brought out from the Treasury, and the Sultan marched his whole force to the Atmedian, where with a religious service at the Mosque of Achmet, the sacred banner was unfurled, and crowds of the faithful began to swell the ranks of the sultan's retainers. The Janissaries had thrown out pickets towards the seraglio, the line reaching from the Marmora to the Golden Horn but this line was speedily forced by the advance of troops on all the principal streets, and soon all the outlying parties fell back along the great Divan Yol to their barracks at the Atmedian, where they commenced to fortify themselves, the Bektashee dervishes meanwhile going about among the men to animate them into greater recklessness and fanaticism.

The site of the barrack and the Atmedian itself is now completely covered with houses but it is laid down on the maps as about half a mile from the landing wharf of Yeni Kapoo, on the Marmora side of the city. Upon a hill commanding this place the head quarters of the royal troops were fixed near the mosque of the Sultan Mahomet, and here new crowds of devoted moslems rallied to the support of the sacred standard. The Topjis then closed in upon the Atmedian, meeting but little resistance; and soon the great square was completely surrounded, and artillery was posted on every commanding eminence, and in all the streets debauching from the place.

The Janissaries were drawn up in front of their barracks awaiting attack, and sharpshooters from the windows were keeping up a most galling fire upon the troops crowded into the streets when the Sultan sent in one more summons to surrender. The man who bore the message was killed. Then in an instant a hundred cannon opened upon the rebels. Some poured canister into the ranks marshalled on the square, and others sent shot and shell hurtling through the barrack. Once the Janissaries tried to break through the circle of fire, but the crowds who filled every street drove them back with fearful slaughter, and forced them to take refuge in the barrack. Then all the cannon concentrated upon the huge building such a fire of shell that soon the wretches within began to cry for mercy, for the barracks were on fire. Ah! so had thousands of old men and wives, and madiens cried to them for mercy in days gone by, and they had shown no mercy. And now there was no one to heed their cries nor to pity them. Not for an instant did the great cannon cease their roar

— not for a moment did the muskets hush their rattle, till the massive walls fell in and the last poor wretch was dead. Not one escaped of those who stood upon that square to fight against their sovereign.

The rebellion thus terribly crushed out in its first day, work yet remained to be done. There were still thousands of Janissaries scattered through the city. The provinces also were full of them. And when the next day a fireman was issued abolishing the order, its dress, its pass words, its barracks and its very name, a panic seized upon all who had been connected with the order. They fled in all directions. Pursued, hunted, outlawed, they went through horrible tortures to remove that fatal but to indelible mark upon the arm which betrayed their secret. The bow string and the cimeter were everywhere at work. The waters of the Bosphorus ran thick with gashed and mutilated bodies, and the scenes of the capital were repeated throughout the empire, until full 30,000 men had paid the penalty of crime for their corps. And so, among scenes of blood and violence, falls the curtain upon the tragedy of the Janissaries.

Near the Hippodrome in old Stamboul, just in the edge of the mass of ruins and dwarfed houses which marks the path of the great fire of 1866, is a low arched gateway. And if by any chance you are led to enter, you find yourself in a long corridor lined with fierce looking warriors. In that place not a hundred yards from the marble mausoleum of the man who destroyed the order, you stand in the presence of the Janissaries as they were two hundred years ago. And these effigies, with perhaps here and there a grey-haired old man with a hideous scar on his left arm above the elbow—who will tell you with bated breath in memory of the old horror, that he was once a Janissary—these are all the relics that are left of the power that built up the Turkish Empire.—O. H. DWIGHT, in *Harper's Magazine* for November.

## FENIANISM.

The Fenian leaders in this city are very busy at present, and open and secret meetings of the different circles are being held every night. Rusty guns, moreover, are being burnished, and brasses lightened of the verdigris that has dimmed their lustre for years. The Legion of St. Patrick, an armed organization, pledged to die if necessary for Ireland's freedom, is getting to be a really formidable military body. Its semi-weekly and weekly parades and drills are held quietly and unobtrusively, and its members are far from courting the notoriety destructive to their former attempts.—That an early and decided movement is on the tapis cannot be doubted, though the particular direction in which it will be made has not been, ascertained, on account of the darkness in which the leaders shroud their counsels.—*N. Y. Democrat*.

The *French Journal Official* tells a strange story about a subteranean lake under the city of Constantinople. Nearly half a century ago a large house in that city sank below the level of the street, and revealed a number of subteranean vaults, supported by magnificent marble pillars, richly ornamented, evidently the work of Greek artists. Underneath the vaults appeared a lake of unknown extent and considerable depth. Little has been said or even known of this strange discovery until within the last month, when an Englishman and a sailor undertook to navigate this subteranean lake; but they

never returned to tell of their discoveries. Another Englishman volunteered to go alone in search of his lost countryman, in a boat with torches attached. After some two hours he returned, completely exhausted and nearly choked to death with the foul air. He reports finding ranges of vaults and pillars as far as he could see.

## DOMINION OF CANADA.



## MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

## HEAD QUARTERS.

Ottawa, October 29th, 1869.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

No. 3.

## VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

## PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

12th "York" Battalion of Infantry.

No. 5 Company, Newmarket.

To be Lieutenant :

Ensign Walter Dudley, jr., M. S., vice C. McFayden, whose resignation is hereby accepted.

14th "Princess of Wales' Own" Kingston.

No. 6 Company,

To be Ensign :

Sergeant Jeremiah Pollock, M. S., vice J. Bell, left the limits.

35th Battalion "The Simcoe Forresters."

No. 3 Company, Cookstown.

To be Ensign, provisionally :

George J. Bishop, Gentleman, vice Bailey, promoted.

40th "Northumberland" Battalion of Infantry.

The name of the Quartermaster appointed to this Battalion by the General Order No. 2 of the 8th inst, is "Van Ingen" and not "Van Sergin" as was therein stated.

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

1st. "Prince of Wales' Regiment" Volunteer Rifles, Montreal.

No. 1 Company.

To be Captain :

Frederic Samuel Barnjum, Esquire, M. S., vice John Bulmer, resigned,

No. 3 Company

To be Ensign :

John Robinson, Gentleman, M. S., vice H. Bulmer, promoted.

No. 6 Company.

To be Lieutenant provisionally :

Henry J. Mudge, Gentleman, vice E. Bond, promoted.