

THE WORST WAS NOT TOLD

Armenian Massacres Described by the
Rev. George H. Filian.

HORRIBLE ATROCITIES OF THE KURDS

Still More Revolting Cruelties Prophesied — Turkey's Denials Declared to be False—Future of Armenia.

The Rev. George H. Filian, an Armenian exile, lectured yesterday afternoon in Association Hall, Brooklyn, on the recent massacre of Armenians by the Kurds. He declared that the stories published about the massacre were not exaggerated, but that the outrages were even worse than reported, and he prophesied that within two months still greater atrocities would be perpetrated.

"The most popular Turkish proverb," he said, "is, 'A lie is the strongest fortress of the brave. Rob, kill, and deny.'"

Mr. Filian described the location and surroundings of Armenia.

"Armenia," he said, "was the first Christian civilized nation. It had a population of 40,000,000 before Christ, many of whom embraced Christianity in Christ's time, and in A. D. 310 the entire nation became Christian. In Armenia are the Garden of Eden and Mount Ararat. In A. D. 410 the entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, was translated into the Armenian tongue, and it remains at this day the best translation of the Bible. From Armenian minds no atheistic books have ever sprung. The Armenians are a religious people. They found their faith in the Trinity.

"The Turks came to Armenia in the twelfth century and began to destroy and kill. We shall meet more Armenian martyrs in heaven than martyrs of all other Christian nations combined. Armenia's population of 40,000,000 has been reduced by the Turks to 4,000,000.

"After the Crimean war the Sultan of Turkey became the 'sick man of Europe,' and after the Russo-Turkish war he became the 'dead man of Europe,' and ought to be buried. All the powers want to bury Turkey, but jealousy prevents any of them from consenting to the burial. The reason is that there are some valuable jewels on the corpse.

"After the Turkish war the Government lost in population. It was formerly 40,000,000, but was reduced to 17,000,000 by the loss of Roumania, Servia, Bulgaria, and Egypt. Its population is now 18,000,000, of whom 12,000,000 are Turks, 4,000,000 Armenians, and 2,000,000 Greeks. The only Christian nation under the domination of the Turkish Government is Armenia, and I say that within three years Armenia will be liberated.

"The Armenians are as highly educated as Americans. They speak English fluently. It is taught in all the colleges, and young men and women marry others of European countries and Americans. The American Consul General in Turkey, Mr. Jewett, married an Armenian woman.

"Four years ago the Sultan called his Grand Vizier and other counselors together and asked them what should be done to repress the Armenians. He said they were wealthy and educated and held themselves above their masters. Said Pasha spoke up and told the Sultan the only solution of the problem was to kill the Armenians or they would rule the Turks. And the Sultan took Said Pasha's advice. I was in Constantinople at the time, and I saw bands of Kurds received at the palace by the Sultan, decorated with medals, armed with rifles made in America, and then sent to Armenia to do there as they pleased. And the Kurds went to Armenia and they began to kill. Armenians who protested were arrested as traitors. Mousa Beg was the leader of the Kurds, and the representatives of other powers insisted that he should be tried for his murders. The Sultan had to try him and acknowledge that he was guilty, but he only banished him to Arabia. And then a short time after he appointed Mousa Beg's uncle, Bahri Pasha, Governor of Armenia, and he began to massacre and plunder.

"The Armenians arose and fought the Kurds, and the Governor telegraphed to the Turkish Government that the Armenians were rising against the soldiers of the Sultan, and then the Sultan sent word to the

Governor to exterminate the Armenians, and that is how the recent massacre was brought about. Sixty thousand Kurds were let loose in Armenia, and they destroyed no less than forty villages and killed between 10,000 and 15,000 persons. This is the truth, and it can be proved. The Turkish Sultan, of course, denies it, but his watchword is: 'A lie is the strongest fortress of the brave.'

"The Kurds killed the men first, and then they told the women that if they would renounce Christianity, accept Mohammedanism, and become their wives they would be spared; otherwise they would be killed. And the women said: 'We will never deny Christ, and we are ready to die for Him. We are no better than our husbands were, and they were killed.'

"Three hundred women were killed in one church. One woman, named Shahe, whose husband, Grago, had been killed, took her child to a high rock, and called upon other women to follow her and to leap from the rock rather than fall into the hands of the Kurds. She jumped from it and was killed, and others did likewise. This story has already been denied, but it is true. I have the evidence of eye witnesses. Some women were crucified head downward, and hot water was poured over them until they died.

"The Armenians deserve sympathy. If your Government won't do anything, the men and women of this country will give their money and support to the Armenian cause. My nation is a wounded, a massacred, a killed nation. It fell into the hands of brigands, into the hands of the unspeakable Turk. England passed her by; Russia passed her by; France passed her by, but the American Nation is the Good Samaritan, and you will not pass by on the other side."

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