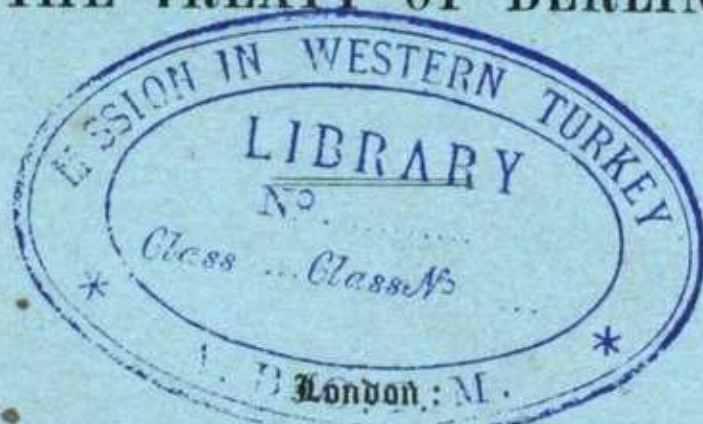


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REPORT
PRESENTED TO THE
International Commission at
Constantinople
AS TO
THE STATE OF MACEDONIA
SINCE
THE TREATY OF BERLIN.



PRINTED BY GILBERT AND RIVINGTON, ST. JOHN'S SQUARE,
CLERKENWELL ROAD.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE Massacres in Bulgaria, which took place in May 1876, created a profound astonishment and horror throughout Europe. The civilized West was not aware, or had forgotten, that there still existed a race in Europe, which, as Lord Beaconsfield said, was an oriental people, with historical traditions. The historical tradition in this particular case consisted in wholesale slaughter! The Conference which immediately preceded the massacres of May has never yet been sufficiently explained, nor is it our purpose to give a detailed explanation here. Speaking generally, it may be said that years of terrible misgovernment had, at length, aroused the spirit of insurrection among the Bulgarian race, which had become more difficult to keep down because of the spread of education among the people. The faint attempts at insurrection were immediately crushed out by letting loose Moslem fanaticism upon the disarmed and defenceless people. Since the treaty of Berlin, Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia have been taken from the direct rule of the Porte; but Macedonia still remains under Turkish government, and it is the object of the following pages to show to the

world, by the simple narration of facts, what this misgovernment means.

All the horrors that were perpetrated throughout Bulgaria, during the years immediately preceding the massacres, are repeated in Macedonia, and anarchy prevails everywhere. Government, in the strict sense of the word, there is none. In many cases the brigands are united with those who should be the preservers of order, and the oppressions and illegal acts are the works of the Government; in all cases the Christian population are under the continual despotism of the Moslem population.

The present statement of facts has been carefully collected together, chiefly by one person, throughout the journeys he has made in the interior; the greater portion, however, has not been published. Authorities have, as far as possible, been given for the statements which have been made; and, in any case, it would not be difficult to test the accuracy of what purport to be facts. As in the case of Bulgaria in the spring of 1876, and of Armenia during the last year, the Ottoman Government has shown a criminal recklessness of disorder, which would justify rebellion in any country. It can scarcely be said that it has made any attempt to repress the lawlessness of the Moslem part of the population; and the unfortunate Christians have had to bear not only the oppression of their Moslem neighbours, but of the hordes of Turkish refugees who had during the war to flee before the Russians, and who, for various reasons, have been unwilling or unable to return to

Bulgaria since the signature of the Treaty of Berlin.

During the last four or five months the Turkish Government has endeavoured to make capital out of certain incidents which have happened in Eastern Roumelia. It may be admitted at once that outrages have been committed on the Moslem population which are a disgrace upon those who have perpetrated them. But it must be remembered that these are very few in number ; that they are only what might have been reasonably expected to happen in a country under Turkish rule during four centuries, and in a country where the oppressed have only just got rid of their oppressors ; and, lastly, it must be remembered, that the Government of Eastern Roumelia has shown no disposition either to defend the perpetrators, or to conceal the facts. Let the Turks take what satisfaction they can out of the melancholy fact, that the people who had been under their rule have, in a few isolated instances, followed their evil example. But, on the other hand, Europe should know that these isolated cases which have happened in Eastern Roumelia only represent what has been the condition of things in Macedonia, both before, and since, the Treaty of Berlin. That such is the fact, the following narrative will show.

Belgium since the signature of the Treaty of
 Berlin.

During the last four or five months the British
 Government has endeavored to make capital out
 of certain incidents which have happened in Belgium.
 It may be admitted at once that out of
 have been committed by the black population
 which are a disgrace upon those who have
 tried them. But it must be remembered that there
 are very few in number; that there are only a few
 might have been reasonably expected to happen in
 a country under British rule where the
 and in a country where the government have
 just not rid of their opponents; and, finally, it
 must be remembered that the Government of
 Belgium have in the above cases shown a disposition
 to follow the Government, or to control the
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 following narrative will show.

ABUSES

PERPETRATED BY THE

MUSSULMANS IN MACEDONIA,

AND ITS STATE SINCE THE BERLIN CONGRESS.

THE Turkish population in Macedonia learning that, by the decision of the Berlin Congress, Macedonia was to remain in its former state, began to think that the Christian population was to continue in subjection. They hence began to pillage, kill and ravage, more cruelly than ever. The local authorities turned a deaf ear to all complaints, and openly said, "So many thousands of our men were killed on the battle-field;—what does it matter if a few of yours are killed also?"

In order to keep the Christian population in a complete state of slavery, the Turkish Government, in spite of the laws of the State, appointed, by special Bouyourouldis (orders) for every Christian village, a Turk under the name of Poljak (field-keeper). The candidate for this office must present to the Authorities a document bearing the seal of the village, attesting that the villagers wish to have him as Poljak; and as the seal is asked by two, or several, candidates at the same time, every year five or six Kodjabachis (headmen) are killed. The Kodjabashi is killed, in any case, by one or several of the candidates, as it is impossible to please them all at the same time.

The Poljak exercises in the village a supreme power over everything that the peasants possess—even their bodies. To begin with, they are obliged to build him a splendid house, to sow some of their own fields, and give him the produce. He tries the villagers, decides cases, imposes fines, imprisons and kills; he levies taxes for himself, gathers the tithes—in short, he takes whatever pleases him. By killing, or by heavy fines, which accumulate by high rates of interest, he gradually takes possession of the peasants' fields, brings his relations, and quarters them on the villagers. Thus, after a few years, the village be-

comes the Poljak's farm; whilst the villagers, owners of the fields, become his slaves, and work for him only to earn their daily bread. In the centre of every district the Beys and Aghas have a number of Poljaks as clients, and through them terrify the population; in fact, they can murder, outrage and ruin the people, every one according to his pleasure. The Poljaks execute the orders of their masters without fear, as they have their full protection and influence, which they can use with the local Authorities.

On Sundays and feast days (consecrated for rest) the Poljaks take the peasants—particularly the girls and prettiest women—and force them to work, without wages, for the Beys and Aghas. The men are condemned to hard work, without receiving anything to eat or drink, while the girls are often violated. Even on working days, when the Beys have any work to be done, the Poljaks force the peasants to abandon their own work to go and work gratuitously in the farms of the Beys and Aghas. The Poljaks decide also upon marriages. A stupid or deformed young man might buy from the Poljak, by giving him twenty-five Medjidiehs, the prettiest girl in the village. The parents as well as the girl must submit to the Poljak's decision, without which they are sure to be murdered.

The abuses committed in gathering the taxes, tithes, and the illegal distribution of new taxes are another source of the oppression of the peasants.

The above-mentioned abuses, and various others which would occupy too much space to specify, were from time to time brought to the notice of the local authorities, and also to that of the Central Government, but without result, excepting that false accusations were brought against the complainants, who were very often killed, and this of course put an end to their pursuit. After each complaint the outrages were doubled, and the malefactors, instigated by the authorities, have destroyed entire families. On account of this the peasants remain dumb, and dare not complain. Mahmoud Nedim Pasha, during his Veziriate, abolished the Poljaks; he ordered that no Turk should be appointed Poljak in a Christian village, even if the villagers asked it, for he knew that these sort of requests were made forcibly. But after his fall the local authorities immediately sent Poljaks to all the villages, who proved to be worse than their predecessors.

From among the numerous misdeeds committed since the meeting of the Congress, we will mention only the following:—

On the 9th of June, some Turks of Prilep carried away Peter Kapka's son, and sent back to the father one of his fingers,

with a demand of one hundred Turkish liras as ransom, threatening to kill the prisoner in case of refusal. The mother became mad on hearing this news, because it was beyond the possibility of their means to meet such a demand. A few days afterwards the parents received an ear, as a proof that their son had been put to death. Such things occur very frequently.

At the same time two youths from the village Pletvar (in the Caza of Prilep) were carried away.

In the village Skatchintzi (in the Caza of Veless or Kuprulu), Peter Lazoff had his ears and nose cut, his eyes put out, and, after having been kept in this pitiful state for some time, his head was cut off.

In the village Rakovetz, a certain Ilia was wounded by a gunshot.

In the village Vetesko (Caza of Veless), Shakir Bey, in order to try his gun and see if it carried straight, killed a girl of twelve years of age called Kata.

In the village Novotchani (Caza of Veless) the Turks burnt, crucified and finally put to death a person named Praïko, an inhabitant of this village. In the same village Arsia's daughter, aged six years, was violated, who died of the consequences.

On the 14th of May, Ittimbli Pahir Effendi and Assim Tchaoush arrived at the village Orchoff-Dol for the collection of taxes. After having well eaten and drunk, they thrashed Koteta Praïcoff, and put ten others into prison, and kept them there during four days, for having offered to pay their taxes in caïmé (paper-money).

On the 28th of May, in the village Smilovtza, a Zaptié wounded Bogeka Angueloff for not having hurried himself to bring the four okes of milk he had demanded.

On the 14th of June, Poljak Mustaffa Kourticheff, of Zaboltichta, wounded with his yatagan the chief of the place for not giving up his seal to be handed over to somebody else chosen by the Poljak as chief of the place.

On the 15th of June, 1878, Ali Bekir, of the town Ochrida, shot dead Vassil Saneff's wife close to a café. On the same day, the same Turk killed and cut to pieces the miller in the mill of Doshtar Robeff, situated close to the same café.

In the same month, some Turks attacked Messrs. Orliptchi's house, and outraged all the women of the family.

In the village Lokocharey, half an hour's distance from Ochrida, the Turks murdered a shepherd by knocking his head to pieces.

On the 16th of June, the famous brigand Hairo of Szernilnitza, who became Poljak, according to the wish of the Yuz-

bashi Ibrahim, stripped Velko Kiroff and took from him forty Turkish liras. The Government would not punish the malefactor. He also took from Traïko and Anguel Mitzef a list of everything they had, and also threatened the peasants either with blows or death unless every man gave him a similar list.

On the 18th of June, Ismail Agha and Tcholak, of Leskovetz, accompanied by their servants, came to Trailiho Spassoff's house, where, after having had supper, they turned out the father and his son, and, retaining the wife and daughter, dishonoured them.

On the 18th of May, the Zaptié Hassan-tehaoush thrashed Praïko Guevrgueff, and took from him two caimés of 100 piastres each.

On the 26th of June, 1878, the Turks killed, in the village of Butchin (Caza of Prilep), Dénu and the priest of the village. Before the Crimean War there were more than one hundred and fifty houses; at present there are hardly thirty houses remaining, the inhabitants having been partly massacred and partly forced to embrace Islamism.

In the same month two other priests were killed in the Caza of Prilep—one in the village of Sopoltscheni, and the other in the village of Krivogatchani.

Ramko Tahir, one of the renowned Poljaks, who during the last fifteen years has laid waste the villages of Dolneni, Sejeptchi, Margari, Solgavetz, and others in the Caza of Prilep, wished to take possession of the fields of Ivan, a head man of Sejeptchi (Caza of Prilep), who refused to give them up: his refusal cost him his life. Milenko, son of the deceased, took refuge in the town of Prilep in order to save his life. On the 5th of June, Milenko, while returning from Bitolia to Prilep, in company with several persons, was attacked near Alinska Tcheshmé by some men, whom he recognized: he was wounded, as also one of his companions. The men said that they were killing him by order of Ramko. Milenko was transported to the Conak (Governor's residence), where he died, after having described his assassins: nevertheless, the murderers walk about haughtily in the bazaars, without the authorities ever taking any notice of them.

On the 25th of June, brigands attacked the village Polovitcha and took eleven persons, demanding fifty thousand piastres for their ransom.

On the 27th of June, the Turks murdered Passo Daka, near the town of Ressen, having first wounded him with three shots; they smashed his head with a stone: a broken blade was afterwards found in his heart.

On the 25th of June, in the village Ekchisou, or Verbeni (Caza of Lerin), the Turks killed George Christoff, Tassa Itzeff, and Christo Hadji Miltehoff, and carried away a large number of horses. In the same village the Imperial troops, after having well eaten and drank, cruelly beat the old priest, and accepted ten pounds to spare him his life.

In the month of June, in the village Paléochar, Dimitri Miloff of Souvitchevo (Caza of Lerin) was murdered.

On the 8th of June, in the village Embori (Caza of Lerin), they carried away everything that was in Vanu Carea's house, and finally murdered him.

On the same day, at the village Catronitza (Caza of Lerin), Itza Risoff, Gregvire Sisoff, Gregoire Lasoff, and Gregoire Petkoff were murdered.

On the 1st of July, Petko Stervoff and Sano Saïtoff were murdered in the village Aitos.

At the commencement of the month of July a Zaptié was sent by the authorities of Oélés to the following villages—Bis-tritza, Zrechnevo, Bogomila, Orchof-Dol, Mokreni, Sehovo, and Oumorani, to examine the quality and quantity of the tobacco plantation; and, as the tobacco was entirely destroyed or carried away, under the very eyes of the local authorities, by the Bashi-Bozouks, who were marching to fight against the Servians, the unfortunate peasants were obliged to pay thirty-three piastres for every oke destroyed.

On the 15th of July, in the village Irimchia (Caza of Kouch), the Turks murdered and cut to pieces Father Stoiko.

On the same day the famous brigand, Tcholak Ismail, attacked with his band the village Livadia, cut the ears of many persons and subjected them to various cruel tortures, to extort money.

In the village Lisitche (Caza of Veless), not having succeeded to force Anda's daughter to embrace Islamism, owing to the assistance given by the Russian Consul at Salonica, the Turks attacked Anda's house, violated before his eyes his wife and his daughter, and, after putting him to unheard of tortures, murdered him.

In the same village, a certain Izana Kostova was carried away and forced to embrace Islamism.

A Turk from the village Vlasitza (Caza of Ressen) killed near this village Naoum Yancouloff, of the village Pokurvennik.

On the 20th of July, close to the town Bitolia, two Bulgarians of the village Christophore were murdered.

From the village Schegan (Caza of Lerin) two children, sons of the head man Gatza, were taken into captivity, also four individuals from Nefovan.

The Turks murdered a peasant from the village Kravari, situated half an hour's distance from Bitolia.

On the 19th of July, in the village Bistritza (Caza of Veless or Kuprula), the Yuzbashi Ibrahim cruelly tortured the villagers, to force them to pay the three years taxes imposed in advance—the same thing has been repeated in most of the other villages.

On the 21st of July, in the village Dvorischta (Caza of Veless), Bekir and Khodja, of the village Gortchitschta, and Omer Chahiva of the village Vodovrat, levied a tax, and collected it by armed force. These same individuals committed all sorts of excesses in other villages, pillaging and torturing—always eating and drinking at the expense of the poor peasants.

In the village Velichani the Turks took away a certain Helene, and, with the aid of the local authorities, notwithstanding the prayers and lamentations of the parents, she was forced to embrace Islamism.

In the month of July the Bashi-Bozouks ransacked and pillaged the villages under the very eyes of the local authorities, and openly carried away their plunder. The peasants of the villages Bogomile, Mokreni, Bistrisza, Tzrechovo, Orchovo, Umorana and Tehovo (Caza of Veless) informed the local authorities that the Turks had pillaged the Government tobacco. In the same month the authorities sent functionaries to the above villages, who forced the peasants to pay fines for the tobacco that had been done away with.

On the 17th of July, in the village Orehovdol (Caza of Veless), Djaco Metchoff, of the village Desovo (Caza of Prilep), a famous Poljak, levied a tax of fifteen hundred piastres as travelling expenses; another thousand piastres, to pay for the new arms he had bought, which would serve to kill the Giaours.

In the space of twenty days, that is to say, from the 15th of July up to the 5th of August, the following persons were found assassinated:—

Naïden Calinoff, of the village Belichta, killed by a stab in the head and thrown into the river.

Peter, son of the Moukhtar, of the village Skrebatno, was killed in his own house by some refugees whom he had fed and clothed during eight months.

On the road between Raslog and Nevrokop the corpse of Pavel Serbinoff was found cut up in small pieces.

Upon the bridge of the river Karasou, two bodies were found with their ears and noses cut off.

Near Dervent Pass of Bansko the body of Vassil Zaharieff was found cut to pieces, with the bodies of his three companions.

Peter Lochoff, Aleksi Velcoff and George Druntchiloff, of the village Lorno-Draglishtë, were found murdered in an atrocious manner, their eyes put out, their teeth smashed, and other unmentionable barbarities committed. The bodies were found in a ditch, covered with some brambles: in the same place bodies of two young men were found, but they could not be identified.

In the village Klisseli (Caza of Veless) the Turks murdered Robi after taking away what he had, at the same time they robbed and wounded Pantcho.

In the Caza of Serres there were lately eighty cases of murder. In the beginning of July, about thirty merchants, while returning from the fair of Dubnitsa-Djumaa, where they had sold some merchandize, were attacked by the Bashi-Bozouks close to the guard-house, constructed for the public security: the Bashi-Bozouks took everything, leaving them perfectly naked, and also killed the travelling employé of the well-known merchant Simo.

On the 25th of July the well-known Turkish brigand Tcholak Islam attacked the village Livadi near Kassandra, pillaged the place, cut the ears of the peasants, and after subjecting them to various unspeakable tortures, from the consequences of which many of them died, he demanded from the village two hundred Turkish liras, one hundred and fifty oke of butter and fifty sheep, declaring that if his exactions were not at once complied with he would set fire to the village and kill every one of the inhabitants. The gendarmerie and the troops the Government sends to drive away the malefactors ravage and lay waste everything they come across.

In the month of July, in the village Popadia and Saint Nicolas, Nicolas and Dimo were murdered by the Turks.

The Arnaouts of the village Blatza sent to the following villages Glouhovo, Brazda, and Mirkovtza, ordering the villagers to send them twenty-five girls. On their refusal, the Arnaouts, after pillaging and sacking all the houses, set fire to the above-named three villages.

In the village Tzarevo, the Turkish brigands tortured Petza and all his family with red hot irons: the wife died the following day from her wounds.

In the village Lissitza, the Turkish Zaptiés killed Ando and violated his wife.

From the same village Tzana Costova's daughter was carried away and forced to embrace Islamism.

In the same village Arso's daughter, twelve years old, was outraged by certain infamous Turks, and the poor child died whilst she was being subjected to their outrage.

Ibrahim Hadji Mesanoglou, of Veless, after having well

beaten Naoum Nechoff of the same place, took possession of his five fields and two forests, stripped him naked and tied him to a tree, where he was left all night, in order to terrify him.

In the village Novathani the refugees set fire to six houses and forty seven granaries, and ransacked nine other houses. The Poljak Demir Ali, an Albanian of the same village, drove away and sold the oxen of Demitri Batchoff, Traiko Annovsky and Anguel Dimoff.

The Mussulman Albanians of the village Blatza (Caza of Uskup) threatened to burn down the villages of Mircovitza, Brazda, and Glouhovosi, if the villagers did not send them twenty-five girls between the ages of eighteen and twenty.

On the 27th of July, two women and two children were taken prisoners from the village Leskovetz (Caza of Ressen).

At the same time Nicholas Zinoff and Jean Petroff were killed in the village of Debretz (Caza of Lerin).

On the 12th of August, in the village of Karabunichté, (Caza of Veless), the sons of the notorious Turkish brigand, Kourtiche, carried away Plana Ivanovo and Ivanka Navumova, and forced them to embrace Islamism. All the complaints which the parents made to the local authorities being in vain, this same Kourtiche, who had undertaken to convert the whole village, tried to force three other girls to embrace Islamism, but they succeeded in effecting their escape, and still remain hidden in the town of Veless.

The Turks tortured Petza's wife and son in the village of Tzarevo by applying red-hot irons on their heads to oblige them to give them money; the woman was murdered.

On the 15th of August, Mustaffa, of the village of Vranoftzi, being in enmity with Bechar, the Kehaya (headman) of the village of Yaboltechtichta (Caza of Veless), in order to vex him, murdered Vassil Dimoff, of the village of Lesitsché, and took the Kehaya, together with the inhabitants of the village, to a farm to work gratuitously.

On the 2nd of August, the Turks murdered the rich dealer of sheep, Vanu Chichkoff, near the village of Verben (Caza of Lerin); his Kehaya (manager), Demiter, was also murdered near the village of Kailari: the ruffians took possession of all the sheep. George Gargara, Itza Popoff, and Mantcheff were also murdered.

Topal Ismail (Ismail the lame), of the village of Kailari, treasurer of the Government, desolated the country through his sons, who are the chiefs of a band of brigands. They

burnt with petroleum the shepherd Kozma, for he declared that it was they who carried away Nicholas Tchirka's son, and for whose release they received two hundred Turkish liras as ransom, and Toma Lona, whose ransom cost eighty Turkish liras. Two young men of the village of Embori (Caza of Lerin), Nako and Nitzo, bore testimony before the local authorities of Kairali, that the authors of the murder of Kosma were the sons of Topal Ismail. The latter, who was present at the examination, tried to kill these two young men before the Medjliis, who, however, managed to effect their escape and took refuge beyond the Turkish frontier.

On the 20th of July, the brigands attacked the village of Zagritchani (Caza of Castoria) and carried away twenty-three captives; eleven days after, they were released, having received seven hundred and fifty Turkish liras for their ransom.

On the 15th of August, the son of the priest Michel was carried away; and only released, with his ears cut, on receipt of one hundred and ten Turkish pounds as ransom.

The village of Neveska was attacked in the presence of the bishop, and eleven of the head men were carried away. The assailants threatened to burn down the village unless the enormous amount asked by them was forthwith paid. A large number of the peasants abandoned their homes and took refuge in Bitolia. They asked two hundred Turkish pounds from Zélénichté in order to spare the village.

On the 15th of August, the priest Pope Nicholas was carried away from the village of Bobtchor. After retaining him a fortnight in the mountains he was released on payment of one hundred Turkish pounds as ransom, being the produce of all the effects and property of the priest.

On the same date four persons were carried away from the village Bjelkamen, the son of the priest being amongst them, and a ransom of two hundred Turkish pounds was demanded for their release; but before they were set at liberty their ears were cut off.

On the 20th of August, the famous brigand Musli Askoff, from the village Iabaltchi, who during the last three or four years has laid waste the Bulgarian villages in the Caza of Veless, shot dead Alekia Angeloff, in the village Drenovo.

On the 12th of August, the son of the notorious brigand Kourtiche carried away two girls from the village Karabounichté, and forced them to become Mussulmans; from the same village three other girls were carried away and converted to Islamism.

On the 15th of August, Vassil Dimoff, of the village Lissitz é was killed.

The following crimes were committed on various occasions, either by the Bashi-Bozouks, or by the Turks or other Moslems :—A Yuzbashi forced the inhabitants of the villages Bogomili, Kapinovo, Oréché and Podgoritza, to have as Poljaks some renowned malefactors, namely, Ali of Soglé, Bekir of Stroumitza, Katchak Chahib of Soulu Gorfer. These four Poljaks go about well armed from village to village: they are the cause of endless oppressions. They collected seven hundred piastres from Bogomili. On the 15th of July, they nearly killed Bogati Stoïanoff, by beating him with sticks, and finally cut off three fingers of his right hand.

Hassan Tchaoush, who was sent to keep the public peace in the environs of the town Veless, pillages, ravages and dishonours the women in every place.

Chichko Muftezan collected more than five hundred piastres in the village Stari-Grade.

Kourtiche-Gredé-Ali, of Veless, forced the peasants of Stari-Grade to give six hundred piastres and forty chickens, stating that he had offered them on their behalf to the Bashi-Bozouks.

Telik Bey and his brother Ismail Bey, of Kustendil, put as Poljak in their farm at Martolitz (in the environs of Salonica) a certain Circassian named Mahmoud. This Circassian, each time that he meets with a Christian, beats him, and never lets him go until he has taken everything away from him. He killed the chief of the village Mokreni, and this same Circassian was also the person who mortally wounded Locha Aleksoff, of Orchof-Dol.

Iakim Pehlivan, the Kehaya of Sefik Bey, turned to his account the fields of Bogile Dimitroff, and the gardens of Guerela Stefanof and of Stoïko Ioveff.

On the 4th of September, the small town Klissoura was attacked, in the presence of a detachment of troops, who took refuge in the turret of a church. The brigands, singing and dancing, pillaged the houses of the richest men, and carried away some of the chief men with them. From Yani Vutcha alone they demanded fifteen hundred Turkish liras, and now they want two thousand more to release him; they demanded also five thousand pounds from the town. The inhabitants have partly dispersed and partly taken refuge at Bitolia, others at Costoria, and several others have fled to Constantinople.

The Turks extorted four hundred Turkish pounds from the village Lehova as a ransom for some persons captured by them belonging to that village.

On the 25th of September, Mousli Omoff, of Yabeltchichta, who under the name *Katchak* (renegade) destroys the Bulgarian villages, murdered Alexa Angueloff with a pistol-shot, whom he had wounded once before, two or three months previously.

On the 6th of September, Traïco's body was found covered with more than twenty *handjar* (dagger) wounds.

On the 25th of August, Stephan, of Prilep, was murdered by Kutchuk Mustapha.

On the 28th of September, Kutchuk Suleiman, Daoud, Arabtché, and Hussein arrived at the village Dobneni (Caza of Prilep), collected the peasants together, and ordered them to pay the salary of the Poljaks. The peasants, in reply, said that they had only one Poljak recognized by the Government, whose salary had been already paid. The poor peasants had hardly finished speaking when the Turks commenced firing upon them: Veliane was killed, and Idraveta, Kotchovsky, Stoïa, Grouevsky and Stoïane Dimovsky were mortally wounded. The peasants complained to the Government, but they were driven away with sticks by the Yuzbashi.

During the night of the 30th of September, Demitri Pefoff was murdered in the fields while sleeping near his sheep.

On the 1st of October, the refugees at Veless set fire to several Bulgarian magazines and pillaged all their contents.

On the 6th of October, while returning with their beasts of burden from Prilep to the village Lagvte, Risto Apostoloff and his brothers were attacked and killed, and their women severely wounded.

On the 9th of October, Christo and his wife, of the village Kanathartzi, were murdered by the Turks.

On the same date, Andon Melikoff, of Ochrida, was also murdered.

On the 13th of October, the famous brigands, Chain and Ali Bela, of Orchide, robbed several merchants while on their way to Constantinople.

On the 9th of October, an anonymous letter was brought by a person to R. Martinoff Brothers, of Prilep, by which they were ordered to give the bearer ten Turkish pounds, in default of which the writers would set fire to their farms. A similar letter was also brought to Naoum H. Christoff, the only difference being that the writers demanded thirty Turkish pounds from him.

On the 14th of October, Kir Serdar Ismail, who was sent by the authorities to drive away the insurgents, completely ransacked the village Blatza.

On the 8th of October, Climent Paountchevsky and Pashale's

son, merchants of Orchida, while returning from Bitolia, were cut to pieces near Ressen, and their bodies were discovered six days after the crime.

On the 11th of October, the bodies of two children and a woman were found in the village of Gueva (Caza of Orchida).

On the 3rd of October, Zoetko Kagen was killed while ploughing in his fields in the village of Podlutchani (Caza of Ressen).

During the night of the 9th of October, in the village Rantza (Caza of Prespan), some Turks broke into the house of the brothers Praitcho and Pavle Kretzkovsky, and murdered them both, for having given only ten caimés, of one hundred piastres each, to the bearer of an anonymous letter, instead of the three hundred demanded.

On the 24th of August, Milenko of Slintche (Caza of Prilep), whose father and brothers were killed, was cut to pieces by Kutchuk Suleiman and Keleche Mehmed.

On the 3rd of October some Albanian shepherds, of the village Dobrino, sent by force a Bulgarian shepherd called Kerste Tassilofski to the village Lissitché to bring them socks, shoes and clothing to the mountain of Drenovo. After receiving the above articles they cut the unfortunate bearer Kerste to pieces.

On the 10th of October, Ahmed Agha, President of the Beledié Municipal Council of Veless, who is well known for his fanaticism, sent a Zaptié to Drenovo, ordering the villagers to bring forty cart-loads of charcoal as Bakshish. Three days after the same thing was repeated in the same village for the Caïmakam of Veless. Ibrahim Agha Eyoub-oglou, through his field-keeper, caused sixty loads of timber-beams to be brought to Ierloftzi from the villages Drenovo and Lissitché, in order to build his farm.

On the 8th of October, Procopieff's brother, of the village Guinovtzi, was killed.

On the 12th of October, Stoïtcho Lzrinkin and his brother Nicolas were killed by Saïr Effendi on the road of Uskub, near the village Boutchichté.

In the town of Uskub, the Mufti's son shot dead in the bazaars Athanas Bochkoff, of the village Konopnitza. The murderer goes about boldly in the town, and the Beys of Uskub, Bahri Bek, Nazy Tchaouch, Ali Mustapha, and the Caïmakam, seeing that he was capable of torturing the Giaours, named him commander of a band of brigands.

On the 10th of October, some Bashi-Bozouks wished to take away Stoïtcho Athanassoff's horse at the village Konopnitza. On his refusal to give it up he was killed on the spot, before

all the inhabitants of the village, who had come to supplicate them not to take the horse.

On the 4th of October, Pope Aleksa was killed at his house at the village Opila, then his family were outraged, and everything he possessed was carried away.

Two days after, George Petkoff, of the village Petrilitza, was killed on the road of Uskub.

Shortly afterwards the rich merchant Stoïko, of the village Dlabotchitza, was attacked by Turks, who, after having ill-treated his wife and children before his eyes, cut him up in small pieces. The head of the unfortunate Stoïko was carried triumphantly into the town, as being that of a leader of insurrection.

Hussein Effendi, Abasoff's son, killed Stoïtcho Miladinoff, of the village Ossitché, near Rachkin-Rid.

Lazare, of the village Psatcha, was attacked in the daytime near Procetchenik, by a Turk sent specially by the Government: he was wounded in both shoulders, and in consequence lost the use of his arms. A few days afterwards a young man from Uskub, while on his way back from the fields, was encountered about five minutes distance from the town by the well known Agouch Spahia and his band, and cut to pieces by them.

The following crimes were committed by the Turks, within a period of fifteen days, in the month of October, viz:—

At the entrance of the town two of the richest merchants of Orchida were murdered, Climent Pavountchevski and Paskaloff; Radé Pavloff was murdered in his vineyard; Andon Mechkoff, another merchant of Orchida, was mortally wounded; another Roumanian merchant, Perival, was also assassinated. A band of Circassians set fire to the house of Traico and Pavlé, two brothers, who were murdered, as also Pavlé's wife, Traico's wife having managed to escape. In this band there were some Zaptiés from the town, who were conducting the movements, and pointing out the houses the owners of which were well off. Four others were killed in the streets and in broad daylight, namely, Zoetko, None, Evertime and Tassé. During three months nowhere was Mass said; children were coming into the world and men dying without prayer or benediction—no priests could be found, because they were pursued by the assassins more than others. Let civilised and humane Europe know that *she* has imposed this atrocious *régime*; let her be informed that entire villages are disappearing, that the bodies of the Christians get in a state of decomposition while lying along the roads, and terrorism reigns from one end of Macedonia to the other.

On the 3rd of October, some Arnaouts, from the village Dobrino, ordered Krasteta Vassilovsky to bring them from the village Lissitché some clothing and shoes. The poor herdsman, as a recognition of his obedience, was cut to pieces and thrown into a ditch.

On the 10th of October, Demitri Zaneff, of the village Kojlé, George, of the village Pacochevo (Caza of Uskub), and the wife of a certain Dimo Manoff, were killed by the Turks near the village Vetersko.

On the 27th of October, Musli Ukoff, accompanied by his comrades, arrived at the village Nejilovo and demanded from the peasants sixty Medjidiehs.

On the 29th of October, the same band visited the village Tzrechnevo and pocketed more than forty Medjidiehs from the poor peasants; at the same time they ordered the peasants to tell their priest, who was absent at the time, that he must pay one hundred piastres, or else they would kill him. From Tzrechnevo, Musli sent an order to the peasants of the village Bistritza to send him one hundred and fifty Medjidiehs, adding, "otherwise any one of your villagers whom I may at any time come across will not escape death."

During the months of October, Temelko Petkoff had promised his sister to a young man of the village Bachtino-selo. The Poljak Mehmed Murat, of the village Vlahtchani, who had undertaken to force the girl to embrace Islamism, and then to take her as his second wife, declared to her brother that she must not marry any one, otherwise he would massacre the whole family. Five Turkish pounds were given to the Poljak, and the girl's life was thereby saved.

In the town of Veless, Amide Aga drove out more than a thousand Bulgarian families from their homes, and handed their houses and property over to the Turkish refugees.

In the month of October, in a village near Melnik, under the very eyes of the commander Ahmed Effendi Dourmouch, *the Bashi-Bozouks killed all the children that were at the school.*

On the 10th of October, all of a sudden, about ten gunshots were fired by the Turks, who were hidden in the forest near the village Vetersco, on some Bulgarians, who were returning from Veless to their village. The malefactors cut their unfortunate victims to pieces with their yatagans. The answer of the Caimakam was: "Go and search for the murderers, and, if you find them, let me know, and I will have them arrested."

On the 27th of October, Musli Ukoff, accompanied by twelve other Turks from the village Gabeltchichta, arrived at the village Negilovo, where he collected by force more than eighty Medjidiehs.

Kamid Agha raised from the Christians of the town of Veless the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand piastres, under the pretext that this tax would serve for the installation of the refugees, and he hardly spent for this purpose more than twenty thousand piastres.

The convent of Saint John the Baptist was devastated, the Abbot was driven away with arms from the village Vlahtchani by Kourtiche, and his property was seized by Chakir Bey and Ismail Bey Kamatnikoglou.

On the 4th of October, Vassilaki, a Saraf (money changer) of Uskub, was imprisoned for not changing some caimés for the *Tabour Aghasi* without profit.

On the 5th of October, some houses in the villages Gorni and Dolni Pivichtini were ransacked by the soldiers.

On the 16th of October, Mladen, with three other Bulgarians of Stroumitza, were killed.

On the 15th of October, the Greek insurgents pillaged the Bulgarian village Elnitchi near Bitolia.

On the 18th of October, the same brigands devastated the village Bogatchko, Caza of Bitolia, carried away four of the richest peasants, one of whom was liberated for a ransom of fifty Turkish pounds, and the other three were killed.

On the 27th of October, the shepherd Valaghe was killed in the village Perivoli, Caza of Ressen.

On the 22nd of October, the same insurgent brigands set fire to the village Neveska at day-time, and took three hundred Turkish pounds from the brothers Danoff, fifty Turkish pounds from Schamanka, eighty-three Turkish pounds from the brothers Sogiani, three hundred Turkish pounds from the brothers Fichta, sixty Turkish pounds from Ianaki Tchirli, thirty Turkish pounds from the brothers Natchevi, &c. They carried away two prisoners, and would not give them up until they received a ransom of three hundred Turkish pounds. They pillaged and laid waste the Bulgarian villages Zagoritchani, Aïto, Prekopana, and the Valachian village Vlaho-Klissoura, Caza of Bitolia.

On the same day Radeta Pavlev Milochevsky was killed in the village Dirmeni, Caza of Ressen.

On the 25th of October, the well-known brigand Kourtichi, his son and two other companions from the village Lovtechani, entered Matzeta Bochkof's house at Karabounichté, Caza of Veless, and carried away his daughter and nephew to their village. About ten days after, having obtained the consent of the Government, they were forced to embrace Islamism.

On the 25th of October, Vele, of the village Lejani, Caza of Prilep, was killed in the fields.

On the 2nd of November, the Albanians of Blatza carried away a girl of Brazda and obliged her to embrace Islamism.

On the 24th of October, the well-known brigand Feza was appointed as a functionary at Prilep.

On the 15th of November, the schoolmaster of Guevgueli, called Ianki Srezoff, in the Caza of Salonica, was beaten and fined by the Turks.

On the evening of the 16th of October, the Turks killed Stoïko Kouzmanoff, of Rouotzi, in the Caza of Prilep, as he was the only peasant who possessed any goods, and as according to the wish of the Turks nobody may possess anything in this locality.

On the 8th of November, Hadji Mehmed Longour struck with his yatagan Kotcho Mitanoff, intendant at the convent St. Archangel, asserting that he would kill him if he dared to stop any longer; thus having driven him away, he took possession of all the property and lands belonging to the above convent; the man's wounds were of so serious a nature that it was doubtful whether he would be able to recover.

Tchitcheva, of Guertchichta, the field-keeper of the village Pekir, has gathered during this year more than twenty thousand piastres as his due, besides the endless fines he imposes upon the poor Bulgarian peasants.

On the 10th of October, Mitouch Ioveff's daughter was married to Aleksî Atzevsky. The well-known brigand Musli, on hearing of the fact, immediately set out for Drenovo, summoned the husband to go to him, and when there beat him with his yatagan and ordered him to annul the marriage, stating that before having contracted it his permission ought to have been obtained. Thus the husband was obliged to send his wife to her parents. Two days after, Musli reappeared in the village and demanded five hundred piastres to give his consent to their union.

In the month of October, a band of brigands attacked the village Vetreska and killed Dima Tchivtchia, his wife Maria, and a certain Petko and Andrea. The parents complained to the Government, and, for justice, they had the stereotyped answer: "We will punish the assassins."

Mladenka, of the village Kustendil, was carried away by Molla Osman and converted to Islamism.

Some Turks killed Christo Traikoff of Drenovo: two days after, his head and legs were found in the village—the rest of his body had been eaten up by the dogs.

Some peasants were attacked, pillaged, and cut to pieces by the Turks while on their way from Bitolia to Veless.

On the 15th of November, the Bashi-Bozouks set fire to the

villages Verova and Mitrochen, and killed two hundred peasants, the majority of whom were women and children.

On the 7th of November, the Bashi-Bozouks and Circassians ravaged and set fire to four villages in the Caza of Melnik, and killed all the inhabitants.

On the 6th of December, three merchants of Serres were attacked and pillaged near the town of Cavola.

On the 10th of December, in broad daylight, a merchant was attacked and robbed of 240 Medjidiehs near Procetchen.

On the 13th of December, at three hours distance from Serres, a band of brigands attacked half-a-dozen men who were returning with their horses laden with flour, and they took away from them their horses as well as their flour. Similar acts are of daily occurrence in the environs of Nevrocop, Iahnen, Serres, and Pravich, where the villagers dare not venture to go out from their houses.

On the 5th of December, the Turks killed in a horrible manner Blago, of the village Startchichta (Caza of Nevrocop). At first they hanged him by his feet, then commenced cutting small pieces off his body, and at last decapitated him. As to his servant, who had escaped, and had hidden himself in the granary, he was discovered and run through the heart with a sword.

On the 3rd of December, in the village Procetchen (Caza of Drama), a Cafedji was killed in the day-time and in the midst of the bazaar by a Turk, who said he wanted to try a sword.

On the 14th of December two corpses were found near the village Alistratchin.

The following statements will tend to show the excesses committed by the Mussulmans, and the real situation of the unfortunate Bulgarians, in two districts only :—

The field-keeper, district of Uskub, killed a Bulgarian named Petrouch in the village Argenitchino. The authorities, instead of punishing the author of the crime, arrested the companion of the victim and put him in prison, where he was strangled, so that he should not be able to give the name of the murderer.

Some soldiers murdered with pistols the merchant Hadji Lazar, on the road of Letovo (Calcandelen).

The Mussulman Albanians of the village Blatza murdered Stoïco, of the village Pzerechevo, while he was sleeping in his house.

Nicolas Velcoff was murdered, and Athanasse wounded, by the Turks in the village Boutschintzi.

The field-keeper Essad cut to pieces the herdsman Petrouche, of the village Brazda.

The same field-keeper carried away two girls from the village Lubeni, to convert them to Islamism.

In the village Matza, after pillaging the convent Saint Mary, the Albanians mutilated its keeper.

A Turk forcibly carried away a Bulgarian girl from the village Boutchine-dole, stating that he was going to marry her.

Two money-changers, while returning to Uskub from Koumanovo, were attacked by some Turks and robbed of three hundred Turkish pounds. The same malefactors attacked the Bulgarian Terpe and killed him, simply because they were disappointed in finding sufficient money on him.

During the last days of December, the Turks killed in the forest a young man of the village Loutchevichte, named Spasse.

At Nogavetz, a village in the district of Veless, the Turkish refugees cut the legs of a Bulgarian up to his knees; and, to amuse themselves, dragged the unfortunate man along the ground.

At the end of the month of November, in the village Brechnoi (Caza of Prilep), the Turks killed Franco Athanassoff, who had fled from the village Kostunitza, and gone to establish himself there.

District of Veless.

The Mussulman refugees of Veless sent a deputation of ten to Salonica to beg the Government to be furnished with arms and ammunition for eight thousand refugees who were installed in Bulgarian houses at Veless, so as to be able to punish all the infidels of Macedonia; at the same time, pretending that they were afraid of the Christians, they asked the Government to send other refugees to Veless. To this last proposition the Government of Salonica consented, and promised to satisfy their desire.

On the 12th of December, a nephew of Hadji Hassan Agha, accompanied by five other bandits, entered into Ivan's house in the quarter of Coynique (Veless), and after having beaten his wife and his grandmother, carried away his daughter Kotza. The next morning this girl, whose face bore livid marks in consequence of the ill-treatment she must have been subjected to, accompanied by several other Turkish women, was forced to say before the authorities that she wished to become Mussulman. After a week the Turkish Meuhurdar (keeper of seals) and a Turkish woman took the girl to Salonica to get her to confirm her wish there.

On the evening of the 23rd of December, this Turk also carried away the Bulgarian girl Kotza, Traïco's daughter, surnamed Keur (the blind).

Here are a few notes concerning the malefactors Teiza,

Zeco, Elirsque, and their numerous suite of the village Tzer-nilnitza, who ravage the Bulgarian villages in the district of Veless:—

On the 13th of December, entering the village Bistritza, they fell upon the villagers, pillaging their houses and cruelly ill-treating them. Not content with this, they let loose their brutal passions upon the girls and women, who were all dishonoured. To escape the notice of the authorities of Veless for a few days they went over to the district of Prilep, where their crimes, on the same scale, were repeated. On returning they called first at the village Oriché, where they put up in the Bulgarian Ivcoff's house. They were offered the best of everything that could be found in the house; but as he happened to have no sugar, to make them some *helva*, they beat him and sent him to the village Bogomili, three hours' distance, to procure some for them. During his absence they tried to violate his daughter, who, thanks to the profound darkness, managed to escape, and passed the night in the fields. Early next morning they caused all the peasants to be brought to them, upon whom they imposed a tax of two hundred and eighty Medjidiehs and ninety eight ells of cloth, threatening to massacre them all if this money was not brought to them within the space of two hours.

On the 9th of November, Musli, accompanied by three other Albanians, went to the village Drenovo, to Aleksî's house, and carried away his daughter; but as she could not walk, she was left on the road half dead, after being violated by them all.

We extract the following from a letter from Djoumaya, dated 1st of January:—

"Consular visits seem to be the order of the day. From the other side of the frontier we learn that the British Consul of Salonica has come to the *Nahié* of Baxlog, and after visiting in a week Mehomid, Banya, Bansko, and Dobrinichta (the Batak of Macedonia), has passed over to Nevrokoplu. On leaving Mehomia for Banya, the Consul was accompanied by some Turkish and Bulgarian head men, and on arriving at the village he saw with his own eyes, and it was proved, that there was not a single Bulgarian living, and all the buildings, with the exception of the church, were nothing but a heap of ruins and ashes. From thence the representative of the English Government went to Bonsko, where his eyes met with nothing but the same scenes of devastation and ruin caused by the regular troops. According to our information, the English Agent has succeeded in discovering more than six hundred men, women, and children massacred in this village only. It is asserted that, with those killed by the soldiers and

hidden secretly, the number of the massacred at Bansko will greatly exceed that number."

Dobrinichta was the last village visited by the Consul. The few Bulgarians who had escaped death gave accounts of the pillages and massacres of their village.

On the night of the 2nd of February, 1879, some emigrants, about thirty in number, got up the walls of the church Svetis Spas, situated on a height about ten minutes from the town. After killing the dogs guarding the place, they bound the keeper and his wife with cords, and threatened to kill them if they would not give up the keys and indicate where the valuable objects were. The poor man observed that he was there only as a guardian, and that the keys were at the priest's house; upon which the Mouhadjirs forced open the doors of the church and pillaged everything they could find, nothing escaped their notice—sacred vases, crosses, bible-cases, candlesticks, in short everything of value, or thought to be so, either in silver or gold, was carried away.

After having stolen everything they perpetrated sacrilege, by taking out the eyes from the pictures of Christ and others with their yatagans, and by polluting the Holy Bible and the baptismal font: they afterwards quietly walked away, leaving the guardian and his wife tied up, who saw with their eyes these sacrilegious acts.

During the same month of February, the emigrants tried to break into the Bulgarian church of Pasha-Keuy, half-an-hour's distance from Kuprulu; but the keeper gave the alarm by firing a pistol in the air, upon which the Mouhadjirs disappeared. One of them, while jumping from a wall, hurt himself on the head. They ran, with his companions, to the Caimakam's residence at Kuprulu, who was informed that the Bulgarians had risen to massacre the Mussulmans, and that one of their number was also wounded; upon which the Caimakam proceeded immediately to the place, arrested all the chief Bulgarians, tied them together, and got them taken to Kuprulu, where they were kept in prison. And it was only by a heavy bribe that they obtained their liberty.

At Ghévghély, the renowned brigand Tcholak continues to be spoken of. A few days ago, after beating mercilessly a shepherd, he took possession of about thirty sheep, and went in the direction of Maya Dagh. Mussulmans and Christians complain daily against the unjust acts of this bandit, but the authorities show little activity to capture him.

We give the following extract from a private letter, dated 6th of February, 1879, from Kitchevo, or Kertchevo, a small town in the district of Monastir :—

"The valley, which extends to the north-east of the town of Monastir, contains forty Bulgarian villages, which have been exposed for the last fifteen years to the tyranny of the well-known malefactor Selim, surnamed Kotchak. Selim is from Zazas, two hours from Kertchevo. Six individuals always accompanied him—very often this band reaches from fifteen to twenty individuals. Selim reigns as a sovereign: he goes from village to village, imposing laws and regulations elaborated by himself. Each commune, not numbering more than sixty-eight houses, must pay to Selim annually twenty-five to thirty Turkish pounds, and to furnish a considerable quantity of clothing for himself and his band. For each marriage he imposes three Turkish pounds to be paid by the bride, and another three Turkish pounds to be paid by the bridegroom. If a girl, to escape this exaction, runs away, her father and the person to whom she is betrothed must pay a fine of ten Turkish pounds each; the first under the pretext of not being a good guardian of his daughter, and the second of being guilty of rape. Then they are submitted to a most outrageous punishment—the girl's father and betrothed are partly stripped, and thus they are led to the public place to be whipped. The girl is made to walk by their side with a bucket filled with *raki*, in order to offer drink to the so-called judges and executioners. The punishment terminated, they carry the girl to a house of their choosing and subject her during three days to the lash."

The said "laws" and "regulations" are applied in the forty villages, either by Selim himself or by his lieutenants; the principal ones are—Osman Gadjo, who, with a band of eight Albanians, ravages the upper part of Kertchevo; and Yaclar, of village Yagosco-Dolentzi, who, with his six companions, terrifies lower Khertchevo.

Among these bandit administrators a great rivalry reigns, for every one tries to surpass the other in ferocity and crime, to obtain some grade or recompense from their chief. It is needless to say that Selim's actions are fully approved of by the local authorities; and there remains no doubt of the veracity of the above, from the fact that they are the crimes and evil doings of Hairedin Soula Fezlioglou, who has been the official collector of taxes in the country for the last ten years. This functionary lives with his five brothers in the village Slatino. Some time ago he ravished the daughter of a Bulgarian, named Guro, and forced her to embrace Islamism. His brother did still worse—he carried away two pretty Bulgarian girls, Karamfilia Anghelova and Euphrosine Stoitcheva, and killed the father of one of them. In short, the misdeeds of this functionary and

his five brothers, who enjoy the full protection of the authorities, and receive from them Martini Henry rifles and ammunition in abundance, pass all bounds of imagination.

Only recently they assassinated, in the village Topalnitza, the peasant Simeon Tochkoff, at Poretche's shop the workman Simeon Grosdanoff, at Slatino the cultivator, Tzvetko Ilieff, and Bojine Ougrinoff.

Is Christian and civilized Europe going to assist at our martyrdom much longer, or has the day, written in the Holy Scriptures, already come, when the living shall cry—"Ye dead, come out of your graves, that we may sleep therein, for there remains no more hope for us to live on the face of the earth?"

1879.

We extract the following from the letter of a French traveller in Macedonia, dated 29th February:—

The Albanians, who occupy positions as sentinels on the frontier near Palanka, commit all sorts of crimes on the travellers coming in or going out from Bulgaria.

The Turkish Government, which has placed them there, knows very well that the mere sight of these ruffians will excite the population to emigrate from that region. These scoundrels are able to steal, and to stop all commercial communications, considering that several merchants had already to pay, besides the custom-house duties, enormous amounts of money in order to save their lives and merchandize.

A carriage could not be obtained in Bulgaria, to go to Uskub or Kupruly, for all the gold in Turkey, for, as has often happened, the coachmen are afraid that they will never return again alive, or, at best, are sure to lose horses and vehicle.

The Turks of Koumanova, Palanka, Uskub, &c., are becoming daily more unmanageable; all kinds of crimes are reported of them. The complaints made to the authorities remain dead letters. A list of these could be given in case of necessity.

On going to Egri-Palanka, I learnt that the church in Veless had been ransacked by the Turkish outlaws. I feel no hesitation in saying that they must be the same persons as those who pillaged, some time ago, the church at Uskub, considering that they have operated, for a long time past, in Macedonia; and it is well known to those authorities, who derive certain benefits from the stolen silver or gold cups. There are proofs, and it is also well known, that some of the

notables possess silver chandeliers, which certainly must still smell of incense; and, as such incense is not used in the shops or in the Mosques, one could easily understand where these candelabrams come from.

It would be useless to speak of the Albanian league, either of Uskub or elsewhere, who pillage, devastate, and kill everything on their way, just under the very nose of the authorities in these parts.

On the 17th of February, Petko and Ilia Naïdenoff, of the village Chtavitza, were killed in their mill at two hours distance from Prilep.

On the 19th of February, Proïtiho Trenkoff was killed in broad day, in the village Dounia. On the same day Trako Nastoff, of Gabrovnik, was also killed.

Zaïko and Vazlia Krivochia and their companions ravage and devastate the villages Stravna, Gostirageni, Daltchovetz, Margari, Sekritzi, Kostintsi, etc., in the Caza of Prilep. The inhabitants of the above villages are not masters of what they possess.

The villages Tomino, Loubatzé, Brechnitza, etc., in the Caza of Prilep, have been completely laid waste by the above band, and most of the villagers have taken refuge in the town of Prilep.

On the 22nd of March, 1879, the regular troops made a triumphal entrance into the village border of Zeravina, district of Kustendil; they fired a salute of two thousand guns against a flock of oxen and killed about twenty of them. The whole population, being terror struck, commenced running away: those who did not succeed to escape were brought before the commander of the army, who ordered them to denounce to him all the *Comita* (committees); "in case of refusal," added he, "the whole village will be turned into ashes, and all the inhabitants passed through the edge of the sword." Not succeeding in obtaining from them any confession, there being nothing to confess, he had the unfortunate peasants well beaten, blaspheming against them fearfully; then he carried away with him fifteen horses, the school-master, Tlatko Petkoff, the chief of the village, and three other Bulgarians of Palanka.

District of Bitolia (Monastir).

The following are the crimes committed in the districts of Bitolia, Lerina, and Kitchevo, during the month of March 1879:—

Spasso, of the village Bristritza, Talo Gueorgrieff and Tasso Stoianoff, of Brousnik, were beheaded.

Steffo Petkoff, of the village Lajetz, was murdered by Daout Agha. His daughter he carried away and sold for a thousand piastres caimé.

Two brothers were massacred before the church of Pozdeihovo. Costa Guerguieff, of Kochino, was killed at the plough.

Mirtcho Markoff was killed on the road of Berantzi.

Mirto Grosdanoff, of Moïno, and George Naïdoff of Serptsi, were hacked to pieces at the entrance of the Turkish village Moussintzi.

Salo Schableff, of Podlaïne, was murdered; Dimo Mazgalka, of Kossnitza, was also found murdered on the road of Krouchevo.

Sefan Kostar, of Dobrouchevo, was decapitated near the Turkish village Boudacovo; Koïtcho Miloff, of Kochino, was butchered in his barn.

Petro Mitzoff, of Brousnik, was flayed alive. Then his skinned body was nailed to a tree, with his intestines in his right hand.

Marko Steffoff, of Golitchani, was killed in his vineyard; Stoïko Steffoff, of Barechani, was killed after having been robbed of about one thousand piastres caimé.

Two brothers, Gaïchanoff, of Pachino-Serptsi, were assaulted in their barn; Koto Montovsky and two brothers, Risto and Demitri, of Optitchari, were mutilated near Bristritza; Ountcha Nachoff, from the neighbourhood of Dervish-Agha of Monastir, was murdered with a hatchet while asleep; two sons of Mitzo Pastorgue, of Kravari, were killed by Ibrahim Agha.

Klime Angueloff Paontchoff, and a son of Paskaloff, of Orchida, were massacred near the Mountain of Resna. The assassins are the well-known Arif and Chaban, of Orchida. Petko Nocheff, of Mogila, was flayed alive in his house, and the skinned body was nailed to a tree on the highway of Monastir, close to the town.

Mitro Païtchovsky, of Doubrochovo, was hanged at the entrance of Moussintzi.

Spiro Karafil, of Serptsi Lazo, and his two sons, Dimko and Miloch, and his son-in-law, were all mortally wounded—the first in the mill, and the others in the house.

Two brothers, Ivanoff, of Kochino, were butchered at the entrance of their village. Marko, of Lissolai, was wounded in the neck, and his son killed by a gun-shot.

Risto Kondeff, of Kerstovo, and his companion Zoetko Popovsky of Boukovo, were wounded in their mill; Petro Vassil, another miller, was murdered: these crimes were committed by the soldiers of the regular army.

Stefo Simon, of Brousnik, was wounded in the mill of Bournout.

Velio Zoezdovtché, of Lajani, was killed at the plough.

Petro Nicoloff, of Lavtzi, Zoetko Choumeff, of Orchovo, and Stoïan Zvethnoff, of Kochino, were butchered in their houses.

Velio Markoff, of Kochino, was spitted like a lark and roasted, and his house was burnt down; Kertcho Grouyeff, also of Kochino, was killed.

Saveff, of the village Slamko, was wounded in the neck; Trinko Traitcheff, of Seltzé, was killed on the road of Krouchevo.

The two brothers Zvetko and Gligor, of Seltzé, were murdered close to their cattle; Ristoff of Seltzé, and George Zoleff of Barbarosse, were beheaded in their mill.

Trinko Belatchanetz, of Ropota, was killed while returning from the fair of Prilep; Granyo, of Mogila, was killed near his cattle.

The herdsmen Belan Bocheff, and Talo Ristoff of Serne, were put up as a mark and received twelve shots in their bodies; Risto Petroff, of the village Kamartlartsi, perished in the same manner.

Anguel, brother of Petroff of Chelevertzi, was mutilated on the road of Monastir; Yankoula Zvetanoff, of Sopotnitza, was roasted alive in the public place of the village.

Silan Stoïanoff, of Sopotnitza, killed in his house; Stoïan Paleff, of Sloeihnitza, was killed while dining.

Kouzman Paichovsky, of Mrenoga, was killed near the Turkish village of Tzernetze; Velian Metchkaroff, of Virovo, was murdered upon the road of Monastir.

Five peasants of Virovo were attacked near Kerkino, about a mile's distance from Monastir: two of the number perished.

District of Lerina.

The miller Traïko, of Persié, was killed in his mill near Klechtino.

The miller Itcho, of Tzereovo, was also killed in his mill.

Naoum Disoff, of Lerina, was assaulted and seriously wounded in the middle of the town Lerina.

Petre Ivanoff, of Armenokhor, was cut to pieces; Stoïan, of Ekshi-Sou, was killed while watering his sheep by three Turks of Goulintché.

Grouyo, brother of the above Ivanoff, was killed by a band of brigands, who penetrated by night into the village Armenokhor, led by Hadji Bakhman's sons. Some of these criminals are now in prison at Lerina.

Kersto H. Mintchoff, of Souovitchevo, was killed while returning from Aitos, by two Circassians, who also took away his two horses.

Stefo Bogoeïeff, of Armenokhor, and Tasso, of Dolno-Kleztani, were killed while working in their fields.

A stranger of Ekshi-Sou was killed in Kouïo Nastoff's house.

George Goulieff, of Ekshi-Sou, was taken away from his field and mutilated in the vineyards of the village. Garatchanoff, of the same village, was wounded in his field. U. Dina, of Sourovitchevo, was killed in the village Aïtosse.

The only son of the priest Itcho Mintchoff, of Ekshi-Sou, was killed in the entrance of the village. He had been carried out by night from the paternal house by a band of Turkish brigands.

Kolo Kerstoff, of Leskovetz, was butchered on the front gate of the church of his village; Marko, of Tersié, was murdered while returning from the fair of Lerina. Vano Zoenka, of Ekshi-Sou, while returning from the fair Kaïlar, and Mintcho Daïkoff, son of Banitza, while returning from Kogani, were all butchered in the mountains of Tchaldjievo. The murderers are the Beys Ibrahim of Tchaligar, and Hussein of Goulintché.

At Tchegan, a band of Turkish brigands entered into Gatcho's house: after taking everything portable, they carried away with them his son and daughter, who were set at liberty forty days after, on receipt of two hundred Turkish pounds as ransom.

H. Lino, of Gornitchevo, was attacked and seriously wounded while watering his cattle. The ruffians took from him fifteen Turkish pounds.

Tacho, of Gornitchevo, was murdered in his field; Spiro, of Kojani, was murdered on the road of Salonica. The driver, Kourman, of Kostour, was murdered near the village Makallé.

A stranger of Dabrovcheni was murdered on the road leading to this village: Petcho Dina, and Terntcho of Sourovitchevo, were butchered in the public place of the village.

Telo H. Petcho, his brother Petcho, Bizaroff, of Patélé, and four other individuals, were robbed and assassinated while returning from the fair of Monastir, by a band of Turks, Albanians, and Circassians of the neighbourhood. The booty consisted of two hundred Turkish pounds and twelve horses laden with merchandize.

Tacho, of Petersko, was killed in his fields; two women of the same village were violated.

Christo Tassoff, of Lagueni, was seriously wounded; Naoumtcho Klinkatchoff, of Pelohnitza, his wife, his two daughters, and his daughters-in-law, *were put into boiling oil*, and then robbed of all their fortune by a band of twenty Turks.

The Mussulmans of Sueti, emigrating by order of the Sublime Porte, sold their property to Christians against pay-

ment of cash. But they soon returned and took possession of the property they had sold, with threats of death, without returning the money received for them.

District of Kitchevo.

Blajo of Miokasi was murdered, and his friend Nono was seriously wounded; Grouyo, of Oretchantzi, was stripped and butchered by the Turk Veissel Blasta.

Velian of Kozitchino was massacred by the brigand chiefs Rouchid and Khalil, who took from him ten Turkish pounds and forty ells of butter; the same brigands took from Tasso Blajeff fifty goats and sheep.

Stoïko of Roussetz, and Deïan of Retchani, were robbed and murdered by the Bashi-Bozouks, who took from them three hundred and twenty Turkish liras; they also took from Petro, of Knejino, forty Turkish liras and seventy sheep, and seventy goats and sheep from Ristoff, of the same village.

Loulé Hassan, after having extorted thirty-five Turkish liras and as many sheep and goats from the village Svetorotche, murdered George, the chief of the village, and set fire to Stefano's house; and Stoïko, Bajine, Petroff, of Elosan, were forced to give fifty-six sheep.

The Bashi-Bozouks of Zaejan seriously wounded Theodore Daïtchinoff, and took from him seven Turkish liras and two thousand piastres in caimé, and forty-six goats. The same day they took ninety sheep from Tasso Blajoff, and afterwards cut his throat.

Nasto Blajeff, of the village Déani, was murdered by Veissel Blasta, who took from him four thousand five hundred piastres, some goats, and sixty ells of butter; he took from Seraphime, of Zaetzé, eighty-two goats and sheep.

In Lavtchani the Bashi-Bozouks took from Ilia Stefanoff seven thousand five hundred piastres and three horses; they robbed and killed also Novan and Stefan Kristoff, Dobrenovetz, Jossiff and Lazare Goroff, of Dolentzi.

Petro Traïnoff, Andrew Mitzkoff, Lava Stoïanoff, Konio Tanassof, Traito Choutovetz and Naoum Broïanetz of Kitchevo; Aleko and Ilia, of the village Boukoïtchani; Nicolas Stoïkoff, of Karbonitza, Avram Sokolovsky, of Belitza, George Angueloff, of Serbiani, Lilan Ristoff, of Slatino, and Stoïko Andreff, of Topalnitza, have been all killed or butchered during the course of the year.

The victims at Krajino and at Yahoretz, localities which have been at all times the principal theatre of the worst misdeeds of the Turks of the village Zaëjani, are too numerous to be named each one separately.

To pacify this Caza in some little degree, the persons whose names follow ought to be compelled to go out of it, as they are the individuals who commit, or are the cause and instigators of, all the crimes of this district, and are the terror of the Christian families :—

Assan Pasha Deralah.
 Essade Pasha.
 Mehmed Ali Agha.
 Akif Bey.
 Mouharen Agha.
 Sequir Cassap.
 Youssouf Labostitza.
 Baki Yagiutza.
 Dzeladin Deزالah.
 Ismail Roko.
 Izet Poponitza.
 Djaffer Mollah.
 Roustem Malisi.
 Vessel Effendi.
 Izet Tchaftak.
 Noui Agha.
 Nouri Agha.

Hussein Orachin.
 Mehmed Moulatain.
 Senden.
 Yachar Moulavitchoun.
 Terat Gorali.
 Ismail Genilo.
 Ibrahim Genilo.
 Bekir Belevi.
 Mouharem.
 Cheriff Ismail.
 Dalif Emin.
 Elmas Emin.
 Sina Diajinitza.
 Ibrahim Diajinitza.
 Ali Agha Seliman.
 Izet Lalzali.

There are none among these individuals whose conscience can be free from the numberless crimes and assassinations, not to mention the numerous thefts continually committed by them, and above all the pillages and murders which they perpetrated at Orania and Koumanova in the year 1876. They are all members of the Albanian League, Idrise Bey, Attabey's son inhabiting Uskub, who has been laying waste the district of Doupnitza for many years, he, on the 10th of July, accompanied by five or six of his companions, attacked the village Dobri-Dol, and gathering all the girls together chose from them fifteen of the prettiest and kept them. The earnest prayers of the poor peasants, and the tears and lamentations of the parents, could not soften his heart of steel. He took the girls to a house, and passed the night there with his companions.

The following morning all the girls of the village, accompanied by their parents, went before the authorities of Uskub and demanded satisfaction. The authorities arrested Idrise Bey ; but when the Central Government of Constantinople, at the instance of the English Ambassador, asked explanations as to the conduct of Idrise Bey, the local authorities sent Zaptiés to the above village, to force the

peasants as well as the parents of the unfortunate girls to say that they were content with Idrise Bey, and that the declaration made by the girls was false, etc.

On the 7th of March, the Turks attacked the village Siroulia, four hours distance from Orchide, killed some of the peasants and burnt down the village.

On the 12th of March, between the villages Vapilla and Opintza, Caza of Orchide, three Bulgarian bodies were discovered.

On the 2nd of March, a band of Turkish brigands set fire to the village Guiavato, Caza of Bitolia, and killed eight of the villagers.

1879.

In the month of July some Mouhadjirs (refugees) took away the horses of some Bulgarian peasants while going to Nevrokop. These savages, after beating them, tied the hands and feet of the unfortunate men and threw them into a ditch.

On the 22nd of August, Anguel Tcholak's wife and Ianko Zlatinoff's wife, of the village Dolen, Caza of Nevrokop, while on their way from Batak, were attacked by three Pomaks, robbed and dishonoured.

On the 14th of November, 1879, a Turk named Ali Morali-tzky set fire in the village Mehomia, Caza of Nevrokop, to some houses and barns. Shortly after the malefactor was arrested he presented himself at the village again, and threatened to exterminate them for having denounced him to the authorities.

On the 27th of December, 1879, two other ruffians, Mustafa Kioroglou and Mustafa Biukoglou, burnt down the houses of some other Bulgarian in the same village. The soldiers having come to the rescue, pillaged everything they could lay hands upon.

In the month of October, 1879, a certain captain had Pope Athanasse's family arrested in the village Startchitza, Caza of Nevrokop, who had hid himself during the war in Bulgaria. The same person also obtained the arrest of George Gavelitchoff's family.

Tefik Bey Yuzbashi gathered sixty-four women, of the village Fetiloum, Caza of Nevrokop, like cattle and distributed them to his soldiers; the same misfortune befell also Kosta Larafof's and Padarof's families. The first, a member of the council at Doupnitza; and the second, secretary in Bulgaria.

In the month of September, 1879, a band of Turkish refugees and gendarmes attacked the village Polentzi, district of Kratovo, devastated, pillaged and murdered six peasants.

The same band ravaged the village Kanarevo, murdered the

rich peasant called Stoïko, and took from him one thousand Turkish liras.

H. Mitza's son, of Lachmantzi, district of Kratovo, was carried away, and not released until a ransom of one hundred and fifty Turkish liras were paid.

The peasants of the village of Dobrovo, Kounovo, Blitzantza, Loukovo, Kriva, Tabolka and Topolovik are all shut up in the prisons of Kratovo: the honour of their wives and daughters has been made the plaything of the refugees.

The Beys and Aghas of Chtip have engaged the famous brigand Amède, of Stoitchovtzi, and his thirty companions, with the sole mission of exterminating the Bulgarians in these parts, who effectually devastate, ravage, and pillage everything, and torture the peasants by first hanging them up by their feet.

The well-known brigand Adem and his companions attacked the village Pelechnitzi, carried away by force Traïtcho Zaitza's daughter, converted her to Islamism, and gave her to his son.

On the 23rd of August, fourteen Bulgarians, while going to Drama, were robbed.

On the 28th of January, 1880, three Bulgarians of the village Godlevo, Caza of Razlog, were robbed and decapitated.

On the 10th of January, 1880, the same malefactors set fire to some houses: the inhabitants have been so terrified, that they expect every evening a fresh fire.

We make the following extract from a letter from Drama:—

On Christmas Day some Turks attacked a mill close to the town. In the village Tirkore, an hour's distance from the town, they plundered the shop of a certain Dimitri Bakal, and took also his two horses. Two months ago, Thodor Margaritof, Raïtcho, Tchilinguir, Hassan Ademousky, Nassu Mandjoukoff, Raïkovtzi and Athanase Valtchanof, of the village Tchakmanovo, were attacked by a band of brigands, near Raïkovo, Caza of Drama, who robbed them of everything, and left them naked on the road. The authorities having been informed of the fact, some of the malefactors were arrested, and only the effects of Hadji Ussein, which happened to be among those stolen from the Bulgarians, were recovered; but as to the goods of the Bulgarians, no further mention was made of them.

On the 28th of January, 1880, Velu Petroff and Kosta P. Guechoff were decapitated near Drama, and Ivan K. Guechoff seriously wounded.

On the 2nd of February, some Bulgarians were robbed near the village Procetchen.

On the 20th of February, the Government of Nevrokop engaged about twenty peasants, and sent them with their horses to Seress, assuring them that their wages would be paid by the authorities of Seress. The villagers arrived there next morning, but, instead of being paid, they were forced by the local authorities to continue their journey on to Solonica, with the assurance that, as soon as they should arrive there, they would be paid in full. But great was their disappointment, on being informed by the authorities in Salonica that they must look forward for payment to the Government of Nevrokop, from whence they were sent. The poor peasants, much against their will, had to submit to these orders of the Mutessarif, and were obliged to sell some of their horses to meet their travelling expenses. Half way from Salonica they were attacked by a band of brigands, who stripped them of everything they had.

On the 23rd of February, the body of a Bulgarian was found near Procetchen.

On the 24th of February, in the village of Karlvokovo, at the marriage of a certain peasant, the authorities sent fifteen gendarmes to arrest the bridegroom. The bride was dishonoured before the eyes of the bridegroom: he was then thrown into prison.

On the same day, in the village Mossomichta, half-an-hour's distance from Nevrokop, the soldiers attacked some houses, pillaged them, and ravished eight women and girls, without troubling themselves about consequences. This was done under the very nose of Tefik Bey, who has lived in Paris two years.

On the 5th of March, about ten Turkish malefactors attacked the house of Constantin Botcho of Tatovitza, Caza of Nevrokop, took everything they could carry away, and, after dishonouring Botcho's wife and daughter, loaded their booty on his horse and went away.

In the month of March, Angueleta Stoïanoff and his son, of Tache-Morurutza, were murdered. During the same month, Ibrahim Tachara, of Bogovitza, Chakir Selim and Taïo Makeyt, of Dodoviani, attacked the same village, and imposed upon the villagers a tax of forty Turkish liras, as a fine for having denounced them to the authorities. During the same month, Rizak Bey, of Orchida, ordered his Poljak to set fire to the village Zlesti, as the villagers had not obeyed his orders, and paid what he had demanded.

In the same month, Iovantcheta Angueloff and Constantin

Simoff, of Lourié, were blinded and cut to pieces by the Turks.

On the 15th of March, 1880, some Turkish malefactors set fire to the village Zlesti, Caza of Orchida, and thirty-three houses were burnt. Near the village Rassino, Caza of Orchida, three merchants were robbed and murdered. The authorities sent a Zaptié to examine and see to what religion the victims belonged. The Zaptié returned and reported that they were Giaours, which answer seemed to be fully satisfactory, as no further steps were taken.

In the month of June, 1879, in the village Debirtza, Caza of Orchida, two Turkish ruffians carried away the horse of a poor peasant. The peasant complained to the authorities of Orchida, and the Cadi, a conscientious man, answered in these terms:—*“You are right, my son, but what am I to do? As long as I am here, or another in my stead, with the white turban, don't come to ask for your horse; but when you see another judge take my seat, with a black hat, then come and ask for your horse, for you will find it! Even now, I could give an Ilam (judgment) that you are right, and that you should have your horse; but I repeat to you, that, before you are scarcely out of the village, the same malefactors, or their comrades, will take the horse away from you again and kill you; that is why I advise you to go away, and pray to God to send you soon judges with black hats.”*

On the 22nd of February, 1880, a band of brigands attacked some Bulgarians near Kalapode, and took from them thirty Turkish liras.

On the 3rd of April, Nicholas Thodoroff, Kolu Mitzikoul and Anastase, of the village Dolene, Caza of Nevrokop, were cut to pieces,

On the 10th of April, Marko Ivanof Demiter Tarkoff, his brother George, Ivan Roumenoff, and Tachu Constantinoff, of the above village, were decapitated.

On the road between Chtip and Veless, the Mussulman refugees robbed three merchants and took away from them one thousand Turkish liras. On the same day, the well-known brigands Zeko, Zinane Tchaouche and Feiso, whose names are uttered with horror by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, laid waste the village of Mokrino. Afterwards they ravished the daughter of the priest, Pope Nestare, of the same village.

In the village Lobounichta (Caza of Orchida) are found the three famous brigands, Demiche Ibich Agha, Kiamil Memich Agha and Zekir Imet Agha, who rove about in this neighbourhood, making exactions, and extorting money by various means.

The first of them carried away Martina Stezova, converted her to Islamism, and married her.

On the 15th of April, the Turks carried away two girls, one from Pourié, and the other from Vranichta (Caza of Orchida), and forced them to embrace Islamism.

On the 20th of April, the bodies of a peasant and his wife of Velgochti, Caza of Orchida, were found.

On the 25th of February, 1880, the Greek Bishop of Kos-named Ilarion, of Stanimaka, visited the Bulgarian village Tarcia, district of Kostoura, at three hours distance from the town Florina, and ordered the villagers to shut up their school, and to send away the schoolmaster from the village, who is a Bulgarian, threatening at the same time to punish them severely if they did not execute his orders. The villagers, who were not expecting such an order from their spiritual father, continued to send their children to the Bulgarian school. A few days afterwards the said village was set on fire, and out of the 175 houses, 110 became a prey to the flames. After this His Holiness, accompanied by the Caimakam, went to this village, and seeing that the schoolmaster was still there, presented him to the Caimakam as a *Comitajee* (Committee maker), who sent him to the prison of Kostoura.

In the village of Tobehti the same Greek Metropolitan, accompanied by some gendarmes, shut up the Bulgarian school, sent away the schoolmaster, and burnt all the Bulgarian books he could find in the village. The villages Gabreche, Statitza, Gelevo, &c., district of Kostoura, had the same fate.

On the 30th of March, 1880, during the night, Andon Girleff and his wife, of Ouliartzi, were murdered at two hour's distance from the town.

On the 31st of March, 1880, some Mouhadjirs attacked certain peasants, who were going to the town Chtip, to pay their taxes, and took away from them everything they had. The poor peasants were forced to pay their taxes twice this year, once to the Mouhadjirs and once to the Government.

On the 31st of March, 1880, Mité Misoff, and Kotze Oudjounzoff, of the town Chtip, were attacked, near the village St. Nicholas, and their horses were taken away. On the same day, the miller of the village Seltzé was robbed.

On the 6th of April, 1880, the bodies of Stephen Angoulloff, of Varoche, and Nicolas Chaboff, of Bitolia, were found near the river Chevni, district of Bitolia.

On the 10th of April, Ismail Effendi's waiter, cut the arm of a peasant, and wounded another in broad daylight. He is known by everybody, but no one dares to touch him, as he is the *Séiss* (groom) of the biggest Aghas of Bitolia.

On the 12th of April, 1880, the famous Katrahaki, with his band composed of eighty men, ravaged the village Verben, district of Florina, and took with him three prisoners, Vané Gramaticoff, George Lirpcoff, and a certain Guelché, from whom he demands fifteen hundred Turkish pounds as ransom.

From Verbeni, Katrahaki went to the village Pateli, where he spent fourteen days, took away from the villagers all they had, burnt Mitze, and carried away as prisoners Doneta, Petreta, and Mentcheta.

The village Kitchevo has been entirely ransacked and destroyed by a certain Djemo of Kitchevo; hardly eighty families have succeeded to save themselves, by taking refuge in the towns of Bitolia and Prilep.

Two children, one of Taneta Zdraveff, and the other of Naoumtcheta K. Koreff, of Drenovtzi, district of Prilep, were carried away and taken to Dolni Deber, whence the malefactors gave notice to the parents that they would not deliver them before receiving a ransom of one hundred Turkish liras.

Another child, Angueleta Velikoff, of the same village, was also carried away.

The sons of the priest of the village Gari, district of Deber, were carried away.

A band of ruffians, after killing the son, and two shepherds of Theodor Pomof Kehaya, of the village Galitchnik, took away from him two thousand sheep.

The Turkish brigand Assan Soulu Pouchcoff, accompanied by his suite, went to the village Dolneni, gathered the peasants in the bazaar and extorted from them four hundred Medjidiehs. He goes about freely in the town of Prilep, without anybody ever daring to touch him.

On the 15th of March, 1880, the same Soulu attacked the house of Traiko Beltcheff, one of the richest peasants of Gorné-Doupatchani, and after having well feasted at the house, he took from the peasant one hundred Medjidiehs.

The village Morounichta is nearly destroyed. Angueleta Stoïanoff and his son were murdered and his barns burnt. The barns of Stephen Iakovtcheff and Paoun Mitreff were also burnt.

On the 1st of March, 1880, Petko Petroff's house, and the barns of Nicolas Nedanoff, Mateta Veloff, Nasteta, Traicoff, Sekoula Domazetoff, Sekoula Krestanoff, Avram Petkoff, Stavretta Ivanoff, Mutreta Sekouloff, were burnt.

On the 2nd of March, 1880, the same malefactors set fire to the house of Zvetan Dimoff, and the granaries of Seraphime Zvetkoff and of Jovan Gueopeff.

In the same month the Turks carried away two girls from

the town of Orchida, to convert them to Islamism, one from the village Lodgvertzi, and the other from Sourouga; the first was taken to the town of Bitolia, and the second to the village Velechtani.

On the 7th of April, 1880, Ouzoun Hassan, Seifoullah, Liman, Suleiman, Kourdali, Hassan, Nouredin, Alim, all of the village Pichtitza, and Ahmed, of Strouisuvtzi, attacked the house of Zarif Rizoff, of Verbitza, three hours from Chtip, took everything they could find, and murdered the unfortunate Zarif, his wife, his mother, and his cousin. A neighbour, Arso Kartchhof, having heard the piercing cries of the ill-fated victims, had gone to see what was the matter, but he also was murdered on the threshold of the door.

On the 18th of April, 1880, a band of ten to twelve Turkish Pomaks attacked the herdsman, T. Kaleff, decapitated him, and drove away his flock,

On the 19th of April, 1880, four Bulgarians of Godlevo and of Mehomia, district of Raslog, were beheaded.

On the 27th of April, 1880, the bodies of four peasants of Mehomia were found in the fields.

On the same day, during the night, the Turkish soldiers attacked the village Gorma Draglichta, under the pretence that they were searching for insurgents (comitas): not finding anybody, they commenced to beat the peasants and violate the women and the girls.

On the 29th of April, 1880, At Klitchoff, of Razlog, was killed in the fields.

The following are extracts from a letter from Prilep, dated the 4th of May, 1880:—

“A week ago, while some peasants of the village Bogomili, Caza of Veless, were coming to Prilep, with twenty horses, laden with rice, they were stopped on the way by Fazli Agha and Feso Agha, of Tzernilitza, who took away two horses laden with rice, under the pretence that they were taking the tax. The peasants objected, stating that they had already paid the tithes to the Sultan; upon which the two Aghas answered: “The Sultan is at Constantinople, but here we are the Sultans, Vezirs, and Pashas—we are everything, and you must pay us the tax.” Thus saying, Fazli Agha and Feso Agha led away the two horses, laden with rice. The poor villagers, finding themselves thus deprived, sent three of their number to the village to beg these two Turks to at least let them have back their horses, but they were assailed with blows and driven away by those who had so unjustly deprived them of their property. The next morning they complained to the

Caimakam of Prilep, who thought it would be an act of justice to kick out these Giaours, pretending that they were lying.

Even to-day the Poljak of Pissokal, in the midst of the bazaars, struck the headman on the head with his gun on account of a trivial difference between them; the gun of the ruffian broke, and the unfortunate man's face was smothered with blood. The Zaptiés, who happened to be close by, rushed up, but instead of arresting the criminal, they begged and prayed him to pardon his victim.

On the same day the Turks carried away all the cattle of the village Poryeko.

The two sons of a certain Maneta, who have languished in prison during the last eight years, for no offence, were decapitated by the renowned Fazli, near the village Oréché.

On the 16th of September, 1879, the Poljak of Goumalevo, called Ramadan, carried off the girl Zeno Kitanoba, of Gradvotzi, Caza of Uskub, who had gone to bring some water from the fountain. The parents, on learning that the girl had disappeared, set off to complain to the authorities, but on the road they were met by Kourte Ali, who said, "*Return back, or else I will exterminate your family.*"

On the 15th of October, 1879, the Greek Metropolitan Païssy, of Uskub, accompanied by some gendarmes, travelled from village to village and forced the peasants to pay him what they never owed him.

On the 17th of October, 1879, the same Metropolitan went to the villages in the district of Koumanovo for the same evil purpose.

On the 10th of May, 1879, Sazdo Petzoff, of Bardirevo, was murdered.

On the 20th of May, 1879, Turkish soldiers pillaged the village Tohl.

On the 30th of May, 1879, George Novacoff, of Trogarkso, was assaulted with blows and thrown into prison.

On the 6th of June, 1879, the authorities distributed guns to a band of brigands to defend the villages in case of attack by the Comita (insurgents), so that, at present, the situation of the villagers is utterly intolerable on account of its defenders, who commit all sorts of crimes.

On the 6th of May, 1879, the Turks took from Mihail, of Kotchani, twenty Turkish liras, and afterwards killed him.

On the 25th of May, 1879, the Yuzbashi of Nemanitza carried off a girl named Mary, of the same village, and killed the mother, who was running after her daughter.

On the 10th of May, 1879, the Poljak of the village Zarapintzi killed Mladen with a gun-shot.

On the same day, Evthime Koulakoff and his two companions, of the town Chtip, were robbed.

On the 13th of May, 1879, the Poljak of Varsakovo knocked down and thrashed the herdsman, named Stoïan, of the same village.

On account of the assassination of the Poljak Osman, of Zlatino, on the 15th of May, 1879, all the villagers have now for several months been subjected to unheard of tortures in the prisons. The Mouhadjirs, who have been living at the village for the last eighteen months, have paid to the Caimakam, as rent, five Medjidiehs each.

On the 17th of May, 1879, the shop of Natzo Andoff, of Chtip, was stripped of everything.

On the 18th of May, 1879, Mihail Andonoff and Mahail Demitreff, shopkeepers of Chtip, were assailed with sticks and robbed about a quarter of an hour's distance from the town.

On the 20th of May, 1879, the villagers of Stermote, Barbarevo, Koukovo, Lezovo, Stroimontzi, and four other villages, have passed twenty days in prison, for offering to pay the taxes as usual in Beshlik, and not the Turkish pound at a hundred piastres.

On the same date, Osman, the Poljak of Barbarevo, after having dishonoured two girls, Mary and Stanka, of the same village, killed them in the public place.

On the same date, Ilia of Ravadartzi, accompanied by three other Bulgarians, was robbed and cut to pieces near the village Katchani.

On the 21st of May, 1879, Kotzé Popoff, of St. Nicholas, was killed by Teh Abdoullah's son Arif Moulla.

On the same date, the soldiers fired several volleys at the Bulgarian school of Chtip, and made holes in hundreds of places, but, providentially, none of the scholars were hurt.

On the same date, the bodies of George, of Bogoslovetz, Joseph, of Boutchichta, Kartcho, of Krivy-Dol, Ivan, of Djidimirtzi, were found.

On the 10th of April, 1879, Belteho Guechoff, of Djidimirtzi, was murdered and cut to pieces.

On the 17th of April, 1879, some merchants of Kotehani were attacked by a band of brigands, assaulted with sticks, and robbed.

On the 22nd of September, 1879, a band of ten Turks attacked the only house of Lepepeltzi as the other families had taken refuge in the town of Chtip, and massacred everybody they found there. An old man of seventy was roasted alive. After having pulled out the teeth of his son, one by one, they flayed and finally decapitated him. They cut the

breasts of his old wife, then her arms, and, finally, her head. Six others were also murdered in the same way.

On the same date, Stoïan and his son, of Zletovo, were killed.

The parents of those who happened to be in Bulgaria on account of their commerce have been imprisoned for the last four months, and are every day subjected to unspeakable and unheard of tortures.

Aleksi's wife, of Boutchichta, was carried off and dishonoured by a Turk.

On the same date, Arsa and Antcha, of Zletovo, were killed by blows.

On the 20th of October, 1879, the peasants of the neighbourhood of Zletovo having complained to the authorities of the misdeeds of the famous brigand Adem, were sent away with these words: "*Begone, Giaours, Adem is a good man.*"

On the 8th of November, 1879, Kotze Guionoff, Pane Tivkoff, and two Turks of Moustavino, were attacked by eight Turks, but in order to avoid doing an injury to the true believers, they told the two Turks to withdraw, as they had business with the Bulgarians only, whom they afterwards stripped of all they had.

On the 25th of November, 1879, Osman's son, Abdul Rahman, cut off the hand of Mano of Tzirkovtzi. Everybody knows the criminal: he walks about boldly in the town of Chtip.

Three merchants, of the town Chtip, were robbed of one thousand Turkish pounds and murdered.

On the 16th of November, 1879, Petrouche of Orel, Caza of Koumanovo, while going to town to pay his taxes, having twenty Turkish liras with him, was robbed and cut to pieces.

On the same day, the Turks attacked Traïko Barabouni of Orel, and after outraging him they robbed and also took away his horse from him. On the same day Stoïan, miller of Orel, was assaulted with blows.

On the 20th of November, 1879, Athanase and Ordé, of Metchkouovtzi, were murdered.

Same date, the hotel-keeper, Malino, was roasted by some Turks, and robbed of sixty Turkish pounds.

Same date, a band of brigands entirely pillaged six houses in the village of Gabrèche, Caza of Koumanovo, and exterminated the inhabitants in the following manner:—An old man and an old woman were beheaded; a young man of eighteen was roasted; his sister was dishonoured, and finally her head was cut off.

A girl of sixteen, named Mary, of Koutchvichta, Caza of

Koumanova, who would not become Mussulman, had her breasts cut off.

On the 23rd of November, 1879, the Turks, after having assaulted with sticks Donu Beluff and George Piperevétza, took away also their horses.

On the 27th of November, 1879, a girl named Taska, of Kozek, was carried off by the Poljak of the same village, in order to force her to embrace Islamism.

On the 25th of November, 1879, the Turks wanted to force Ivan's sister, of Tabanovtzi, to embrace Islamism : her two brothers, who opposed it, were massacred.

On the 26th of November, 1879, Ivan, of Kosiak, was killed in his mill with a hatchet.

In the environs of the villages St. Nicholas and Gabreche, fourteen Bulgarians were murdered.

Four Bulgarians of Potchivalo and of Stanievtzi were massacred.

1880.

On the 5th of March, 1880, four Albanians hanged Vassil, of Balaja, Caza of Enidjé, and murdered his wife.

On the 7th of March, 1880, a certain Vlassi, and his companion of the same Caza, were murdered.

On the 20th of March, 1880, the body of Petre Tchoban, of Voden, was found.

On the 12th of April, 1880, some Turks cut the ears of Petko and his son, of Voden.

On the 27th of April, 1880, a shepherd, while grazing his sheep, was run through the stomach with a sword by a Turk.

On the 10th of April, 1880, the judge of Voden assaulted with a stick a certain Thomas, of Krouchevo, tailor at Voden, for not having given to his servant a pair of trowsers and a waistcoat, before he received the forty piastres, which were due to the tailor from the judge.

The Greek Metropolitan of Voden, Ieroteos, after having shut up all the schools, and sent away all the Bulgarian school masters from Malechevo, went to the Caza of Avret Hissar, with the mission of exterminating everything that was Bulgarian. He shut up the schools and churches of Guevgueli, Sehovo, Goumendja, etc., and expelled the school-masters. To free themselves of the persecution of the Greek clergy, the villagers of Bogdantzi have recognized the supreme authority of the Pope.

George Ampoff, of Bogdantzi, was imprisoned for eight

months in Salonica, because the Evangelical Journal "Zornitza" had been found at his house.

Constantin of Bogdantzi, on his return from Bulgaria, was thrown into prison. Two other young men of the same village had the same ill fate.

In the village Gavariantzi, the Greek Metropolitan, Theokhlito, sent for the school master, a young man of eighteen, and after having called him all kinds of names for teaching the children in Bulgarian, ordered the Zaptiés, who accompanied him, to thrash him until he promised to teach henceforth through the Greek language.

The renowned brigand, Ali Bey, cut to pieces two Bulgarians of Guevgueli.

The Poljak of Gavariantzi cut to pieces Traïko, of the same village, for a trifling cause.

Three merchants of Koukouch were attacked by a band of brigands, by whom they were beaten mercilessly and robbed of everything they had.

George, Mitré, and Stoïko, of the village Peroï, were robbed of their merchandize and horses.

The Albanians of the neighbourhood of the village Spantchovo, killed a fisherman and cut the ears and noses of two others.

In the village of Valandovo, two millers were killed and the mills pillaged.

Orman Koldjousou shot at and killed with a revolver Spiro, of Guevgueli.

In the town of Koukouch, a Zaptié, while passing by a house, and seeing that there were a lot of Bulgarians, shot one of them with his gun and quietly walked away.

On the 10th of May, 1880, Rachide Bey's sons murdered, in broad daylight, and in the middle of the bazaars, Guendja of Koukouch.

District of Orchida.

On the 30th of January, 1880, Maksoute Agha, of Delogochti, killed Stephan, and carried away his wife.

Vali Agha, of Delogochti, murdered the daughter of Stoïan, of Dotoun.

Suleiman Ali, of Bogovitza, murdered Spasseta, Sekouloff of the same village.

Stephan of Lechani was murdered by Chean Ali, of Debovo.

Iankole, of Vebechtani, was murdered by Rachide Agha, of Veless.

The same Rachide Agha carried off the daughter of a certain woman named Loda, and killed her son.

The son of Ribtché Hodja, of Belitza, murdered a woman of Oktichi and carried off her daughter.

Anguela Velmeetz was killed by Rahman of Belitza.

Stanka Gueorgueva, of Kourati, was murdered by Hassan Agha.

Guevrgui, of Velgochti, was killed by Emouche Agha, who took away also his wife.

Four herdsmen were attacked close to the town of Orchida, robbed, and finally massacred.

Idrise Agha, and his companion of Paoun, carried off the wife of Dimo Badkinoff, of Siroula, and killed the husband.

Iacoub Agha, of Mislodejia, murdered Bogvio Ivanof, of Siroula.

Stephan Nedelkof, of Orchida, was murdered by Idrise Agha and his companion, of Paoun.

The Poljak, Kourto, of Lokotchari, murdered the shepherd of the village called Laueta.

The Poljak Ahmed, of Botoun, killed Stana's daughter, of the same village.

A certain Ibrahim Agha fired a revolver, in the Bulgarian town of Orchida, on the brother of Monsignor Nataniel, who had the good fortune to escape unhurt.

A Turk of Tafa assaulted with sticks Khristo Kouyoumdji.

On the 27th of January, 1880, Bekdji murdered a Valachian and her daughter because she would not consent to the girls being violated before her eyes.

On the 25th of January, 1880, the bodies of two Bulgarians were found near the village Touria.

District of Deber.

The following are the assassinations and misdeeds committed by the Turks in the village Galitchnik :—

On the 27th of June, 1879, Arse Hanoff was murdered.

On the 21st of July, 1879, Aleksi Gueorgueovitch and Evgueny Avramoff were killed.

On the 28th of July, 1879, three thousand sheep and eighteen horses were taken from a dealer in sheep. Two shepherds were further murdered, and one seriously wounded, taking the cattle away.

On the 9th of August, 1879, Kosman Theodossieff was murdered.

On the 17th of August, 1879, the body of Stoïan Pavloff was found.

On the 24th of August, 1879, Avram Damianoff was murdered.

On the 24th of August, 1879, two Bulgarians were led into the mountains as prisoners, two others beaten.

On the 7th of September, 1879, thirty-nine horses were taken away by force.

On the 9th of September, 1879, twenty-four Bulgarians were completely robbed and their horses taken away by force.

District of Prilep.

On the 25th of September, 1879, the son of Gureta Kotchef, of Krapa, was cut to pieces by the Turks.

On the 29th of September, 1879, Bogdan Stoikoff went with four horses from Kitchevo, to sell them at the bazaar of Prilep. Before he arrived there the unfortunate man was attacked by some Turks, who took away from him two of the horses by force. Imer Tchatal, having learnt that Bogdan was going to sell one of the horses for thirteen-and-a-half Turkish liras, went to him with a yatagan in his hand and obliged Bogdan to sell him the horse for twelve-and-a-half Turkish liras. This affair having reached the ear of the Caimakan Mehmed Bey, he justified Imer Tchatal, and appropriated to himself the money which the unfortunate Bogdan received for his horse.

Feta, of Boorino, took from Petro, of Sarandinovo, four kilos of corn, and also forced Petro to give him seven Turkish liras.

Two years ago, Ismail Agha Hodja, of Gorné Gitoché, had carried off the daughter of Stoitcho Demitroff, of Dolné Gitoché, and had sold her for seven Turkish liras to Riste Angueloff. In the month of March, the said Angueloff died, and his purchased wife went to her father's house. Ismail Agha, being informed of this, carried her off again, pretending that the deceased owed him ten Turkish liras.

Iana Stoitcheva, of Sekirtzi, was carried off by the Poljak Feizo, and sold to Veliana, of Stersé, for ten Turkish liras.

The said Feizo Taïrof violated the wife and daughter of Tale Iovtcheff, of the village Kostintzi.

District of Kitchevo.

Two years ago Ali Agha Izeiroff had carried off Vassil's daughter, of the same town, and was living with her. On the 16th of May the said girl disappeared, thereupon Alia went to her mother's house and said: "Give me your daughter, or else I will roast alive the one remaining." On saying this, he took the little girl and put her into the fire, but being rather pressed for time, he pulled out the child, swearing that he would come

back the next morning. The hapless mother complained to the Cadi, who told her smilingly, "*How can I help you, if you don't give him up the other.*"

5th of June, 1879. Nicolas, of Popoveni, was beaten and robbed.

8th June, 1879. Rachide ravished Theofil's wife before his eyes.

8th of July, 1879. Some Turks robbed Spassen, of Serbeni. He complained to the local authorities, who rendered him justice by saying, "*You lie, Moskoff.*"

9th of July, 1879. Mechto Ahmed Effendi blew out the brains of Gueorguitza Poposka of Varoche with a pistol, because he would not bring to him his daughter.

The same Ahmed, while returning to his house, broke Naoum Doudoula's arm with the butt end of his gun.

10th of July, 1879. Bairam, of Varoche, gathered fifty of the youngest women, and made them work in his fields: those who did not come in time were fined one Medjidieh each.

13th of July 1879. The oxen and sheep of Iuveto, of Roussetzi, were carried away.

19th of July, 1879. Several women were imprisoned and violated by the Zaptiés.

24th of July, 1879. A horse belonging to Limian, of Vidreni, was stolen—the authorities wanted money to find the horse.

2nd of August, 1879. The famous brigand Vessel Blatza taxed the villagers of the neighbourhood of Rabetin one hundred and fifty Turkish liras. On his return from his excursions he thrashed the priest Zvetko.

8th of August, 1879. Pope Guino, of Dobrenetz, was completely ruined by a certain Nezir.

12th of August, 1879. The said brigand Nezir and his companion Zäise ransacked the houses of two peasants of Lovtichani: the loss amounts to three hundred and fifty Turkish liras.

District of Prilep.

20th of October, 1879. The body of Ima Stoïanoff, of Sleptché, was found.

22nd of October, 1879. Gueora, of Valkovo, and the herdsman Apostol, of Lagote, were murdered.

23rd of October, 1879. The Poljak Ibrahim, of Pechtani, fired a gunshot at Stefan Traïkoff.

28th of October, 1879. The Poljak of Zapoljani, taxed the peasants of the same village five Turkish liras on the day of his marriage.

The following are the atrocities and crimes recently committed in the eleven villages situated in the Caza of Kart-zovo :—

There are four bands of brigands who govern and dispose of these villages as they please.

1. The sons of Molla Tlazlie, of Kitzovo, and Djemail Häireddin with his band.

2. The field-keepers Djafer Stankovsky, Ibrahim Pandelsky, Pevro Doulef, and Bairam Djebal.

3. Salim Agha, of the village Zaetz, with fifteen bandits.

4. Saulie Paufectie, of Debreste, with fifteen bandits.

All these divisions of bandits go freely from village to village, imposing taxes, dishonouring the women and the girls, whom they send to their parents after having satisfied their brutal passions, and after having kept them for a certain lapse of time. Others call the priest, and force him to celebrate the marriage ceremony uniting these dishonoured girls with rich young men, who are obliged, at the same time, to give these criminals enormous sums. In short, it is they who dispose of the properties, of the religion, of the existence, of the life and of the death of all. Woe be to him who dares to make the least observation, or expresses an opinion contrary to their brutal wishes, for the worst of misfortunes would overtake the families of those who should wish to avenge themselves on these ruffians. To the said Selim Agha, of Zaetz, besides his thefts, assassinations, violations, etc., every village is forced to pay an annual tax of from one to two thousand piastres, according to the means of each. But the sons of Molla Tlazlie, with the Government officials, impose on each village from five to ten thousand piastres. At the same time the said Sauli Paufectie levies on each village as much as he in his judgment thinks fit. Molla Tlazlie's sons massacred the Christians of Silena Christief, and of Zlatena, because they failed to pay them their regular exactions. Stanoïa, of the same village, was killed with sword cuts, as he had complained to the local authorities against them. Vassileta Angueloff was murdered for the same reason.

Nicolas, trying to defend his family, who were being ravished before his eyes by the said ruffians, was cut into a thousand pieces. Oidela was run through by a sword; Jossifo, and Vassil Stepanof, of Stresnitza, and Mirtzeta Stoïanoff, of Dinitz, and his wife were murdered.

Basco Iovo, of Lokovitzza, was cut to pieces with a hatchet on his trying to defend his sister-in-law, who was being violated before his eyes.

Stoïan Dimof was horribly butchered, for trying to save his daughter from violation.

Tachoin Vartakofsky, of Zirkla, and Stoiko George, of Oir, were shot.

Bideta, of Mogilla, was killed near Prilep.

Sabba Stoïanoff was run through with swords, at the bazaar of the village Brod.

A sheep-fold, with three hundred sheep and two shepherds in it, was set on fire, in the village Zdaune.

Selim Agha, of Zaetz, murdered Zdravetta, of Kastech. This man has been content with killing only one man in this province, for the neighbouring country is the scene of his assassinations and crimes—where he murders wholesale. Saulie Paufectie also has shot a certain Nicolas with his gun. Besides the assassination and massacre of the living, one-tenth of them are mutilated, amongst whom there are even children four and five years old, and others are tortured in various ways. The unlucky population has tried various means to remedy this state of things, but they have been useless, as the authorities themselves are the chief criminals. Their names are—Halil Bectashi, Yuzbashi Mehmed Kalpazan, Ahmed Megiref, and Molla Fetba of Solb, all members of the Medjlis (civil council) of Kitzovo, from which depend the above eleven villages. But when they are pursued, and their heinous actions are brought to light, they take refuge in the house of Hussein Baba, their chief, who is in the Téké of Brod, and all these bandits hide themselves in his Harem. Some villagers, despairing of their miserable situation, have emigrated with their families to the neighbouring town, some to Prilep, others to Kitzovo, and the greater portion of them to Monastir.

The chief of the bandits, Djemail Molla Fazlief, was arrested in Monastir, on his arrival there, at the instance and incessant prayers of the villagers to the local authorities. About ten days after, his companions demanded that he should be judged, and he was at once liberated, without any inquiry being held as to his conduct, or the least punishment being inflicted upon him. Ever since the number of his followers has increased, his brutality, cruelty, and destructiveness have also increased, tenfold.

Misdeeds and crimes committed at Kratovo, from the 1st of August to the 15th of December, 1879.

The Imperial Army, composed of two battalions, went to the town of Kratovo to defend the Christians against the Mussulman refugees and the local malefactors. They drove out the peasants from the school and took up their quarters there.

A few days afterwards one of the battalions was dispersed among the neighbouring villages, under the pretext that they were going to pursue the bandits. Having found a gun in the house of H. Mitza, of the village Talachlatzi, they captured him as an associate of the bandits, bound him and his son with cords, and robbed them of all that they possessed. The soldiers would not give them up until an enormous ransom was paid for them. All the other villages of the environs underwent the same fate. And the soldiers, when they returned, brought with them, besides money, several horses laden with booty.

The Moulazim Dalip thrashed, in the prison, Iakoulla of Koundino, because he had been unable to find some one to pay his ransom. The same ill-luck befell Kosta Athanossoff, who died under the blows he received.

As in other villages, also in Zletovo, Moulazim Dalip caused the headmen of the village to be tortured three times a day, by having their hairs and moustachios pulled off, as they had been unable to collect a sufficiently large amount to satisfy him.

While His Excellency Nouri Pasha was passing through Kratovo with his army, one of his soldiers took away George Tocheff's horse.

District of Bitolia.

The Beys and Aghas of Bitolia, especially Ali Pasha, and their accomplices, spread terror everywhere. Lately they took possession of the fields of the peasant Nochpal.

On the 21st of February, 1880, Bogdan Christof, of Voïan, was attacked. Suleiman Mussa, Khalil Agha, Ismail Redjemour, and three others, of Prepil, pillaged everything they could find.

On the 29th of February, 1880, the same malefactors, after having robbed Iankol of İkrivo, beat him so severely that he died two days afterwards.

On the 25th of March, 1880, the same brigands pillaged the Hotel at Bogdan Balaka.

District of Prilep.

On the 25th of April, 1880, some Turks pillaged the house of Stoïan, of the village Sleptché.

On the 9th of April, 1880, the Turks dishonoured George Stoïkof's wife before his eyes. A band of Turks ransacked Ivantcho Krintché's hotel, under the eyes of the local authorities.

On the 10th of April, 1880, the Mouhadjirs pillaged a corn

dépôt. Some malefactors carried away four horses from the village Belo Polé.

The body of a young child, Petki Nicolof, of the same village, was found.

The brigand Ali Kalbant cut off Tassetto Spiroff's head by one blow of the hatchet.

The magazine of Iovantcheto was ransacked.

Hussien Soumoun, while going to the village Pirdjani, told the villagers that he had met with insurgents, who had nearly killed him, and forced them to state the same thing to the local authorities, who threw them all into prison.

Fezo, of Ramka, with his yatagan in hand, forced the peasants to bring him some wood, boards, &c. to build him a house.

The Turks of Kositchino, Caza of Kitchevo, killed Ilia Constantinoff, of the same village.

The king Tchimo, who gives himself this title, ordered the peaceful peasants, and more especially those who had pretty wives and daughters, to go to the town of Prilep to beg the Pasha to name some men of Tchimo's band as Poljaks in their village. The Pasha would not accede to their request. On his return from Bitolia, Tchimo gave notice to the poor peasants at Prilep not to return to their homes, for he would massacre them all as they had not fulfilled his wishes. By this means the king became master, exercising full power over the wives and daughters of the poor peasants so ingeniously driven away.

District of Orchida.

The brigands robbed Panteli Naoum Kotzaroff of thirteen Turkish liras. From his son they also took, by force, four Turkish liras.

The sons of Soter Motchof, of the village Elho, were carried to the mountains as prisoners.

The son of Suleiman Effendi, Abdoullah Agha, of the village Gorno Lokotcharevo, has every woman thrashed who does not allow herself to be dishonoured.

In the month of April, Rachide, Bey of Orchida, employed the same means to satisfy his carnal lust.

Ismail, Emin, Kaltchkof, Emin, Ahmed Delidji, Ali, &c., of Satovitza (Caza of Vaden), massacred Demitri and George Deksiarovi, Ivan Roumenoff, Tachu Constantinof, Gurgui Djeluf and Athanase Koluvitza with his two children.

On the 24th of March, 1880, sixteen peasants of Postromitza, with fourteen horses, were attacked by a band of brigands

who, after beating them unmercifully, took away from them their horses.

16th of April, 1880. The mare of Peter Ivanoff, of Bania, was taken away by a Turk.

At the commencement of the month of April, Nicolas I. Paligoroff and Mitro R. Maltcheff, of Mehomia, had sold all their furniture and property, and were about to emigrate to Bulgaria: the authorities being informed of this, put them into prison. At the instance of the headmen of the town, the Government released them, so that they might pass the Easter festival with their families. Two days afterwards their bodies were found between Mehomia and Doupnitza Djoumaïa.

18th of April, 1880. Milé Ignatieff and four other Bulgarians of Mehomia were murdered.

Numerous women and girls were ravished in the town of Mehomia.

6th of May, 1880. George, brother of Nicolas Damianoff, and several other chief Bulgarians of the village Dobrinichta and of Gremen, Obiden, &c., were tied with cords and conducted to Nevrokoff, on the accusation that they were connected with the insurrection of the previous year.

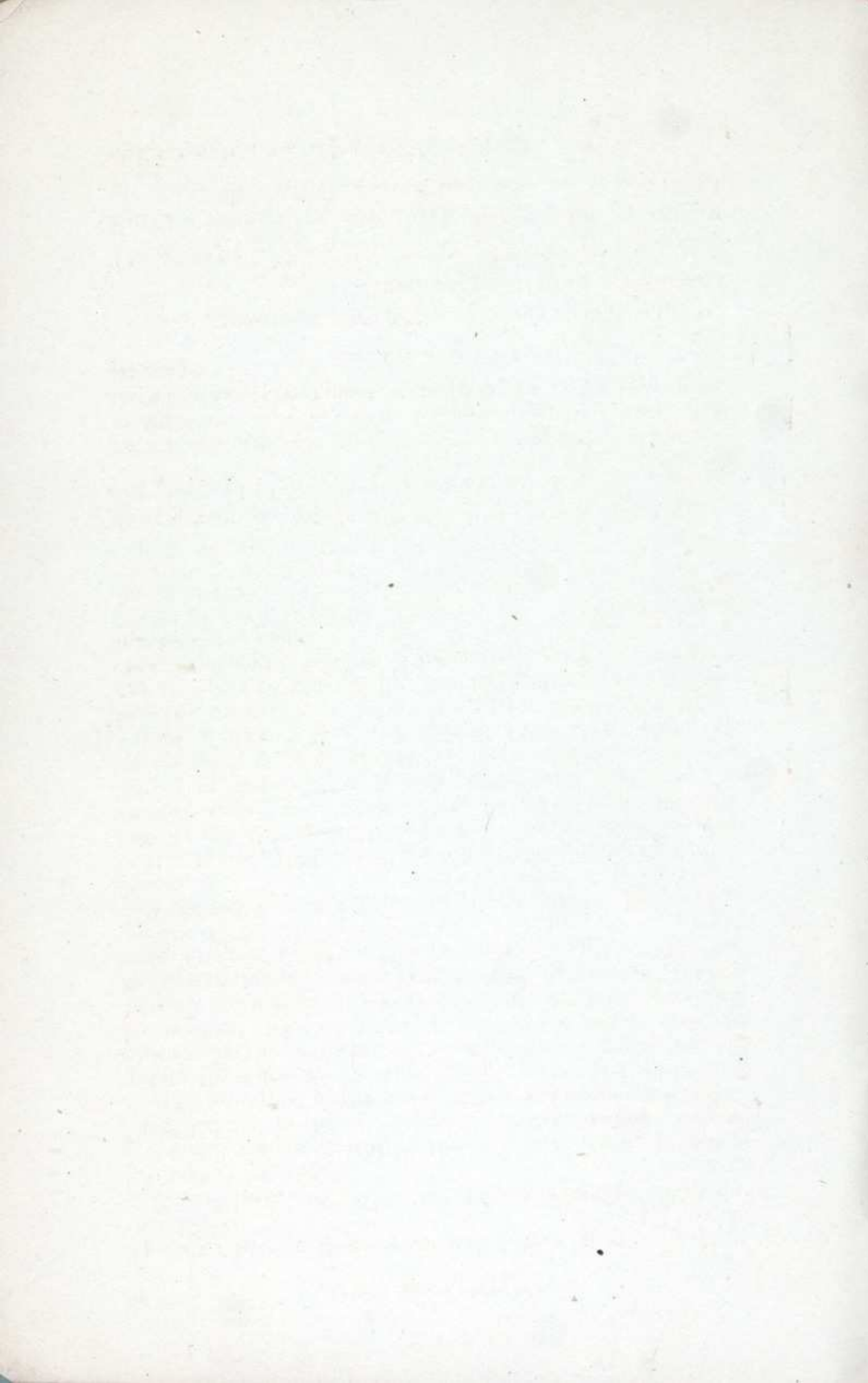
14th of May, 1880. Of the six prisoners of Pateli and Verbeni, who had been carried away by the famous Katrahaki, one of them was decapitated, three of them released against a ransom of eight hundred Turkish liras, and the other two managed to escape.

27th of April, 1880. The daughter of Iolé Gueorgueff, named Bojna, of Pachino Rouotzi, was violated by H. Bairam, in the farm of the late Ali Pasha.

2nd of May, 1880. A band of brigands, of Dobreni, drove away two hundred and fifty sheep out of the sheepfold of Christo and Anguel Sprostranof, of Orchida.

5th of May, 1880. Two Greek Metropolitans arrived in Bitolia, with the avowed object of inspecting the Greek schools in Macedonia, but in reality, to oblige the Bulgarians, with the aid of the Government, to learn Greek as the only official language.

This appalling narrative speaks for itself, containing as it does a sufficient catalogue of horrors. Their repetition is of every day occurrence, and Europe should at once decide whether they *are* to continue until every Christian inhabiting this unfortunate country is exterminated.



1870

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very sorry that I cannot give you a more definite answer at this time, but I am sure that you will understand the necessity of this course. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. H. [Name]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. H. [Name]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. H. [Name]

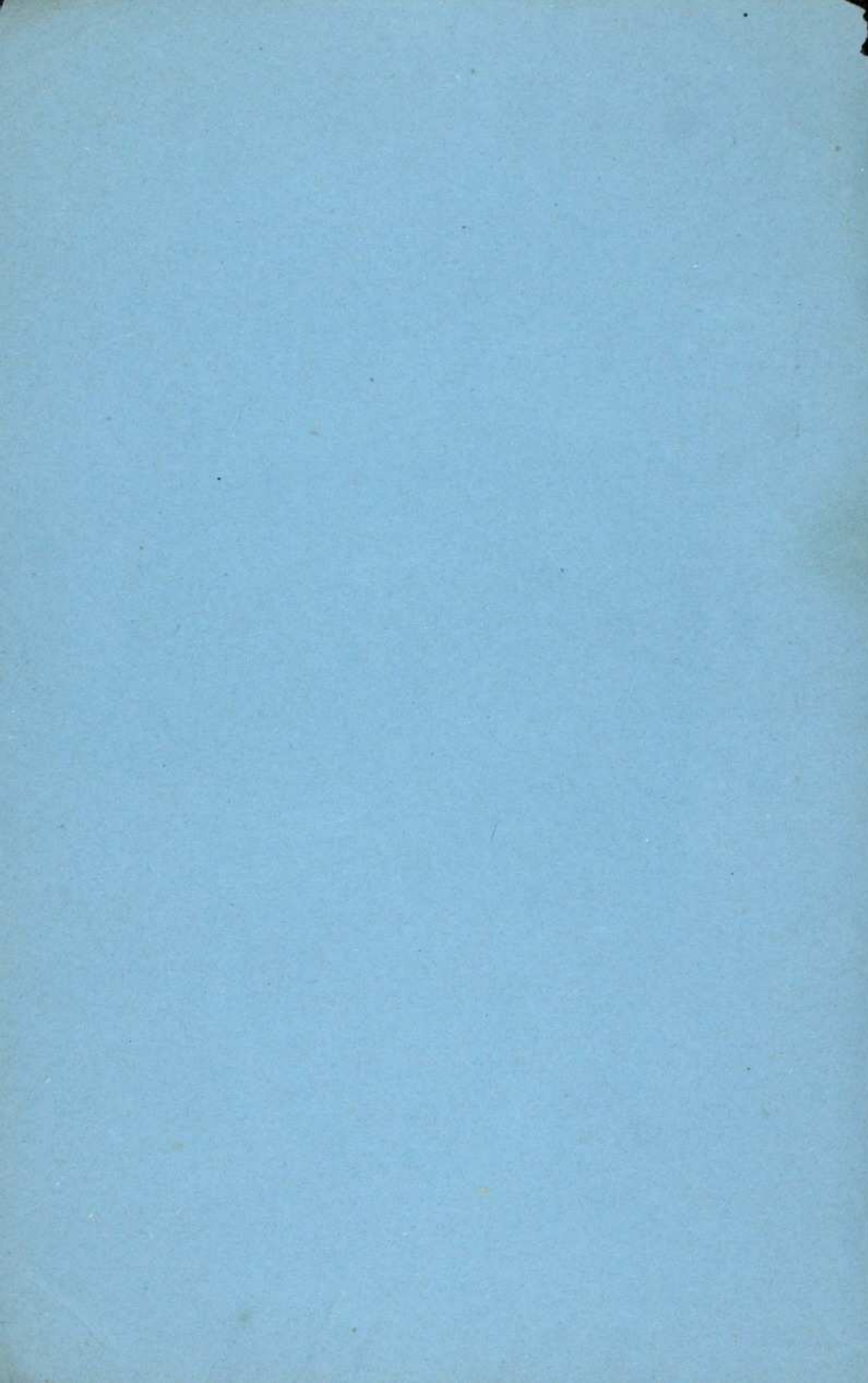
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J. H. [Name]

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J. H. [Name]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. H. [Name]



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