

**RUSSIAN ATROCITIES**  
**IN**  
**ASIA AND EUROPE**  
**DURING**  
**THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST 1877.**

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A collection of various official and private telegrams respecting the atrocities committed by the Russians in Asia and Europe during the months of June, July, and August 1877.

## Series Editor's Notes

*Russian Atrocities in Asia and Europe* is an unsophisticated work. In the book the Ottoman Government simply printed reports from officials and individual Muslims who had suffered in the 1877-78 Russo-Turkish War, with little editorial comment. It is thus a valuable historical document, although it cannot have been of much use as propaganda.

The book contains numerous misspellings and grammatical infelicities. Only the most obvious misspellings of ordinary words have been corrected. Names and descriptions often appear in the text in more than one form. For example, the Turkish form of the name Muhammad, Mehmet, appears as Mehemmed, Mehemed, Mehemet, and Mehmed. The meanings of these are obvious and have been left unchanged. Spellings and definitions that are not obvious are listed below.

Abaxes (Abhaz)	natives of the Eastern Black Sea region forced from their lands by the Russians and settled in the Ottoman Empire
araba	wagon, drawn by horse, donkey, or water buffalo
Arnautlu	Albanian
bashi bozouk (başı bozuk)	irregular soldier, drawn from the populace in time of war.
caïmakam (kaymakam)	head official of a district (division of a sancak)
Circassians	natives of the Eastern Black Sea region forced from their lands by the Russians and settled in the Ottoman Empire
muderris (müderris)	head teacher in a Muslim religious school
mudir (müdür)	official in charge of a sub-district, mayor
mutessarif (mutassarıf)	official in charge of a sancak (division of a province)
seraskier (serasker)	commander-in-chief of the army
Tatars	natives of the Crimea, forced from their lands by the Russians and settled in the Ottoman Empire
zaptieh (zaptiye)	gendarme
zeïbek (zeybek)	infantryman

## **PREFACE.**

The letters and dispatches, official and private, which are published herewith cover a large area of territory, and come from many different personages. They refer to incidents which have happened during the last few months in various parts of the Empire, and they combine to strengthen each other's testimony.

From the statements they contain, it will be seen that the Russians invading Turkey in the name of religion have had for their object the extermination of the Turkish race; that they have hesitated at no cruelty or excess however terrible to accomplish this work, and that they have actually succeeded in depopulating and desolating vast, populous, and thriving districts,

It will also be noted that this terrible example has been followed not only by the semi-savage Cossacks who have accompanied the Russian forces but also by the ignorant and excitable Bulgarian peasantry, with a result so deplorable that history produces no parallel.

In offering this concurrent testimony of many witnesses to the English public the Ottoman Government desires to rouse no revengeful feelings, but rather to show that Russia has no right to claim the mission of "Humanity's Champion" and that in invading Turkey she is prompted by no other sentiments than those of greed, ambition and hate.

Upon the misery which this cruel and unjustifiable war has caused it is needless here to dwell. A perusal of the following pages will bring its own conviction to mind of any impartial and reasonable person. Unhappily the mute

protest of a myriad victims reaches the ear of Europe too late for succour; and even the conviction of Russia as the cause of their sufferings will not avail to restore to them either their homes, their honour or their lives. Yet should the story of their grief be impartially told; and it is to this task that the Ottoman Government has now addressed itself.

## **No. 1**

*(Extract from divers telegram addressed to*

*Sublime Porte.)*

The Russians commit the most unheard of outrages on the Mussulman population of the Caucasus. They burn and pillage the Mussulman villages; oblige the inhabitants to become Orthodox Christians under the pain of being immediately put to death, and profane the mosques and schools. The women and girls are massacred after having suffered the most shameful outrages, and the male part of the inhabitants who have been spared are sent to Siberia.

All these horrors are perpetrated by the orders, and under the eyes of the chiefs of the Russian army in compliance with a pitiless order which has for its object the systematic and premeditated annihilation of all the Mussulman population.

Ardahan has been equally the scene of revolting atrocities. In occupying this town the Russians gave themselves up to the most horrible acts, proceeding by violence, massacre and pillage.

## **No. 2**

*(Extract of telegram addressed to Imperial palace*

*by Governor of Erzeroum.)*

The same day of their entrance into Ardahan, the enemy fired on the hospital without regard to the flag which was flying on the top and killed several sick and all the warders of the hospital. To avenge themselves on the

inhabitants of Avilar who served in the Imperial army, the Russians shamefully maltreated their parents and dishonoured their women and their daughters. Among others, the family of the Vice-Governor of Zarenhad who was then in service at Kars, has been interned in Russia after having suffered an ignoble treatment.

Besides the Russians have sacked the villages of Djevra and Hadji Tchiflik under the pretext that several inhabitants give themselves up to espionage. The population despoiled of everything even to the last stitch on their back have been sent to Kars in a state of complete nakedness.

### **No. 3**

*(Telegram from his Excellency Mehemmed Ali Pacha  
to Ministry of War, dated June 12/24 1877)*

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of May last the Montenegrins in invading the village of Schtouze, on the banks of the river Jara, a dependence of Vranieh (Akova) cut off the nose, lips and arms, of three soldiers of the battalion of reserves of Salonica, massacred a boy of 11 years, and also cut off the nose, right cheek, the lips, and mustaches of a soldier named Mehemmed Bin Hassan, belonging to the 4<sup>th</sup> file of the 8<sup>th</sup> company of the battalions of reserves of Gamuldjéné. This unfortunate man twelve days ago finished by falling into the hands of the Montenegrins.

**No. 4**

*(Extract).)*

On Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, about eleven in the morning a Russian boat came and boarded an Ottoman merchant vessel anchored at Aïdos, and placed inflammable matter on it, which it was not long in exploding.

The same day, some torpedo-launches were directed on three Ottoman merchant vessels, respectively commanded by Captains Hadji Hassan, Hadji Feïzi and Serda, anchored before Couri-Chilé, 15 miles distant East of Amasra. The launches caused the three vessels to capsize and a great part of the equipage was lost.

**No. 5**

*(Telegram from Commandant of Van and Bayazid to  
Minister of Interior, dated June 19/July 1 1877.)*

I have already had the honour of writing you that the Russian division operating on the Alashguerd side, finding at length that it could not make head against the attacks of the Imperial troops had commenced to withdraw,

The commander of this division has taken the part of pillaging everything on his passage. He burns all the Christian and Mussulman villages, takes and lifts the goods of their inhabitants. Independently of these revolting outrages committed, he has killed three women.

The Powers can in reading the publications of foreign correspondents, convince themselves of the exactitude of these reports.

**No. 6**

*(Telegram from his Excellency Moukhtar Pasha to  
Ministry of War, dated June 23, (July 5) 1877.)*

The Russian detachment of Ardahan composed of three battalions of infantry and 500 cavalry, has invaded the route of Ardanaich and attacked the auxiliary troops who were on the point of concentrating.

The latter withdrew but as a portion of the inhabitants of the villages of Khalt de Doba, of Rchidil, of Oreniskhew, of Missitch, of Penek, of Meria, of Senatus and of Pouskhew had taken recourse to arms, the enemy did not spare a single person who fell into their hands; massacred about fifty persons without distinction of age or sex and pillaged and burned several buildings. In short, they committed every act condemned by the rights of men,

**No. 7**

*(Telegram from Ismail Pasha, Governor-General of Erzeroum to Ministry of  
Interior dated July 5 1877)*

I learn at this moment that the Russians have taken with them by force by the Armenian bishop of Utch-kilissa, after having wounded and garroted him.

This prelate was devoted to the interests of the State.

**No. 8**

*(Telegram from Saïd Pasha, Governor of Tirnovo, to  
His Highness the Grand Vizier, dated July 5, 1877).*

Yesterday the enemy's cavalry having surrounded the Mussulman village of Batah, situated 7 hours from Tirnovo, in the district of Sistow, took all their cattle and then captured by force from their inhabitants the arms, and money, in short everything they had. They then set fire to their habitations, and massacred a great number of the villagers.

**No. 9**

*(Telegram from Seraskier and Namyk Pasha to the  
Grand Vizier, dated July 6, 1877.)*

The Governor of Tirnovo furnishes us with the following:

“On Wednesday last, some Russian cavalry having surrounded the Mussulman village of Batah, in the caza of Sistow, lifted all the cattle and took by force from the inhabitants their arms, their money and all their possessions. They then set fire to the dwellings and massacred a great number of villagers.

“Besides this, six Mussulman individuals of the same caza, set out for the village of Yazidji to search for their cattle. Having been met on their return by the enemy one of them was killed and the five others were taken prisoners.

“Seven others Mussulmans returning from Roustchouk to Plevna, their native place, were assailed by the enemy's horsemen, who killed six of them; the other managed to escape. The Russians torture the bodies of their victims,

pulling out their eyes from their sockets and replacing them by small pieces of bread. The same cruel acts are witnessed wherever the Russians enter. We deem it our duty to inform your Highness in order that the Government may act as it thinks necessary.”

**No. 10**

*(Telegram from Governor of Tirnovo to Grand Vizier,  
dated July 7, 1877.)*

Travelers from Berkofitcha report that a column of the enemy debouching from the high road of Servi have this night burned a Mussulman village and two villages of mixed population situated some hours distance from Tirnovo.

**No. 11**

*(Telegram from Commander of Batoum to 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary  
of Palace, dated July 8, 1877.)*

In the battle of Tchamtchira of which I have already furnished you with a report, the Russians directed their fire on the spot which we had converted into an hospital though it was surmounted by the Red-Cross. Some of the wounded whom it contained have been killed being unable through their wounds to save themselves.

In reporting to you this fact I cannot but stigmatise and denounce the savage acts committed by the enemy who tread under their feet a symbol adopted and respected by all civilised people.

**No. 12**

*(Extract.)*

A Russian division arrived on the 7<sup>th</sup> July at the villages of Kestan and Belovan, disarmed the Mussulman inhabitants and distributed their arms to the Bulgarians. They then proceeded against the Mussulman population, massacring the men, women and children, and burning their dwellings.

**No. 13**

*(Telegram from Governor-General of Danube to Sublime*

*Porte, dated July 11, 1877.)*

Private dispatches confirmed by our own reports, show that amongst the others the Russians advancing from Toultscha side, massacre without pity all the Circassians that they meet,

**No. 14**

*(Extract of divers telegrams from the vilayet of Danube.)*

Two villages, Oustroudja and Kadisla, situated five hours distance from Roustchouk, have been sacked by the Cossacks who have massacred about thirty Mussulman inhabitants without distinction of age or sex.

At the village of Bin-Bounar, they cut off the dresses of the women and girls as far as the waist, and then violated them in the presence of their parents. All the male portion of the inhabitants have been taken prisoners, and a woman

has had her arms amputated. The Cossacks having encountered at seven hours distance from Roustchouk some Mussulmans who had abandoned their villages and were flying to the mountains, massacred them without sparing even the women and children.

**No. 15**

*(Telegram from Governor-General of Adrianople to His  
Highness Grand-Vizier, dated July 12, 1877.)*

I have the honor of transmitting the following telegram from the Vice-Governor of Kezanlik, communicated by the Governor of Philippopoli.

The Mussulman inhabitants of Balova and of Roubetcha in the dependency of Tirnovo, in seeking flight across Haïn Boghaz, were pillaged and massacred by the Christian population of the Balkans.

This fact has been reported by a person who managed to escape the massacre and regain the Mussulman villages situated below the Balkans.

**No. 16**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jourdan to Mr. Gay, Hôtel d'Angleterre, Pera, dated July 1<sup>st</sup>  
1877.)*

On entering Tems, a village situated an hour's distance from Tirnovo, the Russians burned alive the Mussulmans who had taken refuge in the mosque.

**No. 17**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jourdan to Mr. Gay, Hôtel d'Angleterre, Pera, dated July 1<sup>st</sup> 1877.)*

The Russians give themselves up to the most unheard of outrages with regard to the Mussulman population. They burn the Mussulman quarters, cities and villages which they find on their passage.

Three hundred wagons loaded with Mussulman families flying in the direction of Kadi-Keuy were attacked and destroyed by cannons. The enemy has achieved his work of extermination in massacring all the men and women whom he met.

The outrages committed by the Bulgarians on the Mussulman population surpass a thousand times those of the Muscovites. The Mahometans do not follow the less an exemplary course.

**No. 18**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Ahmed Moukhtar Pasha,  
to Ministry of Interior, dated July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1877.)*

In an engagement fought about a month ago, between the Russian and some battalions of infantry detached from Kars to make a reconaissance of the positions occupied by the enemy near Mount Simwas in the neighbourhood of Kars, our troops had some killed and wounded whom they were not able to bring with them during their retreat.

The following day Hussein Hami Pasha, commander of Kars, sent his aide-de-camp, Osman Effendi, accompanied by several men bearing a white flag to reclaim our dead and wounded. But the Russians without any respect for the rights of men, fired on our deputation who in vain made signs to them to cease. The enemy's fire continuing without the signals having been observed Osman received a wound on the left arm which still confines him to the hospital.

**No. 19**

*(Telegram from Governor-General of Adrianople to His  
Highness Grand-Vizier, dated July 4, 1877.)*

I have the honor of transmitting you herewith a telegram from the vice-governor of Kezanlik communicated by the Governor of Philippopoli.

To-day, a detachment of a hundred and thirty of the enemy's horsemen burned the villages of Iflehanle, of Baighiuli, of Kozlidja and of Tchanaktchi, dependencies of the district of Kezanlik.

This bad news has been given me by Suleyman Agha who just comes from those localities.

**No. 20**

*(Telegram from some notables of Philippopoli to His*

*Highness the Grand Vizier, dated July 5, 1877.)*

The Russians have passed at Kezanlik, at three hours distance from Carlova. They have carried away the Bulgarians; and have burned some villages and massacred their inhabitants without sparing even the children at the breast.

Consternation is general. We must now have recourse to the protection of the Imperial Government.

**No. 21**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Ahmed Moukhtar Pasha to*

*Ministry of War, dated July 5 1877)*

The enemy in withdrawing from Chourakul and Zarouchal. districts relating to Kars, cut down the corn they found on their passage and have left nothing for the villages, having taken everything into Russia. Besides this they have demolished all the dwellings, burned much material and taken with them such as they could not burn.

The poor inhabitants are vividly impressed by these acts of barbarity; they find themselves reduced to a state of misery truly pitiable.

The Russians have carried with them to Alexandropol as prisoners, the wife and children of Youssouf Bey, Caïmakam of Chourakul, who has taken refuge at Erzeroum, his brother Mehemmed Bey, and his children and the sisters of Hatoum Zadé Emin Bey, notable of Chorakul; in short, all the women of the

household of the Caïmakam of Karouchal, Youssouf Bey who has taken refuge at Kars.

These prisoners who have been made to undergo all kinds of outrages are at present forwarded to Tiflis.

A great number of Mussulmans have been subjected under some pretexts to the most horrible treatment.

### **No. 22**

*(Extract of Telegram addressed by Caïmakam of Loftcha to His Highness the Grand Vizier, dated July 6, 1877).*

At the end of an engagement which took place yesterday, and in which our troops found themselves obliged to retire, the Russians ruthlessly commenced to bombard the town which cost the lives of several children. The Mussulman population took instant flight barefooted.

### **No. 23**

*(Procès verbal prepared and signed at Choumla by the Correspondents of Foreign newspapers, dated 8/20 July 1877)*

The undersigned representatives of the foreign press, united at Shumla, think it a duty to collectively resume and affix their signatures to the statements of facts that they have separately addressed to their respective journals, respecting the acts of inhumanity committed in Bulgaria against the inoffensive Mussulman population. They declare that they have seen with their own eyes and

interrogated at Rasgrad and at Shoumla, children, women and old men wounded with thrusts of the lance and with sword cuts, without speaking of wounds caused by fire arms which might be attributed to the chances of an equal contest. These victims give a horrible description of the treatment which the Russian troops and sometimes the Bulgarians inflict on the fugitive Mussulmans. According to their declarations the Mussulman population of several villages has been entirely massacred sometimes on the road, sometimes in the villages given up to pillage. The undersigned state that the women and children are amongst the most numerous of the victims, and that the wounds are made by the lance.

*Here follow the signatures:*

C. Fitzgerald,	Emerick Bulkovics,
J. W. Saterger,	August Jacquot,
Charles Winter,	Henry Dimone,
Harry Suter,	Nelton Prior,
Jules Zukab,	Wentworth Huyshe,
Senanian Camille,	Borthwick,
Barrère,	Drummond,
Carl Mayers	

**No. 24**

*(Telegram from Governor-General of Danube to Grand*

*Vizier, July 8, 1877.*

Sunday last, the Russians and Bulgarians attacked the village of Yenikeuy, situated 8 hours from Osmar Bazar, and massacred all the inhabitants with the exception of three women and two men.

The day before yesterday the village of Kozli, nine hours distance from the same town, was invaded by the enemy who put five persons to death after having taken all the cattle and things they could lay hands on.

**No. 25**

*(Telegram from Tewfik Bey to Ministry of Foreign Affairs.*

*Shoumla July 9/21 1876.)*

To-day Mr. Reade, British Consul at Roustchouk, and M. DeTorcy, French military attaché, visited one and twenty wounded, viz., ten women and eleven children of whom two were still at the breast and respectively aged 8 to 10 months.

**No. 26**

*(Telegram addressed by Ahmed Fehim Pacha to Minister*

*of Interior, 9 July 1877).*

The present war, which Russia has undertaken against us is without precedent in the annals of history, and does not resemble any of those international wars which have taken place up to the present time, sanguinary and barbarous is the aggression.

The enemy seizes upon undefended villages and after having destroyed them by the fire of canons, massacres the unarmed inhabitants. They take the women and outrage them when they do not put them to death.

The news of these cruelties having reached the neighbouring villages, has forced the Mussulmans to emigrate.

The Russians threaten the Christian villages with the same fate if the inhabitants do not submit and enroll themselves, and the latter likewise have been obliged to leave their hearths on the enemy's approach and take refuge in the village of Orkhanié.

**No. 27**

*(Telegram from Mutessarif of Tirnovo to the Grand Vizier,*

*9 July 1877).*

The enemy having occupied Tirnovo continued his march forward, burning all the Mussulman villages, and distributing arms to the Bulgarians which he took from the Mussulmans by deceitful promises. They pillaged the goods of these unfortunates, destroyed their dwellings, took the young Mussulman women and girls, and destroyed the rest. It is only a few days since that the inhabitants of Chemsî-Keuy in the district of Tirnovo were burned alive in a mosque where the enemy had enclosed them.

The policy of the Russians seems to be the total extermination of the Mussulman population of the Balkans and they employ as tools, in the execution

of this work, the Bulgarians, with the object of preventing for ever the possibility of an understanding between the two races.

For this purpose the enemy obliges the Mussulman prisoners, under penalty of death, to fire on the Imperial troops who come to their succour.

### **No. 28**

*(Approximate estimate of the number of dwellings burnt and of Mussulmans massacred by the Russians and Bulgarians since the occupation of Tirnovo by the enemy).*

1. Batak, a village exclusively Mussulman (burnt) in the district of Sistow: 100 houses; inhabitants, men 200, women 300. Persons reputed surviving 7.
2. Balovan, Mussulman village (burnt), district of Tirnovo: 250 houses; inhabitants, men 700, women 1,100, total 1800. One person only, we learn, succeeded in escaping.
3. Caya Bounar (burnt): houses 100; men 200, women 300, total 500. Two persons only escaped death.
4. Kestambol: houses 250; men 300, women 600; total 900. Survivors 3.
5. Chemsi, mixed village: Mussulman houses 60; men 120, women 200, total 320 inhabitants. One person only made good his escape. The Mussulmans were burnt alive in a mosque where they had taken refuge.

6. Tundja, mixed village, 100 houses, men 250, women 400, total Mussulmans 650. Survivors 3.

The following is the list of the number of houses burnt in the villages which had been deserted by their inhabitants, before the arrival of the enemy.

Tranich Homri, houses		40
Revan	“	130
Odalar	“	180
Armoudlouk	“	80
Bourouch	“	100
Kodjina	“	70
Okdjilar	“	200
		—
Total number		820

There still exist forty or fifty mixed villages, counting each at least 100 houses. The Mussulman inhabitants have submitted to the Russian yoke but we are ignorant of their fate.

#### **No. 29**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to the  
Ministry of war, 10 July 1877).*

The Governor of Philippopoli telegraphs me on the instant that, 12 unarmed Mussulmans of the village of Sounkourlou, near Eski-Zaghra, having made their submission to the Russians, 7 of them were killed by strokes of the

hatchet by the Bulgarians and three others by the Cossacks. Two only succeeded in saving themselves.

**No. 30**

*(Telegram from the Governor General of Adrianople to  
the Grand Vizier, July 10, 1877.*

Yesterday evening twelve Mussulmans of Sounkourlou, a village burnt by the enemy, were, after having delivered up their arms, attacked by the Cossacks, who put in an appearance near this village to the number of about 30. Three of these unfortunate villages were massacred by the Cossacks, and seven others were dispatched by strokes of the hatchet by the Bulgarians of the neighbouring villages. As for the others, they succeeded in making good their escape.

These facts are the contents of a telegram from the deputy Governor of Tchirpan, communicated to the vilayet by the Governor of Philippopoli.

**No. 31**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Ali Saib Pacha to His  
Highness the Grand Vizier, July 10 1877).*

I have the honor of bringing to the knowledge of your Highness, the following facts reported by the police:

“Seven children, boys and girls, of the village of Globofdja, district of Podgoritza, having fallen into the hands of the Montenegrins, have suffered the most frightful treatment, one of these children, of whom the eldest is 10 years of

age, had his ears and nose cut off; another had his arms lacerated. We are ignorant of the fate of the others, with the exception of one who has succeeded in escaping from his tormentors,

**No. 32**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Safvet Pacha (Muchir) to High Highness the Grant Vizier, Philippopoli, 23 July 1877).*

In consequence of the invasion of Carlova and Kalofer by the Russians a detachment of regular troops and auxiliaries had been sent to effect the removal of the Mussulman families.

On approaching the village of Mostli, the troops heard cries of distress. They made haste to approach the spot whence the cries proceeded and witnessed a most horrible scene, the Bulgarians had just massacred eighty old Mussulman women and children. The young women had been forwarded on to Kalofer. There still remained about thirty who were rescued by our troops, but they were again retaken on the road by the Cossacks and Bulgarians after an attack with considerable forces.

**No. 33**

*(Extract from a telegram of Deputy Governor of Kezanlik, July 12, 1877.)*

A person called Nadji Agha, a sheep merchant, has been arrested near Gabrova by the Bulgarians and killed by the Cossacks.

**No. 34**

*(Collective Telegram from Safvet Pacha, Hamid Pacha,  
and Cherif Bey, Philippopoli 12 July 1877).*

The Deputy-Governor of Hasskeuy informs us by telegram at this moment that a large number of Cossacks having crossed the Maritza have taken all the money they found at the Station, and burned the edifice, as well as several shops belonging to the station. The Russians have carried away with them the employees of the railway and their families.

**No. 35**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to the  
Ministry of war, 14 July 1877).*

Two columns of infantry and cavalry, the one commanded by Brigadier General Khouloussi Pasha, and the other by Colonel of the Staff Omer Bey, had been sent to Cayadjik on the route to Philippopoli and to Radina on the road to Yeni-Zaghra. The corps of Omer Bey which was approaching Radina having seen the Mussulman village of Lefedji, two hours distance from Cara-Bounar, and to the left of the railway line, burning made for that direction. At sight of the Imperial troops the Bulgarians incendiaries took refuge on the neighbouring heights. One party took flight towards the Bulgarian village of Djadi-Gueul, half an hour's distance from Lefedji, and also to the left of the railway. Being followed

by the Imperial troops three Bulgarians commenced firing on them and forced them to retort. In this affair there were about fifty killed. We have arrested six Bulgarians who are undergoing an examination.

The inhabitants of Djadi-Gueul, after having inflicted the last outrages on the Mussulman women and girls taken from the village of Lefedji, which they had just committed to the flames horribly mutilated and massacred them. A mother and her two daughters were equally violated, but made good their escape from death, thanks to the timely arrival of the Imperial troops, who found them in a house at Djadi-Gueul and sent them to Cara-Bounar.

The Bulgarians of Djadi-Gueul, men, women and children, to the number of 35, who had not time to take flight, have been generously received by our soldiers and sent on to Adrianople *via* Cara-Bounar.

To the right and to the left of the line we saw two other villages burning, which the Bulgarian inhabitants had taken care to abandon. The Bulgarians of Djadi-Gueul, who joined those from other villages situated to the right and to the left of the railway line, and burnt by their own inhabitants, have destroyed the railway by means of dynamite furnished by the Russians.

In their turn the detachment under Khouloussi Pasha, after having repaired the line of Cayadjik, were returning to the station of Segbanli, when they saw on their way a considerable village burning, which was situated to the right of the Maritza and on the two summits of a valley. The horsemen went immediately to the spot, and found themselves in the centre of a Turkish and Bulgarian village. The Bulgarians of the locality took to flight on the approach of

the Imperial troops, who pursued them and arrested six. Having been conducted to Cara-Bounar the latter are undergoing an examination. The Bulgarians, it is stated, have taken to burning not only the Mussulman villages, but also their own, for the express purpose of afterwards retiring with their families into the Balkans.

**No. 36**

*(From the Governor General of the Danube to His Highness  
the Grand Vizier, July 14, 1877).*

The Russians have burned to-day the village of Bedjandja situated 4 hours distance from Roustchouk.

**No. 37**

*(From His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to the Ministry of  
war, July 14, 1877).*

According to the report of Brigadier General Salix Pasha, from Segbanli, the inhabitants of Boya-Mahalessi, on their flight to Aladagh, in the district of Eski-Zaghra, confided their cattle to the care of 12 of their countrymen who remained in the village.

On Wednesday last the Bulgarians of the villages of Rassin and Tekké under the direction of one named Pankar, the agent of a merchant of Adrianople, called Boghiani, together with half a squadron of Cossacks assailed without reason the twelve watchmen of whom they killed ten and wounded the two

others, and then divided the cattle. The two wounded men who escaped the slaughter reached the station of Segbanli where they furnished the above report to Salih Pasha, who has forwarded them to Adrianople.

**No. 38**

*(Telegram from the Governor General of the Danube to*

*His Highness the Grand Vizier, July 15, 1877).*

The Christian inhabitants of the village of Torlak, in the district of Rasgrad, not being willing to submit to the Russians, the latter have burned their dwellings and churches.

This village, which is distant seven hours from Roustchuk, numbers 400 houses, two thirds of the inhabitants of which are Christians.

**No. 39**

*(Telegram from Reouf Pacha to His Highness the Grand*

*Vizier. July 16, 1877).*

I arrived to-day at Yeni-Zaghra where a crowd of women surrounded me and recounted to me the following circumstances:--“In their retreat from Yeni-Zaghra, the Russians fell upon the villages of Yidi-Khidir Bey, Djart-Cazli, Youmlou, Kelemek, Archak-Keulé, Khirissima and Prassouri, in the district of Eski-Zaghra, and massacred about 345 Mussulmans. The above mentioned women alone succeeded in escaping the massacre and regaining Yeni-Zaghra. I

am just going to open an inquiry into this matter. I will not fail to communicate all the information which I may gather to your Highness.

**No. 40**

*(From the Governor General of Adrianople to His  
Highness the Grand Vizier. July 18, 1877).*

The Russians and Bulgarians continue to commit acts of barbarous cruelty against the Mussulman population. On Monday last, some Bulgarian villagers, from the district of Eski-Zaghra, made their appearance in the village of Torkhan and wounded two Mussulman women, named Azizé and Fatma. The same day the Bulgarians attacked the village of Baba-Muslim and wounded five Mussulmans. At Aladagh four Mussulmans were put to death. Ahmed and Moustapha from the village of Echedjji; a child of two years named Zelika, and Fatma belonging to Gulfar (Tirnov), were wounded by fire arms and bayonets.

At Hidir Baba, a village of the district of Djari Moustapha Pasha, four Bulgarians treated in the most savage manner two persons, named Hassan and Kodja Mehemmed, who have succumbed under their wounds.

Twelve Mussulman emigrants, amongst whom were women and children, were massacred between Arabli and Anbarli in the district of Kizil Aghatch,

Similar acts were committed at Selimno, Yeni-Zaghra, Yamboli and in other localities of the vilayet. All the wounded, and the bodies of Hassan and Khodja Mehemmed, have been transported to Adrianople where Mr. Blunt, the British Consul of Salonica, who is at present in this town, and Mr. Dupuis, Vice-

Consul, together with the correspondents of the *Daily Telegraph* and *Times* have seen the cases with their own eyes. The wounded are being cared for in the hospital at Adrianople.

**No. 41**

*(From Reouf Pacha to His Highness the Grand Vizier, July 18, 1877).*

The Russians have massacred nearly all the Mussulman families of Kidir-Keuy, as well as those who had taken refuge there. Having been informed that those who had escaped the massacre were guarded as prisoners in the granaries, I immediately dispatched the Circassians to deliver them. Three hundred were set at liberty. We found 15 women and 7 children wounded. The number of Mussulmans killed is very considerable. Most of them are women. I shall soon ascertain the exact number of killed and will not fail in making it known to your Highness. The wounded have been sent for the present to Yeni-Zaghra. The local authorities have received orders to have them well taken care of.

**No. 42**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Ismail Hakki Pacha to the Ministry of War.*

*July 18 1877).*

The Russians have just committed fresh acts of cruelty in spite of the pretended adherence to the principles of humanity and civilisation.

At Alashguerd they have pillaged all the goods of Cheikh Hussein, and of Dolca Youssouf, of the village of Ichgali, and have taken their families prisoners.

At Tahir Guedik five or six Kurd chiefs whom the enemy had called to him, as well as the notable Bedir Agha, of the tribe of Yachimi, and his suite, composed of 57 individuals, have been massacred without cause or reason in the parish of Utch-Kilissé.

In their retreat the Russians have destroyed all the villages they came across during their passage, notably those situated in the environs of Kutchuk-Guedik in the direction of Massoun-Guedik. A great number of Mussulman and Christian inhabitants of these same localities have been carried away by force, with their families. At Sinek and at Caraboulak twelve tribes, each composed of 32 families, have been despoiled of their all.

Two notables of the tribe of Fekri Verdi Bey, established at Kerker, a village of Kara-Kilissé and about forty inhabitants of Bayazid, who had taken refuge in the mountains, when it was invaded by the Russians, have been taken to the Russians who, during their march towards Erivan, successively put them to death, as well as a host of others, unfortunate old men, women and children. All the Mussulman Russian subjects of Erivan have been transported, some of them to Siberia, others were pitilessly massacred without distinction of age or sex. These particulars gathered from authentic sources, I hasten to communicate to your Excellency in order that the facts to which they relate may be brought to the knowledge of the European Powers.

Another telegram identical with the above has been addressed to the Imperial Palace.

**No. 43 & 44**

*(Telegram from the Governor General of Adrianople to His Highness the Grand Vizier, July 19, 1877).*

I have the honor of communicating the following telegram from the Governor of Selimno, dated July 17. The day before yesterday the Russians penetrated into the village of Hozir Bey, in the district of Eski-Zaghra, and massacred without distinction of age or sex 400 Mussulmans who had met together from different quarters. Three women, of whom two were wounded, a child and a young man of about 30 years, who managed to escape the slaughter, have, according to a telegram from the Deputy Governor of Yeni-Zaghra, recounted the massacre to Brigadier General Mehemmed Pasha, who is in that town. More than thirty Mussulmans who had emigrated to Tirnovo have been brought back by force by the Cossacks and their accomplices the Bulgarians, who have inflicted upon them the most brutal treatment obliging the women besides to dress themselves in Christian style.

I have the honor of communicating to your Highness the following telegram dated the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. which I have just received from the Governor of Philippopoli: "The Bulgarians of Karadja Viran and of Alana-Keuy in the district of Tchirpan, after having disarmed the Mussulmans of the first named village, massacred and cut to pieces five men and one woman. They then dragged the others into the church and forced them to abjure their religion. Being attacked by the Imperial troops the Bulgarians took flight after having set fire to their

dwellings. These facts have just been telegraphed by the Deputy Governor of Tchirpan.”

**No. 45**

*(Telegram from Reouf Pacha to His Highness the Grand*

*Vizier, July 19. 1877).*

The cruelties committed by the Russians upon the Mussulman population of the village of Eski-Zaghra are really frightful and indescribable. In a neighbouring village, all the male population has been massacred by the enemy, who forced the women to change their names and throw away their veils. In the camps, and in other places that have been several killed. The male inhabitants of the village of Gulli have also been killed; the women and children were shut up in a granary and burned alive. If the Russians still persevere in their atrocities we cannot answer for the bad consequences of the excitement of the Mussulman population hereabouts. We rescued yesterday two hundred Mussulmans of the neighbouring villages who were hiding in order to escape the cruelties of the Russians.

**No. 46**

*(Telegram from the Caimakam of Loftcha to the Grand*

*Vizier. July 21<sup>st</sup> 1877)*

On the entry of the Russians into Loftcha, the Mussulmans were obliged, in order to escape outrage or death, to abandon their goods and even their

children. These unfortunates took flight with bare feet in the direction of Orkhanié and Plevna. On their road there were several cases of death caused by exhaustion. More than fifteen women were killed by the enemy's artillery fire, more than a hundred babies were abandoned by their mothers, I have received the following statements: The Bulgarian Deputy-Governor, nominated by the Russians, imprisoned the Mussulman notables of the town and by dint of torture took from them all their money. Under the instigation of resident Bulgarians, the Cossacks penetrated into the dwellings of many of the principal Mussulman families and divided between them all objects of value, such as jewelry, gold, watches, etc., which they found. The rest of the houses were pillaged by the Bulgarians who entering the Mussulman dwellings pulled off the chalvars (or veils) of the women under the pretext of looking for precious objects. The Bulgarians then conducted all the young and beautiful girls to where the Cossacks were and offered them as presents.

Hafiz Ahmed Effendi *muderris* of the district of Servi, Hadji Cherif Agha, a retired adjutant-major, and Hachim Effendi were shot and other barbarous acts were committed.

The Russian troops encamped at a little distance from Loftcha, conjointly with the Bulgarian volunteers, roamed over the neighbouring Mussulman villages and committed unwarrantable acts, including assassination, tortures, carrying away of money, animals, etc. Several ulemas were put to death, some being shot, others massacred with the sword. Not a single family of the emigrants have re-entered the place. The Russians and Bulgarians continue to burn and ruin the

Mussulman villages in the neighbourhood of their camp, the plantations only have not been destroyed.

A telegram identical with the above has been addressed to the Ministry of War.

**No. 47**

*(A Telegram from His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to the Imperial Palace, July 21, 1877).*

During the eleven days that they occupied Eski-Zaghra the Russians commenced by disarming the Mussulman population. They then undertook to bring up for the purpose of massacring them, one hundred men per day ordering the Bulgarians who, were charged to find out these unfortunates, to be energetic. In the space of eleven days 1100 Mussulmans have been put to death. All the women of Eski-Zaghra have suffered the greatest indignities.

**No. 48**

*(A Telegram from Said Pacha, Governor of Tirnovo to the Ministry of Interior, July 22, 1877).*

On Wednesday last about 10 p.m. a certain number of Cossacks and Bulgarians made their appearance at Seiranler, a locality distant a quarter of an hour from Pirva, and, after having disarmed the Mussulmans, the enemy placed them under the guard of a Bulgarian detachment who massacred six of them. It was with difficulty that about thirty women and children were saved, thanks to the

timely assistance of the Mussulmans of the neighbourhood. The villages of Cadi, Vizler and Arassili were burnt by the enemy. It is only, a few days since that the Bulgarians tied up to a tree, leaving him exposed for three days to the rays of the sun, one Hadji Moustapha Effendi, next garroted him, and then took him to Alna together with his daughter in law, whom they obliged to wear the Christian costume. After a detention of twenty days this functionary, disguised in woman's clothes, managed to effect his escape.

An identical telegram has been addressed by Mehemed Ali Pacha to the Minister of War.

**No. 49**

*(Telegram from the Caimakam of Loftcha to the Grand Vizier, July 22, 1877).*

The Russians brought to Servi Hadji Ahmed Agha, a retired officer of the village of Akendjilar and killed him. Several other notable inhabitants of the villages depending on Loftcha suffered the same fate. A Mussulman who was traveling by carriage with his child was attacked with the bayonet by the Russians and the child was killed.

**No. 50**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to the Ministry of War.*

*July 22, 1877).*

The Bulgarians in the village of Kara-Atli, in the district of Tchirpan, set fire to the neighbouring Mussulman villages. Those which were situated in the

environs of Tchoulha on the high road to Zaghra suffered the same fate. A certain number of Mussulmans have been massacred. The Bulgarians of Canoukdji have on their part burnt all in the villages in the environs. All the Mussulmans, men and women, who fell into their hands have been killed and cut to pieces.

**No. 51**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to His Highness the Grand Vizier, July 23, 1877).*

On Friday last the Russians and Bulgarians dragged the Mussulmans from the village of Christe, distant one hour from Eski-Zaghra in the direction of Yeni-Zaghra, and burned all the men and some of the women. Their ashes were then enclosed in boxes and buried in the ground. We are able positively to state this, having seen the remains with our own eyes on our passage to Christe. The rest of the women were carried away by the Bulgarians into the mountains situated behind the village. One woman only made good her escape.

On our arrival at Yuk-Limé (Dalioka), where we spent the night, we learnt that similar barbarities have just taken place there, seventy Mussulmans and the *Imam* of the village were shut in a granary by the Bulgarians, and were set fire to after the place was surrounded by Cossacks. Forty five other Mussulmans of the same village have been massacred. All the mussulman women have suffered the last indignities; eight girls who resisted were killed, and two others burnt alive at the same time as the men. The rest of the women with their children were

then conducted for the most part into the suburbs of the village, where they were placed in a line, each one with a child at her side, and were then butchered. I saw with the deepest regret the bodies of the victims. The British military attaché has also been an ocular witness of the scene. Twenty women and mussulman children who managed to evade the Bulgarians have been rescued by the Imperial troops. After their entry into the country the Russians disarmed all the Mussulmans of Eski-Zaghra, Kezanlik and the neighbouring localities and distributed their arms to the Bulgarians. Four hundred Mussulmans of Muflis, a dependency of Kezanlik, were dragged to the banks of the river and were there massacred. At Eski-Zaghra, at Kezanlik, and in the environs the Bulgarians continue pitilessly to maltreat and kill the mussulman population.

**No. 52**

*(Telegram addressed from Rasgrad to the «Tagblatt »*

*August 4<sup>th</sup> 1877.)*

During the 14 days that they occupied Kezanlik and Eski-Zaghra the Russians committed the greatest cruelties against the Mussulman population. Independently of the wounded abandoned, more than 100 women and children, old men and young girls were killed daily. The enemy inflicted upon the latter the greatest indignities. The Russian soldiers act, so we hear, according to the orders of their officers. At Eski-Zaghra alone, 1,100 maimed men have been killed.

**No. 53**

*(Telegram from the Governor of Tirnovo to the Ministry  
of Interior, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 1877.)*

Nineteen inhabitants of the village of Tchair-Keny, of whom, three were men and the rest women and children flying from the invader, were directing their steps towards Kodja Bounar Daggh, when they were caught by the Russians who killed eight of them. Four children were abandoned near the bodies of their mothers. One woman who was among these unfortunate fugitives arrived today at Osman Bezar in the family way, having lost her husband and a child in this massacre. This unfortunate Mussulman, native of the village of Dilli of the district of Sistowa, had five wounds caused by fire arms and lance; one ball had traversed her shoulder. And it is to be remarked that only 20 days ago the mussulmans of Pirva, in an attack they made, respected the church where they knew the Bulgarians had enclosed their families.

A telegram identical with the above was addressed on the next day by Mehemet Ali Pacha to the Ministry of War.

**No. 54**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Hassan Pacha, Commander  
at Varna, to Sublime Porte, July 25<sup>th</sup> 1877).*

The Bulgarians of Mangalia and Kustendjé, joined with those from the cazas, despoil of every thing those whom they meet, even to the last rag on their backs. Several villages have been burnt. Hadji Zechéria of Bazarli (Kustendjé),

one of the richest Tartars of the Dobrudja, having emigrated with his family, his children and servants were assailed, on their arrival at Gabridja, by a crowd of Bulgarians, who took from him all his cattle, effects, and in short every thing, including the sum of Piastres 180,000 in specie. This unfortunate family thus is reduced to a state of complete destitution.

**No. 55**

*(Telegram from the Governor General of Adrianople  
to the Ministry of Interior, July 25<sup>th</sup> 1877).*

I have the honor of communicating to you the following telegram dated the 25<sup>th</sup> which I have just received from the Deputy Governor of Tchirpan. I ought to remark that the enemy seems to have undertaken the extermination of the mussulman element. Here follows the telegram. The enemy who drew his forces, composed for the most part of Bulgarian insurgents, towards Chipka, surrounded the Mussulman villages of the district of Kezalik with Cossacks and pitilessly massacred the inoffensive Mussulman population men, women and children. Since yesterday this work of extermination was going on with an extraordinary amount of celerity.

**No. 56**

*(Telegram from Mr. Lowy, Correspondent of the  
« Weiner Estrablatt » and « Pester Lloyd » to His  
Highness the Grand Vizier, 27/8 August 1877).*

Returning from the seat of war I hasten to confirm the atrocities committed by the Bulgarians and the terrible measures taken against the Mussulman populations in the Balkans.

**No. 57**

*(Telegram from His Excellency Suleyman Pacha to  
Imperial palace, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1877).*

Searches made in the forests of Eski-Zaghra bring every day to light fresh discoveries of numbers of mussulman women and children belonging to the district of Kezanlik, who had hidden in the woods to escape the massacre. The column which was sent yesterday in search of these unfortunates, returned with 250 women and children all of them with bare feet, and in a most deplorable condition. They have been looked after and conducted to Yeni-Zaghra, 78 other women and children were discovered to day. All these poor wretches are being sent to Adrianople. Amongst the women there were several wounded who have received the care their condition demands. We have only found 18 men, the rest as well as a great number of women and children belonging to their families have been massacred by the Bulgarians.

**No. 58**

*(Telegram from Suleyman Pacha to Imperial Palace*

*July 26, 1877).*

Twelve thousand Mussulmans of Kezanlik, men and women, had fallen into the hands of the Russians and Bulgarians. Of this number ten thousand have been rescued by the Imperial troops. Measures were taken to deliver the rest, but we have since received the sorrowful news that after the departure of the Imperial troops who were convoying hither the people who have been saved, the Mussulmans that remained fell a sacrifice to the Bulgarians, who massacred them in the most savage manner. As for the women and children, they were carried away into the Balkans.

**No. 59**

*(Telegram from Osman Pacha to the Ministry of War,*

*July 29<sup>th</sup> 1877).*

A soldier named Youssouf, a native of Tirnovo, who was taken prisoner by the Russians, in the last battle, was interrogated on several occasions respecting the commander and the forces of our corps d'armée. Having persisted in replying that he knew nothing he was beaten, despoiled of all his clothes and completely crippled.

In this state he was exposed to the sun during three days without receiving any thing whatever, he was threatened to be burnt alive, and the sentinels who kept guard over him, did no cease to maltreat him in every

possible way. The wretch at last regained his liberty and presented himself at the general head-quarters, narrating to us the above facts. I have seen with my own eyes the body of Youssouf covered with sores, from top to bottom. It is very sad that the Russians ignore in this way the laws of humanity and the principles of the rights of men, by inflicting tortures on the Ottoman prisoners, whilst those who fall into our hands are treated with the greatest kindness and want for nothing in the shape of food and lodging.

**No. 60**

*(Telegram from Suleyman Pacha).*

The three detachments which I sent towards Kezanlik to the succour of the mussulman inhabitants there, have just returned. From what they heard it appears that the Russians on the morrow of their entry into this town, gathered the arms from the Mussulmans whom the Cossacks and the Bulgarians then despoiled of every thing, even to the very last stitch on their backs. To extract the last farthing, the men were put to all kinds of torture before the eyes of their wives. Those who said they had nothing to give were immediately strangled. The Caïmakam of Kezanlik had his eyes and teeth pulled out and after having walked the streets in this state for three days, was thrown into prison; later on he was sent to Chipka. In consequence of the defeat at Eski-Zaghra the Russians and Bulgarians evacuated Kezanlik, but they returned on the morrow and since then murder and violence have increased. Independently of Mussulmans killed in their houses, not a day has passed but twenty or thirty have been publicly

strangled. About a third of the inhabitants of the villages of Mufliss, Iflejanli, Baighinli, Kichla, Sofoular, Tchanakli, Koslidja, Chekrelli, Oumourli, Thœlli, Elbova, Biela, Ota, Djedid, Ketchi-Déré and Hasskeuy took flight on the approach of the Russians, the rest were massacred; fire followed pillage of villages. The Russians and Bulgarians dressed in Christian costume the Turkish girls and most of the younger of the Mussulman women and carried them away with them into the Balkans. When the three detachments mentioned above, accompanied the inhabitants (who had escaped the carnage), the Mussulmans declared to them that if the troops had been delayed two hours, they would have been strangled by the Cossacks and Bulgarians. They expressed a desire of emigrating in one body and in less than three hours, ten thousand five hundred men and women were on the march flying from their homes.

On the road they were attacked by Cossacks and Bulgarians who carried away five hundred more of these fugitives and conveyed them back to Kezanlik. The others managed to reach Carabounar after two days march prostrated by fatigue and dying of hunger. It is impossible to picture the misery of these unfortunates, they were covered with filth, the Russians having taken their clothes to almost the last rag. It may be added that the young girls who were left, are still half naked and in a state of complete distress.

**No. 61**

*(Telegram from the Governor of Tirnovo to the Ministry  
of War, July 29, 1877)*

The enemy burns and systematically destroys all the Mussulman villages which he encounters in his advance. He set fire yesterday and the day before yesterday to the villages of Mehemmedi, Seïdi (Hezargrade), Mostan, Cadi, and Kazler (Tirnovo), Alakeuy and Courouo (Pirva), as well as many other villages, of which we can see the smoke from here. Not being able to satisfy their desire for destruction, the Russians have given themselves up to burning even the plantations. Witnessing this conduct, we ask ourselves if the enemy thus wishes to illustrate those principles of civilization and justice, which Mr. Gladstone and colleagues eulogize as sentiments of humanity.

**No. 62**

*(Telegram from the Governor of Tchildir, dated July  
29<sup>th</sup> 1877, communicated by Hassan Tahsin Pacha  
to the Ministry of Interior, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

“In the engagement which took place some few days ago at Keulé,  
“between the villages of Dédéachine and Arouth, the Russians burned some  
“villages and killed some people. As soon as the fact became known our  
“inspectors were sent on the spot. These agents returned yesterday. They  
“report that the mosque of Dédéachine, the house of Riza Bey, as well as  
“all the dwellings of the village have been burnt; that at Arouth also, the

“house of Hassan Bey was demolished and that the enemy killed two  
“inhabitants of the two villages and wounded sixteen.”

I have the honor of bringing to the knowledge of Your Excellency the  
above telegram from the Governor of Tchildir, concerning the barbarous acts  
committed by the Russians in the villages of Arouth and Dédéachine.

*An identical telegram was addressed by His Excellency Ahmed  
Mouktar Pacha to the Ministry of War.*

**No. 63**

*(Telegram from the Governor of Philippopoli to the  
Ministry of Interior, July 31th 1877).*

The troops that were dispatched to deliver the Mussulman population of  
the villages situated on the road from Kalofer to Kezanlik, have rescued some  
persons named Issa Pehlivan and Hassan, of the village of Sarhatli, in the district  
of Kezanlik, both wounded, the former so grievously as not to be able to speak.  
We therefore interrogated the later who said as follows:

The Bulgarians after having surrounded and disarmed all the Mussulman  
inhabitants of Sarhatli and the neighbouring villages, shut up in a mosque a  
number of men, women, and children, tied their arms to the middle of their waists  
and then cut their throats with knives. Hassan and his companion, though  
wounded, managed to escape death. Both have been sent into hospital.

**No. 64**

*(Telegram from the Governor of Tirnovo to the Ministry  
of Interior, August 1<sup>st</sup> 1877).*

When the occupation of the village of Terenbich Dagh, district of Tirnovo, was effected by the Russians, one hundred and twenty inhabitants of whom three were men and the rest women, managed to escape under the cover of the night. After having wandered about for several days in the mountains, living on nothing but herbs and fruit, they succeeded with great difficulty in finding the sentinels of the village of Yaïla; by this time being however almost exhausted with hunger and privation. The fugitives who were in a most pitiable condition were sent to Osman Bazar where every care and attention was paid them. In a few days they will be sent to Shoumla. According to their depositions, the Bulgarians having gathered together the Mussulmans of their village inflicted all kinds of torture upon them and stole whatever was left by the Russians in the place. Then each Bulgarian carried away a young woman sometimes taking also as prisoner her father, or brother, or husband, as the case might be, we are ignorant of the fate of these unfortunate people.

**No. 65**

*(Telegram from Suleyman Pacha to His Highness*

*the Grand Vizier, August 3rd 1877).*

A Column of troops has been dispatched to day to Iflehanli. All the male population of this village from 5 years and upwards and a certain number of women have been massacred by the Bulgarians. The young women and girls were obliged to dress in the Christian style and were then all carried away into the Balkans. The Imperial troops found nothing in the village except young children and a few women in a state of complete nakedness. Twenty five wagons were sent from headquarters, to take these women and children to Haïn Keuy where they are now being cared for.

**No. 66**

*(Telegram from Suleyman Pacha to His Highness*

*Grand Vizier, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1877),*

Skirmishers forwarded towards Kezanlik encountered and attacked some Bulgarians near the village of Maglass. The latter were defeated and fled to the mountains leaving 20 of their companions dead on the field. Our skirmishes then entered the village and found about a hundred mussulman women and young children, who were brought to head-quarters. Other women numbering to more than a hundred had been shut up by the Bulgarians in a neighbouring convent. Our skirmishers after having received reinforcements marched towards this convent to deliver them.

**No. 67**

*(Telegram from Suleyman Pacha to His Highness the Grand*

*Vizier, August 4<sup>th</sup> 1877).*

A British Naval Captain who accompanied the Imperial army to Haïn-Boghaz went to the village of Iflehanli where he saw the following:

A hundred and twenty mussulman inhabitants had been massacred in the most savage manner by the Bulgarians and Cossacks. Amongst those who were dead we remarked a young women of great beauty, who had been strangled and thrown into the water, despoiled of all her clothes, the body of another woman was exposed in the open street, many others were thrown into pits and wells.

The same fate had befallen the members of an entire family including even the children. The British officer recognised from the richness of their dress that the victims belonged to notable families. The Bulgarians and Cossacks had kept for ten days the wives of the mussulman inhabitants whom they had massacred, as well as other young girls, and inflicted upon them the greatest indignities, they then set fire to the dwellings where they lived and left 15 persons to perish in the flames. The Bulgarians on the arrival of the Imperial troops at Haïn-Boghaz fled towards the Balkans, carrying with them all the women from 30 years of age and upwards, as well as many children. The British officer saw the bodies of the victims of the Bulgarians and Cossacks, they had been gathered together, placed in a line and then massacred. There were many more cases of assassination but the British officer had no time to go and see, as he had to return to head-quarters. These sorrowful facts have also been witnessed by Captain Fife,

British Military attaché, and by the Correspondents of the *Daily Telegraph*, *Morning Post*, and *Times*, who have respectively addressed a report to the Embassy, and to their different journals.

**No. 68**

*(Telegram from Captain Gambier R. N. to Mr. Austin*

*Times Correspondent.*

*Therapia, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877).*

The day before yesterday I accompanied the Ottoman army to Haïn Boghaz. Yesterday I went to Iflehanli 2 ½ hours distance from the defile, I saw one hundred and twenty persons massacred in the most savage manner by the Bulgarians and Cossacks. Amongst those dead, were two women one of them young and of great beauty who had been despoiled of her clothes, strangled and thrown into the water, the other was left lying in the open street. There were many more who were thrown into wells. I saw with my own eyes, the members of an entire family including the children who had met the same fate. To judge from their embroidered dresses of good stuff, the victims were well to do people. The wives of the victims and other young beauties were locked up in a house, where the Cossacks and Bulgarians inflicted on them during ten days the greatest indignities. According to information gathered from an old woman, whom I met on the spot, they set fire to the house in which these women were, and fifteen persons perished in the flames. Informed of the arrival of the ottoman army at Haïn Boghaz the Bulgarians fled to the mountains, carrying with them all

women from thirty years of age and upwards. The victims of whom I have spoken above had been gathered together ranged in a line and successively massacred. There were many more persons killed, but I had no time to go and see them.

**No. 69**

*(Telegram from Major Leader to Mr. Gay, Daily Telegraph  
Correspondent, Hôtel d'Angleterre Pera, August 5<sup>th</sup> 1877).*

Yesterday, I was at the neighbouring village of Iflehanli, accompanied by Captain Fife, military attaché, and the correspondents of the *Morning Post*, and *Times*. I saw in this place more than hundred and twenty bodies of mussulman men and women whom the dogs were devouring, I also saw from five to ten bodies of girls thrown into wells as also a young woman of great beauty strangled and thrown into the water, despoiled of all her clothes. According to the assertions of an old woman who was on the spot, the Cossacks and Bulgarians after having violated the young mussulmans carried them away to the Balkans. The above is what I have seen. Elsewhere according to positive information which I gathered, with the exception of a few old women, all the mussulman population had been massacred, all the dwellings burnt and all their goods pillaged. It results according to our information from the survivors that these misdeeds were committed, at the instigation of the Russians, by the Bulgarians and Cossacks. There is no doubt that the massacre was encouraged by the Russians.

**No. 70**

*(Telegram from the Governor General (ad interim) of Adrianople  
to the Ministry of Interior, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877).*

I have the honor of transmitting to you the following telegram which I have just received from the Governor of Pilippopoli. The Bulgarians met together in the villages of Melemez and massacred seven soldiers. The assassins were attacked and defeated by the Imperial troops. The mussulman inhabitants of Kara-Kilissa, a village situated about one hour's distance from Melemez, were locked up in a church by the Bulgarians. The massacring had already commenced when the Imperial troops informed of the fact by several fugitives, immediately marched to the spot and dispersed these rascals and delivered the inhabitants of the village, and later on those of the village of Kutchuk Stinli. The enemy has evacuated Kezanlik and retired on Chipka carrying away with him all the mussulman and non-mussulman population.

The authorities are charged to take care of the cattle which had been abandoned.

**No. 71**

*(Telegram from the Governor General (ad interim) of Adrianople  
to the Ministry of Interior, August 6<sup>th</sup> 1877).*

I am sorry to inform you that more than half of the Jewish inhabitants of Kezanlik men women and children have been massacred by the Russians and Bulgarians.

## A SERIES OF PRIVATE TELEGRAMS.

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### No. 72

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera. 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1877.)*

Chumla.—Five women and three children from the Tirnova district, wounded by the Cossacks, arrived here last night. Mehemed Ali Pasha visited the refugees to-day.

### No. 73

*(Telegram from Mr. Huyshe to Mr. Bennett, London.*

*Chumla, 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1877.)*

It is reported that the country between Biela and Sistowa is the theatre of important operations. The Bulgarians are in a disturbed condition pillaging Mussulmans.

### No. 74

#### Translation.

*(Telegram from Mr. Simon to Reuter's Agency, London.*

*Chumla, 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1877.)*

Russians continue to bombard Roustchouk with inexplicable persistence. Principle buildings are destroyed, amongst Consulates, Italian, Russian remain intact, the others are in ruins; great desolation exists; the population is flying to

Varna. Many families remain without shelter; international telegraphic service is suspended at Roustchouk, service Turk continues. The number of Russians at Sistowa is thirty thousand. The marching on Biéla is arrested at Pavlo by Turks. No details of engagement. News from Dobrudja signal cruelties committed by Russians on few Mussulman people; Turkish civil authorities have evacuated Toultscha and are established at Medjidié.

**No. 75**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jacquot to "Journal des Debats," Paris.*

*Chumla, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1877.)*

Bombardment of Roustchouk continues; Consulates, Hospitals, ambulances, are complexly destroyed; important military events are imminent on the river Jantra, which forms a good line of defence. Authorities and Mussulman population are forwarded on Medjidié. Old Mussulman men left to look after the harvest have been massacred and the farms pillaged by Bulgarian brigands.

**No. 76**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1877.)*

Soukoum-Kaleh, June 25. The Military Commissioner just returned from scenes of Russian outrages, found whole districts destroyed and hundreds families destitute. Russians having carried off everything, even bedclothes,

owing to the pastoral habits of the people, it is impossible to arrive at present at a just estimate of the damage done, still more dreadful deeds are done in districts still held by the Russians, such as murders, outrages, and cruelties. Every village in Zannis district burnt. 1,500 families starving in the valley Ardlera, Fazli Pasha is sending up stores for their relief.

Soukoum-Kaleh, June 26<sup>th</sup>. News just reached here that Fazli's stores are useless for Ardlera valley, as 1,500 families are all dead from starvation. Help too late. Russian brutality triumphant.

**No. 77**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère to "Guardian," London.*

*Chumla, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1877.)*

Russian shells continue devastation in town. Today hospital and barracks were fired and burnt to the ground. Turkish population of all the villages and towns down to Rasgrad hurriedly evacuating towards Varna. Russians have not passed the Janta yet, but their movements remain unknown.

**No. 78**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official*

*person, London.)*

*Constantinople, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1877.*

As notwithstanding the promises given me, that gentleman is not apparently allowed to telegraph, I have no trust-worthy news from the seat of war

in Asia; according to a telegram just received by the Porte, the Turkish troops have had four engagements with Russians near Alasguerd, two of which were serious; the Russians are stated to have been driven back by Karakilissé with considerable loss. Troops are being hurried up to Sofia; twenty-five battalions have just left for that place. Fresh reports are current of massacres of Mussulmans by Bulgarians.

**No. 79**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

At Sistowa the Bulgarians massacred many Turkish women and children. Turks terribly exasperated, they say children were thrown from windows into the street.

**No. 80**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jacquot to Mr. Bennett, London.*

*Chumla, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Russians have burnt the village of Maratin, ten kilometres from Rustchouk.

**No. 81**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

My previous telegram respecting the murders of Turkish women and children at Sistowa is correct in every detail. It is certain also that Bulgarians whenever able fire upon retiring Turks. These new Bulgarian atrocities committed by Christians upon Turks surely have fearful effects. Already the Turks are naturally exasperated and likely make reprisals.

**No. 82**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Sumony to Reuter's Agency, London.*

*Chumla, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Confirmation of massacres of Mussulman families of Sistowa and the pillaging of dwellings by Bulgarians encouraged by the Russians. Eight Turkish soldiers stragglers have been massacred by strokes of the stick. The attempt of the Bulgarians to burn the magazines of Roustchouk has been frustrated. No news of the war.

**No. 83**

*(Telegram from Mr. Huyshe to Mr. Bennett, London.*

*Chumla, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Fugitives arrived confirm the atrocities committed by the Bulgarians upon Mussulmans and Jews at Sistowa. Several of the latter were murdered, the Turkish women were thrown into the river.

**No. 84**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official person,*

*Constantinople.)*

*Trebizond, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

From newspaper correspondents, dated 26<sup>th</sup> ult. from Soukoum, states that Russian atrocities are reported at Ardlera, north of Soukoum. One thousand five hundred families are reported to have died of starvation being forced to fly into the forests to escape the Cossacks, who burnt and pillaged all before them.

**No. 85**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jacquot to "Journal des Débats." Paris.*

*Chumla, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

The Bulgarians are massacring the Mussulman fugitives from Sistowa and are pillaging the houses. They assassinated with sticks eight soldiers stragglers. The Bulgarians have tried to set fire to the Government magazines at

Roustchouk. Suspected Bulgarians will probably be sent to the fortresses on the Danube.

**No. 86**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to "Standard," London.*

*Chumla, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Additional details have come to hand of the massacres at Sistowa of eight soldiers straggling in town and killed by blows from sticks, in presence of the Russians. The attempt of some Bulgarians to blow up the magazines at Roustchouk, has failed.

**No. 87**

*(Telegram from Mr. Coningsby to Mr. Donald, Times*

*Office London).*

*Chumla, July 5<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Arrangements by which independence in writing secured on good terms now with authorities; wild stories of massacres by Bulgarians current here, cannot find substantiation so refrain. No news here, I interpret as bad news.

**No. 88**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official*

*person. London)*

*Pera, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

A person from Trebizond telegraphs that a private letter to him, dated Soukoum-Kaleh, 26<sup>th</sup> ult., not from a newspaper correspondent, states that Russian atrocities are reported at Ardlera, north of Soukoum, where fifteen hundred families are reported to have died of starvation, being forced to fly into the forests to escape the Cossacks, who burnt and pillaged all before them.

**No. 89**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Ardanoush *via* Batoum.—Thursday morning.—Russians flying everywhere, after having reduced the town and district to a desert. Terrible cruelties reported; Russians massacred Turks in great numbers during their advance.

**No. 90**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Tirnova.—Thursday night.—Russians are advancing and the Turks are concentrating in great force. The Bulgarians massacre Turkish women, children,

and old men, wherever the Russians come. These horrible deeds and cruelty likely someday to lead to vengeance. The Russians encourage the Bulgarians to exterminate the Turks.

**No. 91**

*(Telegram from Correspondent to "Observer," 170, Strand,  
London.)*

*Pera, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Russian atrocities reported in the neighbourhood of Soukoum. Many families, flying from the Cossacks, taken refuge in the forests, where they have died from starvation.

**No. 92**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Bordéano to Mr. Chambers, "Morning Advertises." London.*

*Pera, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Since yesterday there has been a combat at Sistowa of which the result is yet unknown. By the Sultan's order, Circassians and Zeibecks quit Constantinople. At Ipek-Guedighi the Turks discovered, in a Church, ten Mussulman and Christian bodies, assassinated by the Russians.

**No. 93**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanly, to "Telegraph," Newspaper, Sheffield.*

*Pera, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

After three hours combat at Utch-Kilissa, Russians pillaged the Church, fired the houses, and maltreated and carried off the Armenian Bishop.

**No. 94**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Lascary to Reuter's Agency, London,*

*Erzeroum, July 8<sup>th</sup> 1877.)*

In the Church of Utch-Kilissa ten bodies have been discovered. The investigation has commenced in the villages. The Armenian Church is burnt.

**No. 95**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanly to the "Morning Advertiser," London.*

*Pera, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Chumla.—Sunday morning.—The evacuation of Biéla was a strategical measure. The bombardment of Roustchouk has ceased. Turkish quarter, the Government buildings and hospitals have been destroyed, and the Bulgarian quarter damaged. Small shells having fell the inference is that Russians have removed their heavy guns probably to Silistria. This week is expected to be decisive. Execution of Turkish plan awaited confidently.

**No. 96**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schluga to Mr. Etienne, Vienna.*

*Erzeroum, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

The Russians, after the engagement at Ardanoush, on the 28<sup>th</sup> June, completely plundered the villages of Ardanoush, Chaters, Longots, and Gulsen; they killed and massacred more than fifty men, women, and children, in the villages of Chano, Chrawal, Unisli, Dsidsigil, Alhascheir, Charters, Sichia, under the pretext that they had borne arms against them.

**No. 97**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Simony to Reuter's Agency, London.*

*Chumla, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

At Tirnova, the Russians burnt five villages; at Monastir they massacred forty private individuals, including women and children.

**No. 98**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanly, Pera, to the "Morning Advertiser," London.*

*July, 10<sup>th</sup> 1877.)*

The Russians burnt five villages between Selvi and Tirnova; they massacred at Monastir forty inhabitants, including women and children.

**No. 99**

*(Telegram from Mr. Thomas to the "Morning Post," London.*

*Pera, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Before retiring from before Kars, the Russians accusing two neighbouring villages of their women, stripped them naked and flogged them nearly to death with the knout. I send the details by letter.

**No. 100**

*(Telegram from Mr. Buckland to "Norma", Edinburgh.*

*Pera, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Between Selvi and Tirnova, the Russians burnt five villages; they massacred at Monastir, forty civilians including women and children.

**No. 101**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jacquot, at Osman Bazar, to "Débats," newspaper,*

*Paris.)*

*Chumla, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The whole Mussulman population emigrates. As soon as Russians arrive, the Bulgarians plunder and burn the Turkish houses and massacre those who have remained behind. I have heard in person dreadful tales from the refugees of the seven villages of Batak, Diskat, Neddan, Visuli, Jaideli, Trenibeck, Frenchi, and Issari, which were set fire to. The Government feeds between Osman Bazar

and Eski Djouma ten thousand families of refugees with their herds. It is a painful sight.

**No. 102**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Russians inciting the peasants everywhere commit horrible atrocities on the remaining Turks, specially in the district of Tirnova.

**No. 103**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Adrianople.—Friday.—The Bulgarians are massacring the Turks in Balkans by wholesale, men, women, and children alike, the Russians having given them arms.

**No. 104**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère at Osman Bazar, by Chumla, to the  
"Republique Française," newspaper, Paris.)*

*Chumla, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The evacuation of Tirnova by the troops and the Mussulman population is to-day an accomplished fact. Turks have been obliged to retire on the Osman Bazar road before superior forces.

The Turkish population is encamped along the roads, the Turkish houses having been burnt after their departure and the aged who remained slaughtered.

**No. 105**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Englander to Reuter's Agency,*

*London.*

*Pera, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877).*

Numbers of Mussulmans, women and children, flying before Russians, have been killed by the Bulgarians in the defile of Haïn Boghaz, between Tirnova and Kezanlik.

**No. 106**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Englander to Reuter's Agency,*

*London.*

*Pera, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Everywhere the mussulmans quit their villages on the approach of the Russians, and the Bulgarian Christians pillage and burn their dwellings.

**No. 107**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.*

*Pera, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

*Roustchouk, July 19<sup>th</sup>, night.*

The Russians and Bulgarians are committing terrible atrocities on Mussulmans, butchering both sexes, sparing none.

One instance of this, a man was found dead with a child in his arms, the baby having two bayonet wounds.

These acts certain to evoke terrible reprisals.

**No. 108**

*(Telegram from Mr. Borthwick to Mr. Borthwick,*

*“Morning Post,” London.)*

*Chumla, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

At Tchairly, a district of Rasgrad, two hundred mussulman refugees from Sistowa were massacred by the Russians and Bulgarians; at Kara-Tchoumak ten carts full of refugees of Arnoutlou massacred; at Arnoutlou also, even women and ten children; at Utch-Destin, the whole population have been killed; at Ostrantcha and Costova, four hours from Roustchouk, the whole Mussulman population, including thirty-five children; at Keston and Zalvate, a district of Tirnova, the Bulgarians excited, massacred the Mussulman population; at Zalva and Dobnitza the Mussulmans were killed by the Bulgarians; on the Balkans, near Kayne, at Beshpina, the Russians took the whole population prisoners, and violated all the women.

**No. 109**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dow to “Dundee Adviser,”*

*London.)*

*Chumla, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Accounts received here state that Russians are behaving with excessive brutality towards the Turkish population; two hundred persons of Tchairly, Rasgrad district, have been massacred; eleven women and ten men have been murdered at Kara-Tchoumak, near Tirnova. Russians have occupied the villages

called Ostrantcha and Costova, four hours from Rustchouk, massacring the children and violating the women.

**No. 110**

*(Telegram from Mr. Crespin to "Observer." London.*

*Pera, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The Bulgarian and Russian atrocities against inoffensive Mussulman men, women, and children, have this day occupied the Porte, which is preparing diplomatic *memoire*. After accomplishing this hideous and sanguinary task the Christian Bulgarians, surviving, are forcibly enrolled in Bulgarian corps by the Russians and the least resistance is punished by death. Roumanian journalists are ordered by Russians to cite similar atrocities committed against Christians by Turkish soldiers. Be positive these accusations are expressly exaggerated to deceive Europe.

**No. 111**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Yesterday I saw villages blazing near Vetova. I spoke with Circassian scouts, who told me that the Bulgarians were joining the enemy everywhere, that the Russian infantry and Cossacks were massacring Turkish villagers, all round, especially at Dikili-Tash, near Roustchouk. Cossacks marching towards Rasgrad

are within three hours of that town. The railway probably is cut now. I now give the list of villages in which I know massacres absolutely to have happened.

Beshpunar village, all the prisoners were killed and the women violated.

Tchairly, in Rasgrad district, two hundred refugees from Sistowa all put to sword; at Kara-Tchoumak village, ten cartloads of refugees from Arnoutlou were killed.

At Unt-Deitan, all the people of the village have been murdered.

At Ostrantcha and Costova, four hours from Roustchouk, all the Mussulmans, among whom thirty five children, were butchered.

At Kestan and Selvan, in Tirnova district, the Russians incited the Bulgarians to murder the Mussulman refugees from Selvi and Dobrudja and the miserable people were all killed near Khayn. These are exact statements and cry fury amongst the Turks, the result this wholesale butchery helpless.

### **No. 112**

*(Telegram from Crespin to "Observer." London.*

*Pera, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1877,*

Mussulmans are abandoning the villages and cities occupied by Russians in Bulgaria. The Bulgarians are making use against Mussulmans of all ages, including women and children. These atrocities are committed before and ordered by Russians, whose officers taking advantage of such shameful atrocities, violate Turkish girls and women, before exposing them to being assassinated. Most decidedly such barbarous acts surpass the supposed

cruelties of last year. This information was telegraphed last night and this morning to several foreign embassies and many correspondents.

**No. 113**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to "Daily Telegraph,"  
London.)*

*Pera, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

There can be no doubt of the Bulgarians perpetrating wherever Russians come most horrible barbarities upon mussulman population. From every direction fugitives have arrived, bringing with them narratives of terrible deeds, of the slaughter of men and children, and the violation of the women. These stories are abundantly confirmed. It is quite certain that some hundreds unfortunate persons have been killed in various villages between Sistowa, Monastir and Tirnova. This is not exaggerated, every word is exact truth.

**No. 114**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official  
person, London)*

*Pera, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

A gentleman states that the Governor-General of Adrianople informs him that the Russians have established a head military tribunal at Selvi, for trial of the Mussulmans alleged to be implicated in the Bulgarian insurrection of last year, that the Bulgarians are invited to denounce Mussulmans, who are at once shot or

hanged, and that the Russians are committing great barbarities on the poor defenceless Mussulman inhabitants of that part of the country.

**No. 115**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard,"  
London.)*

*Chumla, 15<sup>th</sup> July 1877.*

Details of Russian atrocities have been received which are worse than early telegrams indicated, thousands of unarmed men, women and children who left the villages of the districts of Sistova and Tirnova, before the Russian occupation, and who took refuge in the villages in the district of Rasgrad Osman-Bazar, have been set upon by Cossacks and Bulgarians, numbers have been massacred, others driven back into Russian zone, probably to share the same fate, some few escaped. Bulgarians in parts occupied by the Turks are fearing retaliation, matters becoming critical.

**No. 116**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Erlanger to Reuter's Agency, London.)*

*Constantinople, 15<sup>th</sup> July 1877.)*

An Embassy has received Consular reports from Bulgaria establishing the fact of the atrocities perpetrated against the Musulmans.

**No. 117**

*(Telegram from Mr. Simon to Reuter's Agency, London.)*

*Chumla, 15<sup>th</sup> July 1877.*

The Russians continue their atrocities against the Musulmans.

**No. 118**

*(Telegram from Mr. Austin to the "Times," London.)*

*Therapia, 15<sup>th</sup> July 1877.*

It is reported that Russians established a military tribunal at Selvi to try Mussulmans accused of implication in the Bulgarian massacres and have executed men, convicted on Bulgarian testimony. The Russians and Bulgarians are accused of committing barbarities against defenceless Mussulmans, even against women and children near Kustendjé and also Tirnova.

**No. 119**

*(Telegram from Mr. Buckland to the "Norma,"*

*Edinburgh.)*

*July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Mr. Drummond telegraphs from Chumla, that at Tchairly, district Rasgrad, two hundred Mussulman refugees from Sistowa have been massacred by Russians and Bulgarians. At Karatchoumak ten cart-loads of Arnoutlou refugees have been massacred, at Arnoutlou numbers of women and ten children; at Utch Testin whole population killed; at Ostrantcha and Costova all Mussulmans

including thirty-five children; at Kestan and Yelcan Bulgarians incited by Russians massacred Mussulman population; at Galva and Dobnitza all Mussulman population killed by Bulgarians; in the Balkans at Beshpunar Russians took whole population prisoners, and violated all women.

**No. 120**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, July 15<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Chumla, Saturday, midnight. Refugees from Sistowa and surrounding villages to the number of three thousand were assailed by Russians in the district of Tchairli. Part were massacred and part taken to Testrenik, where outrages were committed on Turkish women.

**No. 121**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanly to the "Morning*

*Advertise," London.)*

*Pera, July 15<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

No news from the Danube except of massacres by Bulgarians, at Russian instigation, of Mussulman fugitives from Sistowa, and of men, women and children inhabitants of places now unprotected by Turkish troops.

**No. 122**

*(Telegram from Capt. Gambier to the Editor of the*

*“Times,” London.)*

*Pera, 15<sup>th</sup> July 1877.*

I have just come from the Palace and have received most positive assurances from the Sultan himself of the truth of the massacres of Turkish population by Bulgarians. Russians are disarming Turks and arming the Bulgarians; the women are violated and the children killed and the villages burnt by them. The Sultan expressly desired me to be informed, that 500 refugees arrived in Stamboul yesterday, many with their hands cut off. The Turkish Balkan population is houseless and starving.

**No. 123**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the “Daily Telegraph,”*

*London.)*

*Pera, July 16, 1877.*

The Russians have established a mock tribunal at Tirnova, and are shooting great numbers of Turks, awful butcheries, in the villages of Yelcan and Kestan.

Chumla, Sunday night.—Five thousand wagon loads of terror stricken Turkish old men, women, and children are on their road from Djuma and Osman Bazar to here. Horrible massacres are committed by the Bulgarians and

Russians at Tirnova, Gabrova, and Slena. I saw refugees myself; I will send you statements.

**No. 124**

*(Telegram from Mr. Scaife to the "Guardian,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1877).*

Further atrocities are reported of the Russians in the Tirnova and Plevna districts. Seven Turkish villages of these localities were given to flames and the inhabitants, men, women and children, were murdered in cold blood.

**No. 125**

*(Telegram from Mr. Chatau to Correspondenz Bureau,*

*Vienne.)*

*Pera, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Excesses against all Mussulmans are committed, principally by Bulgarians, to whom Russians give arms. Russians are forming the Bulgarians into battalions.

**No. 126**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Chumla, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1.40, p.m. – I have just seen wounded refugees from villages of Heibeli, have been in their houses, have spoken at length and made strict inquiry, accounts agree perfectly in all details with those of yesterday. On Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, the villagers of Heibeli, in company with those of many other villages were attacked between Tchairkeui and Kogia-Pounar, by six hundred Cossacks. Heibeli consists of six hundred inhabitants; the women and children were massacred, carts fired at by three field guns; not a single cart was saved and the villagers have not saved a single thing, not even clothing. In the first house I entered one woman had one sword cut on the head and one on the wrist and two lance wounds, one of which is left breast. A child of six years had a lance wound in chest. Eleven people were in the first house. In the second house one boy eight years old had a lance wound in the thigh, which went right through, one woman had fourteen lance wounds all over her body and a sword cut over her hand; another woman one deep lance wound in her back and four in different parts of her body and two in her breast; one boy of five years old had a lance wound in his thigh; a girl four years old had a lance wound in her back; she was an orphan, her uncle, her only support and his little daughter were killed. Twenty-one people in the second house. I saw the wounds myself. Heibeli is in the district of Sistowa, one hour's distance on the other side of the Jantra river. Among villagers were also thirty-five Tartar families, these escaped. The attack

commenced at daylight; all villagers have not yet come in, I am now going out to meet these villagers Kogia-Pounar was burnt in this attack. From what I understand no Bulgarians were concerned, only Cossacks.

**No. 127**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.*

*Pera, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1877).*

Adrianople, Sunday night.—The Bulgarians armed by the Russians are committing atrocities everywhere.

The Russian force at Bebrova is five thousand, amongst them is one battalion of Bulgarians equipped with arms taken from Turks; the Russians are marching on Kazan.

**No. 128**

*(Telegram from Mr. Borthwick to the "Morning*

*Post," London.)*

*Chumla, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1877).*

The Russian atrocities continue. In the district of Tirnova the Russians made the *Mufti* (judge) write to the villagers to keep quiet, the Russians being peaceful, the Bulgarians were then allowed to massacre the Mussulmans; the *Mufti* having remonstrated was hacked to pieces. I will send details by letter.

**No. 129**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère to "Guardian," London.*

*Chumla, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

The Russian atrocities continue. In the district of Tirnova the Russians made the *Mufti* (judge) write to the villagers to keep quiet, the Russians being peaceful, the Bulgarians were then allowed to massacre the Mussulmans; the *Mufti* having remonstrated was hacked to pieces. I will send details by letter.

**No. 129**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère to "Guardian," London.*

*Chumla, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

I have seen Turkish victims of the Cossacks picked up and carried to Rasgrad; as there is no hospital, the wounded were distributed in private houses; I counted among them 14 women and children and two old men. One girl, five years old, presented a ghastly sight, she was literally covered with lance thrusts and sabre-cuts; another two years old had three wounds on the head and body, one old woman had a bullet wound and three sword-cuts in her body, four other children under twelve years were badly wounded; the children are the worst treated. All the victims were natives of Ablanova. In the neighbourhood of Roustchouk; the survivors say that many more women and children were slain. I have seen girls and boys brought back motherless. More wounded are coming in and there are many men yet to be picked up. It is reported that several hundred Turks have fallen victims. A Turkish villager from Balvan here, says he

is the sole survivor, all Mussulmans having been killed by the Cossacks, after laying down their arms. These facts have caused a profound impression amongst the Mussulmans.

**No. 130**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram addressed to Mr. Stephanopoulo at Athens*

*by Mr. Zipcy.)*

*Pera, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The atrocities and ravages by the Russians in Bulgaria are causing general indignation.

**No. 131**

*(Telegram from Mr. Coningsby to Mr. Mc Donald, Times*

*Office, London).*

*Chumla, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

From cross examination of six wounded female victims, they declared that the Cossacks in their barbarity near Sistowa have burnt women and that children were butchered by them. I was slow to believe such senseless barbarism, but I find it too true. I arrived here from the front yesterday.

**No. 132**

*(Telegram from Capt. Gambier to the Editor of the*

*“Times,” London.)*

*Adrianople, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

They assure me that several wounded and mutilated women arrived here last night, these were Bulgarian victims. The Bulgarians have intercepted a field gun between Yeni-Zaghra and Kezanlik; in Schipka fighting is going on. A train of wounded arrived here last night, I met then jolting along the rough road in a burning sun, in uncovered carts and the roads lined with refugees. I am going on to Yeni-Zaghra with a military train.

**No. 133**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jacquot to the “Journal des Débats.”*

*Paris.)*

*Chumla, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Rasgrad – I visited to-day fifteen wounded survivors of the Mussulman population of the village of Ablanova, massacred by the Cossacks; four children under five years, five women and six peasants, pierced by numerous sabre-cuts, of lance thrusts and by bullets. The Mussulman population of the village of Balvan has been entirely massacred. On all sides fugitives arrive announcing fresh massacres. No reprisals on the part of the Mussulmans.

**No. 134**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official person,*

*Constantinople.)*

*Philippopoli, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Complete panic among the Turkish population here. This morning, owing to a report that Russians have taken Kezanlik and that a body of them are marching here from Carlowa, most of the officials and upwards of a thousand persons, chiefly Turkish women and children, flocked to the railway station with their goods, but the mutessarif put a stop to their departure. the panic has now diminished in consequence of assurances given by the Consular corps to a deputation of leading Turks that the Russians would molest no peaceable persons. The situation is still rather critical, however, Turkish lower orders are all openly armed, fearing a Bulgarian rising. Austrian, French, and Greek consuls will presently call in a body, on the mutessarif to urge the formation of a mixed police force of civilians, and the disarmament of the population at large.

**No. 135**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard," London.*

*Chumla, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The Mussulman inhabitants of the village of Bellina, near Tirnova, took refuge in the mosque. On the approach of the Russians, they sent to the Russian commander and said they placed themselves under his protection; he

replied that they had to suffer for last year's doings and ordered fire to be set to the mosque; all inside were burnt, only three Mussulmans of the village escaped.

**No. 136**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official  
person, London.)*

*Pera, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

A person informs me that the Turks have evacuated Kustendjé, which has been occupied by the Russians. The Bulgarians appear to be committing excesses in the town and the neighbourhood.

**No. 137**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The reported massacre here by bashi-bozouks is un-true. I made a house to house inspection, I found no dead bodies; only four Bulgarian houses have been burnt; the church and school are intact; two mosques and 30 Turkish houses have been burnt, found evidences of Bulgarian plundering. When the Russians were near the town horrible outrages by Bulgarians were committed everywhere. I saw three women whose husbands were cut to pieces before their eyes. At the village near here, all the women and children were shut up in the mosque and burnt alive, their husbands being away as bashi-bozouks. Dreadful stories everywhere. The Turks on contrary allowed all Christian families to retire.

**No. 138**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram addressed to Mr. Etienne at Vienna by Mr.*

*Zipcy.)*

*Pera, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The report of the British Consul at Selimno mentions the atrocities of the Bulgarians against the Mussulmans. He draws attention to inevitable reprisals.

**No. 139**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Englander to Reuter's Agency, London.)*

*Constantinople, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

The Turkish population of the interior is greatly excited in consequence of the Bulgarian atrocities.

**No. 140**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.*

*Pera. 19<sup>th</sup> July, 1877.)*

Kars, Thursday.—Moukhtar Pasha is doing utmost to restrain Kurds from pillaging and killing Russian sympathisers, but unable wholly to prevent outrages because of the determination of the Turks to have revenge for the atrocities committed by Russians in Asia during advance. Enemy has retreated all along the line over the frontier, leaving country lately occupied desolate.

**No. 141**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard"*

*London.)*

*Chumla, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

I saw several new cases of wounded fugitives today, one infant ten months old had three lance wounds. Crowds continue coming in before advancing Russians, who are committing the grossest cruelties on Mussulman population.

**No. 142.**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schnieder to Mr. Dumont, Cologne.)*

*Pera, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The Bulgarians of Kustendje, after the departure of the Turks, attacked the mosques, &c. The Greek Archbishop had to invite the Russians to occupy the town to guard the public interests.

**No. 143**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Tarparese.—The inhabitants are leaving the country desolated by Russians, to escape famine and other evils of war.

**No. 144**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Chatau to Havas Agency, Paris.)*

*Pera, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Fresh atrocities committed by Cossacks and Bulgarians are reported in Bulgaria and Thrace.

**No. 145**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanly to the "Morning Advertiser,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, July, 20th 1877.*

I continue to receive reports of Russian and Bulgarian atrocities. At the village of Bulbuli, Turkish women and children fell victims; at Yabro and at Dobnitztza all but twelve were killed by Bulgarians; 5,000 refugees are at Djouma. The Cossacks have slaughtered entire population of Ostrancha and Costovo. In the district of Tirnova they ordered the people to renounce allegiance to the Sultan and openly encouraged the Bulgarians to plunder and massacre. I have visited at Chumla 60 women and children victims in a pitiable state.

**No. 146**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard, London.)*

*Chumla, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1877.*

The British Consul at Roustchouk and the French military *attaché*, Captain de Torcy, visited numbers of wounded women and children of all ages from eight months, victims of Russian barbarity. They report this information to their respective Governments.

**No. 147**

*(Telegram from Mr. Crespin to the "Observer," London.)*

*Pera, 21<sup>st</sup> July, 1877.)*

On false reports of the Russians having defeated the Balkan army and were advancing towards Philippopoli, awful fright occurred, Christian and Mussulman populations were afraid of each other. Consular body there, (deprived naturally, of their Russian colleague exciting the Bulgarians against Mussulmans), managed to restore confidence and establish a national guard for protecting the town.

**No. 148**

*(Telegram from Correspondent to the "Observer," London.)*

*Pera, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

A collective message, signed by all the foreign correspondents at Chumla, and addressed to the Turkish Foreign Office confirms the atrocities committed by Russians and Bulgarians.

**No. 149**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère to the "Guardian," London.)*

*Chumla, July 21<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

More Turkish victims of the Cossacks have been brought here. Mr. Reade, the English Consul at Roustchouk, and Captain de Torcy, the French military *attaché*, visited to-day 20 women and children, amongst whom were two babies respectively aged eight and ten months.

**No. 150**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Jacquot to the "Journal des Débats,"*

*Paris.)*

*Chumla, July 21<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

A process verbal, signed by 19 representatives of the foreign newspapers, proves the atrocities of the Russian soldiers towards the Mussulman population. The Turkish Embassy will communicate the document. Mr. Reade, the English Consul at Roustchouk and Captain de Torcy, the French military *attaché*, have to-day visited the victims of the cruelty of the Russians.

**No. 151**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1877.*

The Mussulmans sent ten parlementaires with a white flag, the Bulgarians massacred eight and two escaped to Philippopoli. The fate of the inhabitants of Soungourlou is unknown but certain.

Sunday afternoon—The Russians are expected to arrive at Eski-Zaghra this evening, the insurgents are committing barbarities on the road.

**No. 152**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard," London.)*

*Chumla, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1877.*

Namyk Pasha, accompanied by Captain de Torcy, French military *attaché* were engaged to-day in distributing relief to refugees from Russian barbarity. It is reported that the Nicopoli garrison is withdrawn. The Russian attack on the outworks of Silistria and Widdin has been repulsed. His Highness the Grand Vizier has telegraphed the thanks of the Government to the representatives of the foreign press, who signed the memorandum on the Russian atrocities.

**No. 153**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanly to the "Morning Advertiser,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

The European correspondents at Chumla have signed a report to the Ambassador, confirming the Russian atrocities.

**No. 154**

*(Telegram from Mr. Austin to the "Times," London.)*

*Therapia, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

The Porte has telegraphed to its representatives at the foreign Courts that numerous correspondents of the principal newspapers have signed circular that they have seen with their own eyes Mussulman women and children with wounds caused by lance thrusts, who gave them heartrending accounts of their barbarous treatment by the Russians and Bulgarians. The Porte has received a telegram that the Russians have armed the Bulgarians, who are killing the Mussulmans. This telegram is supported by a private English letter.

**No. 155**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dymon to the "morning Advertiser,"*

*London.)*

*Chumla, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

Further atrocities at Tirnova on women and children are said to have taken place.

**No. 156**

*(Telegram from Mr. Scudamore to the "Standard," London.)*

*Pera, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

Sunday afternoon.—Yesterday morning His Highness the Grand Vizier received by telegraph from Chumla a *procès verbal*, which has been drawn up and signed by about twenty newspaper correspondents, who are assembled in Chumla and who confirm the reports of the cruelties committed on inoffensive Mussulman fugitives by the Russians and Bulgarians.

The correspondents, who represent the principal journals of Europe testify that almost all the wounds inflicted on the fugitives, and especially on the women and children, have been inflicted by the lance or sabre.

The Porte communicates this *procès verbal* to its representatives in Europe. The Porte has addressed a dispatch to the President of the Swiss Republic, in which it complains of the continual infraction by the Russians, of the terms of the Treaty of Geneva.

In this dispatch the Porte, also, complains of the cruelties committed by the Russian troops, which are contrary to the spirit, even if they are not opposed to the letter of the Geneva Convention.

**No. 157**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Englander to Reuter's Agency, London.)*

*Constantinople, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

Consul Blunt telegraphs from Kezanlik to Mr. Layard that the Cossacks disarm the Mussulman inhabitants and the arms are given to the Bulgarians, who are outraging the women and children. Mr. Layard has sent a proof of the atrocities to Lord Derby. The Porte has received a telegram from Chumla, dated July 20<sup>th</sup>, bearing the signatures of 22 correspondents, of whom the correspondents of *Débats, Post, Times, Telegraph, Manchester Guardian, Examiner, New York Herald, and Gazette de Cologne* have seen with their own eyes women and children wounded by lances and sabres. The Cossacks have committed many other terrible atrocities.

**No. 158**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Englander to Reuter's Agency, London.)*

*Pera, July 23<sup>d</sup> 1877.*

Philippopoli 22<sup>nd</sup>.—The Russians everywhere shoot the authors of the past massacres in Bulgaria, of whom they have a list.

**No. 159**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official person,*

*Constantinople.)*

*Chumla, July 23<sup>d</sup> 1877.*

The arrival of the new Commander-in-Chief yesterday has had a very good effect. I am inquiring and examining victims of the enemy's atrocities.

**No. 160**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schuver to the "Standard," London.)*

*Adrianople, July 23<sup>d</sup>, 1877.*

The Bulgarians burned two mosques and fifty houses at Eski-Zaghra. Excesses against the Mussulman villages of districts Kezanlik and Eski-Zaghra by Cossacks and Bulgarians have been reported by an eyewitness, and that the town is being actively transformed into a strong entrenched camp. Thousand of Mussulman refugees, with their carts and flocks, shelter in surrounding forests; panic has entirely subsided.

**No. 161**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schuver to the "Standard," London.)*

*Adrianople, July 24<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Many Mussulman villages have been entirely destroyed by the insurgents.

**No. 162**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère to the "Guardian," London,)*

*Chumla, July 25<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Mehmed Ali Pasha made an inspection of wounded refugees to-day, mostly women and children; numbers continue arriving.

**No. 163**

*(Telegram from Mr. Huyshe to Mr. Bennett, London.)*

*Chumla, July 25<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Rasgrad.—An extraordinary exodus of non-combatant population from the theatre of war took place; the trains are crammed with fugitives, the majority being Jews. The men, women and children packed like sheep into grain wagons are seeking refuge at Chumla or Varna.

**No. 164**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Adrianople, July 26<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

On Wednesday no fighting except skirmishes occurred, Suleiman Pasha's corps is advancing in the direction of Shipka, where the Russians are endeavouring to fortify the position.

Great exodus of people here, especially of Turks, as the Bulgarians and Cossacks are everywhere committing such fearful atrocities on helpless people.

**No. 165**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard," London.)*

*Chumla, July 29<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Horrible reports of Russian cruelties have come in, the truth of which there is no reason to doubt. Policy is very evident, but Turkish authorities are exercising great vigilance.

**No. 166**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dymon to the "Morning Advertiser," London.)*

*Chumla, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Further atrocities of a serious character are reported near Tirnova as having been committed by Bulgarians and Cossacks.

**No. 167**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Le Chevalier to the "Bien Public," Paris.)*

*Pera, July 26<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Serious letters received from the provinces confirm the Russian cruelties. Mudirs and Caïmakans have been hanged.

**No. 168**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Le Chevalier to the "Journal des Débats," Paris.)*

*Pera, July 26<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Three letters from Adrianople confirm the cruelties of the Russians.

**No. 169**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official person, Constantinople.)*

*Yeni-Zaghra, 28<sup>th</sup> July 1877.*

Yesterday close to Yeni-Zaghra an engagement took place between a regiment of Russian dragoons and a part of the Turkish forces; the Russians were repulsed. After the fight I drew up a *process verbal* from the sayings of the survivors, and it appears that 2 Russian horsemen entered the village of Kudirli, in which were assembled since some days past the Turkish families of the villages of Kudirli, Yaserim, and Dremhasli. The men had been despoiled of their arms by the Bulgarians who did not allow them to escape, and who had seized

their arabas and herds. The two Russians fired on the door of the house in which most of them were and the Bulgarians broke them open with stones; the Bulgarians then fired from the walls on the men who were in the yard and their priests encouraged them. Later on the women and children who were in the house were butchered with sword and knives, the girls are still kept by them. The Turks had only sticks and succeeded only in killing one of the Bulgarians. There were five hundred people. The four men, three women, and two children who have arrived here, tell this story and pretend to be the only persons that have escaped. The ground, they say, was covered by the dead, but that survivors must remain concealed in the lofts. The narrators of these misfortunes appeared to be greatly moved, but the testimony of the different individuals concurred and seemed worthy of belief.

**No. 170**

*(Telegram from Mr. Hanby to the "Morning Advertiser," London.)*

*Pera, July 29<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Russian atrocities continue.

**No. 171**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Capt. Gambier to Mr. Austin, Therapia.)*

*Adrianople July 30<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

I am going back immediately to the front where a battle is imminent. I saw here a child with a lance wound, caused by a Cossack, and two women with bullet wounds. The Bulgarians have killed five people in an araba. I telegraphed this home.

**No. 172**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Capt. Gambier, to the Editor of the*

*"Times.")*

*Adrianople, July 30<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Tirnovó—Reported to have been massacred 300 inhabitants of six villages. Seven Bulgarians were hanged at Kara-bunar on Sunday.

**No. 173**

*(Telegram from Capt. Gambier to the Editor of the*

*"Times," London.)*

*Adrianople, July 30<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

I Have seen here in the house of Ahmet Pacha two Turkish women seriously wounded by the Bulgarians and a child two years old with a Cossack

lance wound and a bullet in his leg; five others were killed in the same cart at Téké.

**No. 174**

*(Telegram from Mr. Chatau to Havas Agency, Paris.)*

*Pera, July 30<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

A dispatch from Suleiman Pacha establishes the fact that the Bulgarians have set fire to the Bulgarian and Turkish villages, and have destroyed the railway in several places.

**No. 175**

*(Telegram from Mr. Scarbro to Mr. Robinson, 20,*

*Bouverie Street, London.)*

*Adrianople, July 31<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

The Christians are reported to have murdered thirteen Mussulmans near Tchirpan, carrying off women and children.

**No. 176**

*(Telegram from Mr. Scarbro to the "Morning Post,"*

*London.)*

*Adrianople, July 31<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

Rumours are reported of fresh massacres on part of the Bulgarian Christians of the southern slopes of the Balkans.

**No. 177**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official  
person, Constantinople.)*

*Adrianople, July 31<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

The Governors of Filibé and Tchirpan report by telegraph the growing excitement among Bulgarians, who have attacked the Turkish village of Karadjaveran in Tchirpan district, near Eski-Zaghra, and have killed and wounded, men and women there, and in other places.

**No. 178**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schuver to the "Standard,"  
London.)*

*Adrianople, July 21<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

Two Mussulman women arrived at Tirnova with their fingers cut off and ignominiously outraged.

**No. 179**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Mainardis to Mr. Dumont,  
Cologne.)*

*Adrianople, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1877.*

The Ottoman Government in spite of the atrocities of the Bulgarians, has issued stringent orders forbidding reprisals against the families of the guilty.

**No. 180**

*(Telegram from Mr. Saenger to Mr. Dumont,*

*Cologne.)*

*Chumla, August 3<sup>d</sup> 1877.*

On the day before yesterday, after a battle of 19 hours, Suleiman Pacha took Eski-Zaghra and five Russian guns. During the occupation, which lasted eleven days, the Russians massacred 1,200 Turks belonging to the inoffensive population, and outraged the women and the girls, as the entire population of Eski-Zaghra can certify.

**No. 181**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1877.*

Eski-Zaghra.—The Bulgarians are still committing atrocities everywhere.

**No. 182**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schuver to the "Standard,"*

*London.)*

*Adrianople, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1877.*

Karabunar, Thursday morning.—Thirty thousand refugees, many of whom were Jewish families arrived from Eski-Zaghra; there were only men and

children, all the women and girls having been murdered, or carried off by the Bulgarians.

**No. 183**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard,"*

*London.)*

*Chumla, August 3<sup>d</sup> 1877.*

Osman Pacha's army by reason of the Russian assaults and brutal cruelty, which has accompanied the presence of every detachment of the enemy, is infused with a fierce spirit of revenge. Even among the Bulgarians, who are now delivered from the Russian presence, resentment is shewing itself against their would be deliverers; those who have paraded before the Russians are the priests and self styled professors from Prague and Carkoff, who are ready to fix the yoke of Russia on the necks of their long suffering fellow country-men, for their own selfish ends. Suleiman Pacha reports that during the Russian occupation of Eski-Zaghra not a day passed without the massacre of the Mussulman inhabitants and that almost without exception every woman in town has been violated. Europe must not expect that the patience of the Turks will last under such terrible provocation.

**No. 184**

*(Telegram from Mr. Huyshe to Mr. Bennett, London.)*

*Chumla, August 3 1877.*

Official news from Chumla says that during the eleven days occupation of Eski-Zaghra the Russians having disarmed the entire Mussulman population, massacred one hundred inoffensive persons which raises the number of victims during their domination to eleven hundred. It is also affirmed that all the women and virgins without exception were violated. As Turkish authorities now reoccupy the town the facts are established.

**No. 185**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Saenger to Mr. Dumont, Cologne.)*

*Chumla, August 4<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

The Russians have caused numerous Bulgarians to rise in the Balkans and these, among other misdeeds, burn the villages; they have killed at Brahowa five persons who had made their submission.

**No. 186**

*(Telegram from Mr. Crespin to the "Observer," London.)*

*Pera, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Recent news from Adrianople affirms that the Russians, during the occupation of Zaghra, assisted by the Bulgarians, committed on the Mussulman population atrocities and slaughter still more revolting than hitherto asserted.

**No. 187**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard," London.)*

*Chumla, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

On Thursday last Cossacks and Bulgarians perpetrated massacres at the village of Seyranlar near Bebrova in the district of Tirnova. The victims were persons who had surrendered.

**No. 188**

*(Telegram from Mr. Huysche to Mr. Bennett, London.)*

*Chumla, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Chumla.—Official news from Bazardjik and Dobrudja, states that Hudayet Pacha reconnoitering near Medjidie, encountered at Dermen two squadrons of Russian cavalry. A combat of two hours ensued, the Russians lost thirty killed and were compelled to retreat towards Kustendje. The Bulgarians incited by the Russians are burning Mussulman villages, massacring the inhabitants of the district of Tchirpan. In the Balkans the Russians have evacuated Kezanlik;

communication by road between Chumla and Rustchouk has been re-established, the post guarded by zaptiehs left here to-day.

**No. 189**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera. August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Eski-Zaghra, August 3<sup>rd</sup>.—During the eleven days that the Russians were in possession of the town, they disarmed the entire Mussulman population making fair promises; every day the representatives of military authorities brought up one hundred persons exactly, and deliberately murdered them without any mercy. So that during the eleven days one thousand and one hundred inoffensive Mussulmans were barbarously slaughtered, besides this, every woman and girl was violated. As the Turks are now masters of Eski-Zaghra, these accusations can easily be substantiated.

**No. 190**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dymon to the "Morning Advertiser,"*

*London.)*

*Chumla, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Tchoulko.—Cossacks and Bulgarians burnt the village and killed the inhabitants. Kezanlik is evacuated by the enemy; the district is free from brigands. Further atrocities consisting of burning the villages and of the destruction of inhabitants have taken place.

**No. 191**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard," London.)*

*Chumla, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The British military *attaché*, who returned to-day to head-quarters from Slivno, after several days perilous travel, confirms some of the worst particulars of the Russian cruelties and devastation of property.

**No. 192**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Terrible scenes here on the arrival of thousands of refugees destitute. Christian women amongst them declare that the Turks protected them against the Circassians, they admit that the Cossacks and the Bulgarians have killed large number of Turkish women and children. This is confirming all the reports of the Russian atrocities.

They tell fearful stories of cruelties committed on Turkish and Jewish women by the Russians. At Pera, refugees are continually arriving; the Turks are doing their utmost to succour them, but want money. Cannot the *Daily Telegraph's* readers raise a fund of money exclusively to benefit the Turkish and Christian women, children and old men? I will gladly distribute.

**No. 193**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Le Chevalier to the "Journal des  
Débats," Paris.*

*Constantinople, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

A train of twenty wagons conveying wounded having been surprised by  
Cossacks, was burnt.

**No. 194.**

**Translation.**

*(Telegram from Mr. Le Chevalier to the "Bien Public,"  
newspaper, Paris.)*

*Constantinople, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

A train filled with Turkish wounded has been burnt by Cossacks,

**No. 195**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, August 7<sup>th</sup> 1877.*

Chumla, Tuesday.—The Mussulman villagers from here have been  
burned alive by the Russians, aided by the Bulgarians. They took the women  
into the mountains. The Cossacks have burnt seventy Mussulmans at Aboka in  
a stable and violated all the women and girls. These atrocities are avowed by  
the Bulgarians captured by the troops; the Bulgarians, also, throttled several

women and children before their parents. These atrocities are corroborated by Captain Fife, the British military *attaché*. The Bulgarians were incited by the Russians to massacre the Mussulmans.

**No. 196**

*(Telegram from Mr. Barrère to the "Guardian," London.)*

*Chumla, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The cruelties committed by the Russians on the inoffensive Mussulman population, were confirmed in some of their worst details. The British military *attaché*, who has just returned after an extended tour to the south of the Balkans, states that the whole country is devastated.

**No. 197**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Yeni-Zagra, Wednesday—The enemy is in full retreat after having burned the town and all the adjacent villages. Terrible spectacle here; hundreds of unburied bodies strew the ground, the dogs, pigs, birds of prey are devouring them. It is impossible to describe the horrible results of the Russian invasion; the whole country is a desert. The cattle is destroying the remains of the harvest. Fearful outrages have been committed everywhere by the Russians. I saw hundreds of Jewish families refugees from Eski-Zaghra district. Every girl, without exception, has been violated by Cossacks or Bulgarians. A girl, very

pretty, 16 years old, had been violated by eighteen Cossacks; she was dying. Doctor Leslie of the Red Cross, and myself visited her, her's was only a sample case.

**No. 198**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official  
person, London.)*

*Constantinople, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

I have received a quantity of evidence from a person, which leaves no doubt as to the shocking atrocities committed by the Russians and Bulgarians on the Mahometan population of the district on this side of the Balkans, invaded by the former. It will be sent home immediately. Mussulmans are retaliating and loss of life and devastation are great. Adrianople is filled with fugitives, amongst them a number of wounded women and children in the greatest misery and in want of every thing; many more are expected; surgeons and necessaries are urgently required. Would any of the Societies for the sick and wounded in war do anything for these fugitives?

**No. 199**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official person,  
London.)*

*Constantinople, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

I have seen American missionaries, who escaped from Eski-Zaghra; they state that the Russians entered the place accompanied by numbers of Bulgarians from the neighbouring villages, whom they armed and allowed to pillage and slaughter Mahometans whom they had disarmed; a good many women amongst them, were shot by the Russians themselves. After they had been driven out, the Mussulmans retaliated with great severity upon the Bulgarians, but although many men were killed, the women and children were protected, and brought to Adrianople under Turkish escort. The town formerly a flourishing place of about twenty-five thousand inhabitants has been almost destroyed and is now deserted, as are the surrounding districts. American missionaries admit the Bulgarian outrages in the neighbouring villages; they praise the conduct of the Turkish authorities. Capt. Fife, in report sent home, describes the Russian and Bulgarian atrocities on Mahometan women and children, of which he had seen proofs and says that Suleyman Pasha had shot sixteen soldiers and beaten a very large number who had plundered, and was doing his utmost to repress excesses.

**No. 200**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dow to the "Dundee Advertiser,"*

*London.)*

*Chumla, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Continued accounts are received of Russian atrocities.

**No. 201**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Adrianople, Monday.—Thousands of refugees are arriving constantly. 5,000 Mahometan women and children are here without food or shelter, aid for them is implored.

At Batoum on Sunday a big transport arrived from Soukoum with about 900 Abaxes mostly women and children refugees, in a terrible condition, all going to Trebizonde.

**No. 202**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

To-day His Majesty the Sultan sent for me desiring that I should see a Russian prisoner just arrived from Eski-Zaghra, where he was captured by Tahir Bey after Suleyman Pasha's victory.

Prisoner's name Nicholas Maxim, belonging to the village of Barricoski, near Odessa, belonged to the Russian corps d'armée which lately crossed Balkans, third company, third battalion, ninth regiment. When captured he wore an officer's uniform, but he declares that he is not an officer but an officer's servant wearing his master's uniform without leave. The reason of the capture was his sore feet which made him unable to keep pace with his flying comrades, seeking shelter in a blockhouse. He said that the Turks treated him well, giving him excellent food and wine, even a dress in exchange for his tattered Russian officer's uniform. He writes Russian well and speaks with gentlemanly accent; he told me that he was present at the entry of the Russians in Eski-Zaghra. He saw twenty Turkish women and children shut up in a barn, which, being covered with straw and hay, was set fire to and burned them to death, the Russians and Bulgarians dancing with music amidst the shrieks of the victims. He says that orders were given by the Russians to exterminate the Turks. The reason of this brutality was that the Russian soldiers findings no resistance at the Balkans, believed Constantinople to be theirs and that the Russians were nearly starving from want of food.

He describes Suleyman Pasha's attack as terrible, and says that in retreating. Russians had lost heart, being astonished to find Turks fighting, having imagined the invasion to be a pleasure and a promenade. They had been encouraged to march upon the Balkans by the assertion of the officers, that a corps of 20,000 Germans was operating on their right; he believes that the campaign is lost because the Russians were greatly demoralized. The whole

interview was quiet, no collision was used for the interview; the Russian said what he pleased. He owned to the murders of Turkish women and children readily.

**No. 203**

*(Telegram from Mr. Fitzgerald to the "Standard," London.)*

*Chumla, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

The Governor-General of the province states, that reports of horrible outrages committed by Russians and Bulgarians on Mussulmans continue coming in. Every village re-occupied by the Turks bears evidence to Russian inhumanity. Weather very fine and warm.

**No. 204**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dymon to the "Morning Advertiser,"*

*London.)*

*Chumla, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

In Hein-Boghaz sixty women and girls, after being violated, were burnt alive by the enemy. The wells in every blockhouse are full of dead Mussulmans. From Eski-Djouma it is reported that the enemy is falling back beyond Loom.

**No. 205**

*(Telegram from Mr. Dow to the "Dundee Advertiser,"  
London.)*

*Chumla, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Terrible atrocities are reported by Suleyman Pasha as having been committed by the Russians and Bulgarians.

**No. 206**

*(Telegram from Mr. Huysche to Mr. Bennett, London.)*

*Chumla, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Terrible atrocities are reported by Suleyman Pasha as having been committed by the Russians and Bulgarians.

**No. 207**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera. August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1877.)*

Adrianople, Saturday night.—Special Commissioners agreeably to your instructions have visited this place for the purpose of inspecting the condition of the thousands fugitive Turkish women and children here.

The news of their sorrows having attracted English sympathy, has come to these poor fugitives as a voice from heaven, nor is it men who call for succour, but innocent women and children who widowed, orphaned and houseless are

now a prey to famine and disease; the authorities are doing their utmost and the exertions of a Committee here working under English auspices are quite beyond praise, but while the robber is at the gate, combatants naturally claim the chief attention of the Government, while the action of the latter is of course limited, until more funds are received. The Balkan tragedies are no ordinary instance of the horrors even attendant on war, preconcerted cold blooded barbarity has swept away a people in a flood of blood, thousands have sunk for ever, thousands are still drifting, God knows where, while not including those who have found refuge in the villages near this, in Adrianople itself, there are over ten thousand Turks, Tartars, Christians and Jews, kin at least in a common agony, victims of the modern Attila, and his craven satellites. In England hospitals crowded with mangled men are no novelty in these progressive times, but a hospital full of wounded women, young girls and children writhing with bullet wounds, lance thrusts and sabre-cuts; this it has never been my fate to see before to-day, if my country women could only look for a moment at the hospital which has been organised and personally supervised by a noble woman, Madam Camaras, the question of England going to war or not, would be very soon settled. This was the work of the Cossacks, Bulgarians did their share no doubt, but Russian soldiers were the worst. One lovely girl (for these poor creatures care to cover their features no longer) was shot through both arms in defending her child, which was not a month old, the child was killed and the mother violated by three Cossacks, while she lay helpless from her wounds, but the tale of these wounds is too sickening, let those that doubt come and see and hear for

themselves; let me give the story of a Jew woman whom not being wounded I did not mind cross-examining and whom I questioned at random, let me mention here in anticipation of the sneers of those who pretend to think that newspaper authority is not authority that during the sad hours I have spent among these poor creatures, I was accompanied by Mr. Black, the warm hearted manager of the Ottoman Bank here, and Mr. Blunt, our Consul. Rabia, the poor widow, both of whose sons were burnt at Boukla-Mouk, told her story thus: On approach of the Russians they all fled, Emin Bey told them to return, as the Russians had promised to respect them; the Russians arrived, guided by a Bulgarian priest, the village was surrounded and all arms taken from the people, then all the males were shut up in the Mosque and all the women in a farm enclosure, food was supplied to both for three days, then without a moment's warning the men were dragged from the Mosque to where a quantity of straw was collected, on this the greater number were burnt, those that escaped the fire being shot or lanced; a boy who had been thrown on the fire and was wounded on escaping, is in hospital there now. At the same time, the Bulgarians and Cossacks attacked the women and after maltreating them drove them out of the village literally at the point of the bayonet; two days they spent in the fields when a party of Circassians came and rescued them and carried them to Karabounar. The victims of Boukla-Mouk are numerous, it was even more sad to see the children who too young to realise what had happened, laughed and played, while their mothers recorded their misery. One poor woman Hazeeza had lost all her male relations. In this Russian auto-da-fé of a party who had escaped from Eschecki

in the district of Eski-Zaghra, Fatima was the speaker, but bursts of tears so interrupted her tale that it was long before I could make it out, the poor creature had lost her only child, a daughter, was she dead? I asked; she only answered with another burst of tears, "I know not, but she was very pretty." English mothers will know what that poor woman felt here. The massacre began at once, but fortunately the Russians had not taken the precaution to surround the village so that all, with the exception of fifty or sixty, escaped. The next woman I spoke to was named Zelahar, wife of Omer, an inhabitant of Azarluch; this unfortunate creature was simply ground down with sorrow, it was only necessary to look into her great vacant eyes to see that as life has no further joy so had it neither any further grief for her, her husband and two sons were hewn to death before her eyes. The story of poor Gainmi, a widow living at Hiderly, was as sad: she too had lost her two sons, but was spared the agony of seeing them killed. This place was surrounded by the Cossacks, after some days, during which they were nearly starved as the inhabitants of the smaller villages had all flocked into the little town, the Cossacks and Bulgarians advanced on the town firing; then a regular massacre commenced, only about one hundred out of five or six hundred making their escape. Some of the young women were publicly violated, but this was done only by the Bulgarians, who lived in their immediate neighbourhood and who were known to them, but the horrible story is endless nor has it ceased. I have already telegraphed the tragedy of Orkhanlic, further accounts prove that in their retreat the Russians are carrying off all the young women disguised in Bulgarian costume. At Maglich the Turks had found only a Jewish old woman

and little children left, all the others had been carried away. I should have added that at Orkhanlic a great number of girls and men were burnt together by the Cossacks.

In Adrianople itself distress is terrible. The thousands of whom these poor women mentioned were only units, are all without home, bread or clothing. Present needs are immense or starvation and death certain, then money for clothes for the winter is required. This is a great work for humanity, but it must be quick if it is to be effectual.

Chumla, Saturday night.—Mehemed Ali Pasha, accompanied by Baker Pasha and other English officers, left for Djouma and Rasgrad inspecting advanced positions and posts. Skirmishing all along the line continues. Rustchuk still bombarded but not invested.

### **No. 208**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph," London.)*

*Pera, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Adrianople, Sunday morning.—Refugees continue to come in. Groups composed entirely of women and children famine stricken and weary are crouched at almost every street corner. What is to become of these poor creatures? There is not a Turk with the means of living who has not taken in four or five. The Jews are also nobly caring for the two thousand Jewish fugitives that are here, and the English Committee have already organised six asylums and two hospitals, housing nearly eight hundred of all creeds. In contradiction to this

not a Bulgarian inhabitant has given a penny, but have left their three thousand compatriots here to the care of the Turks, who, it is true, treat them as well as if they were Musulmans. This conduct on the part of the well to do Bulgarians here is scarcely credible. But it is true not only money is wanted, more doctors are absolutely needed, the wounded women and children require much medical attendance most of these have more than one wound independently of other complications. I saw one woman who had been shot through the body while she was enceinte, by her lay her baby a few hours old. There was another case almost as bad, most of these wounded women have, as their wounds testify, been shot and sabred in self defence, but there are some with bullets in their back suggesting that they were wantonly fired into, while attempting to escape. As if their brutality was not sufficiently damnable, the Cossacks indulged in blasphemy, of all this there is abundant proof, and that before outraging and murdering the women they made the sign of the cross on their heads according to the history of Kezanlik, during the Russian occupation after the second defeat of the Turks under Reouf Pasha, and before Suleiman Pasha's victory following.

Russians entered and disarmed Mussulman population promising them safety, immediately that they received news of Suleiman Pasha's victory, the Russians retreated leaving the Cossacks and armed Bulgarians in possession of the village. The Bulgarians then gave full rein to their brutality, all the young women that could be found, Mussulmans, Jews, Bohemians, alike were outraged and afterwards killed, little girls of eight years of age were not spared even, and many died from the brutal treatment they received, if any body expostulated, the

Bulgarians killed them. There was a cry that the Mussulmans had risen and the bloody work increased, old women who were supposed to have hidden their daughters were attacked and many killed; at last six hundred Circassians arrived, on their approach the Cossack detachment fled the Bulgarians skulking away, so that the Circassians were able to rescue all that were left. It must be noted that these friends made no distinction of creed, indeed the Jewish families suffered worse than all. The Cossacks were in the town the whole of this period, the Russian authorities could not have been ignorant of what was going on, as the detachment was continually relieved from Schipka. This story is confirmed by the Jewish Rabbis here.

**No. 209**

*(Telegram from Mr. Long to Mr. Darton, Friend's*

*Institute, London,)*

*Pera, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

Please communicate to Manchester, Birmingham and Jones.

At Philippopoli, Adrianople and Constantinople fugitives sick and wounded, flying from the cruelties of the enemy were congregated by tens of thousands and in the direst distress.

**No. 210**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official  
person, London.)*

*Constantinople, August 21<sup>st</sup> 1877.*

A person telegraphs the following: Turkish and Jewish fugitives from Kezanlik state that Jews there were horribly ill-treated by Bulgarians under Cossack protection; fourteen were massacred, thirteen of the bodies were burned in courtyard of synagogue, one was eaten by dogs. Among the number was a girl of fifteen years of age, named Duds-Beraha, who was outraged by six Bulgarians. The Bulgarians then cut down forty-three of the Jews, some of them wounded are among the fugitives recently saved by the Circassians and 337 are with the Bulgarians of Kezanlik, who have taken refuge in the Schipka pass. The above massacres took place latterly after the main body of Russian troops had quitted the town leaving there a detachment of Cossack and Bulgarian police.

**No. 211**

*(Telegram from Mr. Scarbro to the "Morning Post,"  
London.)*

*Adrianople, August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

Kezanlik captured yesterday. The Bulgarians have been killed. The Turkish families and the prisoners have been brought away; male Turks having

been massacred. The Russians are ascertained to be at top of Hain-Boghaz with 2 guns.

**No. 212**

*(Telegram from an official person to another official  
person, Constantinople)*

*Adrianople, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1877.*

Suleiman Pasha telegraphs (20 inst.) from Kezanlik that on the line of march from Ferditch to Kezanlik innumerable corpses of Mussulman men, women and children, massacred by Cossacks and Bulgarians, were discovered everywhere by his troops and seen by the military attachés with the staff and other foreigners. At Lazagaly only one girl of seven years has survived. At Ketchideressi, near Kezanlik, a few women and children who escaped announced that the seventy men and many women who had survived the massacre there, were all put to death the night before the approach of the Turkish troops. At Bayghinly the genitals of the murdered men were placed on corpses of the women with their murdered infants beside them.

**No. 213**

*(Telegram from Mr. Scarbro to Mr. Robinson, 20,  
Bouverie Street, London)*

*Adrianople, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1877.*

Kezanlik taken. The Turks have killed 300 Bulgarian insurgents who had defended it and released prisoners; they have brought away all the Mussulman

women and children, all the males being massacred. The summit of Hain-Boghaz continues to be held by the Russians.

**No. 214**

*(Telegram from Mr. Schuver to the "Standard,"  
London.)*

*Adrianople, August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1877.*

Camp Hain-Boghaz, Friday.—Kezanlik taken yesterday; it was defended by 300 Bulgarians, of whom 70 were killed. The Turkish prisoners held by the Russians were released; the Turkish female inhabitants have been brought nearer here; the Mussulman males had been massacred. A reconnoissance was pushed yesterday to the top of Hain-Boghaz which the Russians hold in some force with two guns; slight loss on both sides.

**No. 215**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"  
London.)*

*Pera, August 23<sup>d</sup>, 1877.*

At Adrianople fugitives from Kezanlik continue to arrive, many of whom are Jews; they tell fearful tales of massacres and say that after the Russian infantry had evacuated the place, the Bulgarians and Cossacks began murdering the men and violating and massacring the women. Fourteen Jewesses were killed inside synagogue, one of them being a young Jewish girl named Beraha, who was outraged by six Bulgarians and then killed. The bodies were burnt

inside the synagogue. Many young girls were taken over the mountains by the Cossacks and the Bulgarians. Consul General Fawcett is here, endeavouring to relieve distress among the refugees.

Jews nobly doing their utmost to take care of their own, numbering about three thousand. The Turks are liberal to their last penny; more help terribly needed. The Turks are especially indignant at the Bulgarian ill-treatment of the Jews, declaring that there is no possible excuse for the wholesale slaughter of those helpless people.

**No. 216**

*(Telegram from Mr. Gay to the "Daily Telegraph,"*

*London.)*

*Pera, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

All the Mussulman inhabitants of the valley of the Toundja have been massacred by the Bulgarians, who, according to every account, have been always advised by the Russians to perpetrate these murders. Captain Fife, the British military attaché, myself and other English correspondents witnessed a fearful sight near here. It appears that a party of Mussulmans, men, women and children were taken by the Bulgarians into the mountains and massacred and after, thrown over the precipice. We found several mutilated bodies hanging half way down others below dashed to pieces. It was a terrible spectacle.

**No. 217**

*(Telegram from Major Leader to Mr. Drew Gay, Special*

*Correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," Pera.)*

*Carabounar, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1877.*

By yesterday's train I was within 1,000 yards of Yeni-Zaghra, which we found occupied by the Bulgarians who fired on us. We also saw several Cossacks in the environs. The train sent in quest of Suleyman Pacha was charged with canons and munitions. It is not yet known where Suleyman Pasha is, but it is certain he was fighting Tuesday last at Eski-Zaghra and killed, according to different versions of the affair, 4,000 Muscovites. It is to be noted that nothing has been mentioned of his wounded, and his munitions must have been exhausted. We also saw about 300 bodies lying round about the station of Yeni-Zaghra, the victims were all Turks. It was a horrible sight to see the dogs and pigs devouring the decomposed bodies, whilst thousands of birds of prey sat perched on the ruined walls of the station. We saw the wagons burnt, in which the Bulgarians had massacred 50 wounded. Whilst we were in the neighborhood of the town, two Turkish soldiers came running with all haste towards us, they managed to join us despite the reiterated fire of the Bulgarians and recounted to us a horrible tale. Both were badly wounded they had hid themselves for six days in a granary with nothing to eat. I gave them some brandy, they were dressed and are going on well. All the villages situated between Carabounar and Yeni-Zaghra have been reduced to ashes and the Bulgarians continue their

atrocities. We saw a Turk lying on the road with his head and neck cut. The only Turkish village which remained on the railway line was burnt by the Bulgarians. Whilst we were at Yeni-Zaghra we saw the flames leap across the line. Not a soul lives between Carabounar and Yeni-Zaghra, the station of Raduc Mahalessi having been destroyed. All the country is a desert, it is sad to witness the numerous cattle eating the corn which its proprietors will see no more, and sad also to see the thousands of mules and to know that those who could work can not do so again. This is moralizing but it is horrible. Arrived near Yeni-Zaghra we saw an army, without knowing to assure ourselves whether it was a Russian army or that of Suleyman Pasha. I am certain it was not Suleyman Pasha's. Rumour is current that he had another engagement yesterday midway Yeni-Zaghra and Eski-Zaghra.

In the battle of the other day the Turks took four prisoners all Bulgarians, my servant gave them food in order to make friends of them, and then questioned them. They declared that there were no more than 1,600 Russians and 12,000 Bulgarians engaged in the conflict. It is not surprising that the Turks took as prisoners some Bulgarians who wore the Russian uniform.

I have already told of the news of the form of a letter, but I was nearly forgetting an important point.

Hundreds of Jewish families have arrived from Eski-Zaghra flying from before the invader. They are all huddled up around the station. All the girls have been carried away and several Jews killed. A very, very pretty girl of 16 was

violated by 18 Cossacks. She is now an idiot and is dying. I saw her myself she was attended by Doctor Leslie the English Surgeon.