

Yamboli; to the Mutevelli of Karlovo; to Husni Effendi, Commander of the troops at Yamboli, who saved those places; to Rustem Effendi, Yuzbashi at Tournova, who having fought against insurgents really in arms, saved the prisoners from the fury of the mob; or to Haydar Effendi, Mutessarif of Slimnia?\*

It will, perhaps, be said that in this report I have made but slight mention of that of Edib Effendi. I do not look upon that document as of very great importance.

The first part of it, which treats of the origin of the insurrection, is pretty correct, and I believe that the paper said to have been found upon Benkowsky, containing the insurgent plan of action, to be genuine. It is worthy of note that this document distinctly says that those Mussulmans who offer no resistance are to be spared.

What Edib Effendi says about the way the insurrection was suppressed may be dismissed without much comment, his account of Batak and Boyadjikeui being sufficient to condemn that part of his report.

In speaking of the present state of the country he remarks pathetically that "the Christians are not yet completely convinced of the pacific attitude of the Mussulmans." Perhaps after all that has happened this is scarcely to be wondered at.

What he says about the restitution of the cattle is not in accordance with fact. Certainly not more than one-third of the stolen property has been restored, and it is only with the greatest difficulty that the peasants have recovered what little they now have.

The report of Chakir Bey on the Vilayet of the Danube, though imperfect, is fairer than Edib Effendi's, as he does not deny that Circassians and others committed acts of pillage, which he does not justify.

This already too long report may be brought to a close with the following remarks:—

There was undoubtedly a revolution which had to be suppressed by armed force.

A small minority of the population committed reprehensible acts which merited punishment.

The Government of Mahmoud Pasha is to blame for the calling out of the Bashi-Bazouks, for had it sent troops earlier this disastrous measure would never have been necessary.

It is also to blame for allowing revolutionary agents to circulate under its very eyes, without taking measures to counteract the spread of their pernicious doctrines.

The manner in which the rising was suppressed was inhuman in the last degree, fifty innocent persons suffering for every guilty one.

The deeds of blood I have spoken of, and the misery I have witnessed, must rouse just indignation in every mind; but the infamous conduct of those agitators who, to serve the selfish ends of States, whose only object is territorial aggrandizement, have not shrunk from exciting poor, ignorant peasants to revolt, thus desolating thousands of homes, and leaving to a fine, rich province, a legacy of tears, should not be allowed to escape without their share of public execration.

In this report, full as it doubtlessly is of faults and shortcomings, I have striven, to the best of my poor abilities, to lay before Her Majesty's Government a fair and unbiassed account of the result of my inquiries and observations during the mission entrusted to me.

I have naturally not been able to visit every burnt village nor investigate every individual case of suffering, and no doubt many things have escaped my notice, but I trust I have been able to give a generally correct idea of what took place.

My information I have gathered from all sources, Bulgarian, Turkish, Greek, Armenian, Servian, &c.

I have not considered it part of my duty, as some seem to think I ought to have, to reject as utterly unworthy of credence, and without examination, every jot and tittle of evidence that came to me from a Turkish source, and swallow with avidity, and without the smallest attempt at enquiry, every story told by a Bulgarian, simply because he was a Bulgarian.

Putting aside official statements, which in cases like the present must always be looked upon with some distrust, the word of a Turk is in all probability worth that of a Bulgarian, particularly among the lower classes.

\* Hassan Pasha refused to allow Bashi-Bazouks to burn Bratzigovo, for which act he was violently abused by the Turks of Bazardjik.