

BULGARIAN BRIGANDS' FAVORITE INDUSTRY.

KIDNAPPING persons having means or having wealthy and influential friends, that the captives may be held for ransom, just as Miss Ellen Stone, the American missionary, whose abduction by brigands is now attracting the attention of the civilized world, is a flourishing industry in Bulgaria. Whether the brigands of Bulgaria have profited by the example of the powers that prey in New York or whether the under world here learned a useful lesson from their professional brethren of the Balkans is not known; but it is known that the importance of "being right" with the powers that rule is as fully understood in one place as in the other. Turkish officials whose duty it is to suppress brigandage, contrive to save fortunes out of small salaries in a few years, as Tammany officials are said by some unkind critics to do.

A case identical with that of Miss Stone occurred when I was in Constantinople, four years ago. I met there a French woman, who had just been released by the brigands on the payment of an enormous sum by the French government. She and her maid were out walking in Haidar Pasha, when they were set upon and carried away. The ransom was set and speedily paid by the French government, made a requisition for the amount upon the porte. With French gunboats in the Bosphorus, their guns unpleasantly near Yildiz Kiosk, the claim was honored. The Turkish troops, however, were immediately sent out and the brigands captured. The French woman, while prostrated nervously and wearied by a long forced march over the mission schools, reported her treatment not unkindly.

Similar cases are of frequent occurrence in the neighborhood of Salonica. A consul, an English naval captain and an English woman having been among the more recent victims. Not many years ago, Dr. Parsons of the American board was traveling on foot on a missionary tour, accompanied by some of his students. They had then a large quantity of tracts and Bibles done up in packages. The brigands, mistaking them for booty, the party was waylaid and the doctor murdered. To avoid similar attacks, students returning to our mission schools usually dress like the parish peasants.

When the assault is directed against a person singled out for them as one eligible for ransom, the captives are hauled off to some mountain where they are cruelly treated, according to circumstances.

Brigandage is nothing new in the Balkans. Ovid, doubtfully narrated, in verse how the neighboring barbarians of his day scared and devastated the country. The rape of the Sabine women in Italy found its counterpart in the capture of maidens of Trebiz, across the narrow Lea that divides the two peninsulas.

With the Turkish occupation in the fifteenth century, the plot thickened and the lucrative profession of brigandage under political patronage assumed the proportions of a gigantic trust. What little agriculture there was languished. Trade, there could be none, but the merry men of the hills and the Turkish officials fattened at the expense of every traveler or caravan that crossed their path. Every peasant whose flocks had multiplied sufficiently to excite their cupidity was ruthlessly levied upon. Christian women were daily torn from home and family.

As in the course of the last quarter century northern Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, Montenegro and Bosnia crept out from under the Turkish yoke, the erstwhile gentlemanly profession lost its respectable character and was frowned down upon by the near and more enlightened governments and brigandage gave way to honest industry.

Not so, however, in Albania and Macedonia, the last strongholds of the Turk in Europe. Placed nominally under the care of Christian Europe by the treaty of Berlin, the unspeakable Turk still dominates the land which has become the rallying ground of bands of cut throats belonging to all creeds and nationalities. The chiefs, however, and the backbone of these bands are Albanians. The membership is made up of Greeks, Turks and Bulgarians.

The Mussulman Albanian takes to brigandage because he likes it, and willingly makes a profession of it. The others join in response to the dictates of a vicious and criminal disposition, or in order to evade justice. All do it to fill their pockets.

The brigands usually have associates living in the towns who furnish them with timely notice of when and where a good piece of business can be done. They have spies who can give them warning when danger is at hand, and they are always sure by the judicious administration of backsheesh to find protectors in high places to help them escape the arm of the law. The Turkish police are notoriously inefficient and inefficient, and have never been known to attack the brigands unless on the

rare occasions when the brigands have been so lacking in discrimination as to hold up some rich Turkish official with a pull on the porte. When this happens, the police force is augmented by armed Zaptiehs, who push their quest with such vigor that a grewsome row of crucified brigands soon stands a ghastly object lesson in the nearest market place.

For the brigands, who confine their operations to Christians, there is always protection. Even if the mounted police are sent in chase, their duties are so perfectly discharged that there is always a futile termination of the expedition. The inhabitants of the district are the greatest sufferers from the pursuit, for if it proves fruitless it exasperates the brigands who renew their depredations upon the peasants with greater zeal. If the chase proves successful the expenses of having these armed men and their horses quartered upon them, beside the suspicions and injuries to which they are often exposed under the pretext of having direct or indirect communication with the brigands are so great as to render the remedy worse than the evil.

A case in point was mentioned in the last letter written by Miss Stone to the Woman's Board of Missions in Boston, when one of the Christian workers had just been returned to his home after serving a term in the prison of the Seven Towers in Salonica on the accusation of having fed brigands.

The attacks made by brigands vary according to the locality, the nature of the enterprise and the result desired. Should the attack be upon a caravan of peasants returning from market or elsewhere, they are waylaid, stripped of all they possess, cruelly beaten and sometimes killed.

The suggestion that the abductors of Miss Stone and Mrs. Telika are members of the old Macedonian committee, anxious to compass the downfall of the present committee, seems scarcely probable. The Bulgarians do not possess as national characteristics the vices that hasty and partial judges argued from special instances have attributed to them. As a rule they are a peace loving, hard working people, possessing many domestic virtues which properly developed under a good government would make the strength of an honest, prominent state. Since their liberation from the Turks in 1879 the progress of the country has been steadily upward, despite the unpopularity of Ferdinand.

This advance is in large measure due to the influence of our American schools—notably Robert college, from which the most prominent members of the Sobranje have been graduated. American prestige has been marked in Bulgaria, not through our military power, but through our schools. While Ferdinand himself always gives the

preference in the national gymnasia to Russian teachers, the rank and file of the Bulgarians appreciate the American graduates.

In Macedonia and Albania there are no schools at all save those organized under the care of the American board. At Salonica, Samokov, Monastir, Korti, Banako and Philippopolis are larger schools under the care of the Americans, while the native converts have taken up the work, establishing smaller schools at Drama, Prishtina, Mohomia, Banya, Eleshnitza, Monospitova and Todorak. In these branch schools the teachers are charged with the spiritual nurture of the pupils and their families, as well as with their mental development. Mrs. Telika, writing lately to a friend in New York of her work in Korti, says:

"The country is beautiful. It is only the people who are not in tune with God. As I go to my patients Mr. Telika, accompanied by his wife, it is not safe for a woman to go alone."

The pupils who make up the student body in the Macedonian and Albanian schools are of many different nationalities as well as clans. The major part are Bulgarians, Wallachians, Serbians and Albanians, but these again are divided into the villagers of Dobri, Mallesia and others. The Albanians alone are divided into these classes, the Tosk or southern, the Gheg or northern and the Leht or northeastern. The Tosks are the most progressive and mercantile. Those not Moslems are connected with the Greek church, though Albanians in general are indifferent to the claims of religion and stick in observing its rites and ceremonies.

The first school established in Albania was by an Albanian—a graduate of the mission school at Samokov. A few years ago while on his way to a preaching station he was seized by brigands, who mistook him for a wealthy merchant for whom they were lying in wait. When they learned that their captive was connected with the "British and Foreign Bible society" they refused to release him, expecting that a large ransom would be paid. Then followed four months of indescribable dangers and sufferings in his wanderings and hidings with the highwaymen. Meanwhile his friends made untiring efforts to raise the ransom needed. After much parleying the brigands accepted the terms offered them, about one-quarter of the exorbitant sum first named, and released their captive.

What the outcome of Miss Stone's capture may be no one can tell. Macedonia is the pivotal stone on which the eastern question rests, and the least swing in diplomacy may give occasion to raise again the Kipling slogan, "There'll be trouble in the Balkans in the spring."—Emma Paddock Telford in Brooklyn Eagle.

Hunting the Smallest Game on Earth.

IN the forests of northern Australia lives a butterfly which is always hunted with powder and shot. This is a brilliant-hued creature, highly valued by collectors. It is very shy and hovers about upper branches of the trees, seldom approaching within twenty feet of the ground. For a long time the only specimens in collections were frayed and bedraggled individuals, which, because of injuries to their wings, had dropped below their zone of flight. A traveling American naturalist went to Australia determined to get some perfect specimens of this rare insect. For several days he strove with long nets and short nets to entrap some of the beautiful creatures of the upper air. He raised ladders and climbed trees at the peril of life and limb, but the wary butterflies kept beyond the range of his swooping net. Yankee ingenuity was not to be beaten so easily, however. The entomologist hit upon the brilliant idea of a decoy.

Loading his gun with the smallest shot he had brought down one of the highfliers. It was badly battered, but he patched and furnished it up to an appearance of respectability and spread it on a bush top in a conspicuous spot ten feet above the ground, arranging the wings with as close a resemblance to life as possible. Curiosity is a besetting failing of butterflies. Presently two of them noticed their departed comrade and began to circle lower and lower above the bush. Others joined the investigation and finally the patient collector was able to capture one of them by a swift movement.

Somewhat similar was the capture of some rare South American butterflies several years ago. An entomologist traveling on the Orinoco failed, after many attempts, to take a single speci-

men of a swallow-tail butterfly, which haunted the upper foliage of the forest. One day he was passing across a band of half-savage natives armed with blowguns, bows and spears, one of whom offered to supply the collector with a number of the desired insects at a price. An offer of 25 cents a specimen represented oulence to the native, who returned on the following evening with six of the butterflies, all perfect or nearly so. How the Indian could catch the shy and delicate insects which he himself with all the implements of the chase could not capture was a problem to the traveler. Not until he was about to leave would the native explain. His method was very simple, he said, and pointed to his blowgun, a weapon with which these people are marvelously accurate and deadly marksmen, even killing big game with darts blown from them. He had "marked down" his butterfly, waited for it to alight and then shot a pellet to the leaf upon which it was poised. The impact was sufficient to stun the prey and bring it to the ground without injuring its fragile wings.—Youth's Companion.

Baby's Diary.

A unique and handsome publication wherein to record the important events in baby's life has just been issued by Borden's Condensed Milk Co., 71 Hudson St., New York. It is not given away, but is sent on receipt of 10 cents.

Aches and Pains.

You know by experience that the aches and pains of rheumatism are not permanent, but only temporarily, relieved by external remedies. Then why not use an internal remedy—Hood's Sarsaparilla, which corrects the acidity of the blood on which rheumatism depends and cures the disease? This medicine has done more for the rheumatic than any other medicine in the world.

COMTE DE LA VAULT TO TRY AGAIN.



The French war office is very much interested in the attempts of Comte de la Vault, the famous European aeronaut to cross the Mediterranean in a balloon. His object is to test the possibility of using balloons between France, Cordia and Algeria in times of war. Although his recent attempt failed the Comte is hopeful of future success. Above are pictures of De la Vault, his balloon and his famous drag, and Mr. Herve, who accompanied him on his recent attempt.

M. H. HERVE.

WALKER'S STORE.

WOMEN'S SUITS MADE TO ORDER AT REDUCED PRICES.

Of course you need a tailor street Suit or at least a rainy day Skirt, and here is the occasion that offers the opportunity of having either made to your own measurement, as you want it, and by the best tailor in the country. And how do we know our tailor to be the very best hereabout? Through you, possibly, and hundreds of other women having had actual proof, who tell us of the perfect workmanship. No other way could we know it. This underpricing is no new thing to you, it is done once each season. Every Suit is absolutely guaranteed—the fit, the finishing, the style; but you choose the fabrics and leave orders between Monday and Saturday—the making can be done at your pleasure. Offering comprises the entire stock of tailor suitings—black and all colors. The following is explanatory:

MADE TO MEASURE SUITS AT—\$33.00.

A choice from all the tailor suitings, selling up to \$125 a yard, the jacket to be lined with good taffeta silk; skirt lined with splendid mercerized lustral. Only \$33.00 and guaranteed.

MADE TO MEASURE SUITS AT—\$40.00.

Choose from all the tailor suitings, handsome kinds in black and colors, that sell up to \$1.75 a yard; jacket and skirt both to be lined with taffeta silk priced up to 90c a yard. Entire suit, \$40.00.

MADE TO MEASURE SUITS AT—\$55.00.

Choice is from all the tailor suitings—the beautiful black and colored Hop Sacks, Meltons, Broadcloths, Herring Bones and mixture effects, selling up to \$2.75 a yard. Jackets to be lined with handsome Duchesse satin, the skirt with guaranteed taffeta silk. These suits at regular price are \$75.00. This week, \$55.00.

MADE TO MEASURE SUITS AT—\$60.00.

This gives choice from the very handsome imported exclusive patterns—colors and black, sold at \$6.75 a yard and some at \$30.00 for the piece. Rich, beautiful weaves. Jacket to be lined with Duchesse satin, skirt with guaranteed taffeta silk. These suits are never made under \$90.00. Monday and the week, \$60.00.

MADE TO MEASURE RAINY-DAY SKIRTS.

For five more skirts with eight rows of stitching, the making is reduced to \$5.00; and for seven more skirts with ten rows of stitching, \$7.50.

REDUCED PRICES WILL BE PUT ON ALL SEPARATE SKIRT FABRICS FOR THE WEEK.

ORDERS MUST BE GIVEN MONDAY, OCTOBER 28th, AND WEEK.

LACE CURTAINS AND PORTIERES ASTONISHINGLY REDUCED.

Here's the opportunity for the economically minded housewife to have fine draperies for parlor, dining room or bed chamber and save dollars, besides. All are new and fresh, and as curtain and portiere styles do not change with a season the pleasure will be a lasting one.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY ONLY.

Every line stands for many patterns. Nottingham curtains; all of the \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$3.50 a pair kind. \$2.00 for two yards, choice. Handsome Brussels net, Irish Point and Arabian lace curtains, all we have in stock that sell regularly for \$6.50, \$7.00 and \$7.50 a pair, \$5.00 choice Monday and Tuesday. All the Tapestry Portieres, sold until now at \$2.50, \$4.00 and \$4.50 a pair, any at \$3.00. All of the \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$4.00 a pair Tapestry Portieres Monday and Tuesday, \$6.00. Some remnants of Tapestry fabrics in pieces large enough for chair seats or cushion covers, at 50c each. Many are worth double the price.

CHANCE FOR SOME CHOICE CARPETS UNDER REGULAR PRICE.

AT \$1.05 A YARD. You may choose from three patterns of Wilton Velvets—two with red predominating, other with blue; no borders to these; sold regularly at \$1.25 a yard; five patterns of Axminster—blue, green, red and tan that have borders to match and sold at \$1.25 a yard, also two patterns of Body Brussels—one light, the other dark, standard five frame carpets regularly priced \$1.35 a yard, Monday and Tuesday any one \$1.05 A YARD. AT \$1.65 A YARD. Two patterns of handsome Axminsters—one in red floral effect and one blue Persian with borders to match, carpets sold regularly at \$2.25 a yard, two days \$1.65. AT \$1.50 A YARD. Three patterns of Bigelow Axminsters—only enough in each for one room—borders to match, \$2.00 a yard carpets, two days \$1.50. AT 70c. Two pieces of Brussels Ingrains, yard wide, heaviest all wool carpet made, \$1.00 a yard kind, two days 70c. AT 57c. Four pieces of all wool extra super carpets, standard grade, sold regularly at 70c a yard, two days 57c.

Up to \$4.95 Shirt Waists—\$2.45.

Every one is a new, fresh style of this season, unfortunately or fortunately the verdict will rest with you—some have sold out in a few sizes, so we've gone through the entire stock and culled from many kinds to make a complete range of sizes. Made of all-battos and French flannels, some with embroidered polka dots all over, stripes, figures and plain, tucked, corded and plaited with feather stitching. Sizes 32 to 44. Regular prices were \$3.95, \$4.50 and \$4.95. Monday and the week \$2.45.

Knit Garments and Stockings.

Women's black wool vests, fine and soft, with high neck and short sleeves, Swiss weave; reduced 98c. Zimmerli wool bands for women, elastic weave, instead of \$1.25, 75c. Women's union suits of extra fleeced cotton, Oneita style, winter 50c. Boy's fleeced wool shirts and drawers, heavy weight for winter, sizes 24 to 34, 50c each garment for 60c. Women's fancy black hose, beautifully hand embroidered on insteps, very effective for home or party wear with slippers, instead of \$1.25 and \$1.50 a pair, \$1.00. Black cotton hose for women, in-out sizes only, fine gauge and very elastic, that were 90c, now 49c. Children's medium weight black cotton stockings, fine ribbed 25c kinds for 19c. Infant's cardinal cashmere stockings, reduced from 30c to 20c.

\$15.00 Silk Petticoats—\$12.00.

These colors only: Old rose, purple, blue, lavender, pink and green, but they are numbered among our very best silk petticoats. Elaborately made with tucked flounces and under dust ruffles. You may know the goodness better from the price than we can tell it—they have been selling all the season at \$15.00, this week \$12.00.

Rich Silk Oriental Covers Half Priced.

Table Covers—but they may be used for making into cushion covers, or by putting two or more together will make handsome drapery for easy corner chairs or for backgrounds to couches. They are positively indescribable, not one but is a beauty in bright Oriental color combination, mostly Roman stripe effects—a few in delicate shades of rich, heavy silks, while others have of luxurious solid gold centers with different color borders; all are one yard square. They were bought a little while ago at under regular market price by taking a large lot, and sold rapidly, now those that remain are half the original low price like this:

The \$3.50 kinds \$1.75. The \$3.25 kinds \$1.63. The \$2.00 kinds \$1.00. The \$1.75 kinds 88c.

\$2.00 Women's Kid Gloves—\$1.50.

Some fine hand sewed French kid gloves in all the sizes from 5 1/2 to 7, and colors—black, red, tan, brown, and opera shades, but not all the colors in every size, so grouped and labeled broken lines with this under-price; instead of \$2.00 \$1.50 a pair.

Up to \$9.00 Suits For Big Boys and Little Boys—\$3.95.

Two piece knee trouser suits, sizes 10 to 14 years, made of imported chevots and worsteds with best of lining, finely tailored, some cleanup lines of \$7.00, \$8.00 and \$9.00 suits for \$3.95. Boy's vestee suits, for the little ones of three to six years, made of fine chevots and fancy all wool worsted, prettily trimmed with braid, fancy shield embroidered in silk; reduced from \$5.00 and \$6.00 to \$3.95.

McKinley Plaster Plaques.

We have only just received these and not only are they an exceptionally fine profile likeness but nicely made, to closely resemble marble. Six inches square, to hang, 17c.

Stationery and Toilet Articles.

A little lot of the desirable Rockwood writing paper in these tints: iris, tiger eye, aerial blue and sea green, to clear away quickly. The regular price is \$2c a box, three days \$3.3c.

Empire linen correspondence paper, in Parma violet, pearl gray and gray, white, very superior quality, that sell at 20c each, a quire of paper or package of envelopes, these three 13c.

Madam Du Pray's Aromatic Tooth Lotion, a popular preparation, three days, the 50c bottles 25c.

Tappen's Blue Ribbon Witch Hazel, always 25c a bottle, three days 17c.

Elysian Complexion powder, fresh tints and white, three days the 50c boxes, 25c; the 25c for 17c.

Bead Bags, Stick Pins.

An odd lot of steel and jet bead bags, some very handsome kinds, sold all the way from 75c to \$10.00 each, for three days a choice of any for—

One-Third Off Regular Price. Lot of fancy stick pins that were 25c to 50c each, choice for 17c; some that were 15c each, 8c.

Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co.