

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

LONDON, March 17.—The following letter has been received from the special correspondent of the Associated Press who is examining into the Armenian atrocities. The letter, which bears date of Kars, February 28th, says:

An Armenian refugee has just arrived here after many dangers and privations since his escape from his home at Sassoun. His name is Maro. He is a shepherd, 20 years of age. He said:

"I am the son of Stephen, our family is called Netko, the name of our village is Axhbi. In my neighborhood there were also the villages of Khatal, Heting and Guebarar. My village, Axhbi, consisted of 700, and there remains not a single man, not a single house—the people are all killed save six families.

"In my family were nine members. My father was the most considerable man in the village. There were in all four men in our family. My father was the most courageous and was at the head of the fighting. At the order of the Nali Kalamadan, Sassoun was attacked by a very great number of Kurds. The Kurds assailed us like wolves, but they could not conquer us, since not only we men took part in the fighting, but all the women—even the old ones—as my mother did, tucked up their clothes, armed themselves with daggers and helped us fight Kurds. Twenty-one days continued our battle. We beat and were beaten.

"But we showed no sign of defeat or intention to retire from the battle. When we had succeeded in killing some of the Kurds, Vall Pasha and Nali Kalamadan sent many regular troops—how many there were I do not know, maybe five, maybe twenty thousand. One thing is very certain, there remained no place without some soldiers. They placed cannon and began to fire.

The women fainted and the shells created much terror, death and destruction. They wished to show mercy to nobody, not to the children, not to the old men, not to the women. The shells rained down all before them as grues before a scythe. We fled and began to seek refuge in our rocks and caverns, but the cannon continued to sweep away everything—stones and men. The flames and smoke of our burning homes reached us in our caverns.

"The commanders of the Hamadie (irregular cavalry) pitched their tents on some of the heights, and, with field glasses in their hands, they observed the hiding places of the hunted, and if they perceived behind a stone the head of a man they immediately went there. The soldiers cut to pieces all they found there, without distinction of age or sex. The heads of the victims were brought as trophies to the commanders.

"Those who found refuge in the caverns could leave only in the night. The Kurds committed all kinds of atrocities. They found no pleasure in killing adult men; they hunted for children, threw them on the ground and plunged daggers into their bodies. After that they pitched them into the air and turned the daggers in their bodies, then

threw them against a stone, saying: 'When you are grown up you would fight us. Better go to hell.' Then they tramped the bodies under foot.

"The Kurds concluded to kill me because I was neither lazy nor sleepy in killing them. We decided, I and my two companions, to fly to Russia. We fled from Sassoun and reached the forest. Emerging, we heard a heavy and heart-rending sound. Going to the sound we found Miro, from Khatal, a courageous Sassoun man, from whose mouth flowed blood. We took Miro and carried him secretly, but when we reached the wheat field the Kurds saw us and pursued. Then each of us gave a kiss to our dying compatriot and fled. The Kurds took Miro, dragged him into a sheepfold and set fire to it. All was burned.

"My uncle was killed in the fighting. The other members of our family took refuge in a cavern. The place was so difficult to reach that we had to draw up the women and children one by one by ropes.

"My companion, Avetti, had five uncles of whom Khaso and Khacho were killed. Oh! I wish I could name one by one all the persons killed and tell you how many cattle were driven away.

"After our flight we came to the village of Zix and then to Ebnpape. We were six in all and wore strange clothing. We wore coats of Muoh and hats of Moost. If we had worn our Sassoun overcoat and hat the Kurds would have recognized us and we should have been killed."

TIFFIN, O., March 18.—The outside window of the police station was raised by an unknown person today during the absence of the officers. The corridor of the jail was opened and seven of the eleven prisoners confined there set at liberty.

COLOGNE, March 20.—It is reported that an explosion of dynamite has taken place at Oberwesel on the Rhine. Twenty-five persons are said to have been killed, two ships destroyed and many houses wrecked.

AMSTERDAM, March 20.—The *Nieuws Van Den Dag* publishes a dispatch saying the disaster reported from Cologne was the result of an explosion of 20,000 kilos of dynamite on the ship *Elzabeth* at Salmorth in the district of Dueseldorf, yesterday evening. Thirteen persons were killed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22.—Minister Murgu, of Spain, a week ago forwarded his resignation because of criticisms made in Cuba. The resignation was withdrawn at the request of the Spanish government.

The reply of Spain to Secretary Gresham's demand for apology on the Alliance matter was not received today.

PORTLAND, Ore., March 22.—It is stated in connection with the appointment of John M. Egan, receiver of the Oregon Short Line and Utah Northern, that the American Loan and Trust company will pay the interest due under the Dillon mortgage. This will remove Dillon's case from Wyoming court, leaving the court free to ratify Egan's appointment by Judge Gilbert.

HONG KONG, March 22.—The Jap-

anese fleet has attacked Pescadore (Fishers) Islands, between Formosa and the Chinese mainland. The fighting is still proceeding. It is the intention of the Japanese to make the Pescadore Islands the basis of operations against Formosa.

PHOENIX, Ariz., March 22.—Amid scenes of wild disorder the eighteenth session of the territorial assembly came to an abrupt termination at 1 o'clock this morning. After a bitter fight, the bill creating Navajo county, in the northeastern part of the territory, was passed by both houses. The general appropriation bill was then taken up in the house, and every scheme to delay its passage was resorted to.

The object of this delay was to kill all chances for the removal of the penitentiary from Yuma to Prescott, for which the Santa Fe Railroad company's agents have been making a fight, opposed by the Southern Pacific company's lobbyists. They prevented the taking of a vote until after midnight, when the session lapsed through limitation. Speaker Carpenter arbitrarily adjourned the house. Nearly all territorial officers and institutions are thus left without funds for the coming two years. An extra session can be called only by Congress at its next session.

CHICAGO, March 22.—In the Square Match company's works today Annie Hansen was opening a box of matches which ignited, setting fire to her clothes. Rushing screaming through the factory, she scattered burning matches about, setting the building on fire. Dashing through a second-story window she fell senseless to the pavement, followed by a dozen terror-stricken girls. Annie Hansen was perhaps fatally burned. Three girls were injured by jumping. The loss is small.

NEW YORK, March 22.—A special dispatch from Havana, says: News has been received from Santiago that General Garisch made a sortie last Monday with a force of 100 cavalry and 12 infantry and met a party of 30. All is quiet, the report says, in the other provinces. The governor of Santiago province reports that on March 18, General Garrisch started from Balre with 220 men. The troops overtook the rebels at Solis and killed five men in a short time. Among the dead were the rebel leaders Manuel and Pasche and Aide-de-camp Setrecha. Arms and ammunition of the rebels were captured.

LAMPA, Fla., March 22.—Incoming passengers from Havana report that the sympathizers with the Cuban rebellion arrested recently during the disturbances have been released. They are watched, and should they be re-arrested will be confined at Matanzas. This release is believed to clear the prisons of Havana so that no evidence of the rebellion can be observed by visitors. It is reported the insurrectionists have discovered that General Sanquilly, who was expected to lead the rebels but who was arrested before the uprising came, has been receiving \$200 a month from the Spanish government for the eight years past to keep it advised of plots against the government by the Cubans.

General Guillermo is reported near Santiago with 4,000 men divided into five companies. For the next two