

BOMBS FOR THE TURKS

Man Killed and Several Others Injured by an Explosion in Constantinople.

SULTAN CLOSELY GUARDED

Report that a Similar Outrage Was Attempted Within the Precincts of the Palace.

ARMENIAN WITH EXPLOSIVES ARRESTED AT THE IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK.

A Bomb Thrown Just Outside Police Headquarters in the Pera District Failed to Explode—Terror in the City.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 18.—The city is almost in a panic to-night over the news of bomb explosions, attempted or accomplished this afternoon at three different points. The explosions are attributed to the Armenians. At 3 o'clock a bomb was thrown just outside the Police Headquarters, in the Pera District. It failed to explode.

Almost at the same moment an Armenian, whose name, it is believed, is Garabet, was arrested at the Imperial Ottoman Bank, in the Galata District. He was carrying a package of explosives, which he was trying to ignite.

A second bomb was exploded in a private road between the Vizierate (offices of the Grand Vizier) and the State Council House. One man was killed and several others were severely injured. The explosion shattered windows in the vicinity and did other slight damage.

The police have made a number of arrests. Reports of the outrages spread quickly through the city and caused the greatest excitement. The police and the Guards at the Sultan's Palace are taking extraordinary precautions to-night, which have given color to a rumor that the bomb throwing is part of a widespread plot.

The most abject terror prevails in the precincts of the palace. In many parts of the city, particularly in the vicinity of the Police Headquarters and of the State Council House, all the shops were closed and it was necessary to call out the entire police force and the military before anything like calm was restored.

The Armenian who was arrested at the Imperial Ottoman Bank was trying, it is reported, to place the bundle of explosives near one of the main entrances. The crowd who saw him delivered by the bank officials to the police would have made short work of him if they had not been prevented.

The police are very reticent as to the reason for summoning the Palace Guard and closing all the doors and gateways; but it is rumored that a similar outrage was attempted within the palace limits, and that the approaches were barred to prevent the exit of the would-be perpetrator.

PREVIOUS RAID ON THE BANK.

Many Persons Were Killed Last Year in the Riots Which Followed.

On the afternoon of Aug. 26, 1896, a score of Armenians, armed with revolvers and bombs, invaded the Imperial Ottoman Bank and killed a number of gendarmes on guard. They mounted to the roof of the building and fired on the police in the streets below. The police returned the fusillade, and several persons were killed. Then the riot became general. Shops were sacked and bazaars invaded, and the wildest excitement prevailed throughout certain quarters of the city.

The movement, which was revolutionary in plan and scope, had its origin at the secret meetings of the Hintchakist Armenians.

Riots broke out in the Galata quarter, and the Turks killed many Armenians. The street between Dalmabegtche and Tophanes resembled a field of battle.

While the Ottoman Bank was in the hands of the rioters, circulars were delivered at the different embassies, signed by members of the Armenian Revolutionary Committee, declaring that they intended to hold the bank for two days, during which period they wanted the powers to intervene to settle the Armenian question, threatening that if the authorities tried to recapture the bank they would blow it up with all its treasure.

They told Sir Edgar Vincent, Governor of the bank, they had selected the bank because it was the most suitable place for making a demonstration, and expressed a willingness to surrender, provided they might retain their revolvers, giving up the bombs, and have safe conduct out of the country. These terms were agreed upon. The Armenians surrendered, and they were taken on board Sir Edgar Vincent's yacht *Gulnare*, which was guarded by the British guardship *Imogene* and two British gunboats.

The number killed and wounded during the riots is known to have been very large. The Armenian Patriarch excommunicated all Armenians concerned in the uprising, and the leaders of the mob left Turkey.
