

TROUBLE IN TURKEY

American Woman's Noble Part in the Balkan Crisis.

She Persuaded the Czar to Interfere in Behalf of the People of Macedonia—Leader of the Revolutionists.

[Special Vienna Letter.]
ALTHOUGH, under pressure from Austria and Russia, the Turkish government has consented to institute far-reaching reforms in Macedonia, on paper at least, the spirit of the Macedonian revolutionists is as warlike as ever, and the name most frequently and conspicuously associated with the revolutionary cause is that of Boris Sarafoff. Nothing of a desperate nature happens in the Balkans but it is at once attributed to him. One has only to glance at the recently published Blue and Yellow Books to appreciate the importance of his personality. His every movement is chronicled in dispatches to every European chancellery, and when his whereabouts are—as they frequently are—obscure, the question: "Where is Sarafoff?" is feverishly telegraphed from half a dozen European capitals to Constantinople, Sofia, Belgrade, Salonica and back again.

Sarafoff embodies the idea of Macedonia for the Macedonians. He is a conspirator and rebel of the classic type, absolutely without scruple and fond of veiling his proceedings in lurid mystery. He is, in short, an extremist. A Macedonian by birth, he was sent at an early age to Bulgaria, and there received his education. He entered the Bulgarian public service, but soon renounced it in order to conspire for the rescue of his fellow countrymen from the yoke of the Turk.

At first he participated in the idea of the "Great Bulgaria," which was sought to be restored by the treaty of San Stefano, and he preached the gospel of the annexation of Macedonia. About two years ago, however, he changed his mind, and came forward as the advocate of a new autonomous

ened afresh. M. Bakhmeteff, the Russian diplomatic agent at Sofia, being the representative of the most interested nation, dispatched one of the consuls to investigate the conditions of the refugees and the causes of their flight from Turkey. The consul returned with harrowing tales. A brave woman then took up the work. The American wife of the Russian diplomatic agent has directed the charity and hospital works of Sofia ever since she arrived in the Balkans, five years ago. She had been decorated for her work, and on one occasion Prince Ferdinand had called on her in person and presented a star of diamonds—the only award of this kind which



BORIS SARAFFOFF.
(Leader of the Macedonian Revolutionary Movement.)

the Bulgarian monarch had ever bestowed upon a woman. Besides having proved her ability as a leader in Red Cross work, Mme. Bakhmeteff was a personal friend of the czar and of Count Nicholas Ignatieff, president of the great Russian charitable institution, the St. Petersburg Slavonic society. The Russian and Bulgarian officials asked her to conduct the work of relief for the unfortunate people of European Turkey, and to make an investigation of their condition.

The plucky American woman found that many of the poor Macedonians were crazed by the crimes and



BULGARIAN TROOPS BRINGING IN REVOLUTIONARY PRISONERS.

Balkan state, as independent, at least, as Bulgaria itself. For this purpose he proposed to work with Serbia as well as Bulgaria.

From this moment his autoeratic career became seriously hampered. He incurred the enmity of the Bulgarian government and in April, 1901, was arrested, together with several of his colleagues, on a charge of murder. In due course he was tried and acquitted amid popular rejoicings; but on emerging from prison he discovered that the Bulgarian government had made use of its opportunity to depose him from the leadership of the Macedonian movement.

The central Macedonian committee had seceded from the moderate party and formed a new organization to carry on his propaganda in Macedonia.

With this organization he is now at work and all the news received of an impending rebellion are echoes of his operations. He is resolved to defeat the scheme of reforms set on foot by the powers, and there is evidence to show that he is obtaining considerable support. This is due to the fact that, while neither Bulgaria nor Serbia desire to see an independent Macedonia, they would both be exceedingly disappointed if the country were to be pacified by a reform administration, and thus bound more tightly than ever to Turkey. Hence, Sarafoff's star is again in the ascendant.

In this connection it might be said that it seems strange that an American woman, living at Sofia, Bulgaria, should have been the chief instrument in bringing about the interference of the powers on behalf of Macedonia. Reports had been coming in for years of Turkish atrocities in the Christian province. Everyone was tired of hearing such rumors, and only the press that espoused the cause of the Macedonians continued to print them. When the Macedonian peasants began swarming over the border into Bulgaria with nothing but the clothes on their backs, general interest was awak-

atrocities which had been committed. Some of these horrors were indescribable. It had been the custom in one province to steal young Christian girls for the harems of Turkish governors and other officials. As soon as a female child began to reveal promise of physical charm a small cross was tattooed between her eyes. The cross saved these girls from inferior harems, but drew upon them other persecutions, and many so marked were among the fugitives. Many women had had their girls as mere children captured before their eyes by soldiers, and if the men interfered they were shot down. One woman came across the border with her infant on her back, and when she lifted it down found it cold in death from a bullet fired at her as she was crossing into Bulgaria.

Women and men were crowded into the same little hospitals when Mme. Bakhmeteff arrived. Many were lying on the floors, with hardly skins enough to cover them. She secured other buildings, had them fitted out with cots and blankets, and had the women moved into them. She went on to Katcharino, Risolelo, Dragodan, Bobochova, the monastery of the Bulgarian monks at Rilo and all the other towns where the fugitives were quartered, and she carried on the same work.

Before she made a second trip to the border Mme. Bakhmeteff went to St. Petersburg and reported her discoveries to the czar, who thereupon called upon the sultan to institute reforms, in which she and he were seconded by the emperor of Austria.

Mme. Bakhmeteff is the daughter of the late Gen. Edward F. Beale, of Washington, who served during President Grant's administration as Minister to Austria. It was while she was in Vienna that she met and became the wife of the noted Russian diplomat, who now holds one of the most delicate posts in Europe.
GREGOR KAMAROFF.

Lesson in American History in Puzzle



MOVING ARTILLERY AT FAIR OAKS.
Find Gen. McClellan.

Every soldier, and especially every artilleryman, who served in the civil war, can fully appreciate the above illustration of a confederate battery attempting to get into position at the battle of Seven Pines, fought on May 31 and June 1, 1862, during Gen. McClellan's peninsular campaign. The incident illustrated here is described by the battery commander as follows, in "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War": "I experienced great difficulty in getting my guns along. I was obliged at times to unlimber and use the prolongs, the cannons being up to their waists in water. About 4:30 p. m. I was within three-quarters of a mile of Fair Oaks Station with three pieces and one caisson, the remainder of the battery being in the rear and coming up as fast as circumstances would permit."

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

Less than half the children in the public schools attend Sunday school.

Rev. Charles A. Trotman, pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, St. Louis, is also a practicing physician, having regular office hours during the week.

After an interval of 365 years a new Roman Catholic abbot has been installed at the abbey of Buckfastleigh, Devon, England. The ancient monastery, now reestablished, was suppressed in 1538.

A medal has been struck by the German Samaritan union in honor of Prof. von Esmarch's eightieth birthday. This medal will be awarded to those who have distinguished themselves in the service of the sick.

In the school for the blind at Lisbon there has been established a new kind of industry which will prove most remunerative to the inmates. It consists in unraveling or "picking" vegetable fibers used as stuffing material for furniture, beds, etc.

The minister of fine arts in Paris, M. Leygues, is at last about to sign a decree admitting women students in the school of fine arts to compete for the Grand Prix de Rome. There are now seven women studying painting, one architecture and eight sculpture.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, of Topeka, Kan., says that after he had married a couple not long ago, the bridegroom fumbled in his pockets nervously without producing anything and finally admitted that he had neglected to provide for the clergyman's fee. "But," he added, brightening up, "I can show you how to fix your gas meter so that it won't register."

The physical director at Yale college has measured all students entering in the last nine years. The nonsmokers' average 15 months younger than the smokers, are taller, and during the four years in school gain 24 per cent. more in height and 26.7 per cent. more in chest growth than do habitual users of tobacco.

The Syrian Protestant college at Beirut, an American nonsectarian institution has 627 students in medicine, pharmacy, commerce, arts and archaeology. Twenty-eight of the 45 professors are Americans, and English is the principal medium of instruction. The institution wishes samples of American manufactures and commercial literature. Its students come from Turkey, Greece, Persia, Egypt and the Soudan.

Dressmakers in Court.

A London justice has just made an important decision regarding dressmakers' disputes. He will not have dresses tried on in court, because he "had long since come to the conclusion that with ordinary dresses any lady could wear a dress to make it look as if it did not fit," and he was also perfectly satisfied that "any milliner or dressmaker could pull it about and make it fit when it did not do so."—N. Y. Sun.

Conclusive Evidence.

"They weren't playing golf," said the wise caddy; "they were making love."
"They did stay at the other end of the links a pretty long time."
"Oh, it ain't that."
"What is it, then?"
"They wouldn't take a caddy along, an' they never lost a ball."—Chicago Post.

HUMOROUS.

Pish—"What made 'em put people on the rack?" Tush—"They wanted, I surmise, to draw 'em out."—Harvard Lampoon.

What Bothered Him—"No use ter grieve over spilled milk, Bre'r Williams." "I know dey ain't—but dey done stole my cow."—Atlanta Constitution.

Opdyke—"What's the use of arguing with a woman? You can never convince her." Depeyster—"True. But think of the pleasure it gives the woman."—Town and Country.

The Governor (about to engage a new groom)—"My man, do you drink?" Enthusiastic Applicant—"I never 'ave, sir; but I think I can learn, sir."—Harvard Lampoon.

Jim—"Jimpson declares that he is going to quit using tobacco." Jam—"I never knew that he used tobacco at all. You see, I've attempted to smoke some of the cigars that he smokes."—Baltimore Herald.

"I am fixing up a surprise for John, but I am afraid that if he stays around the house he will discover me." "That's all right. You just tie a towel around your head and ask him if he can't stay at home to-day and help you take up the carpets."—Baltimore News.

A Simple Rule—"It seems to be a very nice dog," said young Mrs. Torkins, critically, "but it isn't well bred." "I didn't know you were so well informed about dogs," exclaimed her husband. "Oh, I could tell at a glance. He isn't ugly enough to be well-bred."—Washington Star.

Dealer—"These are the most beautiful cut-glass tumblers we have; \$48 a dozen." Mrs. Housekeep—"I'll take them, but I want you to label them 'Seconds. Imitation cut glass, \$1.59 a dozen.'" Dealer—"That's rather a remarkable request." Mrs. Housekeep—"Yes; it's merely to deceive the servant girl."—Philadelphia Press.

One-Client Lawyers.

The poverty of briefless barristers is as proverbial as that of the church mouse. It would not be an unnatural mistake to consider a barrister with only one client hardly better off than one with none. But the modern "one-client lawyer" is usually a prosperous individual. Said a man well known in the business world some years ago to a friend: "I want a young lawyer to put down at a desk beside mine. I'll familiarize him with my affairs, and then I want him to keep me out of trouble." The counterpart of this lawyer, whose duty it is to act as his own client's ounce of prevention, may be found in the office of many large concerns. He is often connected with trust companies, banks, banking houses, railroad and other transportation companies and large wholesale mercantile houses. When a merchant found himself in a tangle, it was once the custom for him to go to his lawyer for advice. The results were a written "opinion" and a fee. The business man to-day has a lawyer who shall work for him alone. Again, the field of the general practitioner is narrowed.—World's Work.

He Had the Goods.

Earnie—Why did she refuse him? I thought she said he was a man of sterling qualities.
Helen—Yes; she did; but she found a man with sterling silver.—Philadelphia Record.

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

Its Future Development Depends on the Equitable Solution of the Road Problem.

The remarkable growth of the rural free mail delivery system, and the willingness of congress to appropriate money for extensions faster than the extensions can be made, have been surprising even to the most enthusiastic friends of the system. "Why, the thing is spreading like wildfire," remarked a gentleman who had been reading up on the subject. "At this rate rural free mail delivery will be universal in a few years." At first glance this view appears to be correct, but in fact such a view is merely superficial. It takes no great amount of investigation to convince one that the system must meet and overcome very great obstacles before it can even become general, to say nothing of being universal. So far the system has sailed on smooth and open seas with favorable winds. But now it is rapidly approaching a region of rocks and snags and storms.

Dropping the maritime figure and coming back to terra firma, the great obstacle to the general spread of the rural free delivery system is the miserable roads of the country. So far the system has only been extended to communities blessed with good roads. Among the many communities demanding the introduction of the system the post office department has been able to select those which have good roads, either as a result of favorable natural condition or superior wealth. The less favored communities, which have been passed by, have consoled themselves with the thought that their turn would come soon. But when these disappointed communities—and their number is increasing very rapidly—find out that they are permanently barred from enjoying the benefits of free delivery on account of the condition of their roads, a cry of indignant opposition will be raised, and it will grow into an angry roar above which it is doubtful if the friends of free delivery can be heard. When this storm breaks the beneficiaries of the system will be found to be a small minority and the disappointed a large majority of the rural population. Suppose the minority stands on its dignity and says: "What are you going to do about it?" What's to prevent the disappointed majority from wiping out the whole system and thus restoring "equality before the law?" Or suppose the minority says: "Why don't you improve your roads, and thus secure the blessings of free mail delivery?" The majority can answer: "In improving our roads we have to overcome greater obstacles, and our means are less. Why not help us improve our roads through general taxation?" Such a demand as this is almost certain to result from the agitation for rural free delivery of the mails. And what is there unreasonable or unjust about such a demand? The general improvement of the roads of the country is a work too stupendous to be left entirely to the small municipalities. Besides, it is not more deserving of national aid than the building of railroads and canals and the improvement of rivers and harbors?

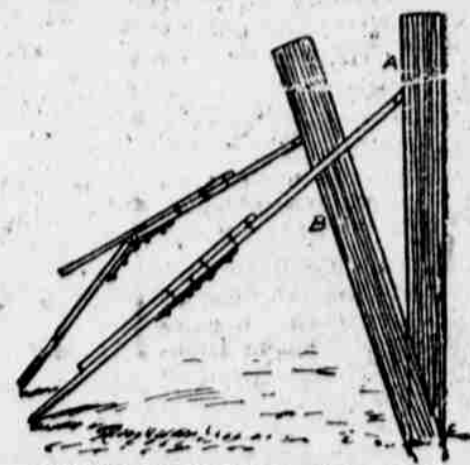
A proper distribution of the expenses of general road improvement among the nation, the states and the local communities appears to be the only practical solution of the road problem, and the road problem must be solved if rural free mail delivery is to be made general.

BRACING FENCE POSTS.

A Homemade Implement Which Does the Work as Well as Those Sold in Shops.

Take a 2-inch plank 4 feet long, 6 inches wide, rip it diagonally into two pieces, 2x2 inches at one end, 2x4 inches at the other. Butt the 4-inch ends together and connect them with a pair of heavy strap hinges.

Cut another piece 4 feet long for a lever and bolt it on as shown in cut. The upper end of the machine should



FENCE POST STRAIGHTENER.

have a ferrule and sharpened spike, to prevent splitting and slipping. The bottom end will need a foot to prevent sinking in the ground.

To operate, place against leaning post (b), and press down on lever. Two bites are often necessary if the post leans badly. When the post is plumb, as at (a), the machine will hold it in place for tamping.—S. B. Lawrence, in Farm and Home.