

Comparison of the Turkish and Bulgarian Armies

Both Are Well Organized But Bulgaria Seems Beaten Before War Begins.

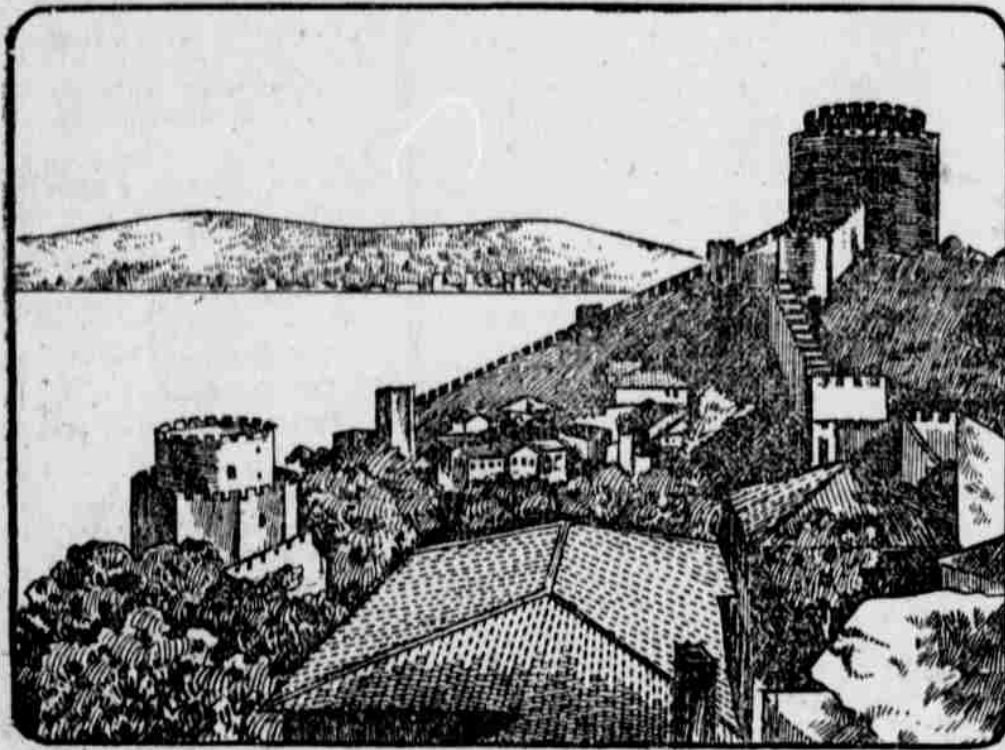


WAR between Turkey and Bulgaria, it would seem from a study of the subject, would be much like the war between Turkey and Greece—a farce from the military standpoint. But there is an "if" in the situation—if Russia did not help Bulgaria, as is now prophesied by those in a position to judge. And if Russia did the end would be too complicated to even permit of a guess at it in the short space of a newspaper letter.

But under present conditions a study of the military resources of Turkey and Bulgaria, the fighting strength of the two nations, the quality of their soldiers, cannot help but be of interest. On paper, Turkey has Bulgaria swallowed at a mouthful before war begins. Population is an important item when attempting to estimate the fighting strength of nations. Of population Bulgaria is credited with 3,300,000 people from which to draw her fighting men; while Turkey boasts of a population of more than 23,000,000, but of these some 5,000,000 are Christian subjects, who are neither eligible to service or permitted to serve in the army. They are, however, serviceable as tax payers and provision furnishers for the troops in the field. Out of her

armament. Its organization is the product of the best of German officers. No less a personage than Von Moltke laid the foundations of the present state of efficiency, and the lessons which that great soldier taught have been neither neglected or forgotten. In fact, a monument erected to him in Constantinople is a constant reminder to the Turks of the training he gave them.

When we remember the opening of the Greco-Turkish war of 1897, it is easy to imagine the fighting strength of the empire. Then, without any seeming effort, 600,000 men were mobilized within a few days, and though less than one-half of this number were of the regular establishment, all of them were trained soldiers of the reserve, who had previously served with the colors. While that war was in progress Gen. Miles, of our own army, visited Constantinople as a military attaché. During his inspection of one of the barracks he asked the colonel commanding a regiment how long it would take him to get his regiment ready to board the train or steamship fully equipped for field service. He was assured that it could be done easily in 5 minutes. That illustrates the rapidity with which Turkey could



THE CASTLE OF EUROPE ON THE BOSPHORUS.

population Bulgaria figures that she can muster an army of practically 300,000 men, though a large part of them—fully one-half—are not connected with the regular military organizations of the country, but are much like our own unorganized militia, though many of them have had more or less training in the army. To get this number she would have to call upon every able-bodied man in the state between the ages of 18 and 45 years, including foreigners who had resided in the country three years.

Turkey's fighting strength is placed at a trifle over 1,000,000 men, a greater majority of whom are efficiently trained than is the case with Bulgaria, and her age limit is higher, none younger than 20 years being called for service.

The greater part of the world has been wont to look upon the Turkish army as a poorly paid, poorly disciplined, poorly equipped body of irregularly soldierly, from whom but little could be expected as fighters save under the excitement of religious fanaticism. Such, however, is a wrong impression. Without even a study of the character of the Turkish soldier, or of the army's organization, history will teach us that he is gifted with a heroism which the soldiers of other nations might well be proud. Nor do we have to go back further than the Russian-Turkish war of 1877-78 to find this display of heroism. What nation can point to a grander example of duty faithfully and heroically performed than that of the Turkish troops under Osman Pasha during the siege of Plevna?

Despite our sneers, and our hatred of the Turkish character, a hatred which may be well founded in the light of our modern civilization, the Turkish army is an efficient military force. It is organized on modern lines, its discipline is not excelled in any army in Europe; it is well clothed, well fed, well armed, and though poorly paid, its religious fervor in time of war with a Christian power more than compensates for the lack of pay. Germany, the generally accepted standard of military excellence in Europe to-day, has provided its arms, and Krupp guns bristle from the portholes of a hundred fortresses located at strategic points, nearly 1,500 Krupp field guns are to be found in its field batteries; its infantry carry Mauser rifles of the latest model, while its cavalry is armed with the same make of carbine, and is better mounted than any similar force in Europe. So much for its German

mobilize her permanent army of 300,000 men to meet the permanent army of Bulgaria of 100,000 men.

In the event of war the Turkish army in the field would no doubt be commanded by Edhem Pasha, a companion of Osman Pasha, a soldier who rendered gallant service in the Plevna campaign of 1877-78, and who commanded the Turkish army in the field in the war with Greece. He is a soldier who has secured his war training in war.

Though weaker in many respects than its probable opponent, the Bulgarian army is not to be sneered at by would-be military critics, and it would in all probability give a good account of itself on the field of battle. Its organization is comparatively new, springing as it did from the Bulgarian battalions of volunteers in 1877, and probably from this reason, as such as from the spirit of progressiveness which actuates the Bulgarian people in all things military. It is modern, and the heroism of its soldiers is unquestioned, though in a way untried. Its infantry is armed with the Manlicher rifle, which is numbered among the best by military experts. The cavalry was reorganized in 1901, and is armed with the Manlicher carbine, while the artillery, consisting of nine regiments with a total of 324 field guns, nine regiments of six-gun mountain batteries, 5 companies of garrison artillery, and five howitzer batteries, practically all of which are equipped with the best of guns from that European arsenal, the Krupp factory.

But little Bulgaria is, we fear, playing with the fire that burns, if—Russia is not back of her, and if Russia is—I believe it was one of our own generals who said "war is hell"—and in that case, Europe will have an abundance of it.

DANIEL CLEVERTON.

Mistaken Identity.
In his monologue at the Orpheum, recently, James J. Corbett told of an incident that occurred at the Coney Island club when he fought "Jim" Jeffries for the first time. The fighter had to pass through the crowd of spectators on the way to the dressing-rooms. One man there, though he had never seen either of the fighters, had backed Jeffries heavily. As Corbett, followed by his trainers, passed into the place, some one yelled: "Hello, here's Jim!" The man who was backing Jeffries thought it was his favorite who had arrived, and rushed up and caught Corbett by the hand. "Good luck, Jim!" he shouted. "I hope you knock Corbett's block off."

CARE OF THE FEET.

What a Woman Whose Housework Keeps Her Almost Constantly on Her Feet Should Do.

Busy housekeepers who must be almost constantly on their feet in the summer should take extra precautions if they wish to avoid corns, bunions and the many other ills to which the pedal extremities are subject, says Eleanor R. Parker in the Home Magazine.

A great many busy women think that it is quite sufficient to bath the feet in warm water twice a week; but they should be bathed and powdered with some cooling powder at least once a day and the stockings changed every morning; old-fashioned white stockings are good for house wear in summer or at least those which have white feet. Shoes for general wear should be comfortable, though not too loose, and the soles should be moderately heavy. Once or twice a week soak the feet in warm water for fifteen minutes and then scrub thoroughly with a flesh brush or coarse wash rag. Cut the nail straight across each toe; do not allow them to project beyond the tips or cut them down too closely at the sides. Rough or calloused spots may be removed by rubbing with a piece of toilet pumice stone. If there are thickened accumulations along the sides of the soles, use a piece of metal or anything with a thin but dull edge to scrape away the deadened skin. If the feet are naturally dry, rub into the soles some fine cream or oil; if they are inclined to be moist, add powdered borax to the water in which they are washed and sprinkle the borax between the toes. Where persons are afflicted with disagreeable odors from the feet, which arises not from uncleanness, but from an actual disease which manifests its presence in this way only, the stockings should be rinsed in a solution of one-fourth ounce salicylic acid and one and one-half pints of water. Dust the feet with powdered boric acid.

Several thicknesses of old carpet bound together and laid before the table, stove, etc., will do much toward protecting the feet.

HE WAS PRACTICAL.

To Meet Her by Moonlight Costs Nothing, But to Meter by Gaslight Is Different.

"My boy," said the old man, kindly, as he poked his head through the back parlor doorway about 11 p. m., where his prospective son-in-law, Charles, sat courting Eliza, with the gas turned on full force, "are you aware that the moon is shining brightly this evening? Just see," and the old man turned the gas out. "Just observe, my boy, how the moon's yellow rays light up the room. Truly it is a glorious spectacle! But come with me a moment; I have something in the cellar which I wish to show you."

Then the old man took his bull's-eye lantern and led the way down the cellar stairs, closely followed by Charles.

"My boy," he said softly, as they reached the cellar, "I know you love Eliza with all the strength of your noble heart, and you love to meet her often, and let me say that I have no objection whatever to your doing so; I simply request your presence in this cellar that I might give you a much-needed and useful lesson in economy. Observe, young man, that little box over in that corner."

Here he turned the light of his bull's-eye full upon the aforesaid box, says London Tit-Bits.

"Well, that's a gas-meter, and every time that little pointer whirls round the space of that dial it means 6s. 6d. nearer the workhouse for me. That's all, Charles. Now we will ascend, and hereafter, when the moon is shining you will not forget my lesson in economy, will you? Remember, my boy, to meet her by moonlight costs nothing, but to meter by gaslight is quite another affair. Good-night, Charles, the moon is still shining brightly, I see."

Then the old man skipped blithely up the back stairs to bed.

Tomato Figs.

Select the small, pear-shaped variety, using six pounds of tomatoes to three pounds of granulated sugar. The tomatoes must be quite ripe; put them a few at a time into a wire basket and plunge them into boiling water, only allow them to remain a moment or they will soften; remove the skins and place a layer of the tomatoes in a granite kettle, sift over them the given amount of sugar, stand the kettle on the back of the range, over a very moderate heat; watch them as the sugar melts, but do not stir, stew until the tomatoes look clear, then lift them, spread out on the dishes and dry in the oven, or sun, sprinkling with granulated sugar occasionally and turning them once or twice. When perfectly dry pack them into tin boxes between layers of granulated sugar in waxed paper.—Good Housekeeping.

A Poor Fisherman.

"I'll never go fishing with that lunkhead, Smith, again."
"Didn't catch anything, eh?"
"No; and dasn't say I caught anything, for fear that he will tell the truth about it."—Judge.

Who Will Get the Tottering State of Morocco

Three Great Powers Are Specially Interested in This Portion of Western Africa.

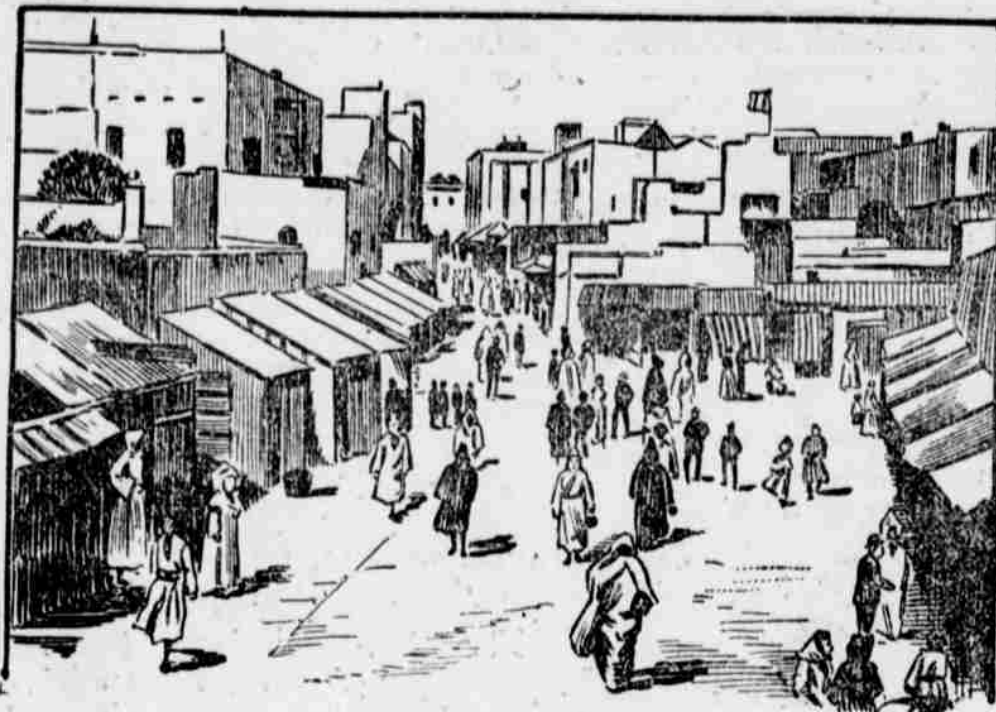


BDUL AZIZ, the youthful sultan of Morocco, is despotic head of a country about ready for the pawnshop. Great are the financial needs of the Sherefean government. For two years no taxes have been collected, save at the ports, and in the meanwhile loans have had to be obtained to continue carrying on the war against the pretender. Great Britain, France and Spain each have advanced £300,000, and France is about to grant an added advance of 20,000,000 francs. It goes without saying that it is not pure philanthropy that actuates these nations to aid Morocco. The control of the Barbary ports is a responsibility each doubtless would be willing to assume; the control of the once far-famed Barbary states, famed for their riches and their piracy.

Donald Mackenzie says Great Britain has three main reasons for her deep interest in Morocco. Once she held Tangiers as a British possession (1661-1684), and some sentiment attaches to that. Then Gibraltar was taken by the English, and as this great fortress is partly provisioned from Morocco, it is a matter of considerable importance to England who has control of the latter

countries in the world, and the moral condition is as low as the political. The 23-year-old sultan has absolute power over both the lives and the property of his subjects. To be sure he has rather difficult subjects to govern—Arabs, Berbers, Negroes and Jews—but the thoroughly corrupt political life, the policy of nonprogress, is the worst possible sort of governing for any people. The country is undeveloped, though rich in resources; no railroads are allowed to be built; the mineral wealth of the country cannot be touched; no exportation of grain is allowed, and fields lie untilled, laborers starve, whilst near-by Europe brings her wheat from far Australia and India.

On the coast dwell a few thousand European residents. The Bedouin Arabs inhabit the plains, the turbulent Berbers the mountainous interior. Over these latter the sultan exercises but little control. But it is the Sheluh tribes of central Morocco that are the most lawless, recognizing no government, and always fighting among themselves. In the north are the Rif tribes, reported to be descendants of the Vandals. They are not so lawless as the Sheluhs, but their subjection to the sultan is nominal. The Moors live in the cities. The ne-



STREET SCENE IN TANGIER.

country. Lastly, the bulk of the commerce of Morocco passes through English hands, but as this is not large it is not of prime importance. As an English correspondent well puts it: "To the people of England it may matter little whether or not they have a share in the agricultural and commercial possibilities of Morocco. But we have a military interest that is vital. The power that holds Morocco and requires free access by sea to the east cannot allow the ports of the sultan to pass into the hands of any European state. Gibraltar is largely dependent on Moorish markets for supplies, and the range of hills from Cape Spartel to Ceuta is capable of being fortified in a manner that would threaten our access to the Mediterranean. To keep the straits open is even more essential to the security of the British empire than the unobstructed passage of the Suez canal."

The interests of France are both commercial and political. France stands next to England in trade relations, and ardently desires to promote future trade. Then the fact that Morocco borders on the French colony of Algiers is a matter of much moment. France would be very glad to have sufficient power in Morocco to suppress the tribes on the frontier that are constantly harassing the French officials of Algeria. From time to time France has made moves that have been regarded jealously by the other nations. She has kept her troops massed on the Morocco frontier, but possibly, as she says, only with a view to secure a trade route through the western Sahara.

The interest of Spain in Morocco has little to do with commerce, depends upon the long historical associations of the Spanish and the Moors. Ever since Ferdinand the Great drove the Moors out of Granada back to their original home in western Africa the Spanish have marked with watchful eyes the doings of their ancient enemy. And a sentiment that is of centuries' growth cannot easily be eradicated; it is quite possible that the strength of Spain's interest in Morocco is as formidable to the sultan as even are the commercial motives of Great Britain and France.

Recently Russia has evinced concern for what is transpiring in Morocco, and has established a legation at Tangier. Report says Russia was influenced by France to this action in the hope thereby to upset British influence in Morocco whilst British attention was centered in South African affairs; but our own country maintains a legation in Morocco, and we have no more commercial interests there than has Russia. Morocco is one of the worst governed

groes, who are of Soudanese origin, were originally brought as slaves. The negro, like his master, is a Mohammedan in religion. The Jews, of whom there are about 300,000 in Morocco, are well hated, but tolerated because they are "the life of trade." Morocco has an area of about 220,000 square miles. Its population is estimated at from 4,000,000 to 8,000,000, and it is thought the latter figure is more nearly correct.

A little resume of the history of Morocco may be appropriate. About 700 A. D. Morocco was conquered by the Arabs. During the eleventh and part of the twelfth centuries the Almoravides, a Mohammedan dynasty of north-western Africa and Spain, had control; and in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the Almohades, another Mohammedan dynasty, succeeded the Almoravides. In the sixteenth century and a portion of the seventeenth Morocco was a flourishing state, but later showed marked signs of loss of power. In modern times she has met defeat after defeat; in 1847 was a loser in a war with France, and in 1859-60 in war with Spain. In 1893 Morocco was forced to pay Spain a large indemnity because of troubles the latter country had had with the Rifian tribes of northern Morocco.

The tools in use in Morocco to-day are of the most primitive sort, as well as are the methods of agriculture and of labor generally. In this day of machinery it is impossible for the nation to hold any rank commercially, and within its confines the most abject poverty prevails. Morocco decorations are famed the world over, and the Moors still retain some of the old skill in handiwork. But the filth and rags of the mass of the people, their unspeakable depravity, is what specially impresses the foreign traveler in modern Morocco. It is very probable that very soon the independence of Morocco will come to an end, that the throne of "the sick man of the west" will fall from under him.

KATHERINE POPE.

Negro a Curiosity in France.

"My colored valet created such a sensation in many European cities that it proved rather embarrassing both to him and me," says Mr. H. R. Blevins, of New Orleans. "I had not supposed that Africans were such a rarity in the Old World, but the people over there, particularly in France, judging by their conduct, had never seen a black face before. Once he went to a church in Lyons, and his presence caused such a commotion that no attention was paid to the priest and the services had to be abandoned."