

THE BATTLE AT MILOUNA—A TURKISH ENGRAVING.

We reproduce a Turkish print representing the battle at Milouna. This primitive etching is an additional proof that art in its infancy is alike everywhere.

The Turkish artist—or perhaps the Greek artist, for the practice of Oriental art has ever been in the hands of the Greek—full of Occidental traditions in the maker of military painting, has given his special attention to the general's staff, which he has grouped around the victorious leader, Echem Pasha, whose likeness is caught with a vengeance.

The officers watch the fighting of men so small that we might imagine the combat before us is taking place between two armies of tin soldiers. The box from which they are taken is of the latest model, for it contains all the accessories for the battle. We even find among these a division of ambulance, which would certainly be to our surprise, were it not that we hear, through the newspaper correspondents, that this war is conducted by the Turks with an extraordinary degree of culture and lenitude.

The French journal L'Illustration has just published this etching, and from that source we have taken our copy.

Newfoundland's New Industry.

Newfoundland is about to follow the example of Norway in making the humpbacks and fin whales, which

The great object of the northern whale fishery in both hemispheres was the right whale, and the pursuit was at one time highly remunerative. In the early part of this century the British whaling fleet consisted of over 150 ships, of which London furnished about a half, while Bristol and Whitby sent a considerable number. Now Dundee and Peterhead are the only whaling ports, and the total number of ships is probably under a dozen. Indeed, owing to the scarcity of right whales in northern waters, a fleet of four whalers was sent in 1892 from Dundee to the Antarctic in search of these animals, which Sir James Ross reported as occurring in abundance in that region. About the same time the Jason—in which Nansen made his first voyage to the Arctic regions—was dispatched from Norway on a similar errand, and other Norwegian whalers have since visited the same seas. The result has been extremely disappointing.

A naturalist who sailed in one of the Dundee whalers says: "Whales were the objects of our voyage, and we saw many, but none that were worth the catching;" and he adds that none of the vessels found any signs of a whale in the least resembling the Greenland species, although they were in the ice for a period extending over two months. It is, of course, impossible to say whether Ross was mistaken. His statements are definite enough, and he also speaks of the sea being full of the small crustaceans and mollusks which form

probably four species—the common finback (*Balaenoptera musculus*), the sulphur bottom (*B. sibbaldi*), the blue whale of the Norwegians, Rudolphi's whale (*B. borealis*), and the lesser fin whale (*B. rostrata*). All these yield whalebone and blubber, though not in such quantity or of such good quality as those of the right whale. For this reason, and also on account of their great activity and the difficulty of capturing them by hand harpooning, they were formerly neglected by whalers; but since the employment of steam vessels, with bomb guns and explosive lances, a fishery has been established on the Norway coast, with a factory at Hammerfest, for the utilization of the products.

The work carried on there consists chiefly of drying the whalebone and preparing it for the market, and rendering down the blubber into train oil. The flesh of Rudolphi's whale is there preserved on a large scale for human consumption. Mr. Collett says that the flesh of no other finback whale is considered fit for such a purpose. If, however, the whalers of Newfoundland should, as is probable, take many specimens of the lesser fin whale, it might be worth while to try the experiment of preparing its flesh for the market. There can be no doubt that it is wholesome and nourishing, and excellent evidence exists that it is also toothsome, so that if the prejudice against its use could be overcome, there is no reason why "whale steak," preserved and put up in tins, should not find ready sale.



الاصوناده ميلونه كيدنده اولان محاربه نيك هيت قيه طرفدن جرايد بيلان كشفيا بلونيك زيمده ماز نظر جيله سنك في ۱۰ نومرو في ۱۳ سنه اخير رخصت املا خوي قدي مضمين صبريد

THE BATTLE AT MILOUNA, ACCORDING TO A TURKISH ENGRAVING

are said at the present time to be found in immense numbers round the coast, the objects of systematic pursuit, says the London Standard. For this purpose a company has been formed at St. John's, and the superintendent of fisheries has organized a fleet of small steamers, with harpoons and bomb firers, such as are used in Norway, to carry on the fishery. There is, perhaps, something misleading about the use of the term "fishery," for it seems to imply that whales are fishes. Of course, every one knows that this is not the case, but that whales are as truly mammals as are oxen and pigs; and are probably descended from hoofed animals which, ages ago, took to aquatic life, first in fresh water and afterward in the open sea. The fishlike form of these gigantic creatures is entirely due to the conditions under which they live, and is in no sense indicative of relationship.

Whales fall naturally into two great groups—those with teeth and those which possess none, but have the upper jaws fringed with baleen, the whalebone of commerce. To the first group belong the sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*)—from which are obtained spermaceti, ambergris, and sperm oil—and the dolphins; to the second, the Greenland or right whale (*Balaena mysticetus*), the humpback (*Megaptera boops*), and the finners or rorquals (of the genus *Balaenoptera*). The whales of this second group live on small marine animals. In feeding, a great gulp of water, containing an immense number of these tiny creatures, is taken in and the mouth closed. The whalebone allows the water to run off and retains the prey to be swallowed.

the food of the right whale. But neither right whales nor their characteristic food gladdened the eyes of Scotch or Norwegian whalers, though fin whales and their characteristic food were met with in plenty.

The whales now abounding on the coast of Newfoundland probably belong to five distinct species, contained in two genera. These range over the North Atlantic and are found in nearly all seas, and there is no doubt that specimens of all the forms have, at one time or another, been met with on our own shores. The humpback (*Magaptera boops*) is so called by whalers from the low, humplike form of the dorsal fin, which varies greatly in shape and size in different individuals, and is generally spoken of as "the hump." The skin underneath the throat is gathered into folds and ridges, as it is also in the finbacks; the pectoral limbs, or "fins," corresponding to the human arms and to the forelegs of an ox or horse, are disproportionately long. It has been characterized as "decidedly ugly," and it is certainly far from being so symmetrical in form as most of the finbacks. The usual length is said to be from forty to fifty feet, but Seamon records one which yielded seventy-one barrels of oil, and was "adjudged to be seventy-five feet in length." Estimated lengths are extremely untrustworthy, and fifty-two feet is the greatest measurement the same author gives for a humpback over which the tape had been passed. He puts the yield of whalebone as averaging four pounds to every barrel of oil, so that this whale should have yielded just two hundred weight and a half. Of the finbacks, or rorquals, there are

In 1829 a specimen of this whale was entangled among the rocks at Runton, in Norfolk, and killed by the fishermen. Miss Gurney recorded in her diary the fact that the creature was 24 feet long, and that its jaws were lined with white whalebone. "A steak cut from it tasted, when cooked, like tender beef." The porpoise—which is a toothed whale—was formerly held in high esteem for food in England and in France, and in the days of Henry VIII and Elizabeth was considered a royal dish.

In the Revue Scientifique M. P. Privat-Deschanel discusses the question of the possibility of the reforestation of the Sahara, of which certain travelers, especially M. Largeau, have entertained such sanguine views. While dismissing as Utopian all ideas of effecting a change on a large scale, such as would alter the general atmospheric conditions and admit of cultivation everywhere, M. Deschanel points to the success of certain local experiments at El Golea and elsewhere, which prove that in valleys favored with a small amount of water (such as is found in almost all the Saharan depressions), such trees as the tamarisk, acacia, eucalyptus and poplar can be grown with success. Contrary to what might have been expected, the poplar proves to be the tree most capable of resisting the influence of the desert. Under the shelter of the trees all kinds of vegetables and fruit trees can be grown. M. Deschanel urges that such local attempts to improve the desert should be persevered in, but that the arid plateaus should be definitely abandoned as hopeless.