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The Evening Journal.

THE LATEST

Dispatches on the European crisis, the BEST SPORTING PAGE published and the FUNNIEST FUNNY PAGE in America, to-morrow in

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TURKEY ORDERS HER TROOPS TO FIGHT.

War Virtually Declared by the Council of Ministers at Constantinople.

Edhem Pasha, the Turkish Commander-in-Chief, Ordered to Act on the Offensive.

Battle Between the Regular Troops on Both Sides in Thessaly Causes the Declaration.

Sublime Porte Notifies the Powers and Its Representatives That Hostilities Have Commenced.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 17.—The Council of Ministers has declared that war with Greece has broken out.

The action of the Council of Ministers followed upon the receipt of the news of the battle between Turkish and Greek regulars.

A detailed circular sent this evening to the Turkish representatives abroad recalls the week's invasions, and states that the newest incursion was participated in by Greek troops, which therefore establishes war, which has broken out.

The circular expresses the hope that the Powers, in a spirit of justice, will agree that the entire responsibility for the war falls on Greece.

The Sublime Porte to-day sent a communication to the Ambassadors, pointing out that if the Greeks have succeeded in crossing the frontier, taking the Turkish positions at many points, it is because Edhem Pasha, the Turkish commander, desired to carry out instructions to the effect that he should remain on the defensive in order to prove beyond dispute that the Greeks were the aggressors.

THEIR FIRST BATTLE.

Greek and Turkish Regular Troops Have a Fierce Engagement in Greece.

Headquarters of the Greek Army in Thessaly, Larissa, April 17.—

Greeks and Turkish troops have had their first battle on Greek soil. The battle began yesterday at Nezeros, just within the Greek frontier lines in Thessaly, and due south of Mount Olympus.

The movement was opposed by the Greek forces, whereupon the Turks opened fire and a sharp engagement, lasting four hours, ensued.

The Fighting Resumed.

Heavy firing between the Turks and the Greeks near Nezeros was resumed at 5 o'clock this morning. The Greeks, in the meanwhile, had been reinforced with artillery, which they brought into play against the Turkish posts at Kotroni.

It is reported that the Greeks occupied three Turkish stations and that the Turks retreated.

The Crown Prince Constantine, the Greek Commander-in-Chief, and General Maeris were up all night dispatching orders to the front.

The engagement extended to the Greek posts to the left of Nezeros, but it is reported that the firing did not last long.

News Received at Athens.

Athens, April 17.—Dispatches received from the Greek headquarters at Larissa, confirm the report that an engagement has taken place near Nezeros, in Thessaly, on the frontier near Mount Anaplis, between the Turks and the Greeks.

At Kritidos, Pilsia and Kourduzi heavy fighting occurred between the Greeks and Turks before the places mentioned were captured, but the invading irregulars of Greece, mountain men and born fighters, proved themselves more than a match for the trained Turkish troops, and drove the latter before them from place to place.

ing until midnight, and ended in a repulse of the Turks. This morning the Turks again attempted to occupy the same strategic position, and again they were repulsed.

DASH INTO MACEDONIA. How Greek Irregulars Secured Strong Strategic Positions in Enemy's Country.

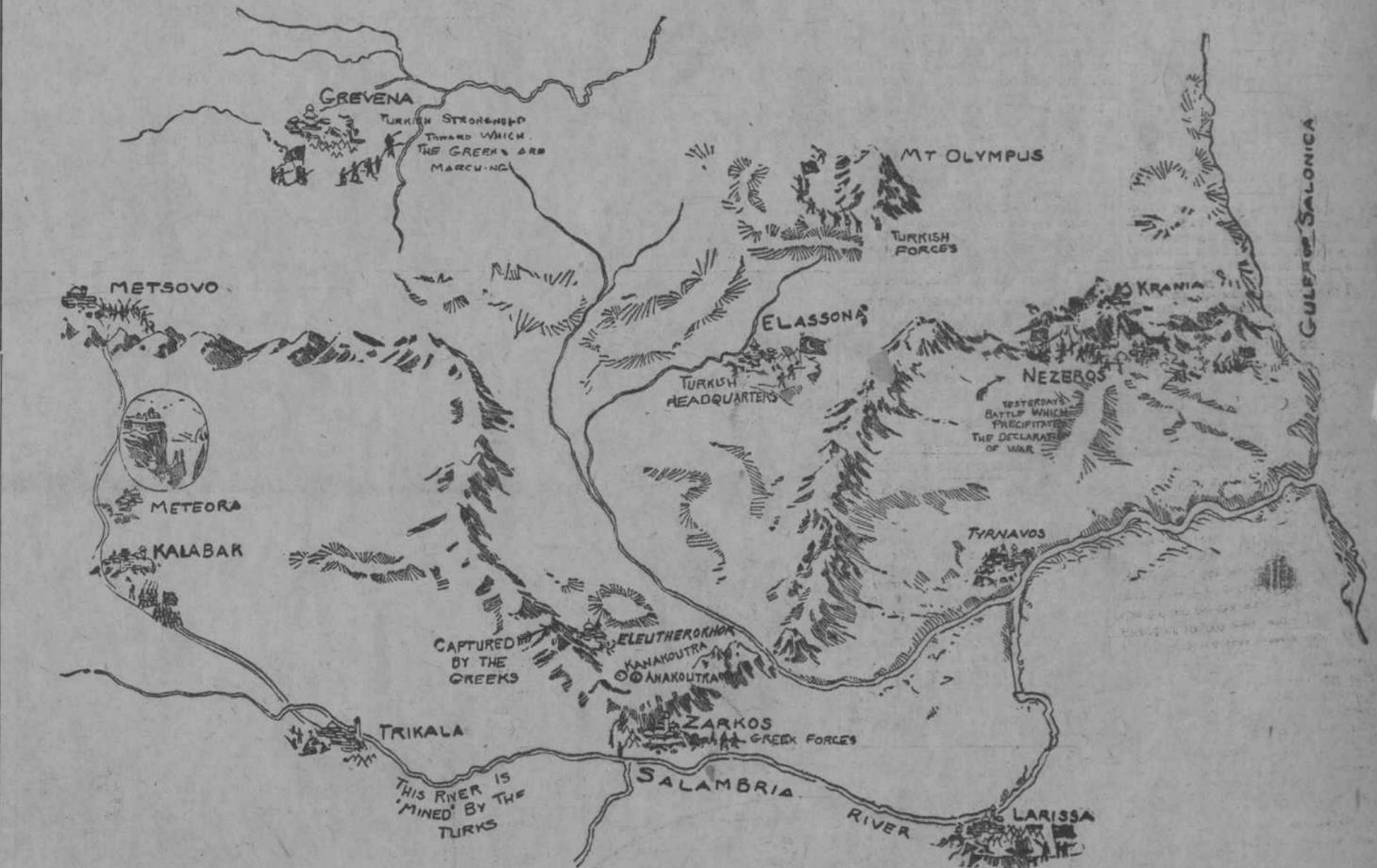
Athens, April 17.—The Greeks will have valuable assistance during the war from the irregulars who during the past week have been obtaining footholds in Turkish territory.

Simultaneously with ordering the movement against Zlovo, Chief Davellis sent another column of irregulars to the right from Pignavita, with orders to invest and capture Sitovon, another town occupying a strategic position of importance.

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More Victories for Greeks.

Another column of Greek irregulars started for Macedonia from Zarkos, half way between Larissa and Trikhala. Shortly after crossing the frontier the Greeks were confronted by strong forces of Turkish regular troops, stationed in well defended positions in the village of Anakoutra and Kanakoutra.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE WAR OPERATIONS ON THE GRAECO-TURKISH FRONTIER.

(THE MOUNTAIN CHAIN FORMS THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.)

Turks, who retreated from Cleutherokari. This route into Greek territory was placed in a state of defence, and is now regarded as being safe, the nature of the country making it almost impossible for a Turkish force to advance in the face of the opposition of the irregulars, and cut out the line of communication between the Greek forces at Larissa and Trikhala, which is believed to have been the plan of the Turkish commanders.

The Macedonian frontier, opposite Zarkos, extends U-shape into Greek territory, having the Greek positions of Tyrnavo and Larissa on its left and Kalabaka and Trikhala on its right. This formed a sort of entering wedge through the middle of the Greek forces, by way of the Macedonian villages just captured by the Greek irregulars and Zarkos, in Thessaly, from which point the expedition started into Macedonia.

The Greek 'irregulars' now hold all of the four roads leading from the Thessalian frontier in the direction of Grevena, which may be looked upon as the Turkish centre.

Another feature of the operations which looks favorable to the Greeks is in the fact that, according to reports received here from the leaders of the irregular forces, at least one thousand mountaineers of the country traversed by the Greeks have joined the irregular forces, and it is further stated, the Albanians deserting from the Turkish forces near Mount Olympus, are escaping into Thessaly and joining the Greek forces.

The roads in Thessaly are in excellent condition for military operations; but on the Turkish side of the frontier the reverse is the case, and the Turks are experiencing the greatest difficulties in the transport of war material and in the mounting of guns in commanding positions.

All Prepared for War.

Zarkos is held by a strong force of Greek regulars, infantry, cavalry and artillery, and forms the centre of a first line of defence which includes all the villages in that vicinity. Up to recently the Turks had the best positions on the frontier, their well built, strongly defended, admirably placed block houses being in plain view from the Greek lines.

Salonica, April 17.—A battalion of Albanians stationed at Uskub in readiness to start for the Greek frontier, has been suddenly sent in haste to Verana, on the Montenegrin frontier, and another battalion, now in course of formation, will follow so soon as possible.

This unexpected movement of Turkish troops toward the Montenegrin frontier has given rise to the report that serious danger is apprehended in that direction.

dusk. Cavalry patrols cover all the frontier, but the Greeks in the Christian peasants on the other side of the frontier have an intelligence department, which no money or skill could organize, and the Greek commanders are kept well informed of all that is going on across the border.

Kalambaka, on the Greek left, not far from the Albanian frontier, is another important position of the Greeks. A military road from Kalambaka to Veraniza, on the frontier, has just been completed. At Veraniza are the only passes from Haliacmon Valley, and the Greeks have 6,000 men in that vicinity, ready to meet a Turkish advance.

The Greek 'irregulars' now hold all of the four roads leading from the Thessalian frontier in the direction of Grevena, which may be looked upon as the Turkish centre.

In all the Greeks have about 80,000 regulars and some 20,000 irregulars on the frontier, but they count a great deal on reinforcements to their armies through uprisings in Epirus, Albania and Macedonia. The Turks, on the other hand, have about 150,000 good, well equipped troops in line. Of these forty-four battalions are redifs raised in Roumelia, in all about 30,000 men, who are divided into two reserve divisions. At Monastir flying columns have been formed to watch the Serbian frontier.

TURKEY'S OTHER FOE. Sultan Fears an Attack by Montenegro—Watching the Frontier.

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COUNCIL OF WAR HELD.

Edhem Pasha and His Officers Consider the Battle in Thessaly.

Headquarters of the Turkish Army in Macedonia, Ellassona, April 17.—News has reached here that a Greek band attacked the Turkish troops at Karyia, northwest of Nezeros. A Turkish officer and two men were wounded. The fighting

was in progress when the message was received.

A council of war was held here, under the presidency of Edhem Pasha, the Turkish Commander-in-Chief.

PLANS OF CAMPAIGNS.

Washington Strategists Figuring on the Fighting to Be Done in Greece and Turkey.

Washington, April 17.—The announcement that Turkey had practically declared war

immediately off the mouth of the Dardanelles, and are of great strategic value.

In the meantime a fleet would be dispatched for Kalouka. This town is the immediate base of war supplies for the Turks. It lies on a series of terraces, perfectly open to a naval attack, and possibly might be compelled to surrender.

Such would be the movements that necessarily would mark the beginning of hostilities. It is said here to-night that the Turks must now be on their march for

instructions to imitate their ancestors.

The idea here is that the first struggle will be as stated. The Turks will take Larissa. Greece will seize Chios and Lamos and stir up Lesbos and Lemnos. The province of Epirus will fall into their hands. They will advance into Macedonia and be assisted by the Montenegrins, Bulgarians, Albanians and Macedonians.

The recent announcement of the Czar, through his official organ, that "in the event of war Europe could not afford to be pro-Turkish," is commented on here and construed very favorably to Greece. The fact that Turkey has moved an army corps to the Montenegrin frontier also excites interest, because Montenegro is the fast ally of Russia.

It is estimated that Greece could muster upward of 100,000 men, while Turkey could raise 300,000 for the war. The general sentiment here is embodied in a remark of Dr. Daniel Quinn, of the Catholic University, who for many years was attached to the University of Athens: "I am glad that it is Turkey that has declared the war. Europe can now hardly blockade Greece. The better side should win."

SILENT SIR JULIAN.

The British Ambassador Was Not Disposed to Volubility on War Topics.

Washington, D. C., April 17.—Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, when seen this evening in relation to the intelligence received that Turkey had practically declared war against Greece, said that if such were the fact he had received nothing confirmatory of the matter. Asked if complications were liable to arise that would seriously involve Great Britain, in case the intelligence should prove to be true, Sir Julian remarked with great good nature that his position forbade him from discussing such matters in the public prints. What Great Britain would or would not do under certain conditions would be settled upon by the Home Office. He apprehended, however, that her established policy would be followed, viz., not to cross the bridge until she reached it.

UNCLE SAM'S FLEET.

This Country Has Only Four War Vessels Near the Scene of Hostilities.

Washington, April 17.—Following are the American vessels on the European stations:

- The San Francisco, eleven M. L. Johnson, flagship of 1 at Smyrna. The Minneapolis, eleven G. H. Wadleigh, is at Mersine. The Cincinnati, eleven G. M. Shepard, left Naples, its Mersine, but has been ordered to the United States, and will be the Raleigh.



Grand Duke Constantine.

He is in command of the Greek forces now encamped on the plains of Thessaly, close to where yesterday's battle took place.

on Greece by allowing her regular troops to engage in conflict aroused the diplomatic corps here. The opinion is that the first movements will be an immediate advance of the Turks on Larissa, a town of Thessaly, directly north of the passes of Thermopylae. It will be almost impossible for the Greeks to prevent the capture of Larissa.

On the other hand the Greeks have a much more powerful fleet than Turkey. The Psara and the Hydra, two modern cruisers, could sail through the whole Ottoman fleet. The Greeks will make a naval demonstration against the islands of Chios and Samos. The people of these islands have been very carefully indoctrinated with the idea that Greece was preparing for their liberation.

The Greeks far outnumber the Turks, and are ready for rebellion. With the assistance of a portion of the fleet the islands would be Greek territory in a week. They lie

Larissa. One diplomatist said it would be safe to announce it as a fact.

The danger to the Greeks will be from a land attack. The Turks now have about 150,000 men under arms near the frontier. The Greeks have 80,000. They are massed almost entirely south of Arta, which indicates that the Greeks intend to advance into Macedonia from the western side. There will be little opposition to this attack, and the Greeks will have the further advantage of the assistance of the Montenegrins and Bulgarians, who will be immediately in the rear of the Turks. Besides this the native inhabitants of Macedonia are Greeks.

The Turks, after taking Larissa, to make their victory valuable, must push on and seize the passes of Thermopylae. The Greeks have left a sufficient guard at this famous stronghold of Grecian liberty, and