

# The Orient.

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## BIRTHDAY OF EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH.

Today is being celebrated the eighty-fifth birthday of the oldest monarch in Europe. The Emperor-King Francis Joseph I. of Austria-Hungary was born on August 18th, 1830, and has been Emperor of Austria for sixty-seven years, and King of Hungary for forty-eight. His father was Archduke Franz Karl, son of Emperor Franz I. of Austria; and his mother was Archduchess Sophie, Princess of Bavaria. His predecessor on the throne was his uncle, Ferdinand I., who, after the storm that followed the French revolution of 1848, was induced to abdicate. His brother, who was his legal successor, likewise renounced his right in favor of his son, who became the Emperor Francis Joseph when but eighteen years of age.

His life has not been entirely a quiet one, even before this last disturbance of its tranquillity. First of all came an attempt on his life in 1853, when he received a serious knife-wound. Then followed the war with Prussia, in 1856, which resulted in the transfer of Venetia to Italy and the giving up of Schleswig and Holstein to Prussia. In 1867, he granted a new constitution to the Hungarians and was crowned King of Hungary. In 1854 the Emperor married Elizabeth, daughter of the Duke of Bavaria, a woman of remarkable beauty, a fine scholar and an admirable horsewoman. She was assassinated in 1897 at Geneva by an Italian anarchist, after previous attempts had been made on herself and her husband during a visit in Trieste. Their only son, Crown Prince Rudolph, a man of much ability and promise, was but 32 years old when he committed suicide. The latest great personal sorrow that has come to the Emperor was the assassination of the heir-presumptive, Francis Ferdinand, last year, which is fresh in the minds of all.

Despite the many misfortunes that have befallen his family, the Emperor is not a man to be swayed by personal considerations; he has the reputation of being guided by a common-sense appreciation of the needs and possibilities of the moment, and of having a consistent moderating influence in European policy and of being one of the chief guarantors of European peace.

In commemoration of the birthday of Francis Joseph I., there is being celebrated today a solemn mass and Te Deum in the Roman Catholic cathedral of Santa Maria Draperis in Pera. This will be followed by a reception at the Austrian Embassy for the Austrian colony.

## PRESIDENT BLISS AT ARNAOUTKEUY.

President Howard S. Bliss, D.D., of Beirut, preached last Sunday afternoon at Constantinople College, from the text 2 Timothy 2:19,—"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal: The Lord knoweth them that are his; and, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." Dr. Bliss had read from the eleventh and twelfth chapters of 2 Corinthians, the recital of the experiences of the apostle; and he called attention to the weighty meaning in Paul's case of the little word "Nevertheless" in this connection. Despite all, God's foundation stands sure. It was not so much his physical sufferings,—the beatings, the shipwrecks, the stoning, the perils of robbers, that he had endured,—that were in his mind then, as the trials to his faith, in the care of all the churches, and in the perils among false brethren. In spite of all these, he felt he was resting on a sure foundation,—the promises and the character of God. On this foundation, the preacher pointed out, are carved two mottoes,—two inscriptions. The first is: "The Lord knoweth them that are his." Twenty-five years ago one of the great problems in the theological seminaries and outside was, Can a man know God? We have got beyond that. Today both theologians and scientists reverently acknowledge that we can know God. But the important question is, Can God know us? Are we such creatures as to merit the recognition of the Almighty? Here on this foundation stone He has inscribed the answer. He does know us, and acknowledge us as his. And the other inscription is: "Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." It behooves us who have taken upon ourselves the Name to purify ourselves. There should be no connection between the Christian and any form of iniquity. Purity of life, of word and of thought is essential. And between these two mottoes there is a vital connection. The assurance of the first gives force to the counsel of the second; and he who would claim the one must see to it that he carry out the terms of the other.

Next Sunday afternoon, at the same hour,—five o'clock,—it is expected that Rev. Franklin E. Hoskins D.D., of Beirut will preach at the same place.

Rev. and Mrs. Henry T. Perry of Sivas are spending the summer at Mountain Rest, Goshen, Mass.

### TURKISH MADE EASY,

A correspondent writes as follows to the daily *Hilal* :—

"Since the system of capitulations has ceased to exist, the government has taken the necessary means to emphasize everywhere the official character of the Turkish language. Privileged companies, such as the Ottoman Bank, the railway, electric and tramway companies, will henceforth be obliged to give the Turkish language the place it ought to have in their administrations. Private schools will have to give in their programs a preponderating place to the language of the country. The new educational law shows that the government is resolved to make the official language dominate in public life.

"We note with pleasure on the other hand that abroad also, and especially in Germany, much attention is being given to the Turkish language. The increasingly closer relations and friendship between Turks and Germans are turned to account by the German newspapers and reviews, which advise their readers to cultivate assiduously our language. It will be by knowing this language well, they remark, that the Germans can come to a better understanding with the Turks, and cultivate successfully economic and social relations with them. According to private information that reaches us, in some German cities, and notably at Hildesheim, the teaching of Turkish is already obligatory in the commercial schools.

"Yet it must be acknowledged that under present conditions the teaching of Turkish is no easy thing. One of our readers insisted a short while ago that any one could learn the literary Turkish language within a year. This assertion was vigorously contested by the argument that no foreign language could be learned in so short a time. It seems to us that this objection is superfluous, since time alone is no sufficient criterion by which to measure and calculate the effort needed to learn a language. It depends on the age, the intellectual capacity of the person, the method adopted, and the amount of time one can give each day to study.

"As for the Turkish language itself, it is no more difficult than French or German; in certain respects it is less complicated. But there are difficulties that are not inherent in the language itself, which yet make its acquisition very hard. There is, first of all, the question of the characters. The Turkish language today uses nearly a hundred characters while the French, for example, has but twenty-six. Each of the Turkish letters has more than one form, according as it stands at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of the word. Besides, the language today possesses no vowels; and so the same word may be pronounced, by a person not acquainted with it, in eight or ten different ways. These difficulties are felt by the Turks themselves, in connection with the literary language; while foreigners have trouble with them in the spoken tongue as well. This is why a German, for instance, can learn French or any other language more easily than Turkish.

"But, as we said, these difficulties are not inherent in the language itself; with a little effort they can be avoided,

at least in part, by introducing certain reforms in spelling. The Turkish intellectual leaders have long been impressed with the necessity of such reforms, and have been busy with the task. All are agreed as to the principle, but opinions differ as to the nature of the reforms to be introduced. There are radicals, liberals and moderates. Some are convinced that the actual characters must be radically changed and one single form used for each letter. Books and pamphlets have been published with a view to propagating the characters devised in accord with this scheme. Other educated men, of more moderate tendencies, believing this radical reform useless and impracticable, limit their idea to modifying slightly the existing characters.

"In the matter of the vowels too, there is a difference of opinion in competent circles. Some favor the introduction pure and simple of vowels in all syllables, writing each as it is pronounced. Others would introduce vowels only in words whose pronunciation is ambiguous.

"Special societies have been founded to propagate one or the other of these ideas; but no one of them has till now accomplished anything positive. And in fact it would be too much to expect a definite result from reforms of so sweeping a nature. We know what has been done in France in the matter of orthography; there have been contests, controversies and campaigns in favor of spelling reform; even the Academy had given a majority vote in favor of it, but this it had to recall, and till now nothing positive has been done.

"It is to be hoped that with us it will be otherwise. Since the need of such reform is most imperative, and as the force of public opposition is weakening, serious efforts cannot but succeed in accomplishing what is desired. As we are determined to spread our language and to make it compulsory in our public life, we must make it accessible to foreigners. We understand that the ministry of public instruction has just appointed a commission with this object, and that this commission is already at work; and we commend this step."

### THE OTTOMAN CAMPAIGN.

The despatch of the 10th says:—

"Yesterday the attack made by the enemy north of Aru Bournou was again repulsed with great losses. Our troops by their violent attacks threw back toward the coast the enemy who are farther north. In these battles we made four officers and fifty soldiers prisoners, and took two mitrailleuses and some heliostatic and telephone materials and many rifles. On the left wing at Aru Bournou our troops by a bayonet assault retook a part of the trenches that the enemy had recently occupied. Our troops occupied on the left wing at Sed-el-Bahr an important part of a trench left isolated between us and the enemy."

The despatch of the 11th says:—

"At the Dardanelles yesterday our troops furiously attacked the enemy north of Aru Bournou. The enemy were forced back 500 metres with great loss. In this fight we took

from them a mitrailleuse and 200 rifles. During the night before last a part of the trenches were again occupied on our left wing by our troops. On the left wing at Sed-el-Bahr we took prisoners a French officer and some soldiers and captured a number of rifles.

"A hostile cruiser, while bombarding by indirect fire from the Gulf of Saros the region of Boulair, was hit by some shells from our concealed batteries and compelled to withdraw from the gulf.

"On the 8th a hostile aeroplane dropped three bombs on our hospital at Galata Village, although this bore horizontally the distinctive marks of the Red Crescent. We had one killed and three wounded."

The despatch of the 12th says:—

"North of Aru Bournou on the 10th the enemy made four successive attacks on our positions, all of which attacks were repulsed with great losses for the adversary. In the course of the attack that they directed against the front of merely one of our divisions, they left 3,000 dead on the field. At another point our troops by a counter-attack dislodged the enemy from their positions and captured two more mitrailleuses. At Sed-el-Bahr in the afternoon of the 10th the enemy, after exploding two mines before our right wing, made an attack there which was repulsed with loss. Yesterday afternoon, about one company of the enemy tried to attack part of the trenches of our left wing, but were completely annihilated."

The despatch of the 13th says:—

"At the Dardanelles the night before last, to the north of Aru Bournou the attack of a feeble hostile force was easily repulsed. In this fight we took a few prisoners. In this region during the last three days we have captured from the foe eight rapid-fire guns with all their accessories and ammunition. Five of these are now being used against the enemy.

"Yesterday a hostile battleship cruising before Aru Bournou was struck in the stern by a shell from our artillery, and had to retire. At Sed-el-Bahr on our right wing our troops took from the enemy at one fell swoop a trench 100 metres long."

The despatch of the 14th says:—

"A German submarine today sank in the Aegean sea a large transport of 10,000 tons, loaded with troops; very few of the troops could be saved by the hospital ship.

"At the Dardanelles, north of Aru Bournou, in the afternoon of the 12th, the enemy took the offensive on the side of Anafarta valley against our right wing; but by our counter attacks they were driven several hundred metres back of their former positions. In this fight we took an officer and several soldiers prisoners. The next morning our artillery in Anafarta valley fired effectively on a regiment of hostile infantry, who were obliged to flee in disorder to the port of Kemikli, and the ships of the enemy that were there had to withdraw from the shore under the fire of the same batteries. At Aru Bournou the enemy's landing-stages were bombarded; the enemy suffered great losses there; a rowboat full of soldiers

was sunk before the landing-stage. At Sed-el-Bahr the enemy's bomb-throwing appliances before our left wing were destroyed by our artillery. Our coast batteries at Koum Kale dispersed by their sudden fire the enemy's torpedo-boats that were cruising in the vicinity of the Strait.

"The enemy have been using these last few days dumdum bullets in large quantities. Yesterday some hostile aeroplanes during the morning and evening again threw twelve bombs on the hospitals in the region of Aru Bournou, although these bore the signs of the Red Crescent; nine more soldiers were wounded. We regret to announce these two facts."

The despatch of the 15th says:—

"In the Caucasus region, the city of Van, which had been attacked by the Russians in cooperation with Armenian bands, had resisted for 20 days; but on the arrival of Russian reinforcements, the city had previously been evacuated by its garrison, which was not strong enough to resist. Our troops on August 11th retook Van. The bands and the Russian detachments, which had committed acts of devastation and destruction, were forced to beat a retreat.

"At the Dardanelles, north of Aru Bournou, in the valley of Anafarta, yesterday afternoon the enemy tried again to attack our right wing, but was repulsed with loss. In the Aru Bournou and Sed-el-Bahr regions there was no event worth noticing."

The despatch of the 16th says:—

"At the Dardanelles the enemy had disembarked a new force on the 24th and 25th of July (old style), composed of five divisions, with the purpose of mastering our positions; but before the very heroic resistance and the sacrifice of our brave troops, the enemy has lost half of these new forces and without having succeeded in the object they had in view they are merely clinging to the slopes of the shore. The attack that the enemy made yesterday again in the region of Anafarta was repulsed with enormous losses for the enemy; we took a captain and several soldiers prisoners and captured two mitrailleuses and a lot of rifles. Our forces are now on every side in a position that effectively dominates the enemy. A hostile torpedo-boat was hit by the shells of our artillery and had to retire in flames.

"On our right wing at Sed-el-Bahr, by a mine that we exploded a few metres distance from the enemy's trenches, their bomb-throwing apparatus fell in, and their barbed wire entanglements were destroyed. Following this the enemy wasted during the whole night a great quantity of ammunition."

#### CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, August 22, 1915.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles T. Riggs.  
 UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew, D. D.  
 ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Howard S. Bliss, D. D.  
 CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, 5 p. m., Rev. Franklin E. Hoskins, D. D.

### PROGRESS OF THE BAGHDAD RAILROAD.

The completion of another section of the Baghdad Railroad, as chronicled in these columns last month, calls attention to this gigantic project anew, for in spite of the many obstacles due to war conditions, the line is being actively pushed, and substantial progress has been made.

The Euphrates Valley or Baghdad Railroad scheme has been in the air for a long time. In 1899 it was prominently brought forward, when Russian capitalists made a proposal to undertake the enterprise. This was rejected, as was likewise a similar proposal of British interests. In 1902 an imperial *iradé* was given to a German company, and this the more easily because the Germans already had a controlling interest in the line from Haidar Pasha to Konia. An elaborate scheme of international control was worked out on paper, but the line has always been predominately financed from Germany. In 1904 the line was completed from Konia through Ereğli to Bourghourlou. In 1908 an *iradé* was issued sanctioning the continuance of the road through the Taurus to Adana and on through the Amanus to El Helif, near Mardin. The line is in operation from Bourghourlou on to Kara Pounar, at the northwest end of the great tunnel section through the Taurus, which, following the Bozanti valley to a great extent, was described by Dr. Dodd in *The Orient* two years ago. On the southeast side of these tunnels the rail head is at Dorak, and the line goes thence to Adana and on through Osmanie and Baghtche; then there is about a hundred kilometres of tunneling through the Amanus mountains, not yet completed, and the road runs on to Aleppo. Thence it goes to Djerablis where it crosses the Euphrates, and has now been continued on to Ras-el-Ain, southwest of Mardin. The proposed route runs thence through Nisibin to Mosul, and follows the Tigris river down to Samara and Baghdad. It then runs westward to Kerbela and south to Nedjef, both west of the Euphrates, and follows the west bank of the latter river to Souk-esh-Sheyoukh and Basra. Connection with the Mediterranean is obtained by a branch south from Toprak Kale to Alexandretta on the gulf of that name. Another branch is proposed from Basra to Mohammerah, in Persia; and the extension of the road from Basra to Koweit has been urged but not yet adopted.

In 1909-1910 Yousouf Said Bey presented a scheme for a railroad from Homs, on the Damascus-Aleppo railroad, through Palmyra, Deir Zor and Hit to Baghdad, with a branch from Palmyra to Damascus; but this fell through because of French opposition.

It is known that the region to be traversed between Mosul and Baghdad is quite rich in coal deposits and in oil wells, particularly near Ghayara, Kerkouk and Khanikin. In the vicinity of Kerbela and Nedjef the line passes through the region irrigated by the celebrated Hindiyeh barrage scheme; while the historical interest of the road is everywhere most unusual, passing as it does close by the ruins or ancient sites of Carchemish, Haran, Nineveh, Babylon, Kufa, and other cities of hoary history.

### THE GENERAL WAR.

On the western battlefront the past week the British have succeeded in taking the western part of the town of Hooge, east of Ypres. The attacks of the French in the region north of Souchez, and near Courcy, north of Rheims, as well as on the Lingenkopf, are reported as repulsed. The Germans captured the position known as "l'ouvrage Martin" in the Argonne region north of Vienne-le-Chateau, and fortified it. They also sent some dirigibles on a raid over Harwich, on the east coast of England, bombarding the naval station there. The French have been bombarding Munster, Markirch and Sainte Marie des Mines; and the Germans retaliated by firing on St. Dié. The German mine-layer "Meteor" on the 10th went through the British blockade and sowed mines along the eastern British coasts; it sank the British auxiliary cruiser "The Ramsey," rescuing forty men of the crew; but on its return, being attacked by four cruisers, the captain of the "Meteor" sank his ship, after taking off all the men, including the prisoners. The British torpedo-boat "Lynx" is reported lost in the North Sea by striking a mine; four officers and 22 men were rescued.

The same day some German cruisers attacked the fortress of Utce, on the Aland archipelago, in the Baltic at the mouth of the Gulf of Bothnia, and silenced the coast batteries. Another squadron of German cruisers chased away some Russian torpedo-boats from near the mouth of the Gulf of Riga; they were attacked by a Russian submarine but suffered no loss.

The Russian fortress of Lomzha, on the Narew river, was taken by the Germans on the 10th; and the German besieging lines are being drawn closer around Kowno and Nowo Georgievsk. Ostrow still remains in Russian hands. The result of the last two weeks' fighting has been to straighten up the lines of the opposing armies to a more nearly north-and-south line. The Germans and Austrians are pressing the Russians back in Poland, both eastward from the Warsaw region and northward from the Cholm region. The allies have taken Kaluszyn, Siedlce and Lukow, east of Warsaw, and also Biala, near the Bug, toward Brest Litowsk. The Russians have turned on them several times, and offered stubborn resistance, but have not succeeded yet in stopping the Teutonic advance. On the southwest bank of the Dniester, between Stanislaw and Czernowitz, the Russians have been fighting hard.

The Italian campaign does not seem to have made great progress this week. The Italian bombardment of the Doberdo plateau seems unceasing, but apparently accomplishes little. They have been attacking east of Monfalcone and near Zagora, southeast of Plava, more especially; and the Austrians have been bombarding the Italian positions near Cormons. Other and less significant fights have occurred in the Tyrol and Carinthia. The Italians and Austrians each acknowledge the loss of a submarine during the week; the Italian was sunk in Trieste Gulf, and the Austrian somewhere in the north Adriatic. The Austrian fleet bombarded the Italian coasts between Bari and Porto San Giorgio, damaging the railroads and getting back safely.

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**Charles T. Riggs**

Bible House, Constantinople.

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**EDITORIAL.**

With this issue begins a series of sketches of the great missionary characters of the early days, — of the men and women who laid the foundation for the evangelical work in this empire. Many of these have attained international fame, while some of the most faithful and the most dearly beloved were never known beyond the limits of their friends here and in the homeland. Their names are written above, in the Book of Life, and all we can do here is to recite again some of their deeds, as an incentive to those who follow in their train. THE ORIENT would also welcome any personal incidents or anecdotes regarding these early missionaries, or any facts that may be in the possession of any of our friends but would not be generally accessible. Whatever would serve to put before us more vividly the life and work of these pioneers will be most welcome.

The Wise Preacher speaks about the years when men say, "I have no pleasure in them." Old age brings a lessening of the vital interest in life and its affairs. But such listlessness often comes before any other sign of advancing years can be detected. It is one of the natural consequences of a prolonged strain of any kind. The past year has brought to many something of this feeling. One constantly hears it said that the details of life have no more interest in them. People are tired of watching, of waiting, of hoping, of expecting. But this is a mistake. Merely from the intellectual point of view it is of great importance to be interested. Men who think hard live the longer for it. Statistics would prove that the average length of life of the intellectually trained and active is greater than that of the dull or the unthinking. "If I rust I rust" is true of men's brains at such a crisis. Yet the importance of keeping interested in the progress of events is far greater from the spiritual side. The kingdom of God "cometh not with observation," it is true, yet we are bidden

to watch; and in the turning and overturning of a great conflict there come times when listlessness is fatal to faith, or at all events, to any effort to strengthen the faith of others. God moves in a mysterious way. If we would be of service to mankind, nothing human should be a matter of indifference to us. Furthermore, in times like these, one needs to be constantly on the watch for items of cheer from the spiritual life of distant places and communities. If the power of God is being seen in Philadelphia or Peking or Hawaii, it should encourage us to know it. Let no one say he has lost all interest in life. Life is still, and always should be, the most interesting thing in the world; and a deep participation in it is the remedy for ennui.

**BIOGRAPHIES OF EARLY MISSIONARIES.****I. ELI SMITH.**

The earliest missionaries to Turkey naturally gave considerable time and strength to the investigation of conditions and the exploration of the territory in which evangelical effort was to be commenced. Among these early explorers the name of Eli Smith stands out prominently, from the wide extent and remarkable carefulness of his travels and observations.

Eli Smith was born at Northford, Conn., September 13, 1801, and was graduated from Yale College in 1821. For two years he taught at Putnam, Georgia, and then went to Andover Theological Seminary, where he completed his course in 1826. Even before his graduation he was appointed by the American Board as associate editor with Rev. Daniel Temple for the mission press at Malta, and sailed for that island May 23, 1825, from Boston, arriving July 13th. In 1827 he went to Beirut to study Arabic. On the general outbreak of war after the battle of Navarino, he was compelled with the other missionaries in Syria to leave, and returned to Malta. In 1829 in company with Rev. Dr. Anderson he made a tour in Greece. On February 27th, 1830 Rev. H. G. O. Dwight arrived in Malta, with instructions from the American Board to proceed with Mr. Smith on an extensive trip through Asiatic Turkey, western Persia and the Caucasus. This was carried out that year and the next. The two explorers set out March 17th for Smyrna, where they celebrated Easter with their brethren in the family of Rev. Josiah Brewer, father of Justice Brewer of the United States Supreme Court. Owing to the uncertainty as to getting through the Dardanelles by sailing vessel against a north wind, they decided to go to Constantinople by land, and leaving Smyrna April 12th, they went through Magnesia, Ak Hissar (Thyatira) and Balukesir to Mukhalidj, east of Bandurma, where they took sailing-vessel to the capital. After staying there a month, during which they preached every Sunday, in English, they went on by horse through Nicomedia, Boli, Tosia, Marsovan, Amasia, Tokat, Sivas, Kara Hissar Sharki, to Erzroum, traveling part of the way by ox-cart. Thence they went on to Kars, Tiflis, Nakhchevan, Erivan, Etchmiadzin, Tabriz, Urumiah, Bayazid, A-

lashgerd, back to Erzurum and thence through Baibourt to Trebizond, and back to Constantinople by sailing ship and thence to Malta, having been absent on the journey fifteen months and a half. On the strength of the investigations thus made, the Board began spiritual work among the Armenians and the Nestorians. In 1832 Dr. Smith returned to America, and published the results of this exploration in two volumes. He was married the next year and returned to this country to take up work at Beirut. In 1837 Mr. Smith made an extended tour with Dr. Edward Robinson in Egypt and Palestine, and by his experience as a traveler and by his knowledge of Arabic, he contributed largely to the accuracy, variety and value of the results regarding Biblical geography recorded in Dr. Robinson's book "Biblical Researches."

Mr. Smith again visited America in 1838 and in 1845; and in 1847 he began in earnest the great work of translating the Bible into the Arabic language. In the eight years following he completed the entire New Testament, the Pentateuch, the minor prophets from Hosea to Nahum, and most of Isaiah. In 1856 ill health compelled him to give up his work, and he passed away at Beirut January 11, 1857, of cancer.

Dr. Smith was a man of ever growing scholarship, extensive and accurate in his learning, and with special talent for languages. Aside from the classics, he gained a fair mastery of French, Italian, German and Turkish; while he was a master of Hebrew, and Arabic became to him a veritable second vernacular. In connection with the securing of a Bible in Arabic, he spent a vast amount of time and labor in superintending the cutting of new fonts of type from models which he himself drew, the work being done in the Tauchnitz establishment at Leipzig. He was very careful in proof-reading, and did his utmost to secure the very best output possible from the mission press.

He was in deepest sympathy with educational work as a necessary part of the missionary enterprise, but his delight was especially to preach, and he became a most acceptable preacher in Arabic. Williams College gave him the honorary degree of D. D. in 1850. Of his children, Charles Henry became professor of American History at Yale; Benjamin Eli became editor of the Century Dictionary, Atlas, etc., and Edward Robinson a connoisseur in art. He had also two daughters. The work of Bible translation which he had begun was completed by Dr. C. V. A. Van Dyck. A tablet commemorating the work has been put up in the room where the translation was done.

### BAIRAM CELEBRATION.

The usual ceremony of the hand-kissing was observed at the Imperial palace of Yildiz on Thursday last, the first day of Bairam. His Majesty made his morning devotions at the Hamidié mosque, and after returning to the Palace received the members of the imperial family. Later he repaired to the Throne Room, where the imperial princes and sons-in-law assembled, and where, after the customary prayer by the

*nakib-ül-eshraf*, the Sultan received the homage of the members of the Cabinet, the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, the superior officers of the army, and others. His Majesty also received during the day many telegrams of felicitation from the sovereigns of the allied States and from others.

## EMPIRE NEWS.

### THE CAPITAL.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sellar and Mrs. John Rowell of Bebek left last week for a visit to Athens.

Persons going in boats of any sort between Constantinople and any of its suburbs are forbidden by the army headquarters to use field-glasses of any kind to scan the shores.

### THE PROVINCES.

The ancient building at Angora on which there is an inscription of the time of the Emperor Augustus, — probably the oldest Latin inscription in Asia Minor — is to be transformed, we are told by an Angora newspaper, into a government museum of antiquities, where will be guarded the many relics of ancient times to be found in the vicinity.

The sacred caravan will start, it is announced, from Scutari for Mecca on Saturday of this week.

### NOTES.

President Howard S. Bliss, D.D., of the Syrian Protestant College, and Rev. Franklin E. Hoskins, D.D., of the Syrian Mission, arrived in Constantinople on Friday morning last, coming from Dede Aghadj.

Dr. A. R. Hoover, who has been assisting in the American Red Cross work at the Tash Kishla Hospital, responded to a hurried summons from Talas last week, and on Thursday performed an operation for appendicitis on Mrs. H. M. Irwin; the operation was eminently successful, and the patient is making fine progress.

On the Greek steamer "Themistocles" there sailed from Piraeus for America August first a large Constantinople party, including Dr. B. V. D. Post and family, Dr. and Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. A. E. Jacob, Mrs. E. O. Jacob and child, and Miss Frances Macallum, also Miss Adelaide S. Dwight and Miss Dorothy Wingate of Talas, and Mrs. G. E. White and Miss Katherine White of Marsovan and Miss Razee of Adabazar. They are due in New York next week.

Congratulations are heartily offered to ex-President Dan-

iel Bliss, D. D., on his reaching his ninety-second birthday which occurred yesterday. Aside from somewhat impaired hearing, his physical powers are not seriously weakened, and his mental capacity is as great as ever.

Dr. F. D. Shepard, of the Azariah Smith Hospital at Aintab, arrived in Constantinople from his post on Monday of this week, by way of Konia.

**OTHER LANDS.**

Count Okuma has formed a new cabinet for Japan, he himself taking the ministry of foreign affairs.

Hakki Pasha, the new Ottoman ambassador to Berlin, reached that city on Saturday last, and was met by the retiring ambassador, Mahmoud Moukhtar Pasha, and the military attaché of the embassy.

A Milli Agency telegram from Berlin quotes the Athens correspondent of the Berliner *Tageblatt* as saying that it is certain that after the opening of the Greek Chamber and the resignation of the present Cabinet, the King will call Mr Venizelos and ask him if he is ready to accept power on the basis of a strict neutrality. The Chamber was to open two days ago

Miss Jeanne H. Ferry, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. H. T. Perry, formerly of Sivas, was married June 5th to Mr. Carlton S. Severance, at Denver, Colorado. They have made their home in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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