

# The Orient.

Vol. IV., No. 7

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE, February 12, 1913.

Price, One Piastre

## THE WAR GOES ON.

Owing to strict censorship it has been almost impossible to secure accurate news of what has taken place during the past week. It is certain however that the bombardment of Adrianople continues, that there has been severe fighting near Gallipoli, and that the Bulgarians have withdrawn some distance from their Chatalja lines, burning the town of Chatalja and destroying the railroad as they went. In the bombardment, the city of Adrianople was set on fire in several places. The request of the foreign consuls that they and the foreign subjects be allowed to leave the city, is said to have been refused by the Bulgarian commander.

The Ottoman forces are reported to have followed up the Bulgarians westward from Chatalja, occupying their positions; but no battle is yet reported in that direction. Rumors are rife, for which we think best not to vouch, that some 300 or more Ottoman troops were sent up along the Black Sea coast and disembarked near the enemy's lines; the latter retreated, and drew the landing party away from the shore, and then turned and annihilated them all. The official version makes this party to have been Kourds and Lazes, who, after killing and wounding 800 Bulgarians and losing 30 killed and 8 wounded, re-embarked and came home. The gunboat "Asar-i-Tewfik" went up into the Black Sea, apparently to cover this landing, but ran aground so firmly that at last accounts three foreign tugs had not succeeded in pulling her off and her captain and crew had abandoned her.

Toward Gallipoli, the allied army encountered the Ottoman troops near Kavak and Examili, and drove them back. Later another severe battle took place near Boulair; large numbers of wounded have been brought back to Constantinople; but reports differ as to the result of the battle. One rumor says Gallipoli has fallen into the hands of the Allies; another says the Allies were driven back with heavy loss to Examili and even farther. The Bulgarians are said to have occupied Myriophyton and Sharkeuy, and according to one report they have been again driven out thence. It seems certain that they still occupy Rodosto, Eregli and Silivri, on the Marmora; but a despatch in yesterday's paper reports the bombarding of Silivri by the Ottoman fleet and the occupation of the town by the Ottoman troops.

Since Saturday last the dwellers in the Bosphorus villages have had to endure hardship owing to the appropriation of most of the steamers of the Shirket-i-Hairié by the War Department for the ferrying of troops from point to point on the Marmora. Only about three steamers to the Bridge in

the morning and three or four from the Bridge in the afternoon are now allowed for each side of the Bosphorus, with a few extra for Beshiktash and Scutari. An unconfirmed rumor says two (or one) of these steamers struck Bulgarian mines on the north shore of the Marmora and sank with their loads of troops. Other troops have been sent from the capital on other transports; but their destination is not made known. Supposedly they go to the region of Gallipoli. The Greeks and Bulgarians are said to be using aeroplanes at the Dardanelles as well as in the region of Yanina, to drop bombs on the Ottoman positions.

Yanina shows no sign of immediate yielding, and the reported fall even of Bizani turns out premature. Considerable fighting in that vicinity has not had any definite result. The struggle for Shkodra also continues, with indifferent success.

The mission of Hakki Pasha, the former Grand Vizier, in the interests of peace, is probably not limited to Bucharest. After feeling the pulse of Roumania there, and meeting some Bulgarian representatives, he purposes, we are told, to go on to London and see what can be done there to secure suitable terms of peace. Tewfik Pasha, ambassador to London, is said to have had an interview with Sir Edward Grey on the same topic last week.

We present our readers this week with more unconfirmed rumors than usual. It would be easy to prove our great conservatism in *not* publishing one-tenth of the rumors that find credence in the city. The task of sifting probable truth out of such a mass of error is most difficult, and we merely ask for clemency.

## AN ILLEGAL BUILDING REGULATION.

An interesting and important decision has just been handed down from the Ministry of the Interior and carried into effect, concerning a demand often made heretofore as a stipulation for the granting of a permit to build. Foreigners intending to build or to purchase a house have usually been required to sign an agreement that said building should never be used as a church, a school or a hospital. In connection with the transfer of a certain house in Constantinople not long since to American ownership, this demand was made; but a protest was sent by Treasurer Peet to the Minister of the Interior saying that there was nothing in the existing protocol or in the laws of the realm to justify the exacting of such a promise. The protest was successful; the Ministry acknowledged that such a regulation did not exist; and the property has now been transferred without the giving of any such pledge.

### THE PROBLEM OF ARMENIA.

A correspondent in the *Manchester Guardian*, referring to Art. 61 of the Berlin Treaty, writes:—

"When the general settlement takes place at the close of the war, the Powers should not forget the interests of the Armenians, and that not for the sake of the Armenians alone, but also for the sake of Turkey and of the maintenance of peace in Europe. Because if Armenia is allowed to remain in its present wretched condition she will surely continue to appeal to Europe and to England for help, and Europe, being moved, will seek to interfere, and thus the Eastern question will still remain open.

"Another reason for immediate action is the question of the Moslem refugees from European Turkey. Many faithful Moslems refuse to exercise their religion under a Christian ruler. Therefore after every loss of territory, Moslem refugees flock to Asiatic Turkey. The presence of 125,000 refugees at Constantinople is already announced, and this number will surely be doubled or trebled. If the Turkish authorities are left to themselves, they will send these people to Asia and Armenia, and settle them among the Christian communities. They will desire to break up the Christian units and obtain a Moslem majority. And what then will be the condition of the Armenians? It is the duty of European diplomacy to urge the Turkish government to settle these refugees among their own Moslem co-religionists.

"It is evident that the geographical and ethnological conditions of Armenia do not permit of her being constituted an autonomous unit, or of her being entirely taken from under Turkish rule. The Armenians themselves do not advocate such a severance from Turkish dominion. Being a commercial people in the towns, and agricultural in the rural districts what they demand is the possibility of carrying on their business, commerce and agriculture, without being molested by the lawless. There is no need of elaborate schemes or drafts of new laws. It is quite sufficient that a Governor-General be appointed as Viceroy by the Sultan with the consent of the Ambassadors of the Powers at Constantinople, for a number of years and that the Sultan should not be able to remove him without the consent of the Powers. The jurisdiction of this Governor would extend over the six vilayets mostly populated by the Armenians as defined by the Ambassadors in the scheme of reforms they prepared and presented to the ex-Sultan Abdul Hamid on May 11, 1895. This Governor, endowed with judicial and executive powers, would be responsible for the peace and tranquillity of the country and for the carrying out of the laws already existing. In Turkey it is not so much Constitutions and new laws that are wanted, but the execution of them. The Governor would organize and have at his disposal a local force of militia recruited from the inhabitants, and in case of need the military forces of the country would also be at his command. Such a Governor would be quite capable of pacifying the country and introducing good government, happiness and contentment in those law-

less provinces of Turkey, provided that the pashas of Constantinople had no authority over him or power of worrying him.

"Besides, this would be no new enterprise in Turkey. There are already two precedents to that — Lebanon and the island of Samos. These two countries are administrated in the same way, and the method has proved successful. They can be taken as models for other provinces of Turkey. Surely it is not too much to ask, nor too difficult for the Powers to grant."

### THE JEWS IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

By Rev. A. P. WEINBERGER, London Jews Society, Haskey.

It was dire necessity that brought the Jews to this city. Torquemada and the inquisition, inspired as they asserted and perhaps believed by a holy zeal for the Church, drove out the unfortunate sons of Abraham. Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain were only their tools. In reality it was envy, hatred and malice that animated those persecuting zealots. They could not bear to see the learned professions — and especially those of natural sciences — almost monopolized by the Jews, as in most of their then flourishing universities the professorial chairs were occupied by them. Knowledge is power and it was much more so in the 15th century. And knowledge is wealth too. Power and wealth produced envy — and the same forces are today at work — and envy produced hatred, and such a hatred that they even disregarded the welfare of their kingdom. Add to this the frequent intellectual defeats which the generally ignorant monks sustained from their intellectually superior opponents, and the greed to take the possessions of the wealthy Jews, one can understand why the church and laity joined to destroy the unfortunate Jews.

The Turk received them and gave them hospitality. This fact remains and the Jews have always remembered it. Whether this reception proceeded from reasons of state, to gain a body of learned and industrious citizens, or to show the superiority of Islam over Christianity, or whether his motive was pity for the persecuted race which claimed descent from Abraham, their own venerated saint, the Jews were glad enough to find here a resting place. The civilization which they brought with them was superior to that of their hosts; their literature was much richer also than they found here, and this helps us to understand why they kept their own language. Besides, they were and are up till now the intellectually stronger race. Occasionally the Sultans and those in authority favoured some prominent Jew as we find them at the imperial court, and frequently in the capacity of court physicians.

They received here a special quarter for themselves, enjoyed religious liberty and had an administration of their own even in civil matters, just as the Greeks and Armenians had been granted by the Conqueror. But we do not see that they rose in general to prosperity, to influence and power, such as they had been used to in Spain. No doubt there was no lack of talent among them, but they were not allowed

to rise and had to be content with what their hosts had granted them. It has practically remained so to this present day. The name of "Jew" does not to the Turk connote equality with himself. We will hope that now under the new régime the best of every race will have equal opportunity of doing good to the community. The Jews have always been loyal to Turkey, and were ready to share the burdens and responsibilities of their now native country.

As they were debarred from public works they concentrated their energies amongst themselves. Their intellects were devoted to the studies of their patristic literature, and they produced learned men who enjoyed the esteem of their coreligionists elsewhere. About their religious life we hope D. V. next time to give something, and also about our daily experiences amongst them.

### GERMANOS V. ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH.

At its second meeting, held on Monday last, the National Assembly of the Greek Orthodox Church elected as successor to the late Joachim III. the Metropolitan of Chalcedon (Kadikeuy) as Ecumenical Patriarch. Eighty-three members were present in the hall of the Patriarchate, with the *locum tenens* in the chair. The worthy prelate expressed his sorrow that the Ottoman Government had seen fit to drop from the list of candidates the names of seven, whose dioceses have now passed into Hellenic hands. The Assembly then voted on the 21 names remaining, to choose three from among whom the final selection should be made. The successful three were: Archbishop Germanos, Metropolitan of Chalcedon; Archbishop Germanos, Metropolitan of Amasia and *locum tenens*, and Archbishop Polycarp, Metropolitan of Adrianople ("one of the besieged," as one ballot expressed it).

As soon as this choice was announced, the entire Assembly went into the Patriarchal Church, where, according to custom, the final ballot takes place after solemn religious ceremonies, the *locum tenens* wearing his official robes. The metropolitans alone have a vote in this last ballot; and the result was the unanimous choice of the Metropolitan Germanos of Chalcedon. When this was made known, all present joined in the cry of *Axios, Axios; Zeto, Zeto o neos Patriarches* (Worthy, Worthy; Long live the new Patriarch).

His Holiness assumes the title of Germanos V. The fourth Patriarch of that name reigned twice, first from June 1842 to April 1845, and second from October 1852 to September 1853.

The new Patriarch is a native of Balat, on the Golden Horn, and is in his 78th year. His baptismal name was George Kavakopoulos; and he studied in Jerusalem, Athens, Phanar, and the theological school at Halki. He has held various ecclesiastical posts, and was made Metropolitan of Chalcedon sixteen years ago.

It is expected that the ceremony of induction into the Patriarchal office will take place next week.

### CHRISTIAN RELIEF FOR MOSLEM REFUGEES.

(Report sent by Dr. Wilfred Post, Field Secretary, Brousa, to Mr. G. Bie Ravndal, Secretary, Constantinople Chapter, American Red Cross.)

Of the 50,000 refugees who crossed the Bosphorus to take up their abode in Asia Minor, probably not less than 30,000 arrived in Brousa, many of whom continued their journey far eastward, but the larger part remained in the city and the surrounding towns and villages. In the latter part of December, the official estimate of the number in the city of Brousa was 9,000 and this appears to be approximately correct at the present time, but on account of the constant influx of new refugees from Constantinople, the departure of others for towns and villages, the return of still others from nearby places on account of their finding no satisfactory dwelling-place, and the lack of system on the part of the Government in recording and locating the refugees in town, the estimate given above must always remain approximate.

Work for refugees at the start was undertaken by Miss Jillson and her associates in the American School, and up to January 1st, 1913, when I arrived, probably about two thousand had been visited and made as comfortable as circumstances and funds would allow. Tickets were given to refugees, containing a list of things to be given, and these were handed in at the distributing center near the American School. The relief afforded consisted chiefly of shoes and stockings, packages of cotton cloth and outing flannel, blankets, mats and braziers. A small daily allowance having been made to the refugees by the Government for food (60 paras for adults and 30 paras for children), the Red Cross did not attempt to provide food for them. Several of the places where a large number of refugees were staying, such as old hotels, large private dwellings and khans, were visited frequently, an effort made to keep them clean, while broken windows and doors were boarded up and some medical attention given — the latter being from native physicians who were paid for the visits that they made.

I arrived in Brousa on New Year's Eve, and have continued working along the same general lines so admirably followed by Miss Jillson, but with added funds and an increase of working staff we have been able to enlarge the work and give considerable medical attention to the refugees as well. Miss Jillson has been away for a couple of weeks at Bardizag, but her place has been well filled by Miss Allen; we expect Miss Jillson back in a day or two. It was very gratifying to hear recently that the Ottoman Government had conferred the "Shefakat" of the 3rd Class upon Miss Jillson, and the announcement of the honor caused universal rejoicing among her friends. This act of courtesy and appreciation on the part of the Government is quite in keeping with the attitude of the Brousa authorities throughout towards the Red Cross; the officials have been friendly and have allowed us a free hand in visiting and providing for the people, have acted in a number of cases at our suggestion for the comfort of the refugees, and the Vali of Brousa, Danish Bey, did us the honor of calling upon us a couple of days ago.



MAP OF THE SEAT OF WAR.

The Bulgarian army headquarters are at Demotika, which has a commanding position with respect to the railroads and the rivers of Thrace. The Chatalja line of defences runs from Lake Derkos to Beuyük Chekmedje, the western of the two deep inlets on the south of the peninsula. In the region of Gallipoli, Boulair is about half way from Gallipoli north-east toward the head of the Gulf of Saros; Examili is just east of the head of the gulf, exactly south of Malgara; and Kavak is also east of the head of the gulf but a little north of Examili. Opposite the town of Dardanelles and south of Maidos is the fortress of Kilid-i-Bahr; and at the entrance to the straits from the Marmora are the two fortresses, Sed-el-Bahr on the north side and Koum Kalé on the south side. Besika Bay is on the Asiatic coast, half-way from the Dardanelles to the island of Tenedos, shown in the southwest corner of the map.

The condition of the refugees arriving in Brousa has been pitiable, and even at this late date we are constantly meeting with wretchedness and destitution. Here are a few cases encountered within the last few days: — eleven people who have lived for the past two months on a sort of broad landing of the stairs leading up to the room of a filthy khan; a woman and two children living in a tiny room in one of the khans without heat or bedding, nothing but a mat and an old goat-skin, both children paralytics and half-naked; an old couple lying on the boards of a wretched little room in another khan; another little room where a baby had just been born, mother and child lying on bare boards, husband and three other children also; a man lying on a straw mat in a cold open stable, with dysentery; his wife had died a few days before and he had been thrown out of the house by the other refugees as soon as he got sick. But side by side with these cases of misery we constantly come across those who have been made comfortable and happy, and we feel that unless something untoward happens, the worst of the refugee problem in Brousa is past. A considerable number of people have died from sickness brought on by exposure and poor feeding, but on the other hand hundreds would have perished had it not been for the ministrations of the Red

Cross. The Government, as already mentioned, has given a daily allowance for food and has also distributed a few hundreds of quilts and stockings, underwear, towels etc.; the Ottoman Bank has given out 100 Liras worth of quilts and charcoal; the British Consul has distributed about Lt. 100 in money to refugees, while his sister, Miss Gilbertson, has been most active in helping the families of Ottoman soldiers who died in battle or are still at the front; a certain amount of charity has been dispensed by individuals here and there; but the bulk of the refugee work in this city, exclusive of food, has fallen upon us, and we are very grateful to the Constantinople Chapter for having already sent us Lt. 1800 and hope they will be able to contribute again in case of need.

The local Red Cross Committee has made its headquarters in the native Protestant School near Sed Bashi, and the personnel consists of four American ladies and myself, four paid assistants — men — two Armenians, a Greek and a Turk, and a corps of about a dozen volunteer workers, mostly the ladies of the Armenian Protestant community and the teachers of the American Girls' School, with one or two Turkish ladies, all of whom have cheerfully given much of their time to helping us, and have afforded much valuable assistance.

(To be concluded.)

**THE ORIENT**

A weekly paper, devoted to the religious, educational, political, commercial and other interests of the Ottoman Empire.

Charles T. Riggs, Editor.

**Terms:** Annual subscription within the Ottoman Empire, one-quarter lira, or 27 piastres silver.

Foreign countries, \$ 1.50 or 6 shillings or 7½ francs. Single copies, 1 piastre or 4 cents or 2d.

Special numbers, 1½ piastres or 6 cents or 3d.

Cheques, money orders, cash or stamps in payment for subscriptions or advertising should be sent to W.W. Peet, Esq. Treasurer, Bible House, Constantinople, Turkey. (Open Mail, via London).

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE. FEBRUARY 12, 1913.

**EDITORIAL.**

It is indeed a remarkable achievement which we chronicled last week, that of the unifying of the missionary forces of all denominations in India. The tour of Dr. Mott has been used of God to bring into harmony and cooperation forces that separately were doing a mighty work. We shall now see these same forces presenting a united front to the spiritual foes in that mighty Empire. This same sort of cooperation is perfectly feasible in all lands. It is one of the results we have been fondly looking forward to as a corollary to the All-Turkey Conference it is hoped to hold during 1914. And the impulse of seeing the result already achieved in India will help mightily here. There are something over thirty missionary organizations at work over this Empire; and it is high time there were more of definite planning together for a definite step forward toward the winning of the land for Christ. Let all unite in earnest prayer that the Conference may be carried out next year, and may have epoch-making results.

We would urge upon the serious attention of our American and British friends the critical financial status of the Evangelical churches of this Empire, as a consequence of the present war. One result of the Balkan conflict has been the complete dislocation of commerce, both internal and foreign, and consequent business straits in many places. Another has been the drafting into the army of large numbers of our young men, paralyzing the activities in which they had been engaged at home, and depriving the churches both of their presence and moral help, and also of their material support. We apprehend that some of them will never return, so heavy have been the fatalities in the army thus far. Another incidental result has been that not a few have left the country, hopeless of being able to outlive the dangers of war if they remained. In these and other ways, the local churches have been severely struck by the terrible conflict, prolonged as it has been far beyond all anticipation. There is therefore no doubt that special appeals will be made to friends in America and England, to send special funds at this time of special

need, to make possible the continuance of Christian work unimpeded by the peculiar circumstances.

No one will doubt the need, the urgent need, of settling the problem of conditions in Armenia, regarding which we quote an article on another page. The Ottoman Government ought to be strong enough to cope with the problem itself, without foreign aid; but the appointment of a governor on the terms indicated in this article is in no wise incompatible with this. We believe however that the writer in one or two particulars overstates the present danger. There is no serious risk of the Government trying to transport the Roumelian refugees into Armenia in any numbers. Already a large number of them have been located, at least temporarily, in the provinces of Konia, Angora, Aidin and Khudavendigiar (Brousa); and these so far as scattered among villages have invariably been put in Moslem villages, never into Christian, so far as we have heard. The improbability of transporting these people into the Eastern regions is due to two things: one the fact that there is room for all of them in the vilayets named, without crowding, and the other and weightier, the great distances involved. Most of the refugees come from Roumelia with their buffalo-carts, and progress is slow at best. It is two hundred and fifty miles as the proverbial crow is supposed to fly, from Angora to Sivas, and as much farther from Sivas to Bitlis or Moush. By the traveled routes it is much more. And beyond Angora there are no railroads; all the traveling is by cart or horse or foot. It would take these poor wanderers at least ten days to make each hundred miles, in the way they travel; and why in the world should the Government expect them to trek so far for the sake of being among a Christian race when they find room enough where they are, among Moslem surroundings?

The danger to the Armenians is from the license granted to the Kourds who now share the country with them. Were these wild mountaineers held in check by the authorities, instead of being armed and having their depredations winked at, the Armenians would have nothing to fear under a fair local government.

**CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE.**

The College enjoyed a rare privilege on Wednesday, January 29th, in a lecture by Professor Alexander van Millingen of Robert College on "Some Byzantine Churches of Constantinople". The lecture was illustrated by many lantern slides of great interest and beauty, and the art and history classes found it especially illuminating and delightful.

The two committees of the College Faculty who are engaged in working for soldier's families, and refugees, here in Scutari, do not find their labours decreasing. The destitution is pitiful, and the two committees are trying to care for about four thousand people altogether, giving coal and food; having given clothing and bed covering in the beginning, they must still do the same for new cases, who continue to drift in from the desolated lands. L. F. D.

## SYRIAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE JOTTINGS.

The Φ. B. K. Alumni Association for Syria has been formed with nine members.

— President Bliss has taken a short trip to Egypt and the Sudan to meet Mr. and Mrs. Arthur James, who expect to come to Beirut via Port Sudan through the Red Sea and Suez Canal on his yacht the "Aloha." Mr. James has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the college several years, but this will be his first visit to the S. P. C.

— On Jan. 11th the crew of the U. S. S. "Montana" met the students of the S. P. C. in a field day on the college athletic field. Field officers were chosen from the officers and faculty, and Captain Fletcher was referee. The day was fine and there was a large attendance, students, their friends, 100 blue-jackets in addition to the contestants, and quite a sprinkling of French sailors from the "Angry Cat", as the "Henri IV." has been nicknamed here.

The sailors won the Tug of War, ten on a side, in 39 seconds after a hard struggle. But in the 100 Yards Dash, Half Mile Run and Shot Put they did not get a place, and in all the other events they had to be content with last place. Most of the events were creditable and a few years ago would have been record breakers. However, only the relay Race made a new University record by cutting 2 seconds of the old record of 3 min. 22 2/5 sec. When the student in this race broke the tape the sailor was some 300 yards behind, but he pluckily ran it out, setting a good example to the students. The program ended with a Basket Ball game between the team of the "Montana" and that of the Staff, in which the "Montana's" team won 23 points to 17. The "Montana's" band furnished music for the occasion. Mr. Smurthwaite deserves to be congratulated on the demonstration of what training will do against mere muscle. The college is fortunate in being able to secure Mr. Smurthwaite for a fourth year.

— On Monday evening, Jan. 13th, previous to departure to Port Said to coal ship, the band of the "Montana" gave its second concert in the Assembly Hall. The selections were of a higher class of music and the program met with even a more enthusiastic appreciation than the first concert. The band has not been long a unit, and it shows progress in execution since its first public concert.

— The Anglo-American congregation has been pleased to welcome the men of the "Montana" at divine service. President Bliss has lectured on board to the crew on the historical geography of the country, and he and Rev. Dr. Hoskins have conducted service on board. Every wellwisher of our country's protectors regard it as shameful that the American government does not supply chaplains for such ships as the "Montana" and "Tennessee".

— The senior medical class has organized a medical society to enlarge their range of knowledge outside that of the curriculum. At the opening meeting Dr. Adams presented

a review of the Ebers Papyrus, which told of the practice of medicine in Egypt some 4000 years ago, and also read a lecture on "The Doctor of Tomorrow". At the second meeting Dr. Dorman lectured on "Recent Developments in Bone Surgery", which he had observed on his furlough.

Dr. Dorman brought from America the new college buttons. They are in several styles, — gold, gold filled, composition gilt, silver and bronze. The design has the cedar in the center, surrounded by the legend "Syrian Protestant College" in white enamel, and the lower fifth of the circle is in red enamel bearing in Arabic letters كالج. The first edition of 300 went like hot cakes on a frosty morning, and a new lot has been ordered.

W. B. A.

## MEMORIAL MEETING FOR

REV. SAMUEL JESSUP, D.D.

A Memorial Meeting for Rev. Samuel Jessup, D.D., was held in Sidon, Sunday, Jan. 26th, a date that would have marked the 50th anniversary of his arrival in Syria had he lived.

Some months ago at a meeting of the Mission when he was absent a committee was appointed to mark his 50th anniversary in some appropriate manner, but only a few months later he was taken from us and from the work he loved so well.

The exercises were held in the church of his earliest labors in Syria and where he preached the last sermons of his long and useful life; and the exercises were marked by a chasteness and dignity worthy of all praise.

The story of his beautiful life was told in singularly beautiful language by Rev. Dr. Ford; Mr. Nasib el-Helu read extracts from letters from 15 Syrian pastors paying tribute to the Christian graces of Dr. Jessup's beautiful character and testifying to the wonderful influence of his intercourse with men of all religions and all conditions of life. Then followed an address by Rev. Asaad Abbūd, who spoke of Dr. Jessup's influence as a teacher, carrying this thought forward in a beautiful tribute to his patience, faithfulness and tact. At the close of the service an opportunity was given to volunteers who might wish to add a tribute, and Mr. Mikhail Abbūd, one of our theological students, gave three telling anecdotes still further illustrating the qualities which had been dwelt upon. The Scripture selections, the hymns and the prayers all contributed to make the service deeply impressive and comforting to those who had the privilege of knowing Dr. Jessup.

FRANKLIN E. HOSKINS.

The necessary two-thirds of the States having ratified the income-tax amendment, the latter now becomes effective, and Congress will be called on to pass a law levying the tax. It is expected to yield \$100,000,000 annually.

## ISSUE OF TREASURY BONDS.

Disappointed in its hopes of securing a foreign loan through the Deutsche Bank or otherwise, the Imperial Government has now decided on the issue of five and a-half million liras' worth of bonds, bearing interest at 5%, redeemable within five years, the payments being guaranteed by the tax on real estate. The shares are 110 piastres gold, or one pound sterling, and half-shares are obtainable.

As will readily be seen, this is one method of collecting five years' real-estate taxes in advance, — always providing the bonds are actually sold. But it leaves the Government worse off in the end, just as every such venture must unless by doubtful methods the obligations are avoided and the coupons not redeemed. We are not informed how the shares are to be placed; but previous experience would indicate that the appeal to patriotism will be accompanied by persuasive methods. In all likelihood a certain portion of the still unpaid salaries of civil officers for December and January may be met by presenting these persons with Treasury Bonds. However foreign to our conception of sound finance this measure may be, it is one step better than the issue of such inflated paper currency as was the *kaimé* which caused so much suffering after the war of 1878.

A supplementary clause to the bill providing for this issue says that in case the bonds do not find purchasers at par, they may be sold at 94.

## EMPIRE NEWS.

### THE CAPITAL.

Two delegates sent by the Sheikh of the Senoussi to His Majesty the Sultan arrived here Monday evening and are lodged in the Seraglio Point grounds.

Hakki Pasha, former Grand Vizier, left yesterday for Bucharest. His mission is said to be in the interests of peace, and he will meet Bulgarian representatives at the Roumanian capital.

A great mass-meeting of Moslem women was held on Saturday at the Imperial University, attended by some 5,000 women, according to the local dailies. A Russian Moslem made a stirring address, assuring the ladies of the support of all Russian Moslems in this war. She was followed by several others, prominent among them Halidé Hanum, at whose instigation messages were sent by the meeting to the Moslem women of Russia and of India, to the Ottoman army, and to the Queens and Empresses of Europe. We shall refer again to this remarkable gathering.

The Italian armored cruisers "San Marco" and "Pisa" arrived in the Bosphorus on Saturday evening to take the place of the two Italian ships that recently left the international squadron.

The United States collier "Brutus" arrived from Smyrna on Sunday morning, with a new crew for the "Scorpion" and a cargo of coal also for that despatch-boat.

On Saturday a disastrous fire occurred at Top-hané, destroying some 100 buildings, mostly inhabited by Moslems.

A most successful musical evening was given by Prof. and Mrs. Manning at their home at Robert College on Friday evening last, when selections from Händel, Gade and Bunnert were rendered on piano and stringed instruments, the musicians being Herr Braun and Mrs. Larsen, violins; Prof. Manning, viola; Herr Ellinger and Herr Larsen, cellos, and Mrs. Manning, Piano.

Hairi Bey, who was appointed Minister of Evkaf, being unable to serve, Ibrahim Bey, Minister of Justice, has been given temporary charge of that department.

M. Manu, the new Minister of Roumania to Turkey, was received last Thursday by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan.

The receipts of the Public Debt Commission for December, 1912, show a falling off of Lt. 168,369, totalling only Lt. 623,811 as against Lt. 792,180 for December 1911. The reductions from March to December inclusive amount to over Lt. 900,000.

Cholera is reported to have broken out at Kartal, one of the Asiatic suburbs of this city on the Marmora.

The last number of the *Levant Trade Review* for 1912 has just made its appearance. Among noteworthy articles therein are a Commercial Review of Greece, an article in French on Consular Invoices, a report on the recent activities of the American Red Cross in Constantinople, the second part of Consul-General Ravndal's Commercial Review of Turkey, and an obituary of the late Major John M. Carson.

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### THE PROVINCES.

According to word from Beirut to *The Near East*, about 8,000 return tickets were this year sold to Russian Moslem pilgrims going to Mecca; and of these hardly 6,000 have so far been presented for the return trip, and the rest of the ticket holders are supposed to have perished from epidemic and other diseases—an appalling comment upon the conditions of the pilgrimage.

A telegram from Aintab announces the death on Sunday last of Professor Alexan Bezjian of Central Turkey College.

### NOTES.

Word has been received of the death at Fresno, Cal., on Jan. 3rd, of Mrs. Nishan Handjian, whom many of our readers will remember as Miss Nellie Parry of Bebek, who was for some time connected with the Home School at Scutari, the predecessor of the American College for Girls.

Dr. and Mrs. Hoover of Talas are rejoicing over the birth of a daughter on Thursday, Feb. 6th.

Dr. George L. Robinson of McCormick Seminary, formerly instructor in the Syrian Protestant College, has been given leave of absence and will start in May with his family for Jerusalem, where he spends sixteen months as Director of the American Archaeological School of Biblical Research.

News has come of the death of Mrs. J. L. Coffing, who returned to America in 1905 after forty-eight years of service in Aintab and Hadjin.

The *Congregationalist* of Jan. 23rd prints a poem by Miss Alice B. Caldwell, of Marsovan, entitled "A Sunrise Hymn."

### OTHER LANDS.

Advices from Athens state that the "Makedonia", sunk by the "Hamidié" at Syra, has been raised and will be repaired. The engines of the liner are reported intact. The wooden parts were mostly burned.

An apparently trustworthy despatch announces the death of the Abyssinian Emperor Menelik, and the accession of Lidj Jeassu to the throne.

The Welsh Church Disestablishment bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons last Wednesday, by a majority of 107, and is now in the House of Lords.



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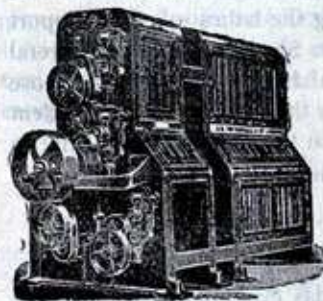
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Printed by H. MATTEOSIAN, Constantinople.