

The Orient.

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PEACE TREATY SIGNED AT BUCHAREST.

On Sunday morning the second Balkan War was definitely terminated by the signing of the peace treaty at Bucharest. A salute of cannon announced the happy termination of the Conference; and a special service of thanksgiving was celebrated in the Cathedral at noon.

The treaty embraces ten articles, and specifies the new boundaries of Roumania and Bulgaria, the Serbo-Bulgarian and Greco-Bulgarian boundaries, with the statement in each case that within two weeks a mixed commission shall work out the details of the new frontier lines; and that in case of any disagreement the matter shall be submitted to arbitration. The treaty stipulates that Bulgaria shall demobilize her army immediately, and that within two weeks the invading armies shall withdraw to their sides of the new frontiers; and the allied armies shall be demobilized after that of Bulgaria. Provision is made for the restitution of prisoners at the earliest possible moment. A number of protocols attached give the details regarding boundaries, etc.

Naturally the Bulgarians feel sore at the terms of the treaty, and are said to be protesting vigorously. But their government had no alternative, and the people will have to accept the situation with what grace they may.

According to the new treaty, the Roumanian-Bulgarian boundary follows a winding course from a point a few miles west of Turtukai, on the Danube, to a point a few miles south of Baltchik, on the Black Sea. Bulgaria agrees to dismantle her fortifications at Rustchuk and Shumla, and to erect no fortifications within twenty kilometres from Baltchik. The new Serbo-Bulgarian boundary commences at the end of the old frontier near Egri Palanka, and goes south to the Belesh Mt., leaving Kotchana, Ishtib, and Radovitza to Servia, and Stroumnitza to Bulgaria. The Greek frontier with Bulgaria begins on Belesh Mt., and goes east along the watershed to the Mesta River and down that river to its mouth, leaving Demir Hissar, Serres, Drama and Kavalla to Greece, and Melnik, Nevrekop, Xanthi, Port Lagos, Gümüldjina and Deaghadj to Bulgaria. This treaty says nothing about Turkish boundaries, nor about the Greco-Servian frontier or the limits of Montenegro or Albania. But Servians and Greeks have apparently come to an understanding by which the boundary goes from Belesh Mt. westward through Gevgeli to Lake Presba, leaving Monastir to Servia and Florina to Greece. The island of Thasos will apparently go to Greece.

The terms set by the Treaty of Bucharest are apparently to be accepted by the "Powers," without any revision or

change, though Austria and Russia desire earnestly to be allowed a finger in the pie. What they wish to do is not certain, but apparently Russia thinks Bulgaria has been too severely punished. However, the other four big nations are likely to insist on maintaining a passive attitude on these topics. The next point of intense interest is to see how they will behave about the questions of Adrianople, the Aegean Islands and Albania.

THE POWERS MAKE A SUGGESTION.

On Thursday last the diplomatic representatives of the six "Powers" appeared at the summer residence of the Grand Vizier and presented to him an identical verbal message, an unsigned copy of which they left with him to remind him of the wording. The translation of this extremely guarded and harmless communication follows:—

"By order of my Government I am charged to call upon the Imperial Ottoman Government in the most categorical terms to respect and maintain the principles laid down by the Treaty of London, and especially the decision regarding the Enos-Midia line.

"I am authorized at the same time to declare to Your Highness that, in the delimiting of this line, the Powers would be disposed to take into consideration the conditions which the Imperial Government may consider indispensable for the security of this frontier."

This was at eleven in the morning. The Council of Ministers met from 2 to 7 P. M., and showed no sign of yielding.

Turkey's reply was delivered on Monday by the Grand Vizier, that being the usual weekly day for conferences with the Ambassadors. To the representatives of the six "Powers" who called in the afternoon, Prince Said Halim Pasha said:—

"In reply to the declaration which your Excellency kindly made to me on behalf of your government, I beg leave to reply that the Imperial Government is unchangeably committed, independently of all considerations, to act in accord with the principles laid down by the treaty of London. But if the provision as to the Enos-Midia line has not been respected by it, as the other provisions of the treaty have, it is because the Imperial Government has found itself under the imperious and pressing necessity of intervening so as to prevent the systematic extermination of the peoples whose only fault is that they live beyond the Enos-Midia line.

"It finds itself also under a no less imperious obligation to secure a frontier line that can guarantee the safety of the capital and of the Straits, and consequently permit the estab-

lishment of normal and lasting relations with the neighboring States.

"It is with lively gratitude that I note that in your declaration your Excellency admits this latter necessity, for I permit myself to see in this a justification of the line of conduct pursued by the Imperial Government.

"Trusting in their spirit of lofty justice and equity, I sincerely hope that the great Powers will admit that the frontier line which the Imperial Government has indicated in its communication of July 19, 1913, is the only one that can fulfil the desired conditions of security and durability."

Following the unique example of the Ambassadors themselves, the Grand Vizier handed to each one of them a memorandum of this reply, on unheaded paper, unsigned. Doubtless these envoys have communicated the reply to their governments, and will take their own time to make any further communication to the Porte.

By throwing the responsibility for their overstepping the Enos-Midia line on the inhumanities of the Bulgarians, the Turks have taken what appears to be a strong position. Certainly since the second Balkan war began, Bulgaria has not been able to keep order in Thrace; and Turkey has stepped back into her former place with this purpose among others, — to preserve the lives and property of the peoples there.

There is room for a good deal more negotiating as to the elasticity of the Enos-Midia line before any great tension will be noticeable as between Turkey and the "Powers."

IS IT JUST?

The *Tanin* writes: —

While an appeal to humanity resounds at Bucharest, coming from America, the great and haughty Powers of Europe yesterday made a move at Constantinople which was most unjust, and proved thereby that the words right and might, humanity and interests, are terms that can never be reconciled.

Public opinion in Europe is already accustomed to think that to wrest Adrianople from Turkey and give it to Bulgaria would be a crime against civilization. Yet the officious Great Powers have not yet acquired a conscience and a judgment subtle enough to appreciate the gravity of this crime. In our opinion the situation is not in the least changed by this Note. We knew when we went to Adrianople that certain Powers in particular would not be indulgent toward us. We thought at one time of committing ourselves to the justice of Europe. But lo, she is allied against Turkey. We may not be materially at war with the whole of Europe, but morally we are. As we understand it, Adrianople is essential to the security of our capital. The Sublime Porte should reply respectfully to Europe in this sense. We do not yet see any probability that coercive measures will be used against us. Even if a judge is a tyrant, that does not imply that he will transform himself into a butcher.

HERESY AT MT. ATHOS.

On the peninsula of Mt. Athos, or the Holy Mountain, as the Greeks call it, are twenty monasteries, and something like 7,000 inmates, monks and lay brothers. These monasteries are fastnesses, built into the crags and picturesque glens of this bold mountain in such shape as to resist almost any attack from outside, short of modern cannon. Some of them date back to the ninth century, and they have had a checkered career. The largest of all is the Russian monastery of St. Panteleimon, with about 3,000 inmates. Aside from this and two Serbo-Bulgarian monasteries, all the monasteries are Greek. There are *skete*, or monastic settlements, under them, also belonging to Russians, Roumanians and Georgians. As is well known, no woman is allowed to set foot on this Holy Mountain.

Recently the great Russian monastery of St. Panteleimon and the *skete* of St. Andrew have been the scene of an uprising utterly unique in the history of Mt. Athos, and hard to parallel in ecclesiastical or monastic annals. The lowly monks began to do more thinking than was right or good for them, along theological and controversial lines. Having no practical outlet for their religious fervor, they entered on a spirited controversy worthy of the Middle Ages or of the Byzantine theologians of the time of Mohammed the Conqueror. A former officer of the Russian guard, the monk Anthony Voulatovitch, was the leader in this controversy. He advanced the tenet that the name Jesus was itself divine; and this tenet was elevated to the dignity of a dogma. Long and spirited were the discussions over this, but in the end most of the Russian brothers accepted it. The prior however of the monastery of St. Panteleimon was not of their number, and these new heresiarchs expelled him. He came to Constantinople and went also to St. Petersburg, seeking redress. The Ottoman Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ecumenical Patriarch were both very much interested, but each was satisfied that the potato was too hot for him to handle.

Finally the Monk Anthony was also summoned to St. Petersburg, the Holy Synod of Russia having taken up the matter. It took five months of investigation to bring the Holy Synod to the point of making a deliverance on the subject; and then their answer was a very guarded and almost hair-splitting reprimand to the promoters of the new idea or dogma. The Holy Synod held that the holy Name, under the spirit of revelation, is Deity itself. To expound this metaphysical deliverance, a special commission was sent to Mt. Athos, under the leadership of Archbishop Nikon. Unfortunately, this venerable father was much more of a politician than a theologian, and withal was quite uncompromising in his ways, — not at all the man to smoothe over a muss of this kind. The Archbishop and his mission, moreover, went to Mount Athos in a Russian warship, and the monasteries were summarily ordered to bow to the decision of the Holy Synod. Responses were slow in coming, and unsatisfactory; especially so was the counter-manifesto signed by 950 monks,

which took the position of not only upholding their contention about the name, but anathematizing as heretics all who would not bow to this dogma.

After a week's patient waiting, Archbishop Nikon landed with a force of marines, and went to the Panteleimon Monastery. To the amazement of all the monks, he went right into the chapel of the monastery, without so much as kissing the wonder-working pictures of the Mother of God and of the martyr St. Panteleimon, he berated the monks as heretics and ordered them forthwith to eschew their heresy and receive back the prior they had expelled, and threatened them with banishment if they refused. Then, in the excess of his zeal, he even went on to say that the Divinity of the Son was of a lower order than that of the Father, and other like indescribable statements. His words threw oil on the fire, and had he not been surrounded by the military, the holy Archbishop might have suffered at the hands of the enraged monks. They then and there resolved to stick by their colors to the last drop of their blood. Nikon went back to his warship and disembarked a lot more soldiers, who advanced with fixed bayonets toward the rebellious monastery. At this sight, the monks set all the bells a-clanging to summon to their aid the brothers from other monasteries and dependencies. These came on in hordes, and when threatened by the troops called out, "Kill us for the name of Jesus!" But the soldiers had had no order to use their bayonets, and they let the fanatical monks pass in.

Then the commission was at a loss what to do. A secretary of the Russian Embassy was sent down from Constantinople. He advised arresting the monk who rang the bell. But Archbishop Nikon demanded the imprisonment of some fifty of the leaders. The monks however declared that they would stand by each other, and all be arrested if any were. So a big Russian Volunteer steamer, the "Kherson," was brought down to the Holy Mountain, and 624 recalcitrant monks were stowed therein and carried to Odessa. This was nearly three weeks ago. Once in Odessa the identity of these men was examined, and among them were found several political criminals, some who had been in the mutiny some years ago on the battleship "Potemkin." Some are even accused of being common-law criminals, but as some of these have been at Mt. Athos forty years or so, their crimes are deemed expiated by this voluntary exile. Of the six hundred and more, a few were imprisoned, but most were divided up among the various monasteries in Odessa, under strict surveillance.

But the Government begins to feel that it has made a mountain out of a molehill, — and a very troublesome mountain in the bargain. What to do with all these monks is a question. The police have used all possible means in vain to prove them criminals. Some may be sent to their homes under surveillance. But when the proposition was made to scatter the rest among the Russian monasteries, it was met by the fear that they would sow their seeds of heresy broadcast. So those who may be deemed by the courts innocent or blameless, are to be returned to Mount Athos on their written

agreement not to participate in any rebellion. And the zealous Archbishop Nikon will probably retire. At least, so says the *Osmanischer Lloyd*.

WILL THE POWERS HINDER PEACE?

The *Tasviri Efkiar* says of the action of Austria and Russia:—

"Considering the way in which peace has been arranged at Bucharest, we may consider the united representation made by Austria and Russia as null and void. In this treaty, with its ten articles, no mention is made of such agreement or of the above representation, nor of the Treaty of London. Only certain questions such as those of the churches and schools will be arranged later between the interested parties. Still, as these questions are altogether of secondary importance, and can have no influence on the actual basis of peace, the treaty is considered by those that signed it as complete and definite. This is so true, that the king of Roumania, replying to a telegram of congratulations from the German Kaiser, though it best to declare it so; and William, speaking of this peace as 'the skilful and praiseworthy work of a true statesman,' has conferred on Mr. Majorescu the decoration of the Red Eagle.

"So then, Germany is satisfied with the way in which peace has been concluded. As for the Austro-Russian action it shows clearly that the Vienna and St. Petersburg cabinets are in favor of the Powers' examining and revising the treaty. Since Austro-Hungary, in Balkan affairs, usually conforms to German principles, and consequently relies upon German co-operation, is it not surprising to see that in these last days, these two States have followed diverse points of view on this topic?

"But if Austria-Hungary has recently seemed to follow in the Balkans a policy independent of that of the Triple Alliance, it is also clear that Russia has taken a course as independent and different from that of the Triple Entente. The astonishment caused in France by this way of acting seems to be quieting down, and an official communication asserts that the French government will carefully examine the step taken by the Russian consul at Bucharest, and strive to make Russia assent to the just and acceptable peace concluded at the Roumanian capital."

After commenting on the refusal of Italy to surrender the Aegean islands she now holds to any party except Turkey, the *Tasviri Efkiar* continues:—

"The individual ambitions of certain Powers are the only factor capable of completely destroying the harmony of an equilibrium which is already hard to maintain. This is the conclusion from these latest events. This is why we think that the Powers that really wish for peace will understand the imperative necessity of bringing the others to their senses. And this means, in our opinion, not to lay hands on our Adrianople, and to give us the islands, at least twelve of them which are of prime necessity for the safety and welfare of Anatolia."

HUMANE EDUCATION WORK.

The Annual Report of the Humane Education Branch of the Société Protectrice des Animaux de Constantinople has been recently received, and tells of gratifying work notwithstanding the difficulties occasioned by the war.

During the year over 7000 books and leaflets in nine different languages, were distributed, in addition to hundreds in English which were sent to the English and American schools.

New leaflets on the care of horses have been printed in Turkish and Armenian, and "The Horse's Appeal to His Driver," and a leaflet on the protection of Birds, in Armeno-Turkish. Another leaflet dealing with bird protection, prepared especially for boys, has been printed in Turkish, Armenian, Greek, Bulgarian and French, and "The Strike at Shane's" is being printed in Armenian.

There are now over two thousand members in the different Bands of Mercy scattered over the Turkish Empire and Bulgaria.

Angell Prize Oratory medals offered in the Syrian Protestant College, Robert College, the Central College and several similar institutions, seven in all, aroused much interest. In Robert College, Constantinople College, The Collegiate Institute and the Anatolia Girls' School, prizes of money were given for the best essays on subjects chosen by the Society. Cash prizes were offered to the donkey boys in Prinkipo and Halki, whose donkeys should be in the best condition at the end of the season.

The American Humane Education Society continued its generous annual grant of \$150 worth of literature, books and pamphlets, bound volumes of "Our Dumb Animals," and nearly one hundred subscriptions to that beautifully illustrated paper.

If any readers of *The Orient* can make use of samples of this literature to advantage for free distribution, the Society will gladly send them to any address, on application to Mrs. A. W. Manning, Robert College, for the cost of postage.

In addition to this educational work the Société Protectrice des Animaux gave out 13,385 weekly rations for animals belonging to refugees from the war, and cared for 150 horses which were brought back from the army. Many of these were being sold for 15pi. in the horse market, and were in such a horrible condition that they were mercifully destroyed by the Society.

A. W. M.

MONASTIR AS A MISSION STATION.

The town of Monastir, which by Serbo-Bulgarian treaty before the war was to go to Bulgaria, has now been assigned to Servia by the arrangement with Greece, Bulgaria having lost all claims in that district by her disasters in the second war. And now news comes that Isa Bolatinatz and his Albanian cohorts, estimated at 25,000, are marching to effect the capture of Monastir. Thus the town of 50,000 inhabitants that has been a station of the American Board for forty years suddenly springs into unenviable fame as a bone of contention between four nations.

When it was first occupied, in 1873, by Messrs. Baird and Jenney and their wives and Mr. Marsh, it "was chosen as the place of residence because of its healthfulness and because it is not only the government centre, but also to some extent a commercial centre. From this place missionary work can be prosecuted in the Greek, Turkish and Albanian languages," as well as Bulgarian. Its Slavic name, Vitolia, as well as the Greek Monastirion, has reference to an old monastery found there by the Turks when they took the region. Next to the Moslems, who comprised nearly one half the population up till a year ago, came the Bulgarians; there are also in the immediate vicinity many Roumanians, Jews and gipsies. The city is at the mouth of a valley having a stream which supplies an abundance of water, and just on the edge of a large plain, with high mountains in the rear. It is a very healthy region. A railroad connects Monastir with Salonica, going through the ancient town of Bercea.

The first missionaries found at Monastir great indifference among most of the common people, and bitter opposition from the clergy of the old church. But after ten years of patient toil, Rev. Mr. Jenney was able to write, on starting for America, "Ten years ago as we entered Monastir, not a soul came to welcome us; but as we left, not less than one hundred persons accompanied us a mile out of the city, and as they bade us good-bye not an eye was dry. Some were so affected that they could not speak."

A girls' school was opened in Monastir in 1878, and in 1881 was made a boarding school, and contains now about fifty pupils annually. There is also an organized Evangelical church among the Bulgarians of the place; with services in two localities, and an average attendance at church and Sunday-school of about 100 each. As a result of the troubles of 1903, an orphanage was opened with the help of the Bible Lands Missions Aid Society, and is known as the Essery Memorial Orphanage; it contains about 40 children.

The force of American workers now in Monastir consists of Rev. and Mrs. William P. Clarke, Miss Mary L. Matthews, and Miss Delpha Davis.

NOTICE.

The Eastern Turkey Mission will open a Preacher's Training School at Harpout this fall for a two years' course of training for the ministry. This school is recommended to any who may be seeking an opportunity for Bible study in preparation for evangelistic or pastoral work. The Term opens Sept. 15.

Requirements for admission are a High School course or its equivalent and a successful experience as a Christian worker; and include a sufficient knowledge of English to enable the students to use English textbooks. Applicants should be recommended to the Seminary by the missionaries of the Station from which they come.

As it is five years since the last class of this kind was held at Harpout, it is hoped that a goodly number of young men will wish to join this class.

Further information will be furnished on application to
THE AMERICAN MISSION, HARPOUT.

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Charles T. Riggs, Editor.

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BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE. AUGUST 13, 1913.

EDITORIAL.

Congratulations to the Balkan States on their speed and unanimity regarding terms of peace. This Conference was of just about the same length as the London Conference of last May, and once more four kings were negotiating with one, whom they had beaten. In the case of this second Conference, all five parties belonged to the one Holy Catholic Apostolic Eastern Church; and it is eminently fitting that the close of this second Balkan War should be officially celebrated by a Doxology service in the Metropolitan Church at Bucharest. May these warring elements in one and the same church never war again, but cooperate to build up the material and moral prosperity of the Balkan States.

It is a year and a week since the Ottoman Parliament was dissolved. According to present indications, unless the Powers interfere and delay the conclusion of peace, there should be no reason for failing to hold the elections soon for a new Chamber of Deputies. This is a constitutional monarchy. It has been so long since the people had a right to a voice in its control that we almost need to be reassured that it is so. And the Chamber must be consulted in the reconstruction period that will follow these two (or three) wars. We hear of the appointment of foreign inspectors by the Ottoman Government, for the various provinces, and we trust this news is authentic. Their presence and influence should go far, when the time comes, toward furnishing an assurance of fair and impartial elections. If Turkey is allowed to retain Adrianople, then Election Day will find the Committee of Union and Progress more firmly entrenched than before. But they cannot afford to use undue influence or compulsion in carrying the elections. As we had occasion to remark a year ago editorially, there is absolute need, wherever constitutional government is anything more than a name, of two strong parties. Let the Opposition develop all it can; it will be all the better for the Unionists and will key them up to their best endeavor.

We shall miss many familiar characters in the Chamber hereafter, for Gümüljina, Berat, Serfidje and Üsküb are in the

lost provinces. Albanian, African and Bulgarian members will be conspicuous by their absence, and there will be less Greeks. But let us get our Parliament, and be content with having one; and not mourn over the lost, but do good solid work for the future.

Europe is very much agitated over this Adrianople question, and apparently more so than is necessary. Her honor and prestige, we are told, are at stake; and her mandate must be obeyed, and the sacred London Treaty be respected, and that city turned over again to Bulgaria.

There are however several facts that must not be overlooked. Firstly, before the Balkan war began, away back nearly a year ago, the "Powers" informed the Balkan States and Turkey that whatever the result of an appeal to arms, the "Powers" could not permit any alteration of the territorial *status quo*. Which was the real humble-pie of her own cooking that Europe had to eat. Circumstances beyond their control smashed the Treaty of Berlin to fragments; but the honor and prestige of Europe did not suffer. Secondly, in January the "Powers" sent to Turkey a collective note advising the cession of Adrianople to the Allies. Again circumstances beyond their control interfered with the following of their advice. Thirdly came the London Conference, and the resulting signing of the preliminary draft of a treaty on May 30th. By this agreement, an Enos-Midia boundary line was laid down, but undefined, as Bulgaria said it should not be a straight line. On March 22nd the "Powers" had indicated it as following the course of the Maritza and Ergene rivers in general. The definite treaty has never been drawn up, and consequently never signed. But whatever territory Turkey ceded west of that undefined line, she ceded to the Allies, — to Greece and Servia and Montenegro as much as to Bulgaria. Adrianople was captured by Bulgarians and Servians together, and not by Bulgarians unaided. Now if Bulgaria had a right to define the Enos-Midia line so as to include Mouradlu to the south, will not the same logic allow the Turks to define that line so as to include Adrianople to the north? And why is the London preliminary treaty so much more sacred than the Berlin treaty, or than the *status quo* declaration of the "Powers" before the war? Or why is Roumania allowed to appropriate several thousand square kilometres of land from Bulgaria that never were Roumanian by population or by conquest, but purely Bulgarian, while Turkey is not allowed to take back what has for five hundred years been hers and is overwhelmingly Turkish in population? Europe has frequently bowed before the logic of events; why should she not again accept the inevitable? Do England and France and Austria and Germany wish to enlarge Bulgaria and place under her beneficent rule (save the mark!) a whole section of Turkish territory by force of arms? And whose arms? The Ottoman forces now occupying Adrianople will not yield as easily as did those who surrendered last March. Turkey says, Adrianople is not on the bargain counter. We are there, till some one drives us out by bayonet and cannon. Does Europe wish to dispute this statement? Is it worth while?

Were a plebiscite of all the inhabitants from Moustafa Pasha to the Enos-Midia straight line, taken today, we are certain it would show an overwhelming vote for Ottoman occupancy.

But another way exists. The territory east of the Maritza and north of the Ergene river to the former boundaries of Bulgaria might be made a buffer-state, under Ottoman sovereignty but with the stipulation that no troops should be kept there, but its inviolable neutrality should be guaranteed by the six "Powers," and local gendarmerie keep order therein. Such a state, under a governor who should be of the race and religion numerically strongest in its borders, would be one more guarantee of peace, provided these much-boasted "Powers" were loyal to their part of the bond. What a relief to poor Thrace, to have at least so much of a region free from the devastating march and contermarch of armies!

BULGARISM WORSE THAN VANDALISM?

The Greek daily *Proodos* writes:—

A struggle of Bulgarism and Hellenism, — for the July war took on essentially this form, — a struggle of civilization against barbarism and ferocity, has been ended. We do not conceal the fact that the sacrifices undergone by the Greek nation were very great; we also acknowledge that such gigantic efforts cannot frequently be repeated, and that much time must elapse before the Greek nation can show such energy again. But we would not thus discourage the nation that has had such losses, even though the result of the war did not give her all that her patriotic sacrifice demanded. Immeasurably greater than the material results was the moral gain to Hellenism. The war not only toned up national sentiment and raised the race to its fitting place, but it overthrew the clay colossus of ferocities, lies and inhumanities that was called Greater Bulgaria. That sinister monster that lurked on both sides of the Hæmus Range was discovered; but there was also discovered the strength of the Greek nation, whose future cooperation is even now asked by two of the Great Powers.

More important still, by the treaty of Bucharest Greece obtained not merely territorial expansion, saving Greek and Moslem populations from the bloodstained claws of the hyænas and tigers of the Balkans, but she succeeded in gaining what she has struggled for through many bloody years, the driving of the Bulgarians out of Macedonia. The latter is divided between Serbia and Greece, and a very small part goes to the Bulgarians. Of Macedonia the Greek nation has to mourn only Stroumnitza and possibly Nevrekop. The only possible meaning of the Treaty of Bucharest is that the Macedonian question has been definitely settled by the exclusion of Bulgaria from the land of Alexander the Great and of Aristotle.

As for Thrace, that is another question. This treaty of peace cannot injure her development. Nor can yesterday's step of the ambassadors of the Powers here injure it. The Ottoman army has already advanced and will not evacuate Adrianople for any reason. And the inhabitants of that

country are more than nine-tenths Turks and Greeks, who will never submit to being put back under the murderous yoke of the Bulgarians. This population need but be asked, nay it has already given notice that it will migrate bag and baggage if such a calamity fall upon it.

The Peace of Bucharest has saved Macedonia from the Bulgarians. It is time Thrace were also saved from them, despite all the recommendations of the Great Powers; for philanthropy and civilization demand it. And Turks and Greeks, the principal inhabitants of that region, brothers in the common struggle, and trembling at the common and terrible danger, will do everything to bring it about and persuade the Powers that it is not right, in order to uphold Bulgarian interests, to hurl a million people to slaughter, robbery, dishonor and Bulgarism. And we believe they will succeed. The agreement at Bucharest had reference to Macedonia, and has done its work. The embattled nations may now lay aside their arms. But we here and our compatriots in Thrace and those of our religion have a duty to drive the Bulgars out of Thrace by every means, and save it from them, carrying on the work at Bucharest. If we calculate well, we can do it.

TOO MUCH CARELESSNESS.

The *Ihdam* thus characterizes the malady of Turkey:—

It is absurd to seek to cure a disease before diagnosing it. In like manner we cannot possibly cure the trouble from which Turkey is suffering before we understand from what she is suffering. The Constitutional régime has not been sufficient to give us such an understanding, nor would any other.

For instance, we have for some time known quite intimately the Minister of Marine. He is a soldier endowed with culture, patriotism and bravery. Yet while he exerts all his powers to this end, he has not been successful in reforming the administration of the Ottoman Steam Navigation Society [Mahsouse].

At the head of this Society is a German director, very experienced and very capable. For several whole months he has been at work trying to bring out a few boats from Europe. His Excellency the Minister aids his efforts; but one form of opposition nullifies these efforts. It is our well-known inertia which annihilates all these labors and attempts.

And there you are. This deplorable condition persists. It is the same calamity over and over again!

We must first of all cure ourselves of this malady before we can begin the work of reforms. We must bring hither from Europe foreign inspectors; in short we must try to institute some useful enterprise. But without rooting out this evil we call heedlessness, we cannot succeed in anything. The most active inspector, the most zealous minister will never be able to put into execution the most elementary reform.

BENEFITS OF DECENTRALIZATION.

Ali Kemal Bey writes in the *Ikdam* :—

We cannot picture to ourselves a single Ottoman, whether of the Opposition or of the Governmental party, who will not applaud most sincerely, in the name of the future of Ottomanism, the agreement just reached by the present cabinet with the Arabs. For centuries was not one of the chief factors in the decadence of Turkey just that administrative centralization which corresponds to lack of culture? The vilayets have not had any importance. For the governmental power was altogether at the Capital. The people of the provinces had no importance.

The greatest evils resulting from this centralization were the impossibility of securing good administration and prosperity in the provinces, and the impossibility of strengthening the attachment of the people of the vilayets to Ottomanism. These evils were most noticeable in the vilayets inhabited by a people with a past and a civilization of their own, like the Arabs. For instance, because of vicious administration a country like Syria was never able to attain the measure of prosperity it deserved. For neither the administration nor the valis nor the other officials were in their right place. Our officials not only did not know Arabic, but were inferior also in point of culture to the natives of the region.

We are in favor of liberal reforms not only for Arabia but also for Eastern Anatolia. For it is thus that we shall avoid various dangers and ensure the happiness of this country.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

Last Thursday a Moslem watchman, left alone in the office of Sidney Nowill & Co., in Galata, at the noon hour, wanted a smoke; and because it was Ramazan, he went down in the cellar to hide his un-Moslem act. He had been warned against going there with a light, because benzine was stored there. A fierce explosion followed when he lit his match, and he was killed and Lt. 500 worth of damage done in the store. Some five passers-by were injured by flying glass.

The death is announced of Rouhi El Halidi Bey, formerly vice-president of the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies.

Pierre Loti (Captain Viaud) the celebrated French author, arrived here yesterday and was given a hearty welcome by the Ottoman Committee of National Defence.

The first dirigible balloon to be acquired by the Ottoman Government made several successful flights above the city last week from its hangar at San Stefano.

Bishop Kapriel Djevahirdjian of Galata was last Friday chosen as *locum tenens* of the Armenian Patriarchate by the Mixed Council. Bishop Kapriel acted in the capacity of Vicar of the Patriarch from 1892 to 1898, and seems well fitted for the present post.

We regret to announce the sudden death, on Aug. 11th, of heart failure, of Dr. John Patterson, our esteemed English friend, at the age of 79, at his home in Pera. The funeral is being held to day from the Crimean Memorial Church.

The summer residence of the French Embassy at Therapia was destroyed by fire on the night of Aug. 10th. The Ambassador and Mme. Bompard were giving a party in the Embassy and had to flee to the garden for their lives. The fire is believed to have been accidental.

OTHER LANDS.

THE PROVINCES.

We are glad to correct the statement made last week regarding Rev. Khachig Vartanian of Bitlis. The latter has been ill, but it was another man who died, and not he.

Next Sunday, Aug. 17th, is the ninetieth birthday of President-Emeritus Daniel Bliss, D.D., of the S.P.C., Beirut.

NOTES.

Rev. George P. Knapp of Bitlis is to go to Harpout this fall, to assist in the training of a theological class that the Eastern Turkey Mission has decided to start there, notice of which appears elsewhere in this issue.

Miss Darrow and Miss McCoy of Marsovan arrived here Sunday last after a very successful trip to Palestine and Egypt.

Miss Minnie B. Mills of Smyrna sails from Boston for Naples on Sept. 6th by the White Star liner "Cretic" returning from her furlough. On the same boat come Rev. and Mrs. Emrich of Mardin, and President and Mrs. Capen of the American Board.

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Mr. C. C. Compton sailed from New York last Saturday, Aug. 9th, for London on the S. S. "George Washington," on his way to teach in Anatolia College, Marsovan.

Miss Myrtle O. Shane, of New Richmond, Ohio, has been designated to the Eastern Turkey Mission, with the expectation that she will be located at Bitlis with Miss Uline.

President Mary Mills Patrick, Ph. D., sails from Boston Sept. 2nd for Liverpool in the "Franconia," on her return to Constantinople.

Rev. S. Ralph Harlow and Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Birge left the Capital on their return to Smyrna on Aug. 7th.

OTHER LANDS.

Mr. Charles Vopica of Chicago has been appointed American Minister to the Balkan States (Roumania, Bulgaria and Servia).

King Charles of Roumania has conferred on Mr. Venizelos of Greece and Mr. Vukotitch of Montenegro the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Roumanian Star, and on Mr. Spalaikovitch of Servia and Mr. Panas of Greece that of the Roumanian Crown. To Mr. Pasitch of Servia, already decorated with the Star, King Charles presented his own portrait with autograph. King Constantine of Greece has also decorated Mr. Venizelos with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Savior.

King Constantine of Greece has been appointed by the Kaiser a General in the Prussian Army.

The Emperor William has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of the Red Eagle upon Mr. Majorescu, the Roumanian Prime Minister.

Word from Rev. P. B. Kennedy from Durazzo states that he was just starting for Dibre to relieve the starving there. Mrs. Kennedy has remained for the present in England. We are informed that 2,000 homes have been burned in Dibre and that 5,000 people are suffering for lack of bread.

Servians and Albanians are reported as crossing into each other's territory with hostile intent but details are meagre. Isa Bolatfinatz is said to have captured Dibre from the Servians and to be marching on Monastir.

Riots have followed the demolishing of part of a mosque at Cawnpore, India, in the course of street improvements. Thirteen Moslem rioters were killed and thirty wounded in an encounter with the police.



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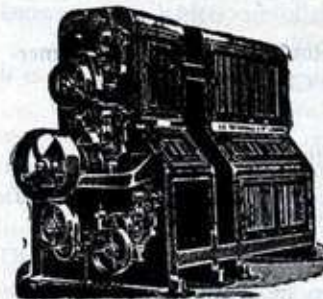
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