

The Orient.

Vol. IV., No. 4

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE, January 22, 1913.

Price, One Piastre

THE POWERS' BILLET DOUX.

Last Friday the Ambassadors of the six great Powers at last presented to the Porte the collective note that had been so long expected; and the full text of it has since been made known. The Powers, desirous of preventing the resumption of hostilities, call the attention of the Ottoman government to the serious responsibility it assumes if it rejects their advice; after which pleasant preliminary they proceed to enumerate these risks as the possible loss of the capital city, the extension of hostilities into Asia Minor, the impossibility of any efforts by them to ward off further dangers to the Empire consequent on further fighting, and a refusal to render any financial aid to Turkey in the future. The Powers then advise the cession of the city of Adrianople to the Allies, and the referring of the future of the Aegean Islands to the Powers. They promise in return for such submission to guarantee the Moslem interests in Adrianople, in respect to the mosques and other sacred buildings; and the solution of the problem of the islands in such a way as not to prejudice the safety of Turkey in Asia.

It is said that the general lines of the reply of Turkey have been worked out by Noradounghian Effendi, but that the Cabinet does not wish to take the entire responsibility of this momentous step; and therefore it has been decided to summon a great National Assembly to decide on the fatal answer. The tone of the reply will, we are told, be vaguely negative, but such as to prevent a rupture of negotiations. The Sublime Porte will point out that the surrender of Adrianople is in direct opposition to the Bulgarians' officially stated object in declaring war, — namely the amelioration of the lot of their co-religionists in European Turkey; — since the population of that city is prevailing Moslem. Besides this great stress will naturally be laid on the fact that the town has held out till now, and is not in the Allies' hands.

But after all, there are signs that the Government is preparing to yield to the pressure of the Powers. Within the week the tone of the Turkish press has considerably changed; and there seems to be a sincere wish on the part of the Turks that Adrianople would capitulate, so as to make it easier to give it up. But Gen. Shükri Pasha holds out with a dogged determination worthy of a better cause.

The *Yeni Gazetta* comments thus on the situation: — "We are now forced to acknowledge that the reference in the collective note to difficulties and perils still greater than those that now assail us, give us to understand that willy nilly we must bow before the decisions of the great powers who are

united in imposing them on us and capable of carrying out their threats. After such a communication we do not believe we can longer hope for some help from one or two states that did seem inclined to sustain us. Is it a time to discuss and argue in the name of rights, treaties and international law, in the face of so violent a prejudice? We therefore submit absolutely to the decision that those who are responsible and are better acquainted than any others with the situation, think it best to take, for they know what ought to be done for the safety and future of the country for which they have the responsibility. We are face to face with a reality before which everything that is only vague and imaginary must disappear."

And the *Stamboul* says: —

"What is still more important and worthy of consideration is that the presentation of the collective note completely changes the aspect of the situation. The Ottoman Government no longer finds itself since Friday before the Balkan coalition, but rather face to face with a concert of the six great European Powers. The council of ministers must have considered the question from this viewpoint, for seeing the gravity of the situation, it appears to hesitate to answer the Powers before consulting the entire Nation on the subject. For this purpose a great National Assembly is to be convened."

The date of this consultative assembly has at last been fixed for today at noon.

A GRATEFUL TURK.

Dr. Dodd writes from Konia, Jan. 15, 1913, of the appreciation of American relief work.

'An old Turkish Hodja named Saduk Effendi called today and said he came for the special purpose of asking me to give his thanks to the people in America who were sending help to the poor here. I report his words as near as I can do so. "May the Lord of the Universe, the God of all men, who are all of one family on this earth, look graciously upon those who have shown such love and kindness. The servants of God here will always remember and rejoice in these good deeds. How wonderful that a people who were only savages four hundred years ago should have awakened to such noble deeds. When shall we have such an awakening?"'

While we Americans do not always remember the pit of savagery from which we were digged, we are glad our progress is so appreciated by those older nations whose advance has been more retarded.

THE SULTAN AND THE CONSTITUTION.

The editor of the Turkish daily, *Sabah*, Diran Eff. Kel-ekian, was accorded an audience the other day with His Majesty the Sultan, whose views on the needs of his country are thus reported in that journal:—

"The safety of the country and of the nation depends on the diffusion and development of public instruction. I appreciate the important services of our press, and am glad to see the desire for progress which prevails on all sides.

"We are passing through a very great calamity. In the midst of the present anguish, there is no one whose heart is more pained than mine. But I compel myself to stifle my griefs so as to fulfil the duties God has entrusted to me. More than ever before we must work. I wish the Sultanate to lead in showing these efforts, the need of which is recognized. Under the Divine auspices, we must do all we can to ensure our present and our future.

"I am a Constitutional Sovereign. The happiness of my people depends on the advantages to be gained through the development and progress of the Constitution. As soon as the present difficulties disappear, our first work will be to convene Parliament. Neither in my Imperial family nor among my people is there an enemy of the Constitution. Absolutism, which degenerates whether or no into arbitrariness and despotism, cannot at any time, but especially in the age in which we live, ensure the meeting of the needs of a nation or compass its success. The régime of our country is and always will be Constitutional.

"In history, sad experiences have proven that, to enjoy the benefits of constitutional rule, the nation must not tolerate abuses in governmental organization. Events have once more reminded us of this. In order that the Constitution may show all its resplendency in this country, we need tranquillity. And this tranquillity can only be had through true harmony in the whole nation as regards the suppression of deeds calculated to make our country suspected of being in continual anarchy. I know that all Ottomans are desirous of quiet; but I wish this aspiration to be shown in our public life. It is the lack of peacefulness for the past four years that has brought on our fatherland and nation the evils of today. This should go on no longer, nor can it. I am persuaded that all our people appreciate the need of concord, in the name of the general interests of the State and nation, as an essential condition of true patriotism.

"If there is one thing that can console me amid the evils we are passing through, it is the efforts that are made for healing up the open sores in the bosom of the country. I think of this night and day. I am convinced that the complete carrying out of the duties of the Sultanate is one of the most powerful means of ensuring the realization of this hope.

"For the good conduct of affairs, the executive power must needs be sure of tomorrow. By reason of the frequent changes that the Parliamentary majority has made necessary in the course of these four years, the country and the nation have

endured great evils. England, France and the United States are obvious examples that the Constitutional régime needs no such frequent changes. The full use of the rights that constitutional law accords to the Sovereign has a great influence in this regard. I shall not fail to use these Imperial rights for the interests and welfare of the nation. For it is only in this way that the people can enjoy all the benefits of the Constitution.

"Just as I shall always make use of my Sovereign rights for the good of the country and the people, so each one also should profit likewise by his own rights. In the coming elections there should be chosen and seated a majority of deputies of all nationalities, that shall be capable, clear-headed, conscientious, acquainted with the needs of the nation, knowing how to place public interests above private aims and aspirations. That the majority may be of this character, it is important that the electors understand and use the right which law confers on them.

"I pray every day for my country, my nation, and all my dear subjects. The existence of a Sovereign is subordinated to that of his subjects; his welfare is theirs. The Sovereign can be joyful only if the people is happy. God has charged with heavy responsibilities His servants who are called to the Imperial Throne, and He will demand of them a detailed account. I have this truth in mind every moment. May God guide me and protect us all."

TWO ENGAGEMENTS IN THE AEGEAN.

On the night of Wednesday last the cruiser *Hamidieh* got out of the Dardanelles and escaping the Greek blockading fleet under cover of a fog, steamed down to Syra. The big Greek transport *Makedonia* lay at anchor here, and was sunk; the Greek version being that her captain scuttled her to prevent her being damaged or captured by the Ottoman cruiser. A powder depot and a coaling station on the shore were bombarded; and then the cruiser put to sea and was next heard from at Port Said, whence after a brief stay she passed through the Suez Canal and is now supposedly on the Arabian littoral, preying on Greek commerce in the Red Sea.

The rest of the Ottoman fleet left the Dardanelles on Saturday morning, and encountered the Greek fleet between Tenedos and Imbros. The fight lasted about three hours, when the Turkish squadron put back into the Straits after some rough usage. Details are still scarce; but several of the Turkish units were damaged, one battleship had a turret destroyed; and a large number of men killed and wounded. Several officers including the captain of one battleship were killed; and the hospital ship *Reshid Pasha* brought to Constantinople over a hundred wounded, — one account says 118. The Greeks acknowledge two men killed, and slight injuries to the *Averoff*. Evidently, while there was loss on both sides, the Ottoman fleet suffered the more severely. A great improvement was noticeable in the marksmanship of the Greeks.

'RAH FOR THE MEDJIDIÉ!

The *Jeune-Turc* comments thus on the exploit of the American-built Turkish cruiser:—

"It is the very legitimate shout of joy that comes from every Ottoman breast. The superb raid which this cruiser carried out, the brilliant success it attained, the almost unbelievable intrepidity it showed, the admirable skill with which it manœuvred, have evoked the admiration of all the foreign world and have filled our hearts with pride and with hope for the future.

"Cast a glance at the map, to have an idea of the importance of the victory, or rather the triumph, attained by the *Medjidié*. It had to cross, at the mouth of the Straits, a zone straitly guarded by the enemy's fleet, which could see nothing; it continued its voyage passing near islands occupied by the Greeks who keep a strict lookout; it had to go near islands that have always belonged to Greece; it was obliged to pass through the narrow strait that separates the islands of Negropont and Andros. It succeeded in surmounting all these difficulties, in escaping safe and sound from all dangers, and in coming with superb courage fairly into the harbor of Syra. Nothing remains of this harbor but ruins, while the cruiser *Makedonia* was sent to the bottom of the sea.

"All the European press, struck with admiration at this exploit, unique in history, is unstinting in its applause and hearty congratulations. 'It is the awakening of the Ottoman fleet,' it says.

"It is a brilliant and glorious new page that the *Medjidié* has added to Ottoman naval history. It is a page that even countries with the most powerful fleets would be very eager to own. And it is a costly bit of warning given to the Greeks.

"And it is only a beginning!

"Besides, the magnificent raid of our cruiser was the most mortifying blow yet given to the insupportable boasting and bragging of which the Greeks had made a specialty. Where is the invincible Armada? And the *Averoff*? And the *Hydra* and all its ilk? And they say the Greeks swear only by their fleet."

NOTE. The distance from the mouth of the Dardanelles to Syra is two hundred miles. The strait between Andros and Negropont (Eubœa) is less than ten miles wide. But it turns out that it was not the *Medjidié*, but the *Hamidié*, that accomplished this masterly stroke.

BITS FROM BITLIS.

An unusual stream of visitors has been here during the last five months. In August Miss Atkins of Erzroum made us a visit. About the same time two German officers (one a Count) were with us for a few days. In September Drs. Banks and Gibson from America were here. The former went on to Baghdad, and the other returned home. Sister Christiana was with us a week on her way from Van to Moush. In October Mrs. Stapleton was with us a month at the time

that little Richard Maynard arrived. Mr. Isador Morse of Boston and London was with us for Thanksgiving. Early in December Sister Bodil came for a few days from Moush to get some dentistry done.

During the week of Kourban Bairam there was cause for special anxiety. On the second day the Vali suddenly went away to confer with the Vali of Van. There were less than thirty soldiers in the town. There were threatenings and mutterings of massacre, and some of the Armenians closed their shops in the bazaars. Moreover a sheikh without any protest from those in authority harangued the people in a crowded mosque to do their part towards Christians, who had united against Islam. Representations were made to Constantinople. There is no regular British Vice-Consul here now, Mr. Knapp being only "in charge." It was therefore decided at Constantinople to place the Americans here under the protection of the Russian government, who have a consul here.

Even the Ottoman Agency telegrams are censored for consumption in this town. News of the fall of Salonica and Monastir was cut out. A telegram saying that 100 Greeks had been slain in a certain battle was doctored by the addition of two cyphers. The proof sheet of the telegram was taken to the Vali, and he said that it was impossible for ten thousand men to be killed in one battle; whereupon in the printed sheets sent to subscribers the number of killed was made to read 4,000!

Bitlis, Dec. 30, '12. G. P. K.

EFFECTS OF WAR ON ITALY.

Word comes from Italy that the conquest of Libya, while still far from complete, has proven a much heavier burden than the light-hearted Italians had foreseen. The government had given a sort of assurance that the cost of the Italo-Turkish war could be estimated at about £40,000 per day or less; but it is now admitted that the actual cost is nearly twice that sum, necessitating heavy borrowings and the issue of much paper money. All past surpluses are gone; and the taxes on such bare necessities as bread, salt and sugar bear heavily on the poorest classes. Furthermore the African colonial policy has necessitated a larger naval program, and over £10,000,000 have been assigned to naval construction. A first instalment of two millions sterling has been voted for urgent public works in the new colony.

Furthermore, the Tripolitan province has not proven the El Dorado that was hoped for Italian surplus labor. A dangerous congestion of working men there has led the government to refuse to issue passports to others wishing to go there. At Syracuse, hundreds of laborers are held up by this measure, and suffering is great. More than this, the military situation in Cyrenaica (Benghazi) is far from reassuring; and it is estimated that 40,000 men or more will be required indefinitely as a garrison for North Africa, while progress southward is still seriously retarded by hostile Arabs.

The industrial situation in northern and central Italy has been made more critical by the loss during the course of the

war of her Levantine markets, so that the cotton industry is badly paralyzed and tens of thousands have been thrown out of work. Had it not been for the benefits of the wave of commercial expansion that has profited Italy together with all other European nations this year, conditions would be much worse. Even as it is, social unrest is darkening the political horizon. Economists are urging on the Italian government the imperative need of spending greater sums on education, as a means of elevating the country. The standards of living are indicated by the fact that 1,800 villages in Italy are without post offices; and that in the matter of telephonic facilities, as compared with Switzerland's 22.8 subscribers to every 1,000 inhabitants, Italy has only 1.6, which is the lowest rate of any European country save Spain. Such huge sums have gone into the war chest that very little is left for much needed social reforms.

ISMAIL KEMAL BEY.

The *Manchester Guardian* contained recently a sketch of the head of the provisional Albanian Government, from which we cull the following:—

"Ismail Kemal Bey, is now 68 years old. He claims descent from the famous Ali Pasha of Yanina, who a hundred years ago nearly succeeded in establishing an independent Albanian State. In his younger days he was Turkish Governor at Constanza, but after the Russo-Turkish War, Ismail Kemal became a member of the Sultan's divan, and afterwards Vali of Tripoli. At the same time he secretly joined the first Albanian literary society at Constantinople, and when the society was suppressed in 1880 he fell into disgrace and had to flee abroad for his life. He then travelled a good deal all over Europe, residing at Rome, Paris, Naples, Bucharest, and London.

While in Paris he joined the Young Turkish movement and became an adherent of Prince Sabaheddin, who advocated provincial decentralisation. After the revolution of 1908 he returned to Constantinople, and on being elected deputy for the Sandjak of Berat led the twenty or so members of the Albanian group in the Chamber.

Ismail Kemal was one of the organizers of the counter-revolutionary stroke of April 13, 1909. For this, on the victory of Mahmoud Shevket's troops, he had once more to flee the country and to resume his wanderings from one capital to another. His efforts, however, were no longer directed against his old enemies, but against the Young Turks [i. e., the Union and Progress Committee. — Ed.]. He was in close touch now with the Austrian and then the Montenegrin Governments, who were assisting the Albanian revolts.

In May last he sent out a memorandum to the representatives of the Great Powers demanding complete Albanian autonomy under an Albanian Governor General and a European guarantee, and in July he visited London, where he has a number of friends of old standing. All this time he was still the legal representative of Berat (which includes Valona), but at the last election he lost his seat, a relative of his,

Sureya Bey Vlora, having been returned in his place. It was only after the fall of the Unionist régime that he was able to return to Constantinople on the express invitation of the Sultan, but at the beginning of November he was once more in Budapest and Vienna, where he concluded an agreement with Count Berchtold on the subject of Albanian autonomy. He then left for Durazzo by way of Trieste in a special steamer of the Austrian Lloyd, accompanied by a number of Albanian notables, and hoisted the Albanian flag in Valona, constituting himself at the same time the head of the provisional Government.

TURKISH WOMEN MUST BEHAVE.

The daily papers last week were ordered to publish the following communication from the Commandant of Constantinople:—

"Whereas Moslem women are forbidden to go in public places in costumes unbecoming with reference to Moslem morals and national custom, those who infringe this regulation will be arrested by the detective agents and will be severely punished according to the laws."

Once more, then, is the veil emphatically made obligatory, and any change in Moslem customs regarding women's dress strictly forbidden. But how long can this sort of thing be enforced? And how long will it be ere the Government sees that such treatment of its women is the very worst possible step for the future of the Turkish race? The veil is before the face of the Moslem woman because another veil is over the intellect and heart of her liege lord and master. To tyrannize thus over the mothers of their children, and cow them into submission to such degradation by threats of severe punishment, is to prevent the legitimate development of maternal love and family affection in the heart of the rising generation, and to dwarf the moral advancement of the people.

SIX KHUTBAS READY.

The series of Khutbas, or Mosque Sermons, issued in Arabic by the Nile Mission Press, Cairo, are now being brought out in Turkish by the Publication Department of the American Board, Constantinople. In these sermons the preacher, taking a text from the Koran, addresses his imaginary audience in the second person plural; the application of every sermon is an invitation to read the Bible and thereby find the true Savior. The tone of the sermons is conciliatory and they have met with great acceptance wherever used. Six have already been issued in Turkish, and others will follow shortly. They are admirably suited for free distribution. Price, 15 piastres a hundred, post free. Apply to W. W. Peet, Esq., Bible House, Constantinople.

New-style Easter comes this year on March 23rd, and old-style Easter not until April 27th. This is about as far apart as they can come.

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. JANUARY 22, 1913.

EDITORIAL.

Elsewhere we print an extract from a letter from Konia, giving the message of a grateful Turkish heart to the people of America for their aid at this time to the poor of this land. It brings a thrill of anticipation to the waiting soul that sees in this the opening of a door into the Moslem heart. Undoubtedly there are hundreds of other Turks whose eyes are being opened, through the relief work now going on, to the real meaning of Christian philanthropy and the true spirit of Christianity. Red Cross workers all through this region can bear testimony to the sincere gratitude of the Moslems for the mercy shown them. Here is a chance for pressing home the truth that God so loved that He gave, and spared not His own Son for the love that He had for fallen humanity, and that Christianity is the religion of love manifested in giving. It may be difficult to counteract at this crisis the effect on the Moslem heart caused — even though illogically — by the sight of Christian States not giving but seizing, not loving but killing, not tolerant but obstinate. Yet the invincible argument of lives of unselfish service, at this opportunity for work among Moslem refugees, will have its effect.

The Moslem Hodja says we are all one family. That is New Testament doctrine. We can take him up from this Scripture and tactfully, prayerfully, lovingly preach unto him Jesus. Such a door is now opening for work among Moslems as has not been equalled at any time. Would that there were today in this land five or ten times the force of workers to take advantage of the unparalleled opportunity.

The daily press announces efforts on the part of Armenian students in Europe to urge European Powers to take immediate action toward settling the problem of the Armenians in the eastern vilayets. This problem is not one of autonomy nor of any change of laws, but merely one of the enforcement of law. The Government has never taken in hand resolutely the insubordinate Kourds; and these wild mountaineers are a law unto themselves, and ride rough-shod in most districts over their Armenian neighbors, under the lead of *derebeys*. Se-

curity for life and property and honor, and a fair chance to earn an honest livelihood, are what the Armenians desire and have long striven for. They do not request any form of self-government. But if the Ottoman Government is unable or unwilling to guarantee these loyal subjects such basal rights, then they must appeal to Europe to take measures to enforce the provisions of the Berlin treaty relating to order and security in these provinces. If the aggressions of the Kourds were a product of the Balkan war, reason would that the sufferers wait till that war is over and a more favorable time comes. But these troubles are chronic, and might be settled today as well as tomorrow, if the promised measures were only carried into effect. We hear of commissions of investigation and of reform, but nothing comes of these. Either they never start, or they never report, or the report is placed under the official *minder* and nothing is done about it. The central government knows perfectly well what the situation is, in the Eastern provinces, and no commission of inquiry is needed. What is needed is immediate reforms in the line of the well-known need. Otherwise the European Powers may feel obliged to intervene.

OSMANIEH CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS.

Previously reported	Lt. 226.72
Shivilgi12
Anderoun12
Yoghounolouk43
Ourfa 1st Church	2.00
Hadjin 2nd Church	1.00
Fekke19
Marash 1st Church	1.00
Kara Keuy39
Eudemish	1.00
Brousa	3.00
Dere Keuy	2.64
Alacham	2.12
Mrs. E. S. Hawley	2.22
Miss Tchumi	1.12
Pera Church	2.00
Hadjikey75
Boghos Christianian16
Mezire75
Farkin	1.48
Herek	1.00
Fisk University, by Mrs. L. O. Lee	1.50
American friends, by Dr. Chambers	2.92
Armenian Women's So. of Pawtucket, by Dr. Chambers	1.54
Cesarea Protestant church	2.50
B. L. M. A. S.	21.90
Government	54.00
Garmouch44
Aleppo church	8.00
Aintab 2nd church	17.69
Adana church	5.00

Total to date Lt. 365.70.

THE MOSLEM WORLD FOR JANUARY.

The January number of this quarterly contains many excellent articles, among which we note that by Rev. W. A. Shedd, D.D., of Urumiah, on The Influence of a Mohammedan Environment on the Missionary; one by Rev. Marcellus Bowen, D.D., on Bible Work among Moslems; one by Rev. C. G. Mylrea on Lucknow as a Moslem Centre; one by Rev. J. L. Potter, D.D., on Religious Liberty in Persia; one on The Evangelization of the Bakhtiariis, by D. W. Carr, M.D., and one on God, a Unit or a Unity, by Professor D. B. Macdonald, D.D.

We quote in full a translation given of an address delivered in Cairo by Sheikh Mohammed Farag el-Minyawi, which deserves to be read and pondered by all workers among Moslems. It is on the subject of

MONOGAMY IN ISLAM

Sirs: — It is with pleasure that I call your attention to this most vital subject, that we may together carefully consider it. The question, in the opinion of many Moslems, has been considered foreign to Islam, whereas the Europeans have seen in it a point wherein Islam differs in its laws from those of all other religions that are or have been in the world. They consider the law of Islam to be not a spiritual law, but earthly and debased rather than heavenly and exalted; because, they say, that it allows people to give way to their animal lusts by multiplying wives instead of confining themselves to one, wherein lies the secret of race elevation. The aim of a heavenly law, say they, is not to take a man away to a higher kingdom, but it is so to educate those souls whose tendency is downwards that by such religious training they become heavenly spirits, not mere earthly bodies. By this spiritual uplifting, the first and greatest law of which is monogamy, it is possible so to strengthen the foundations of society that the secret of race elevation may be discovered. This then is their pronouncement on what they have wrongly understood to be the teaching of Islam, but God knows that Islam is guiltless of that absolute polygamy by which marriage becomes a tie of war and discord instead of a tie of peace and unity.

Sirs, it is necessary, first, that we should know what marriage is, and what its value in the sight of the sociologist, and what its result — the birth of preachers of peace and apostles of love, virtues which are regarded as highly beneficial not only by individual sons of Adam but by the great leaders of the social order. Marriage, then, is that healthy root from which springs the whole social fabric. Marriage is the making of a mutual compact and agreement to raise a family which will take an active place in life. Every being has some place to fill, and the co-operation of all with their various duties has one end in view — the upbuilding of the general social life.

From these few preliminary remarks, it will be clear that, philosophically, marriage, whether it be in the animal, vegetable or mineral realm, is purely for the general welfare. "Say!

Carry into it (the Ark) of every kind a pair." And at the back of all is human marriage from which all mankind have sprung, for God has brought nothing into being save for man; "And he hath subjected to you all that is in the Heavens and all that is on the Earth; all is from Him." "O men! verily we have created you of a male and a female; and we have divided you into peoples and tribes that ye might have knowledge of one another." For this reason human marriage became a spirit inviting to peace, domesticating hearts, and from it arose the ties of blood relationships. He, whose wisdom be magnified, said, "He hath created wives for you of your own species, that ye may dwell with them, and hath put love and tenderness between you." The learned have extracted much help from this Koranic saying. Some have said that society, mutual help, sympathy, family affection and love and tenderness are five foundations upon which are built man's greatest privileges in this life, and are all from one spring, — Marriage.

Sirs, I do not wish to speak on this subject except from the two viewpoints of philosophy and tradition. I have presented to you the plain teaching of the Koran with regard to the philosophy of marriage in relation to the race, that it is the very essence of love and the root of tender affection. I adjure you, therefore, to look with me which is the nearer to the attainment of the social ideal, Polygamy or Monogamy. I think it is quite clear, to those even who are dull of apprehension, that polygamy, especially in these last days of an absent good morality, spells failure and ruin, and is an active principle in the growth of variance, the evil which rends asunder the body social.

Woman, especially the Oriental woman, is ignorant of her main object in life, her idea of life being summed up in all that is included in the term, self-gratification; such as, what shall she eat and drink, how shall she become an expert in the art of dressing. These are the things that occupy her. Everything she does is with a view to hold her husband, and fifty times a day she is in terror over some seeming failure to attract his attention, for she is constantly afraid that he will bring another in her place and will then begin to dislike her. This spirit of constant fear daily grows into a spirit of strife. Every fancy that the devil of imagination sows in her mind bears its fruit, and so the foolish pair are always having to suppress the signs of repulsion instead of showing the marks of good comradeship. Thus the very source of offspring is embittered, and the social equilibrium upset.

Such is the condition of a married woman with her husband, and that is all she understands of life at a time when her Western sisters are seeking to have their share in the government of their country. This is the character of the Egyptian woman at a time when we hear of the heroism of the Western woman in the battlefield of religion, at a time when we hear of her skill in organizing help as evidenced by the Italian ladies in this present war. This is the state of woman if she is in constant dread of a partner in her wifely rights. Think what must be the upset in the life of a woman when another comes to lay hold of the duties in which she wishes

to have a free hand. If man by the very law of his nature desires freedom and independence, how must woman, who is a part of mankind, long to have the heart of her husband wholly hers. She seeks independence here, for marriage is just a kingdom, the kingdom of the family. Yea, rather, it is the foundation kingdom, on which the whole of society is built. Every kingdom boasts of the growth in numbers, save this, which finds its pride in singleness. Every rival wife makes a foreign occupation in which peace and unity are impossible.

And it is a crime to religion if we condemn in sociology on the one hand what we believe on the other to be the springing up of the very marks of the Divine within us.

SYRIAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE JOTTINGS.

— The Week of Prayer has been observed in a series of ten meetings from January 3rd to 12th. The first two meetings were for the members only of the Y. M. C. A., but all the others have been public. The attendance has been large, the hall crowded, interest deep, and those remaining to the after-meeting have been very many. Prof. Hall has conducted the general meetings, taking for his general subject "The Making of a Man". His discourses have been of remarkable power and simplicity and have been drawn from the life of Jacob. The following are the titles of the addresses: The Child of Promise; A Good Bargain but a Bad Beginning; The Stolen Blessing; A Glimpse through the Gate of Heaven; The Lesson of Experience; The Night of Surrender; Strength in Weakness; The Prize that is Set Before us.

— Prof. Brown gave the third of the Faculty Lectures on December 28th. His subject was "Bubbles", illustrated with fascinating experiments.

— Mr. Bayard Dodge, Princeton '08, and Union Theological Seminary '13, son of Mr. Cleveland Dodge, has been appointed General Secretary of the University Y. M. C. A. Mr. Dodge with his parents visited Beirut in the spring of 1910 and so will not come a stranger to the campus or the faculty. It is peculiarly fitting that the center of his activities will be in Robert West Hall, the gift of the father to the University. It is with pleasure that *The Orient* records his engagement to Miss Mary Bliss, Vassar, '13, eldest daughter of President and Mrs. Bliss.

— Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Stewart sail for America on furlough Jan. 20th. Mrs. W. B. Adams and son Frederic will accompany them. Prof. Joy will be acting treasurer during Mr. Stewart's absence.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

La Turquie, which was suppressed at the opening of the Italian war, has resumed publication.

Some seditious placards were found last week affixed to the Mosque doors at St. Sofia, Eyoub, Mohammed the Conqueror, etc. The police have made several arrests.

— The National Assembly of representatives of the Orthodox Church, which is to elect a new Ecumenical Patriarch, will meet on Feb. 3rd.

— Since Wednesday last not a single case of cholera has been recorded in the city. Eight cases and five deaths occurred between Sunday and Wednesday, and the totals for this cholera visitation seem to stand at 2509 cases and 1242 deaths. During the previous epidemic, from June 1 to Oct. 25, 1911, there were 2614 cases and 1473 deaths. The percentage of mortality has been 49.5 as compared with 56.3 in 1911.

— The American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant is arranging for a banquet and dance to be given at the Pera Palace Hotel on Washington's Birthday.

— Vartkes Effendi, former deputy for Erzroum and responsible editor of the *Aratchamard*, has been condemned by the court-martial to sixty days imprisonment and a fine of five liras, for publishing certain things that the Minister of the Interior disliked.

THE PROVINCES.

— Ohannes Pasha Kouyoumdjian, the new Governor of the Lebanon Province, left with his wife on Friday last by Messageries steamer for Beirut.

— The December number of *Al-Kulliyeh*, just at hand, contains an account of the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the coming of Dr. Howard S. Bliss to the Syrian Protestant College as President, and the frontispiece is a fine likeness of Pres. Bliss.

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NOTES.

Dr. and Mrs. Floyd O. Smith, who are destined for Diarbekir, sailed from Boston Dec. 31st for Liverpool and are to spend some time in Paris studying French before coming to Turkey.

Mrs. J. P. McNaughton and her daughter Eva sailed from New York January 8th for Patras in the Fabre Line S.S. "Madonna," on their way to join Mr. McNaughton in Bardizag.

Word has just come from America of the death of Miss Mary White, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. White of Marsovan, at Grinnell College, Iowa, where she was a Junior.

Miss Jeannie L. Jillson of Brousa has been awarded by His Majesty the Sultan the decoration of the third order of the Shefakat for her conspicuous services on behalf of the refugees.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Alton Davis, of the Y. M. C. A., are the parents of a daughter, Shirley, born Jan. 15th at Nishantash.

OTHER LANDS.

The January *Missionary Herald* is essentially a Turkey number. Aside from seven pages and five illustrations in the Foreign Department, it contains illustrated articles on "Our College in Smyrna" by Rev. Cass A. Reed; "New Year's Day in Harpout," by Pres. E. W. Riggs of Euphrates College, and "After the War," by Rev. George F. Herrick, D.D.

M. Raymond Poincaré was on Friday last elected President of the French Republic for the next seven years by 483 votes to 296 for M. Pams and 69 for M. Vaillant. He goes into office Feb. 18th.

The Irish Home Rule Bill has passed its third reading in the House of Commons by a majority of 110. It now goes to the House of Lords.

Today is the wedding day of Miss Helen Gould and Mr. Finley Shepherd, in New York.

Capt. Amundsen, the discoverer of the South Pole, is on a lecture tour in the United States. He was awarded a special gold medal by the National Geographic Society, the presentation being by Rear-Admiral Peary. He is said to be preparing for an expedition to the North Pole in the summer of 1914.

France is having considerable trouble in Morocco with rebels near Mogador. Heavy fighting is reported to have taken place on Jan. 7th, with a French loss of 72 killed and wounded, while the rebels lost 400 or 500.

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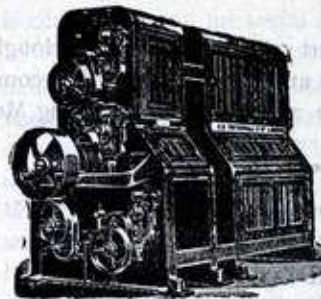
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Printed by H. MATTEOSIAN, Constantinople.