

The Orient.

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW.

If the signing of peace treaties were only a guarantee of peace, the year 1913 would deserve high place in the world's history. Peace was signed at London, Bucharest, Constantinople and Athens; and the outlook is for a continuance of quiet, for all parties are weary of strife. When 1913 opened, war was still on in the Balkans, and it was not till May 30th that the preliminaries of peace were signed. Then in July came that one month's second Balkan war, more lamentable, more murderous, more useless than the first. But the tumult and the shouting are over, and quiet is in general restored, with only the Albanian question and the fate of the Aegean Islands to be decided.

Ottoman internal history has been marked by another succession of three cabinets, those of Kiamil Pasha, Mahmoud Shevket Pasha and Prince Said Halim Pasha; and we have to record the assassination of Gen. Nazim Pasha, Major Niazi Bey and General Mahmoud Shevket Pasha, beside that of King George of Greece at Salonica. Much more pleasant to record was the celebration of the double Armenian literary anniversary, of the invention of the alphabet and of the printing of the first book. We note also the accession of a new Greek Patriarch, Germanos V., and a new Armenian Patriarch, Zaven.

Other events of note in this country were the prolonged visit here of Governor Finley, of the Sulu Archipelago, Philippines, the change of American Ambassador, the Educational and Medical Conferences in Jerusalem, the inauguration of irrigation works in Mesopotamia, at the Hindia Barrage, and the quarter-centennial of St. Paul's Institute at Tarsus.

Of more general interest in the world of politics were the beginning of President Wilson's administration in America and the Mexican imbroglio led by Gen. Huerta. In the religious world, the great events were the Zurich Sunday School Convention, the centennial celebrations of the American Board's Marathi Mission in India and of the Baptist work in Burma, — the Judson Centenary.

Death has reaped a large harvest during 1913 among the Christian workers in the Ottoman Empire. Of those in active service, Rev. Edward Riggs, D.D., of Marsovan, Dr. S. J. Thoms of Arabia, Mrs. J. H. Kingsbury of Bardizag, Miss Mary A. C. Ely of Bitlis, Rev. C. Henry Holbrook of Sivas, Miss C. Pollard of Beirut; also Rev. George D. Marsh of Philippopolis, Bulgaria, whose field was formerly included in Turkey. Of those who had retired to America, we record the names of Mrs. Josephine L. Coffing of Hadjin, Miss Phœbe

L. Cull of Marsovan, Rev. Charles F. Morse of Bulgaria, and Mrs. Wilson A. Farnsworth of Cæsarea. Among our fellow workers of this country were Professor Alexan Bezjian of Aintab, and Rev. Stepan Chorigian of Constantinople. Of foreign residents in Turkey we note Dr. John Patterson and Mrs. William Sellar of this city, Mr. A. O. van Lennep of Smyrna, and Sir Hamilton Lang, formerly of Constantinople. The political world lost during the year King George I. of Greece by the assassin's hand, also the ex-Empress Dowager of China, Mayor Gaynor of New York, Viscount Wolseley of England, and the former Grand Vizier, Kiamil Pasha, besides those mentioned before as murdered. J. Pierpont Morgan, the financier, passed away; and among men of letters, Prof. Dowden of Dublin, Alfred Austen, the English Poet-Laureate, and Prof. Arminius Vambéry of Buda-Pesth.

MRS. WILSON A. FARNSWORTH.

A letter from Dr. Herrick announces the passing away of Mrs. Caroline Elizabeth Palmer Farnsworth, widow of our veteran colleague Dr. W. A. Farnsworth, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. B. Little, at Glen Ridge, New Jersey. The funeral occurred there on Dec. 11th, and the body was carried to the family burying ground in Thetford, Vermont, where her beloved husband was interred eighteen months before.

Mrs. Farnsworth was born in Thetford, and was married there on Oct. 21st, 1852, setting sail Dec. 22nd from Boston for Smyrna in the bark "Sultana." The voyage took 30 days, and of that party of eight missionaries for Turkey, Mrs. Farnsworth was the last survivor. Dr. and Mrs. Farnsworth were designated to Cæsarea, and for fifty years they lived and labored among the people whom they loved and who loved them. To the missionary circle they were for long years "Father and Mother Farnsworth;" and Talas has never seemed the same since they left there, ten years ago.

On the occasion of their golden wedding, in 1902, Prof. Charles Farnsworth of Columbia went out to help celebrate; Mrs. Fowle his sister being also there. The day was celebrated by a picnic on the top of Ali Dagh, outside of Talas; nearly the whole station made the ascent, but Dr. and Mrs. Farnsworth were the first to reach the top.

Dr. and Mrs. Farnsworth retired the following year and returned to America, where they made their home in Glen Ridge, and where Mrs. Farnsworth has been since her husband's death, with her daughter. Besides the three children mentioned, Miss Ellen S. Farnsworth and Mrs. E. L. Gulick are the two other daughters.

TRAVEL SKETCHES.

The Father-Heart.—The Austrian steamer had left Beirut on the short run for Haifa and Jaffa. We were a mere handful of passengers; and a lively group of bright Syrian boys, about half of the little company, seemed with their ubiquitous restlessness and unflagging chatter to stand for the other half also. The day after would be the Western Easter; and they were off for their homes and their spring holiday in irrepressible spirits. The dinner-gong sounded for the last time. Probably on account of the smallness of our numbers the one or two stewards in attendance performed their duties somewhat perfunctorily. "Where should we sit?" "Oh, anywhere! Here, if you like!" and one of them pointed my companion and myself to the seats next the captain on his left. Dinner began, and the seats opposite us, those on the captain's right, were still vacant, when, with a rush and a swirl, two of the Syrian lads entered the saloon, and wholly innocent of ideas of rank and precedence, made for the first empty seats they saw, and took those places on the captain's right. They were still talking and laughing, and never dreamed of saluting either the captain or the passengers near them, after the courteous continental fashion. But, more than that, they had come to table straight from some exploring career on deck, and had sat down without waistcoat, collar, or tie, in their play-ground coats, with locks untidy, and it is to be feared, with unwashed faces and hands. The scandalized captain eyed them askance as they took their soup, and presently addressed them in English, thinking, as he afterwards explained, that they were from "the American school." His accent was icy and his eye ominous as he said in a tone of severe politeness—"Next time you come to table you will wear a collar and tie and brush your hair,—just to please me, you understand, just to please me!" The boys glanced laughingly in his face, understood nothing, and went on with their soup. Then from lower down the table the purser called across to them in French and told them what the captain had said. The boys stole a furtive look at each other, blushed a very little, looked uncomfortable for a moment or two, but presently were chattering away as brightly as before. The next course was handed round. The boys helped themselves a trifle awkwardly, disposed of it awkwardly but with healthy appreciation, and never ceased their merry talk. The captain was eyeing them. The third course demanded the use of knife and fork; and the younger of the boys showed himself unskilled in their manipulation. Then the captain reached out his hand and signed to the lad to give him his plate. Carefully the captain cut up the meat for him, added a helping of the vegetable which just then came round, and with a grim smile handed it to the boy. Two or three other courses followed; and as each was served the captain took the plates of the two boys, laid on them a liberal supply, and cut up the meat portion for them. Still he eyed them as they ate, their laughter and chatter a little more subdued, but their rosy cheeks seeming at every moment

ready to bloom into a smile. When they had drunk their coffee, the lads, conscious of the captain's kindness, as they rose from table extended a hand of thanks to him accompanied by a smiling little bow. This quite melted the good old heart; and with an indescribable gesture of affection the grizzled sailor patted them on the head and turned away with a glistening eye.

Next meal the boys appeared at table in "full dress," again to receive the captain's kind attention.

"You have boys of your own, have you not, captain?" I asked later on. "Yes, two." "I thought so." And then he went on to tell me all about his family. Who could mistake the father-heart!

The Aristocrat.—It was a warm evening; and after dinner a little company of us sat out for some time on the balcony of the Tiberias hotel that looks over the waters of the sombre lake. When at length my companions rose and retired, I entered the public room and took up a book that had interested me earlier in the day. It was a small room; and the lady who sat writing at the centre table was not far from the seat that I took.

I had seen her before. She was very plain-looking, and extremely plainly dressed; and from the fact that she had been seated in the hall, where the servants congregated, and that I had not observed her at table, I had concluded that she was somebody's maid. She had addressed me, speaking excellent English, with practically no foreign accent, but shewing an inclination to be voluble; and that had strengthened the conclusion I arrived at regarding her.

As I now took my seat with my book, she looked up from her letter, bade me good-evening, and at once began a flood of speech. I cannot call it conversation; for, beyond a word here and there that I managed to slip in, the talk was all on her side. I have met with other loquacious ladies from whom it was almost impossible to get away, and I have met with at least one man who tempted me to fly for my life from him; but I think I never met with so persistent a talker as this lady. It cannot have been later than 9:30 when I sat down there; but by 11:30 I had not been able to read a page of my book, nor had she added half-a-dozen lines to her letter. Twice, I think, in those two hours she interrupted herself with—"But I must really get on with my writing;" but the interruption was hardly more than momentary.

I was becoming desperate, and wondered how I should be able with decency to interrupt her flow of talk and retire to my room; for her talk was not fascinating. Though intelligent in a way, it was rambling, and there was a certain harshness of tone to it that caused it frequently to rasp. But at last a merciful providence led her to speak in a highly disparaging way of "the lower classes." I put in a word, taking their side. Her eyes opened, her surprise broke the flow of speech and gave me my turn. I used it to the best of my ability, not in any extreme way, for I am not a "root and branch" Socialist, but pointing out what I believed to be the faults and the responsibilities of "the upper classes." It had already transpired that she was Dutch, also that she was an

earnest Christian according to her lights, and now she informed me, modestly enough, that she belonged to the nobility. "And I should never have thought, sir," she added, "from your appearance that you would hold such views about 'the common people'."

But I insisted on declining to recognize any distinction between people save that of character in the first place, and mental gifts in the second. This so surprised and grieved my aristocratic colloquist that she began to find her letter more interesting than to engage in talk with me; and so, after having had peace to finish another chapter of my book, I wished her good-night and thankfully escaped.

Samokov, Bulgaria.

R. T.

NON-MOSLEMS AND THE ARMY.

On this vexed question the *Tanin* says:—

The enlisting of non-Moslems has led to results which the Government could not fail to take into consideration. Contrary to the hopes expressed by non-Moslem deputies in the first session of parliament, the non-Moslem recruits have been unable to adapt themselves to the conditions of military service. We do not for this reason accuse them of lack of patriotism. Military service is no easy thing. It certainly is no joke for persons unaccustomed to the hardships of a soldier to leave the family fireside for the hard life of the barracks. One must have strong patriotic feelings indeed if one can contemplate this duty fearlessly and do it eagerly. The non-Moslem part of the population has had its common rights in the fatherland only since the Constitution. After all the racial dissensions of the past one could hardly hope, in the short space of five years, to see the non-Moslems full of enthusiastic love for the Ottoman fatherland and of zeal for military service.

Consequently the young men are fleeing the country in groups. Most of those who reach military age go to America or some other land, looking for work. The result is that the country is deprived of their muscle and brawn, while our youth perish in misery abroad.

We believe those persons are wrong who show indifference or indignation at this class of young men. We do not agree with those who say, "We have no use for men that show such lack of patriotism; let them perish." We do need our fellow-citizens. We want to see the number grow in the land of non-Moslems who can increase the national wealth.

The non-Moslems evade military service today because they are not ready for the idea of it, and do not regard it as an honor, a duty, and a right. It is our duty to show leniency toward them until they come to appreciate this. Starting from this standpoint, there is but one method for us to adopt: to make military service elective. Let those non-Moslems who wish to do military service go to the barracks, and let those who for one cause or another wish to avoid it, be excused by paying a compensation. The *Tanin* has held to this theory for a long time. There is no other way to guarantee the moral and material strength of the army while at the

same time safeguarding the economic interests of the land.

We are deeply gratified to see that the government appreciates this fact. And we are sure that the non-Moslems will acknowledge that the government is anxious to respect as far as possible both the rights and the wishes of all Ottomans.

GREGORIANS AND THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The leading Gregorian Armenian religious weekly paper, *Dadjar* (Temple), for Dec. 7 contains a very vigorous article by the editor calling upon Armenian ecclesiastics to get to work for their people along moral and spiritual lines. The article specially recommends the adoption of the Sunday School idea by the Armenian Church. The work of the missionaries is held up as an example to be followed. Referring to the Sunday School Quarterlies now being issued by the Publication Department of the American Board, the editor, who is an Armenian priest, says: "The first Sunday School Quarterly for 1914 has just been published: it is a fine, carefully prepared work, the reading of which by Armenian ecclesiastics would be sufficient to show what great things can be accomplished for the moral and spiritual training of Armenian children and young men and women. There is the utmost need of such training: without it there can be no healthy education; there is no other way of forming strong characters. The American missionaries must be thanked too, for the attractive way in which this year they have tried to adapt the lessons to the church life of the Armenian nation."

CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE.

Christmas Day was celebrated royally at the College, though it was only one day's pause in a busy week, the week of last reviews before examination. Miss Perkins led a Christmas morning service in the chapel, and in the evening there was a Christmas tree loaded with gifts and with candy (made by the Domestic Science classes) for every student and teacher.

And then came a really wonderful presentation of a Christmas miracle play, one of the Coventry cycle, given by the Sophomore class, under Miss Perkins' guidance and teaching. The simple shepherds in their square-shouldered coats, and with their quaint old English; Mary the mother, and the Child in the manger, the prophets' sayings and the angels' song, and the other lovely singing which accompanied all the action, thrilled the audience and carried them in spirit to the first Christmas Day.

On Sunday Dr. Wallace led the morning service, and her talk was on constructive life, a talk which connected in the simplest, highest way, Christmas day and New Year's day—the days of new beginnings.

I. F. D.
A German balloon has just landed at Perm, Russia, after a record flight of 1,736 miles.

NOT SO BADLY OFF YET.

Dear ORIENT: —

The workers in Tarsus are grateful to Dr. Chambers for the kind words regarding them and their work in his letter of Nov. 24. He might have mentioned that the president here is also a member of our Board of Managers. As he says, our need of at least one additional American teacher is very great. But it is not at all necessary that he be a man "who might become a successor" to the president. What is wanted, and what we have been calling for ever since Mr. Candy went away two years ago, is simply a college graduate of good character and missionary spirit, to come for three years and help in the English department. Such a man should be comparatively easy to find.

The mention of a "successor," and of my "impaired health" will not, we hope, alarm any of our many friends who are readers of *The Orient* in this country and abroad. For myself I will say frankly that I have not yet arrived at the age or at the state of health when I shall be ready to read with pleasure my own obituary. Professor Park once brought before our class a signed statement from his physician that he (the Professor) was not dead. And we have all heard that Mark Twain characterised a report of his own death as "somewhat exaggerated." I desire, with great thankfulness to Him who healeth all our diseases, to assure our friends that (whatever may have been the state of the case two years ago), these suggestions that my health is "impaired" at the present time to any serious degree, and that I am ready to welcome "a successor" are based on a somewhat narrow induction of the facts. You will pardon me for assuring all the helpers of Tarsus that their old friend here is doing full work, teaching Ethics, the Bible, the Evidences of Christianity, Psychology, and the Greek Testament; preaching once or twice a week, and attending to all the accounts. No complaint of inefficiency has yet been heard. However, he is ready to resign when the faculty, the alumni, and the students think that his days of usefulness are past; when the Christian people of Tarsus say that they want another missionary in his place; and when the generous supporters of this work from its beginning intimate their desire to see him leave it. The expressions of love and loyalty from all of these, heard and read at the recent anniversary — love and loyalty to him and his wife, as well as to the dear old School — bring tears to his eyes whenever he thinks of them; and they give him assurance that no call for "a successor" will be heard here, probably, for some years to come. It was said of old General Sumner of the Second Corps that "he was of race horse stock; he would run till he dropped." All missionaries are of that stock; we enlist for life. It is true that some of us are of "advanced years." But when we think of the work done after eighty by Gladstone, Bismarck, Elias Riggs and Daniel Bliss, and when we see all that has to be done and the few that there are to do it, we take to ourselves the motto of the Clan that gave America and the world a General Grant, — "Stand fast,

Craig Ellachie!" So, by the grace of God, we become not weary in well doing.

I cannot close without seconding Dr. Chambers' plea for the Adana Hospital. He has done much good work for Turkey; but none better than he did in founding that institution. It ought to be liberally supported and much enlarged. I speak feelingly, for it is to Dr. Haas and Miss Wallis that I owe, under God, my recovery from serious illness. One cannot think without a thrill of joy of all that our Christian doctors and nurses are doing for men, women and children in every part of this Empire. May the Master Himself ever prosper and bless them!

Yours fraternally,

THOMAS D. CHRISTIE.

St. Paul's College, Tarsus, December 16, 1913.

OBSTACLES CONFRONT REFORMERS.

The *Ikdam* sees a great resemblance between the situation now on the Russian frontier in the Caucasus and that in Macedonia before the Balkan war. It notes the appearance there of armed bands, and comments thus: —

It is all useless. Nothing can put an end to the abnormal situation of things in the Asiatic provinces. The *Azadarmart* said yesterday that that was one of the countries that must be detached from Turkey to be reformed. Our contemporary means that we are losing our country because we do not reform it.

That is perfectly true; but we ask in what region has the government been able to undertake any endeavor at all without running up against foreign hindrances. We cannot blame the government; it has shown every sign of good will. It knows very well that it is impossible *not* to reorganize the country. Neither the present state of affairs nor the trend of the times nor its own immediate interests will allow of delay. Then, we shall be asked, why not begin the reforms? We reply that in Armenia, at least, they have already begun. The difficulties arising out of the real estate contests have been examined. A large part of the people of the provinces have recovered their land, and the rest are in a fair way to do so. The gendarmerie has been reformed; brigandage has been suppressed; instruction in the Armenian language has been introduced into the elementary schools; the courts now render their verdicts in Armenian; the administrative laws of the vilayets have been modified; and so forth. Can anyone deny all this? True, we are still far from the perfection we find in civilized countries; but in our opinion as long as means of communication are so lacking in the interior, we cannot expect very satisfactory results.

The Government in its desire to reform the country has asked for a loan, and has called for specialists. Europe has thus far refused us both.

And now, just at the moment when we were hopeful of coming to an understanding, here comes news of marauding bands on the frontier!

THE ORIENT

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Charles T. Riggs, Editor.

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BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE. DECEMBER 31, 1913.

EDITORIAL.

As we go to press, the Student Volunteer Convention in Kansas City, Mo. is beginning its sessions. Will not all who can do so unite their prayers with the tens of thousands in America who are interceding for a great blessing on this gathering? At a time when there is such a call for additional workers for the Ottoman Empire and the Near East, such a convention may well be the means of discovering some who will look definitely forward to placing their life-work in this section of the Lord's vineyard.

It will be an agreeable surprise, we believe, to our subscribers to find that they are receiving fifty-three numbers of the ORIENT this year. The calendar is responsible for this extra gift to each of you; and we do not promise to give such a treat for several years to come. But beginning with the next issue we do propose to add slightly to the size of the paper, not in the superficial area of each page, but in number of pages. We believe that even with no war to chronicle, there is more readable material that might profitably be offered to the public in this way. We are making efforts to secure more correspondence also from other parts of the Empire, as well as from neighboring countries. And we shall endeavor for 1914 to come nearer to deserving some of the nice things some of you have been so kindly saying of us. Whether we succeed or not will be for our friends to judge.

Letters from Talas indicate an alarming increase of out-lawry and crime in the Casarea region of late. The indiscriminate use of firearms at all times of day and night has resulted not only in an increase of cases of gunshot wounds, but in several murders, some of them peculiarly revolting. Within November and December there have been ten or twelve at least, in that vicinity, the victims being indifferently Turks or Armenians. Sometimes robbery appears to be the motive, but not always. Among the victims is old Ali, the Turk who for a score of years drove the station wagon for Dr. Farnsworth, Mr. Fowle and our other American

friends. He was murdered on the road between Talas and Casarea. In no case as far as heard from has anyone been punished for a single one of these crimes; and the Mutesarrif of the sub-province appears to be acting very weakly in the matter. It reminds one of the state of things in Persia, and is no good omen for Turkey's avoiding European control.

Those Ottomans who have lost faith in the ability of the Ottomans to govern this country seem to be divided into two main classes. There are those who sigh for some European Government, — generally for Great Britain, — to come in and undertake the administration of things, as she does in Egypt at least, if not as she does in India. These include many patriotic thinkers at the capital, and a large body of loyal but discouraged rank-and-file in Asia Minor. But there is a larger class who look for a satisfactory solution in the employment of foreign specialists in some capacity by the Ottoman Government, to direct the affairs in various departments. Just now this party has the upper hand. But its success will depend very materially on the amount of latitude and real power given these foreign specialists. Tie their hands with official red tape, or fail to give them qualified subordinates to carry out the reforms they suggest, and their work will be nullified. Turkish officialism had a rare chance during the dark days of Abdul Hamid to learn all sorts of political chicanery, and the chance was fully utilized. It is difficult to root out in five years the habits learned in thirty-five — or more. Bribery, personal gain, private revenge, contempt for those of other religious systems, still persist. But more characteristic of the Turk are the words *yasák* (forbidden), *yárun* (tomorrow), *kéif* (idle enjoyment), *olmáz* (it wont do). If the Ottoman Empire is to hold together what is left to it, it must be by erasing these words, if not from its dictionary, at least from its official vocabulary. And if foreign advisers, or whatever they may be called, are to benefit the country at all, the tap-root of their enthusiasm must not be cut by any such phrases. A glance at the situation of today shows the possibilities. The army is under German influence, the navy under British, the finances under French. And if Russia does not secure the chief control in solving the Armeno-Kourdish problem, it will not be for lack of effort. Now if the Empire is to continue as such, it must be up and doing, it must learn from foreign instructors, lest it follow the fate of the North African States. We believe it can do this. It can rouse itself from its lethargy and enter on a new era of progress.

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, Jan. 4th, 1914.

- BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. C. F. Gates, D.D.
 UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew.
 ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles Anderson, D.D.
 CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, 11 : 30 a. m. Rev. F. W. Macal-
 lum, D.D.

THE MOSLEM WORLD FOR JANUARY.

This quarterly review not only maintains its high standard but is becoming of increasing value to all students of Islam and of missionary work among Moslems. We hope every Christian worker in Turkey will see to it that he or she has access to it during the coming year. The first number of Volume IV. is before us, and is thoroughly readable. There is an illuminating article with map on Islam in Bengal, by Rev. John Takle, quotations from which will appear later. Rev. W. A. Rice contributes a careful discussion of the place given to Ali in Shiah tradition, which is so largely a cult of Ali. The great yearly gathering at Tanta, in the Nile Delta, where it is estimated that half a million people assemble for the Mûlid, or celebration of Sayyid Ahmed-el-Bedawi, is described by George Swan, Esq. There is a Plea for the Vulgar Arabic, by Rev. Percy Smith; and Dr. Zwemer, in an article on the Dying Forces of Islam, gives quotations from an Arabic essay recently published by a young Sheikh who was for some years a teacher in Azhar University, which is a cry of despair and a description of the decaying forces at work in Islam. Dr. Andrew Watson, out of the rich experience of fifty-two years of service in Egypt, writes of Our Only Gospel. Rev. Robert Thomson gives a description of Conditions in Bulgaria, telling of the forcible "conversion" of the Pomak Mohammedans to the Orthodox Church by the Bulgarian Holy Synod. There is an article on the Mohammedan Women of China, and a report of the Conference of last August at Bethel, in Westphalia, Germany; also a study of Constitutional Government in Turkey by the editor of the *Orient*. Attention should also be called to the description of the work of the Cairo Study-Centre, with its attractive prospectus of work for the current year, 1913-1914.

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE, BUT —

The *Peyam* writes: —

There are obscure questions in the world, especially political and social questions, which the Oriental mind still refuses to grasp and understand. And it is precisely because we lack this spirit of keen apprehension, that we Ottomans are dying of hunger in the very land that the whole world is trying to get hold of because it believes it to be a prize, an inexhaustible economic treasury. Yes, this region, this Anatolia, was the cradle of the ancient civilizations. But what is it today? We dare not say it, — a ruin, a ruin that conceals its natural riches and shows to our eyes only its nakedness and misery. All around us, wherever we go, we find only devastation, tumble-down houses, lands uncultivated, forests denuded, arid plains where even grass no longer grows. As a civil official lately expressed it, as we look on this desolation we are forced to believe that our people is more inclined to destruction than to construction and productive labor. It is our ignorance of technical arts that prevents our appreciating the loss these ruins entail to us.

What is the solution to this puzzle? The most elementary economic laws make prosperity depend on three factors: natural riches, capital, and labor. We possess the first, and in abundance. The second we lack, for we have neither financial nor intellectual capital. As for the third, our supply is limited. We work, it is true, but simply from day to day with no thought for the future. How can we under such conditions wrest from Anatolia her natural resources? This is why we are dying of hunger in the lap of luxury. The Westerners, on the other hand, hardly lay their hand on natural resources before they get fat off of them, for they have both capital and labor, which means, every needed factor. Nothing stops them; they overcome every obstacle and squeeze gold out of the very stones. They know no such word as impossible. How little we are in comparison to them, and how miserable!

ARMENIANS AND KOURDS.

In the December *Contemporary Review* is an interesting article by Rev. Harold Buxton, entitled "Sidelights on the Armenian Question," from which we quote the following extract: —

"There is a remarkable contrast between the villages of Armenians and the villages of Kourds. We had travelled for days in a Kourdish district, a waste of bare, sandy hills, with never a tree or any sign of cultivation. Our halting-place for lunch proved to be an Armenian village, and luscious melons were put before us, which the arid soil produces in abundance as soon as a little irrigation is applied to it. While we sat in the khan, the local schoolmaster appeared, — a wonder still more remarkable than the melons, for who ever heard of a school in a Kourdish village? We seemed to be suddenly transported to a centre of civilization. This educational activity is beyond all praise. Here was a man of some ability, prepared to live a lonely life in an isolated village — for the sake of his nation and the young generation. The school system in Armenian villages is entirely voluntary; there is no Government aid of any kind. The schools are under the general control of the National Committee for Education which sits at Constantinople. The teachers, who are all certificated, are paid by the Committee acting through local agents. Inspectors are also appointed to supervise each district. Those scholars pay fees who can, but poverty is no bar to admission. A certain number of better-equipped schools and training colleges are financed by the Union Committee, which raises its funds in Egypt and among wealthy Armenians. But these are also brought into the national organization, and the management rests with the National Committee.

We visited a secondary boys' school attached to an ancient monastic establishment at Varag. The school has had an adventurous career. It was founded by Bishop Murgurditch, the pioneer of modern education in Armenia, fifty years ago. At the time of the massacres, masters and boys had to fly to the mountains, and while they were absent the buildings were

completely destroyed by fire. Nevertheless, an entire reconstruction was undertaken. A second attempt was made, less than three years ago, to despoil this institution. The attacking party, about a hundred strong, was repelled by five Armenian revolutionaries, aided no doubt by the "young bloods" of the college. Now there are seventy boys and seven teachers, all laymen. The system is pre-eminently practical. The pupils are destined for teaching, and since it is considered part of a village schoolmaster's duty in Armenia to be able to assist peasants in agricultural matters, thorough instruction is given in fruit and vegetable culture, dairy work, and general gardening. The school grounds form a delightful oasis of irrigated lands in the midst of surrounding desert. Every boy takes his share, out of school hours, in carpentry and housework.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

The well-known writer and professor of law, Babanzade Ismail Hakki Bey, who represented Baghdad in the last Parliament, and was a constant contributor to the *Tanin*, died suddenly by the bursting of an aneurism as he was lecturing in the University Law School on Dec. 25th. He was for a short time Minister of Public Instruction.

The Orient Express that left here Wednesday last ran into a passenger train near Bellovo station, Bulgaria, but the collision was slight and nobody was injured. The Orient Express that left Friday was obliged to turn back at San Stefano owing to floods caused a veritable cloudburst that day.

The Grand Vizier has been honored with the grand cross of the Roumanian Order of the Star. Talaat Bey, Minister of the Interior, and Ghalib Kemali Bey, Ottoman Minister to Athens, have received the grand cross of the order of the Roumanian Crown.

Hüseyin Danish Bey will give a lecture in the Keller's Hall (Pera) Y. M. C. A. Course, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 6th, at 9:15, his subject being "Turkish Literature, and its Historical and Social Relation to the Occident and Orient."

There had been no case of cholera in this city for six days till last Sunday when there were two; but in Gallipoli it is reported as raging severely.

His Majesty the Sultan was prevented from attending Selamlık last Friday, owing to a slight cold from which he was suffering.

The *Tasviri Efkiâr* has been suppressed by the court-martial for persistent publications against the highest interests of the State.

Count Ostrorog, who was formerly Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Justice, has just been appointed to the newly-created post of Chief Legal Adviser to the Ottoman Government.

The "Shirket-i-Hairié" carried in its steamers on the Bosphorus during 1328 (1912-1913) a total of 15,823,318 passengers, as against 14,908,540 for the previous year. In addition it carried on the San Stefano line 572,348 passengers. The total receipts of the Company for the last year were 23,586,884 piastres, or about a million dollars. The Company has decided to order ten new steamers.

THE PROVINCES

Smyrna has been declared by the health authorities free of cholera.

The Government has ordered from a French company seven small gunboats to patrol the Arabian seacoast. Four of these are of 510 tons and carry two four-inch guns and two mitrailleuses each. The other three are of 420 tons and carry smaller guns.

Colonel Hawker, the British officer in command of the Ottoman gendarmerie in the Trebizond region, has been promoted to be Brigadier-General.

The Messageries steamer "Niger," on its way from Beirut to Smyrna with 700 pilgrims on board, ran on the rocks the other day near Cheslime, on the main land opposite the island of Scio. The passengers were all taken off safely.

The aviator Védrynes was last reported at Jaffa, and M. Bonnier left Adana last Monday.

La Turquie announces that the Italian Government has opened a sanitarium at Salihiyeh, the suburb of Damascus and the Sisters acting as nurses will also open a small school for girls there.

Two of the German officers of the staff of Gen. Liman von Sanders Pasha have gone on a tour of inspection to Adrianople, Kirk Kilise and Demotika. General Liman Pasha will join them at Kirk Kilise.

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The last number of the Anatolia College Greek monthly *Pontus* contains an interesting discussion of the Greek language situation; also a description of nine hitherto unpublished Greek and Latin inscriptions recently discovered at Sinope.

NOTES.

Mr. W. E. D. Ward, till recently business agent at Harpout, has located in Boston and is on the secretarial staff of the Boston Y.M.C.A.

Dr. E. E. Count, of the Methodist Mission at Sofia, returned there from Frankfurt, Germany, on Dec. 20th, after an operation, from which he is still quite feeble.

Mrs. Hugh E. Poynter of this city has been granted the decoration of the third order of the *Shefakat*.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh E. Poynter left yesterday by Khedivial steamer for Egypt on their trip around the world.

Mr. C. F. Ranney of New Hampshire has been engaged by the American Board for a term of five years as business agent, with a view to the need existing at Harpout. Mr. Ranney sails today from New York for Patras, and will spend some time in Mr. Peet's office in the Capital, to familiarize himself with the routine before proceeding to his post.

OTHER LANDS.

Crete having now become a part of Greece, the capitulations are thereby suppressed, and the foreign postoffices in the island will therefore cease to function after April 1st, 1914

An awful tragedy occurred on Christmas Eve at Calumet, Mich., when a false alarm of fire at a children's celebration resulted in a panic in which five men, thirty women and forty five children lost their lives.

Mr. Ghenadieff, Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has resigned that post. This enables the Governmental Party to form a coalition with the Farmers' Party.

Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia, often reported dead, is now officially stated to have died. For five years past he has been a physical wreck. His successor is his grandson, Lidj Yasou.

The unfortunate little Tsarevitch has had a fresh accident at Livadia, in a fall against a door, by which one leg was badly hurt.

President Wilson has signed the currency bill, and gone South for a three weeks' holiday for his health.

It is announced that Prince Wilhelm of Wied, the new ruler of Albania, will reach Albania on Jan. 20th, 1914.

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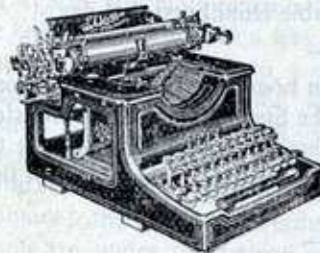
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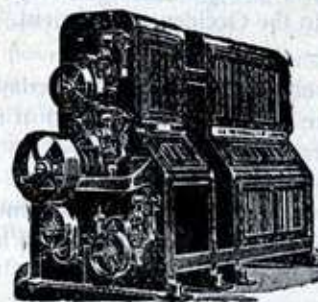
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