

# The Orient.

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BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 7

## THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

### 83 Session (continued)

"Those persons who have the following offices and obligations shall not be summoned to bear arms so long as they retain their official character and continue to perform their duties in a practical way.

1. The keepers of the shrines of the prophets and of those of other holy persons, the commissioned *Khademens* (servitors) in Mecca, Medina, and the mosque of Omar. 2. Commissioned *imams* and Islam preachers who, being *sheikhs*, are rendering actual service in these offices, also the representative heads of the Protestant, Latin and Jewish communities and the individual preachers in the Protestant churches. 3. The judges in courts of Moslem law (*sheri*) whether in service or not, *hodjas* who give lessons in religion, those who after examination receive the Stamboul *rouous*, non-Moslem Patriarchs, Catholikoses, Head Rabbis, Metropolitans, Archbishops, Bishops, Archimandrites, Vartabeds, Rabbis, Abbots, Deacons, Monks, and Priests. 4. Those in the personal service of the Sovereign and other special officials. 5. Students officially known to the Ministry of Education as studying in High Schools and those in foreign countries. 6. The students in *Medressehs* (Moslem theological schools), in Christian and Jewish theological schools, and in monasteries. 7. Those who have entered the normal schools after examination, permanent school teachers who are officially listed and endorsed by the Ministry of Education or by some provincial Board of Education, also those who hold normal school diplomas or certificates of ability as teachers. 8. Students in the preparatory military schools."

**84 Session** (May 7). The order of the day was the discussion of that section of the Budget which pertains to the Ministry of Finance. After careful reading and discussion of each article the total sum of 6,241,200 piasters gold was voted, last year the sum was 5,911,650 piasters. In the afternoon the President announced with sorrow the death of Edward VII. As a sign of respect the session was immediately closed.

**85 Session** (May 9). Letters from the Grand Vizier on the following points were sent to Committees, (1) the speedy examination of the Bill dealing with the New Ottoman steamship company which is to succeed the Mahsousseh (2) the increase of the salary of notaries (3) the improvement of the lime and borax quarries and factories in the region of Konia and Cesarea (4) and the temporary budget prepared for the month of May. Then Sherik el Moueyyed Bey ascended

the rostrum and began to lay emphasis on freedom of speech. He said that two daily papers, the editors of which were Deputies, had attacked him because of some suggestions he had made in Parliament a few days before and even threatened to hand him over to the Court Martial as a spy. One of the editors referred to, Djahid Bey, took up the challenge vigorously. The question arose of whether the *journals* (accusatory documents of the Hamidian espionage system) should be published or not. This produced an uproar, and the President adjourned the sitting for the noon recess. In the afternoon on reassembling, a vizierial letter was read announcing that by Imperial *iradeh* the sessions of Parliament would be prolonged for one month. After the disposal of several minor items of business the discussion of the *journals* was resumed with considerable heat. The Grand Vizier explained that these *journals* were simply written betrayals, a part of the Hamidian system, at a time when there was neither a Chamber of Deputies nor a Senate, and the existing Ministerial Council was likely to have its decisions modified by Hamid. Thus every body tried to make something for himself by incriminating others. All the *journals* are being kept, he said, and that when their examination and classification is complete the question of their publication will be considered. The discussion was then resumed with vigor but was not brought to a conclusion before the end of the session.

**86th Session** (May 10). It was voted to begin at once the discussion of the Bill of Military Reserves. The first article which calls for the canceling of provisions for substitutes in the reserve service was accepted unchanged. The second article calling for service when summoned, or the payment of 30 liras each time, was discussed at length and was finally accepted with this amendment that the money should be refunded in case the regiment is disbanded before leaving its own locality. The proposition to appropriate 50,000 liras for the renovating and improvement of Moslem schools of theology (*medressehs*) and places of worship was refused consideration because it was not presented by the Ministry. The rest of the Bill of Military Reserves was discussed and passed. Then were taken up the amended articles of the Bill of Monopolies. The first was accepted. Its provisions are that monopolies may be granted directly by the executive branch of the Government (1) where the Government assumes no guarantee and where no promises are made to surrender public properties (2) those which have no connection with any public service mentioned in the Budget, (3) those which will fall under the jurisdiction of the local governments and in accordance with laws still to be framed for the provinces and districts.

### SOME NEWLY DISCOVERED FRAGMENTS OF SAPPHO.

The manuscripts discovered of late years in Egypt contain six new fragments of Sappho's poems. The first is on a papyrus of the 3<sup>d</sup> Century, now in the British Museum. The others are on vellum manuscripts of the 7<sup>th</sup> Century and are in the Royal Museum at Berlin. One of these pieces of vellum may have been a part of a book rather than of a roll, although that is not certain as the manuscript is greatly mutilated.

When Sappho composed her poems early in the 6<sup>th</sup> Cent. B. C. it is not certain in what form she left them, but probably written on tablets, as we have references to the use by some of her contemporaries of both wooden and wax tablets. In later ages her poems were collected and published in book form by many different authors. These books were extant at least until the 3<sup>d</sup> Century, A. D., for Athenaeus who wrote about that time said that he had learned by heart "all the songs that sweetest Sappho sang."

When Herculaneum gives up its treasures we may find a full collection of Sappho's poems, but meantime we possess fragments only found as quotations in other books—and of these there exist a lamentably small number. Indeed Bergk, the Great German authority, has included only one hundred and six genuine quotations from Sappho's poems in his anthology.

The new fragments therefore furnish an addition to the Sapphic literature, and add to the information already possessed about her life.

The first of these is a prayer to the Nereids for her brother Charaxos.

Charaxos was one of the early merchants who traded in Naukratis in Egypt, conveying there in the slow-moving sail-boats of the Eastern Mediterranean, similar to those used at the present time, wine and olive oil from the luxuriant island of Lesbos. While in Naukratis Charaxos became enamored of a beautiful girl of doubtful character, famous in ancient literature, of the name of Rhodopis. Rhodopis was a slave at one time, a fellow slave of Aesop, the writer of fables. Charaxos nearly beggared himself in order to ransom Rhodopis, and make her a free citizen of Naukratis.

The newly found poem describes how Charaxos had been treated with contempt when he returned to Mitylene after ransoming Rhodopis, and refers to the cold looks and scornful words that were bestowed upon him by his friends and companions.

Sappho and her brothers belonged to a noble family, and the disgrace incurred by Charaxos was deeply felt. It would seem from the new poem that Charaxos had repented of his wild conduct and had succeeded in gaining his former position in business and his standing in society, for Sappho prays to the "Golden Nereids" to bring her brother safely home after one of his later journeys to Egypt, and begs that he may not disgrace her again, but may bring joy to his friends and pain to his enemies.

The latter wish shows, alas, that Sappho and her brother had not, in those early days, learned the principles of forgiveness and love that characterize the modern peace movement.

Sappho also refers to Rhodopis\* in this fragment as a "dark lynx" of whom she says that she may put her nose to the ground and seek her prey elsewhere, and she also expresses the wish that Charaxos may marry one of the wellborn daughters of Mityene.

One of the new fragments throws some light upon the customs in Sappho's School, the House of the Muses.

We know from many other sources that Sappho was at the head of a school of poetry and music, and that parents sent their daughters to her from many parts of the East, even from Greece, to be trained in the arts which formed the education of those early days.

One of the fragments describes the leavetaking, when a pupil named Atthis was obliged to go away from Mitylene. She left weeping many tears, and taking with her memories of the dear and beautiful things that she had enjoyed in Sappho's society in the House of the Muses. Sappho says:

"For many crowns of violets and sweet roses, wreathed together, thou placed upon thy locks sitting near me, and many garlands woven around thy soft neck made of a hundred flowers, and with many a flask of myrrh both costly and royal thou hast anointed thy youthful skin, and lying upon a low couch thou satisfied thy desire with soft dainties and sweet drinks."

A third fragment is about another pupil named Mnasi-dica who has gone to Sardis to shine there among the Lydian ladies. This fragment ends with some lines that have the real Sapphic ring:

"And those things are not unknown to thee and to me, for night, the many-eared, sings of them to us across the dividing sea."

It has been a question much discussed regarding Sappho's School, as to whether she conducted it with a financial aim, or only for the sake of art itself. In the fifth of the new fragments, Sappho says: "I do not wish to be boastful any more of my great prosperity," showing that she possibly relied upon her school, and that it was to some extent a financial undertaking.

We also learn that when she was arrayed in her finery she wore a saffron-colored gown and a purple robe and that her daughter Kleis, named for Sappho's mother, used to assist her in preparing her toilet.

One of the fragments contains a prayer which shows a decided spirit of religious earnestness. It describes a vision of the god, to whom Sappho prayed, and reminds us of her hymn to Aphrodite which has been the one of her fragments that is best known to the world.

Sappho's poetry was never given a place in the religious poetry of the Greeks, although she wrote many hymns to the gods. Modern critics consider however that her devotional poems help greatly in estimating the religious feeling of her age, and Dr. James Hastings in his *Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics*, which he is publishing at the present time in Edinburgh, gives Sappho a place.

MAY MILLS PATRICK.

### AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

Record of the Weather Bureau for the week May 21<sup>st</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>.

(Records of pressure, maximum and minimum temperature, humidity and rainfall are taken daily at 8 a.m.)

Average pressure.		29.69 inches.
Maximum >	(May 24 <sup>th</sup> .)	29.81 >
Minimum >	(May 22 <sup>nd</sup> .)	29.63 >
Average temperature.		57.6 <sup>o</sup> F.
Maximum >	(May 27 <sup>th</sup> .)	69. >
Minimum >	(May 26 <sup>th</sup> .)	50. >
Average humidity.		88.8 <sup>o</sup> / <sub>o</sub>
Maximum >	(May 25 <sup>th</sup> .)	96.5 >
Minimum >	(May 21)	82. >
Rainfall.		.19 inches.

Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Chapel services were conducted by Rev. Alexander van Millingen.

On Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Freshman Class had a picnic at the Sweet Waters of Asia.

On Thursday, the 26<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Concert by students in the Music Department was given.

### BUILDING AMERICAN RAILROADS IN TURKEY

After much deliberation and delay the contract for the construction of the American Railway in Asia Minor was signed this week by the Grand Vizier and by the Minister of Public Works for the Government, and by Mr. Chester representing Maxwell, Manning and Moore of New York. The main line will cover 2000 kilometers extending between Sivas - Bitlis - Diarbekir - Harpout - Suleymanié - Kerkouk in one direction and Sivas - Sueidyé in the other. A junction will extend around Lake Van up to the city of Van.

The modifications made by the Council of State were accepted by the American Syndicate. The line will be constructed of normal width. Mines found within 28 kilometers distance on each side of the line will be given to the American Company as kilometric guarantees. If the Company delays to exploit the mines found within a year the Government will have the right to grant the concession to a third party. The exploitation of these mines is to be subjected to the existing laws and duties. In the case of the reduction of duties the Company will be the beneficiary. But the Government will have no right to increase the taxes.

In case the Company decides to construct branch lines it must notify the Government. The Company will utilize water found on the road without causing any damage to the population. A junction to the sea-coast being one of the essential conditions, the line must be extended to the ports of Sueidyé, or Youmourtalic.

The construction of 2000 kilometers must be ended within ten years. If the Company fails to build 150 kilometers

during the first year of the construction the Government will have the right to annul the concession. The surveying must be ended within sixteen months after the date of concession. If after the investigation the Company declines to take up the enterprise it must yield to the Government all plans, charts and projects made, and receive Lt. 20,000 deposited with the Government. On the other hand if the Company decides to undertake the construction of the railroad the deposit will be augmented to Lt. 50,000. This concession is for 99 years.

### RELIEF AND ROAD MAKING.

Under date of May 13 Mr. Macallum of Marash writes to Mr. Peet as follows :

I have to thank you this week for remittances from Mr. Gentle-Cackett, Mr. Favre and your Committee, in all Lt. 340, for Relief. I also received Lt. 25 from Mr. Freyer. We are now able to help Marash and all the villages, and we have our men out in every direction. The plan of giving work has been so welcome to the people and so successful in other ways that we are continuing on that line everywhere. Road-making is still the chief work; we are repairing all the bad spots in the whole region. This will make the carrying of loads easier and tend to prevent future famines, as far as it goes. I hope to give you a full account of all we have done when the work closes.

The Mutesarrif informs me that Lt. 1,000 have finally been assigned for relief to Zeitoon. This is the result of your representations and is something to be devoutly grateful for. The money is to be given as a loan, on mutual security, interest at 6 <sup>o</sup>/<sub>o</sub> after the first year. This will not relieve the poorest, but will materially affect the general situation. I have not yet heard that the money has actually been given. The governor says he has also Lt. 180 for Marash.

As we expected, the need increases daily, but there is only a month left before we may expect to see the new barley from Oorfa and Adana. Mulberries too will soon be ripe and other fruit will follow, so that now the prospect has brightened. We could of course use much more money, and use it wisely, but you have been so generous I do not feel that I ought to press for more.

We had a very pleasant visit from the Vali last week. Our Girls' College pleased him better than anything else he saw in the city, the German Hospital coming next. He went on from here to Zeitoon, Geoksun, and Albustan. He plans to have a road made from here to Albustan. This would put Marash into communication with all the country through to the Black Sea, and is the one thing that will make this city prosperous. The making of this road however will be very difficult as it will pass through the Taurus range. The estimated cost is Lt. 80,000.

### HARPOOT HAPPENINGS.

Many of you have doubtless missed Dr. Barnum's concise weekly news note letters. At present he is not able to write them and probably will not be able to write for some weeks longer, though we hope that with the return of warm weather he will recuperate sufficiently to resume them. Harpoot Happenings does not attempt to take the place of these News Notes, but we hope, semi occasionally or weekly as news and time dictate, to give our friends an idea of the events in our little world.

Dr. Barnum had a severe attack of indigestion in the middle of March. This left him with a most persistent diarrhoea. This combined with a very anemic condition, a weak heart, imperfectly working kidneys, a very delicate stomach and no reserve strength made it a serious case. For a month he grew steadily weaker, so that I feared it was only a question of a few weeks when he would leave us. He himself was quite convinced that he was not going to get well and acted accordingly. He even asked me to send him over to the other shore gently. Then followed a stationary period with a slight gain. He is still very weak with intermittent attacks of diarrhoea, nausea and neuralgia. He is able to stand when helped onto his feet, but can not walk. He manages to be dressed every day and sit in the front room from 1 to 8 P.M. each day. Cold and changeable weather seem to upset him. We hope that with the coming of steady hot weather he will gain more rapidly and perhaps be himself again.

The Easter vacation brought a general scattering of our circle. First Mr. Brown and Miss Poole, our faithful touring missionaries, started on their Spring tour for Diarbekir, the Kurdistan region and the annual meeting at Mardin. Prof. Margot and Mr. Harper started a few days later on a vacation trip to a portion of the same region. On Good Friday Rev. & Mrs. E. F. Carey started on their furlough to the home land. A large crowd turned out to say farewell. They will be missed by hundreds. Miss Catlin went with them as far as Constantinople, where she will meet her parents to spend the summer vacation with them near there, or in Europe. And last of all Miss Daniels left for a week's rest in the near by villages.

Rev. Vartan, after an affectionate and tearful farewell from his many friends in Diarbekir, reached Harpoot, also on Good Friday. He received a warm welcome from all. He began his work on Easter Sunday with communion and the baptism of a dozen little ones. After the service he and the deacons went up and gave the communion to Dr. & Mrs. Barnum, who were not able to attend. Everyone rejoices that at last the Harpoot church has so good a pastor.

H. H.

### STERN JUSTICE IN AINTAB.

I wish to mention an event which has recently taken place here and which has so strongly influenced the people that both "the Orient" and "the Avedaper" will wish to publish the facts. The Turk, who a year ago in April tried to com-

mence a massacre in Aintab by murdering a Moslem and throwing the bloody head into the Christian quarter, was publicly hung early Sunday morning May 15<sup>th</sup>. He had been tried in the Aintab court and had been condemned; but very few people believed that the sentence would be carried into execution. The Armenians were especially dubious. It was their expectation that the sentence would be modified, or that postponement would result in a grant of imperial pardon. But early Sunday morning, about dawn, the people in the city were astonished to see that Turk swinging from the tripod dressed in the convict's white garment and bearing on his breast the imperial decree for capital punishment.

This stern execution of justice sent a thrill of feeling all through the city; but there were no demonstrations of any sort. All day long the body was left hanging, and great crowds gathered at the scene. The impression upon the Mohammedans has been very strong, and the Armenians are much reassured.

S. R. TROWBRIDGE

### HERMAN NORTON BARNUM.

Rev. H. N. Barnum D. D., Harpoot, entered into rest on the morning of Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. He was born Dec. 5 1826, graduated from Amherst College in 1852, in the same class with his long time missionary associates Rev. O. P. Allen, and Rev. Daniel Bliss D. D., President of the College at Beyrout. Dr. Barnum, returning from a visit to the Holy Land in 1858, found himself at Constantinople at the time of the meeting of the Mission, and then felt called to the work in which he has spent the subsequent 52 years of his life. At the time of his death he was the Senior missionary of the American Board in Turkey, and with one exception, of all in active service under the Board. A fuller appreciation of the man and his work we hope to give later.

### MISS SHATTUCK

Miss Corinna Shattuck safely reached Boston by the S.S. Romanic. Information was sent to the Rooms by wireless message two days before her arrival. She was met by Dr. Barton and Edward M. Greene M. D., who conveyed her by ambulance to the Mass. General Hospital. She had been confined to her berth through all the passage, and was very feeble and emaciated. She was found to be suffering from tuberculosis in both lungs and from other serious troubles. After careful examination and tender care at the Hospital for some days she was removed to the Consumptive Home, and a trained nurse from the Mass. General Hospital (who was found to be an Armenian) was engaged to care for her. Everything that love and money can do is being done to make her last days comfortable. All who know her praise God for her life and work.