

The Orient.

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PRESIDENT GATES'S FOUNDER'S DAY ADDRESS

Founder's Day dates from the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Robert College, 1888, and March 23rd was chosen as the day to be celebrated because it was Mr. Robert's birthday. In his book Dr. Washburn says of the day, "It was not designed so much to glorify Mr. Robert as to have an appropriate occasion to make our students understand the object for which the College was founded, the motives of the founder and the principles which we are trying to act upon—our ideal of a Christian College. This day has been observed each year ever since, and has served to keep alive the memory of Mr. Robert, Dr. Hamlin, Dr. Long and others to whom our students are indebted for the privileges which they enjoy." This year the providence of God adds two names to those which Dr. Washburn mentioned, his own name and that of Dr. Manning. For these two lives have been wrought into that invisible structure, the real Robert College, which inhabits these halls as a soul indwells in a body. These two lives have contributed each its quota in fixing the principles and determining the spirit of Robert College. It seems to me clear that you could not listen to day with any patience, if I should speak to you on any other subject than that of these two lives and their work done here in our midst.

Dr. Manning was a graduate of Stevens Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y., to which institution he returned as teacher after doing graduate work and taking his degree of Ph. D. at the University of Berlin. In 1902 he was appointed as professor of Physics in Robert College and occupied that chair for two years. At the end of the two years, having received a call from Cornell University to become again a member of its teaching staff, he left us. The great attraction of the American University was the opportunity which it offered for research work. Dr. Manning was a very scholarly man. The work he had to do in Robert College was rudimentary work, and he missed the large libraries and well equipped laboratories of his own University.

During the year 1904-5 we were looking for a man to take his place, but in Dec. 1904 Dr. Manning wrote to me a letter which contained these words: "My return here has been in every way delightful and it almost seems ungrateful to consider work elsewhere. But I must confess that the work at Robert College had an element which is lacking here and which I have come more and more to prize. We deal with such large numbers here that the personal element is small,

and I feel now that after all a life spent in trying to do good in teaching is a better and a more satisfying life than that of the student of pure science and that it would have been a nobler part to have remained to do all the good I could by teaching science there." In this letter Dr. Manning offered himself again for the position of Professor of Physics, and I very gladly accepted his offer. His letter touched me deeply, for it seemed like a clear providence of God. Here was a man whose scientific training we well knew, whom we had already learned to love and admire, reconsecrating himself to the work of the College simply because it offered him an opportunity to do good. This is the same motive which on the last Sabbath I tried to show you was the controlling motive in Dr. Washburn's life. It is the only motive which can hold men loyal to such a work as that of Robert College. A self-seeking man cannot find here anything to hold him, and can assure you young men that it is not selfish motives which keep your professors and teachers loyal to their tasks in this College, but it is the opportunity to do good in a land where such opportunities as you enjoy are not common. That letter of Dr. Manning's is enough to establish his place among the Founders of Robert College, for it shows the same spirit that animated them.

As a teacher Dr. Manning was rarely gifted. He had the faculty of making his subject clear. I always anticipated his public lectures with eagerness. It was a pleasure to listen to his lucid explanations, expressed in choice language. There was never a word too many. Step by step he unfolded his subject and carried his hearers with him in rapt interest.

He was exacting in his work, he could not tolerate indolence or slovenly work, but when a student was really trying to master the subject he found Dr. Manning always ready to help him and to encourage him in every way possible. He was interested in his students as well as in his subject.

Dr. Manning worked hard himself over his subjects. He made with his own hands many pieces of apparatus used in the laboratory, for he had brought out from America a turning lathe, and he kept a stock of tools also for this purpose.

He kept abreast of the progress of science in his departments. He knew what discoveries were being made and what literature had been created. When he spoke he spoke with authority because he knew his subject. I never had the slightest uneasiness about the work in his department, nor did I ever hear a complaint regarding it.

Dr. Manning was chairman of the Committee on Curriculum and gave much time and thought to the very com-

plicated question of how best to reconcile the various educational interest which are found in this College and secure for each its rightful share of time.

The best contribution which Dr. Manning made to Robert College, and he made many, was his own life. It was a simple, orderly life, following a well adjusted routine, but it was animated with a beautiful spirit. Music, books, art, science, all found their place in it. His home was attractive. Mrs. Manning shared his aims, and the students and his fellow teachers found a genuine welcome there. He did not talk his religion, he lived it. He has left a place which it will be hard to fill and a memory which nothing can take away from us — an inspiration to live and work on a high plane.

Last Sabbath was a memorable day in the history of Robert College. In the Memorial Service in the afternoon and perhaps even more in the evening talks around the open fire we had brought back to our minds recollections of a great and a good life which was laid down for us in loving service during a third of a century. I think no one of us passed through that day without feeling himself strongly impelled to live a better life and to adopt as his own some of the motives which inspired the life of Dr. Washburn.

I do not intend today to indulge in reminiscences of the same kind as those presented to us on that day. Dr. Washburn's life and character were so rich that we might talk many days on them without exhausting either the subject or ourselves, but I wish today to point out to you certain phases of his policy and work for this College.

Dr. Washburn was the organizer of Robert College. He was not the founder. Mr. Robert and Dr. Hamlin were the founders, but Dr. Hamlin considered that his own work was only that of founding the College. When the formal invitation came to him to become president of this yet unborn College and to undertake the task of bringing it into existence he wrote to Mr. Robert, April 26th, 1859: "I shall write to Messrs. Coe and Badger as soon as light dawns upon my path. If I should feel it my duty to do anything for this great undertaking it would be only to get it fairly started and leave it in abler hands... It is of the Lord and cannot fail whether I have any thing to do with it or not." During Dr. Hamlin's administration the students were few and they were treated as individuals rather than as classes.

Dr. Washburn systematized the instruction of the College, gathered its corps of teachers and laid down the main lines of its policy, and I wish to call your attention to that policy because it has no parallel. The work of Robert College is in some respects unique. Its students last year were from nineteen different nationalities, and five nationalities are always represented in such considerable numbers in the student body, that the College may be said to minister to those nationalities. Dr. Washburn had to consider this problem in forming the Course of study of the College. It must have a common language of instruction, and it was obvious that English must be that language, it was the language of the President and the American teachers, it has a literature and text books adequate for purposes of instruc-

tion in all the subjects taught in the College, and it was a language coming more and more into use.

But if the College should confine its instruction to the ordinary branches taught in an American College and teach them in the English language its students would go out from the College inadequately prepared to take their places in their own communities. They must know their own language and literature if they are to be useful to their own people. Therefore Dr. Washburn planned that the College should have Vernacular Departments in addition to its regular College course of study carried on in English, by means of which every student while acquiring a College education might also gain a thorough knowledge of his own language and literature. Indeed he was *required* to gain such a knowledge.

So far as I know there is no other institution in which this plan has been adopted so fully. The motive for it is clear, it was in order that no student might be denationalized. This College was not established in order to estrange its students from their nationalities but to make them of the greatest use to their peoples. And even a hasty review of history of the College will show that the vernaculars of the students have always received full recognition. The plan entails a large expense relative to the number of students, but it is the only plan which could serve this purpose of the College to help the peoples represented in the student body.

When excavations began April 7, 1869, speeches were made in eleven languages. At the laying of the corner stone addresses were made in five languages. At the first Commencement the students presented orations in four languages, and ever since that time the custom has prevailed of presenting orations by the students in their own tongues.

The different vernaculars have always had their own literary societies and when Dr. Washburn organized the Y. M. C. A. in the winter of 1891-2 he organized it in four sections, Armenian, Bulgarian, Greek and English.

Dr. Washburn set himself to gather a competent staff of teachers in each of these vernacular languages and it is due to his own great personality that he was able to get together such a body of men inspired by a common loyalty to the College while working each for his own people also.

Dr. Washburn writes: "We suffered as we have always done from the excessive amount of linguistic work demanded in this country. Some wag proposed when the College was founded that it should be called Babel College, and it was not altogether a joke. We met the difficulty in part by making the College course five years instead of four, but we have not escaped giving additional time to the vernacular. It is reasonable and we have no desire to denationalize our students and unfit them to be leaders of their own peoples.

In meeting this problem Dr. Washburn did not follow any model made in Western lands or elsewhere, but he devised what he thought to be the best plan for these peculiar conditions.

I have already spoken of Dr. Washburn's views regarding the religious tone of the College but the subject is one

which has acquired so much importance at the present time that I feel impelled to speak of it once more. In 1873 some of the Armenian students of the College came to Dr. Washburn with a demand for the absolute abolition of all religious instruction from the College. In writing to Mr. Robert, Dr. Washburn said "I explained to them that you founded this College for the object of giving a Christian education to the people of Turkey, that you regarded education without religion as more a curse than a blessing, that if I yielded to their demands you would remove me at once from my position as Director. Moreover that I fully sympathized with your views, as we all do, that much as we might wish to retain the favor of the Armenians we regarded the favor of God as infinitely more important, that this was a matter upon which there could be no compromise and no hesitation." Dr. Washburn adds: "I have looked back upon the history of the last ten years in the light of this difficulty, and I can see nothing to regret, nothing that I wish undone in the course we have taken as to religious instruction. We have never attacked the faith of any of our students. We have had no controversy with them, but we have preached and urged upon them constantly the simple practical truths of the New Testament, principles recognized by all Christian churches. We have never concealed from any parent, Christian, Jew, or Mohammedan, the fact that we should teach their sons these things. On the contrary we have made it a point to explain it to them, that they might have no cause of complaint afterwards."

The College has remained true to the principles upon which it was founded and which Dr. Washburn has so clearly stated. The main reason why parents send their sons to us is because they believe that we have been successful in training men of good characters. We firmly believe that the strongest motives which can be brought to bear upon any student to urge him to endeavor to become the man he ought to be are the religious motives which we try to present from the pulpit and in the classrooms. We believe that the spirit of the College — the spirit of loyal devotion to duty toward God and of service of one's fellowmen — can best be maintained by having only one régime for all students, and that régime should be a Christian régime for we cannot work successfully in any other. If this element of our success were to be taken away there would no longer remain any reason for the existence of Robert College.

Benevolent Christians in America have given freely of their money to establish here a College which should be instrumental in leading the peoples of the Orient to secure for themselves all the blessings enjoyed in Western lands. We believe that the College was founded in obedience to the call of God, that the men who sacrificed and the men who toiled here were led of God, and we confide the future of the College to the same Leader and to His protecting care.

General Djemal Pasha, Minister of Marine, has received from the Sultan the grand cordon of the order of the Osmanié.

THE OTTOMAN CAMPAIGN.

The official communication of March 31st says:—

"Yesterday the Russian fleet, though it fired more than 2,000 shells at Zonghouldak, Eregli and Kozlou, on the Black Sea coast, retired northwards without having done any important damage. Merely a few houses were destroyed and some lighters sunk; the aeroplanes that the enemy sent out during the bombardment were driven off by our fire. At the Dardanelles and at the other scenes of war, no change to record."

The bulletin of April 2nd says:—

"No essential change has occurred at the Dardanelles or at the other theatres of hostilities."

"On March 21st an English cruiser tried to disembark troops under cover of bombardment at the town of Mouailih on the coast of the Hedjaz, but was prevented; the next day it returned and for five hours bombarded the place, demolishing the mosque and its minaret, toward which in particular the firing was directed; some houses were also damaged. During the bombardment the enemy again tried to disembark soldiers in boats, but our military detachments ran there from the environs and with the armed population withstood the attempt and drove off the enemy with loss to them. A few moments later the cruiser withdrew. We had no loss of life to deplore; only a camel was wounded."

(N. B. Mouailih is on the Red Sea coast opposite the tip of the Sinai peninsula, some 500 miles north of Jedda.)

The despatch of April 4th says:—

"During the cruise of our fleet yesterday near the gulf of Odessa, two large Russian steamers, the 'Provident,' of 2,020 tons, and the 'Vostochnaja Zvezhda,' of 1,500 tons, were sunk with their cargoes by our fleet and their crews made prisoners. During this action, our small cruiser 'Medjidié,' which in pursuing some of the enemy's mine-sweepers near Fort Otchakoff, had approached the shore, struck a mine and sank. This accident was due to the floating away after they had been detached, of mines laid by the Russians for the defense of the harbors of Nicolaieff and Odessa and environs."

"The crew of the cruiser 'Medjidié' were rescued by the Ottoman warships that were at hand. The spirit of the crew of this unit that sank while doing its sacred military duty, off the enemy's coast, was very praiseworthy. The breech-blocks of the cannon on the cruiser were entirely removed and the ship itself destroyed by torpedoes, so as to utterly prevent its being refloated by the enemy."

"Yesterday one of the enemy's mine-sweepers that tried to approach the Dardanelles strait sank outside Koum Kale after being struck by a shell from our batteries."

"No change worth noticing has taken place today at the Dardanelles or at the other seats of war."

(The "Medjidié" was a cruiser of 3,200 tons, built in America in 1903, and had two 6-inch and eight 4.7-inch guns.)

TURKEY AND GERMANY.

Commenting on the congratulatory telegram of the Kaiser on the successful resistance of the Dardanelles forts, the *Ikdam* says: —

"The whole world knows that the Turko-German alliance began in a perfectly natural and open way, not under the influence of any base considerations, and time has served to strengthen it so as to ensure its eternal endurance. The Ottomans today are proud of the existence of this alliance, which they regard as a great success and a good-fortune for themselves.

"When this alliance was exhibited by the participation of Turkey in the war, our enemies, though very much stirred up, spoke ironically of it. But subsequent events have put a stop to their smiles. Extraordinary events have taken place, with the aid of the Almighty, throwing our enemies into deep consternation, so that they cannot hide their grief. They have realized, albeit too late, the value of Turkey, which they had been inclined to rate too low but which they now increasingly covet. Yet each new effort they make serves only to discourage them.

"Their failure is due to the false opinion they had of Turkey, which they considered lazy, powerless, incapable of seeing her own interests. That was why they hoped to succeed in any case. But the Turks are resolved to shed if necessary the last drop of their blood to fight the enemy. We all have an invincible faith in our victory."

TURKEY AND AMERICA.

The Turkish daily *Ikdam* in an editorial remarks that the relations between the United States and Turkey have always been marked by the greatest cordiality. These relations were at first in the line of commercial interests; but since the restoration of the constitutional régime, political ties have also been established between the two. The liberty-loving Americans heartily congratulated the Ottomans on their emancipation from the yoke of tyranny. The sympathy shown then by the Americans, it says, has left an indelible impression on the hearts of Ottomans. To give more tangible expression to its friendship, the American Government raised its legation in Constantinople to the rank of an embassy. During the Balkan war, the editorial continues, the Americans did not hide their sympathy for Turkey, and the press of the United States never ceased to use friendly language regarding the Ottomans. The mission organized by the American multi-millionaire Carnegie, and sent to Macedonia to investigate the atrocities of the Balkan States, constituted a no less impressive manifestation of the sympathy of Americans for Turkey. All these and other facts show how great is the cordiality of relations between the two countries. Moreover the ambassadors whom the Washington government has sent these last years to Constantinople, notably Mr. Morgenthau, have contributed largely toward

these happy relations. The present ambassador denied personally, at the commencement of this war, the unfriendly rumors circulated abroad to the effect that the safety of Christians and Jews in Turkey was in danger. And lately the son of Mr. Morgenthau in an interview with a New York *Times* correspondent declared that the most perfect order reigned in Constantinople, where the bombardment of the Dardanelles has not caused any panic.

The *Ikdam* goes on to speak of the report that the Americans had sold to England and France up till now great quantities of ammunition and war materials. It says it would have doubted the accuracy of this report, had it not been proven that most of the shells fired by the allied fleet at the Dardanelles fortifications were of American manufacture. "We cannot but be impressed," it says, "by this fact considering our friendly sentiments toward the United States. In any case, we fervently hope that our American friends, who never let a chance go by to prove in the best way possible their humanitarian sympathies, will share our feelings, and will not neglect, with Mr. Morgenthau at their head, to take the proper measures to stop this situation, which is incompatible with neutrality and with the rules of humane treatment."

NEW TRAVELING REGULATIONS.

By virtue of a law recently promulgated, persons desiring to enter or to leave Turkey may do so only through the ports or frontier towns of Constantinople, Chermen (beyond Adrianople), Mandra (beyond Demotika), Vourla (west of Smyrna), Adalia, Mersin, Alexandretta, Tripoli in Syria, Latakia, Beirût, Haifa, Jaffa (these on the Mediterranean), Jedda and Hodeida (on the Red Sea), Khanikin (on the Persian frontier), Trebizond, Samsoun, Ineboli or Heraclea (on the Black Sea). Passports must bear the photograph of the bearer, and be regularly viséd whether for entering or for leaving the empire. Persons traveling within the bounds of the empire, except within the limits of a single vilayet or independent sanjak, must be provided with a permit for travel; this will be furnished gratis by the police authorities of the place from which the journey begins, and is to be given up at the destination of the traveler to the police authorities there. These regulations apply to both Ottomans and foreigners. Persons entering Turkey by way of Chermen or Mandra are allowed to continue with merely their passports as far as Constantinople; and those entering by Vourla likewise as far as Smyrna.

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, April 11th, 1915.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew.
UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles T. Riggs.
ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles Anderson, D.D.
CONS/PLE COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Arthur C. Ryan.

THE ORIENT

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Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

APRIL 7, 1915.

EDITORIAL.

Of all branches of missionary endeavor, none is more worthy the cooperation and sympathetic interest of the whole community than the King School for the Deaf, at Marsovan. The success thus far attained by this new venture has been such as to justify the highest expectations for the future. And the class for which the school exists is one of great possibilities. Deaf children are not usually defective in intelligence. The records of older institutions show many cases where deaf pupils who have afterwards taken their place with the hearing in the ordinary schools, have taken high stand in open competition in all lessons; while their proficiency in many trades is noticeable. To help these unfortunates in this empire to secure the right kind of a start while their minds are in the formative period, and while they can easily and correctly learn to talk and to read the lips, is to confer a benefit on the country.

The King School is doing a double work: it not only trains deaf children till they are able to take their places with the hearing, but it also trains teachers for the deaf. Toward the furtherance of both these objects, all readers of this paper in Turkey may lend their aid. Children of between seven and nine years, especially those whose friends can furnish the meagre twelve liras per year needed for their tuition, should be directed to Marsovan; for a couple of dozen more children can now be accommodated there. And when poor children are ready to go but for the money problem, the difficulty can be worked out in connection with the missionaries there. And for the other side of the enterprise, those who feel inclined to take up the course in teacher training, with the idea of giving their lives to this beautiful work, should be encouraged to go there. For such persons, the financial arrangement may be ascertained through correspondence; it is such that no person need hesitate on that account. Turkey needs several such schools for the deaf; and happy indeed will they be who take the responsibility of

starting them. We look for increasing usefulness for the King School, and we bespeak the hearty cooperation of all friends in the undertaking.

WORK GOES ON AS USUAL.

Van, Feb. 15, 1915.

It seems advisable under the present circumstances to send out a brief statement of the general condition of the work in this Station. You may be surprised to learn that our work is being carried on practically the same as in normal times. When the days arrived for the opening of the several departments of our work, we knew that there would be a great financial strain felt by every nation in the world, and so we at once began to consider where we might economize by cutting down or abandoning work which we had carried on in other years. The great difficulty was that our contracts had all been made and we simply could not dismiss our co-workers on such short notice when they had no other means of earning a livelihood. We were able however to cut off over a hundred liras, from the Village Department list and also it was thought best to discontinue the Lace Works for the present.

We were greatly disappointed that our new missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. McKeeman and Miss Hazeltine, were not able to reach us. Their time however will not be wasted as they are all at Hartford School of Missions studying language and other subjects which will better fit them for the field when they do come. Dr. Reynolds is also still in America where he has had considerable success in collecting funds for our new Van College but the recent events have seriously affected his campaign.

The opportunities of the Medical Department have been greatly increased, and by the humane and generous action of the American Red Cross Society, Dr. Ussher has been able to devote as many as 35 beds in our hospital to sick and wounded soldiers. This naturally has greatly added to the stress and strain under which the hospital is ordinarily run and we are sorry to have to report that the Superintendent, Miss Bond, has had to succumb to this extra strain. She is now recovering from a relapse after a rather serious illness and we trust that she will be about her work again in a short time. Dr. Ussher is tough like a broncho and comes back smiling after every trying ordeal! It seemed best for Miss McLaren to give her time to the city this year rather than to her appointed work in the villages, and it was not long before an opportunity for service presented itself which both she and the Station thought ought not be refused. There is a large and well equipped new military hospital in the city which greatly needed the attention of female nurses and the invitation from the Government to Schwester Martha of the German Mission and to Miss McLaren, was accepted with immediate beneficial results to the hospital. Miss McLaren is not a trained nurse but she is getting several kinds of training now!

The question as to whether we should start our new college or not was a most serious one, but when we considered

that the arrangements for the teaching force had already been made, and that it was most desirable that the institution should be a "fact accomplished," we decided to open our broad doors to the first Freshman class. There are now six young men taking the full course and eight other young men and women taking special courses, and so Van College has started on what we pray may be its long and useful career. The teaching force and subjects are as follows: Turkish, Mr. Zhamgotchian; Armenian, Mr. Avakian; English, Mrs. Yarrow; French, Mr. Der Haroutunian; Bible, Mrs. Ussher; History and Pedagogy, Mr. Rushdonian; Chemistry, Mr. Choltjian; Solid Geometry and Trigonometry, Mr. Yarrow. We are looking for a man to take charge of the Science Department next year and we should be glad to receive suggestions regarding the filling of this position.

The way in which the schools have kept up in attendance and the sacrifice with which the people have tried to pay the tuition charges, is a tribute to their zeal and their devotion to the ideals which we try to make our schools represent. The attendance in the Boys' School exclusive of the College is 548, an increase of 37 over last year and the tuition receipts only fell off about 20% from the estimates for the first half year. The attendance of the Girls' School is 518, which is a few less than last year, while the tuition receipts nearly reach the estimate for the first half year. The schools in the walled city are running successfully, the attendance on the Girls' School being larger than for some years, but the tuition receipts here have sadly fallen off. The expectation was that the Turkish Kindergarten would be housed in the new Turkish Girls' School which the Government is building but winter set in before the structure was completed and so the same arrangement for the Kindergarten was made as last year, viz., a few Turkish friends furnish the building and heat and we the instruction. Miss Silliman is being ably assisted in this branch by a new bride who has recently come from the region of Brousa where her father is a Protestant pastor.

The activities of our Central Church have been kept up as usual. For some months past there has been developing a spirit of jealousy and almost bitterness on the part of some members toward others and it seemed as though the church were getting into a dangerous condition. In some wonderful way which we believe is an answer to prayer, a radical change has been taking place during the past week or two and differences are being made up and a spirit of loyalty is being expressed such as has not been heard recently. In the Annual Meeting, the year's deficit was raised in a few minutes, the missionaries offering to take half of it on themselves. But when a representative "Committee of Twenty" was elected, "they all with one consent began to make excuse," and it looked as though it would be difficult to form any kind of a committee, and so the Meeting adjourned with considerable ill feeling expressed. Much prayer and considerable individual effort were expended previous to the calling of the general committee meeting and here is where the miracle comes in, for in that meeting every one of the twenty expressed a willingness "to stay on the job." We are having

two prayer meetings per week which are well attended and the present outlook is for a more active and united church than we have seen for some time. The Sunday Schools of both the city and the centre were never in a more flourishing condition. At the centre we decided this year to celebrate our Christmas by giving to the poor rather than distributing presents to the children. We invited the pupils to bring food supplies to the noon service which was turned into a Sunday School rally. Over 500 children were present besides those of the regular audience who could get in. Various eatables were brought among which were several cabbage heads and these caused great laughter among the children, but the climax was reached when a small boy brought up a live hen which he had carefully trained to squawk when its tail feathers were pulled. Enough money and materials were collected to give a substantial present to twenty-five families totaling 135 individuals.

Just a word about our financial condition! Our contracts were made and the time for opening our Fall work was upon us when the trouble in Europe began. We could not turn off our workers many of whom have been for years faithful co-laborers under our Board. If ever they needed their full salary it is this year. We feel that we are facing the question of the business integrity of our Board. Owing to the income from many sources failing we will probably run short something over \$2,000 for the year. Every crisis brings a new opportunity and we want to welcome the new opportunities.

On behalf of the Station,

E. A. YARROW.

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

Nothing of great importance appears to have happened this past week either east or west. A good deal of fighting is reported between Russians and Germans near Krasnopol Mariampol, Tauroggen and the Augustowo forest, as well as near the Rawka and Omoulew rivers; and between the Russians and the Austrians in the valleys of the Laborcza and Ondawa rivers and near the Uszok Pass. On the western front, the Germans have captured some points south of Dixmude from the Belgians, and the French have made slight gains in the region between Pont-à-Mousson and Verdun. Aviators have been as busy as usual on both sides, throwing bombs on the enemy. The Austrians reports having captured during March from the Russians 183 officers, 39,840 soldiers and 68 mitrailleuses; the Germans report having captured during the same month from the Russians 55,800 prisoners and 9 cannon and 61 mitrailleuses.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

Non-Moslem Ottoman schools have received the order to fly the Ottoman flag on Fridays, just as do the state schools.

The Berlin Committee of Information is about to open an office on the Divan Yolou, in Stamboul, near the Burnt Column, similar to the reading-room they now conduct in Pera where the German Post-office used to be.

THE PROVINCES

The value of the lira has, we are told, been fixed in Smyrna at the same rates at which it goes in Constantinople; so that hereafter it will be taken for 100 gold and 108 silver, and the medjidie at 20 piasters.

NOTES.

The engagement is announced of Miss Kate E. Chambers, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. N. Chambers of Adana, who is doing graduate work in Columbia University, New York, and Mr. Laurens Seelye of the Senior class of Union Theological Seminary.

OTHER LANDS.

Djavid Bey, former minister of finance, who has been satisfactorily conducting a financial mission in Berlin, will shortly leave there for Hamburg and Kiel, returning thence to Constantinople.

Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary has conferred on Enver Pasha, Minister of War, the first class of the Order of Military Merit; and the second class of the same decoration on Djevad Pasha, Commandant of the Dardanelles.

A Berlin telegram says that the British Admiralty has announced that between the 12th and 24th of March three British steamers aggregating 11,650 tons were sunk by German submarines, and a fourth torpedoed, which managed to reach its port. During the same period 1,460 steamers of over 300 tons arrived or left British harbors.

NOTICE.

Under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association of Robert College, a series of lectures will be given during the next month, upon various European Universities and the student life in them. The lectures will be given on Tuesday evenings at 8:20 at Henrietta Washburn Hall. The speakers are as follows:

- April 13** English Universities, by the Rev. W. A. WIGRAM D.D., author of "The Cradle of Mankind."
- April 20** Greek Universities, by Dr. M. G. MICHAELIDES.
- April 27** German Universities, by Prof. F. W. KUNICK.
- May 4** Swiss Universities, by M. OTHO GPELLER.

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