

# The Orient.

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## ITALIAN EYES TOWARD TRIPOLI.

Since Sunday the local dailies have been full of the wildest despatches and rumors about the military and naval preparations of Italy for a descent on the Tripolitan coast. So many jingoes are busy throwing dust into the air that it is somewhat difficult to see the precise situation. Nobody can deny that there is a strain in Turko-Italian relations. For three or four days there has not been an Italian steamer in the harbor of Constantinople; and the one due to arrive here last Sunday was stopped at the Dardanelles by the Italian Consul and ordered back, after hastily discharging cargo and passengers, to Italian waters. It appears that in doing this he acted in his capacity as agent of the company and not in his consular capacity. Up to this time, the Italian government has not taken any diplomatic step to make any demand of the Ottoman government. But the telegrams indicate that two squadrons of the Italian fleet have been concentrated at Syracuse, and quite a military force is also being held in readiness. There has been apparently no untoward incident as yet in Tripoli, but the Moslem population there is reported as roused to a high pitch of excitement by rumors of pending invasion. One rumor has it that a seizure of an Italian sailing-vessel in the Red Sea by a Turkish gunboat will be used as a pretext; another, that threats of attack made by Arabs and Bedouin have compelled Italy to take measures to protect her subjects in North Africa. The yellow press here is making all possible capital out of it; one Turkish paper is urging violently a pan-Islamic campaign. As a matter of fact, however, the greatest danger seems to be from the rousing of just such feelings. As one daily says, a slap in the face of the second cousin of the kavass of the Banco di Roma branch at Bengazi might suffice as a pretext for the Italian fleet to anchor in the gulf of Tripoli. Calmness is the great desideratum. The council of ministers held a long special session on Monday, in the midst of Bairam festivities; but naturally the decisions reached were not divulged. There is not the slightest tendency apparent toward a weak or vacillating policy on the part of the Cabinet, nor is there the least chance for the proposition quoted from Paris that Italy buy Tripoli for 80 to 100 million lire! The Ottoman fleet, now in Syrian waters, might be despatched to Tripoli at a moment's notice; but if it came to a naval contest, we must remember that the Italian navy contains fifteen battleships, ten armored cruisers, fifty-eight torpedo-craft and seven submarines besides many other units; while the Ottoman fleet can boast at present of but three battleships, two armored cruisers and

twenty-two torpedo-craft. On the other hand, the effective fighting force in Tripoli now consists of 24,000 men, besides perhaps 100,000 Arabs armed but not well drilled. Such a force is not to be overlooked in the defence of the Ottoman African possessions. It is not in the interests of the Young Turkey government to surrender any territory, nor agree to any protectorate or exclusive Italian rights.

## THE ALL-TURKEY CONFERENCE OF 1912.

Considerable progress has been made in the arrangements for the All-Turkey Missionary Conference which is to be held in July of next year in this city. As is well-known by this time, this conference is being undertaken under the auspices of the American Board, but representatives have been invited from the other societies having work in Turkey, including the Bible Societies. A delegation from the American Board, composed of Secretary James L. Barton, D.D., Prof. Gillette of Hartford, Prof. Moore of Harvard, and Rev. Morris H. Turk of Natick, Mass., and probably two or three others, expects to leave America in December for a tour of the various missions in Turkey, starting with the European Turkey Mission and reaching Constantinople early in February; they will probably go from here to the Central Turkey Mission, then to Eastern Turkey and then back through Western Turkey, to be at the Capital early in July for this gathering. Representatives of the Woman's Boards have also been requested to take either the whole trip or as much of it as practicable, in order to study the situation among the women. There will be representatives here at the Conference from every station of the four missions of the American Board, as well as those from other societies, and from each one of the Colleges and Seminaries in the country. Each of the four Evangelical Unions among the Armenians and the Greek and Bulgarian Evangelical Unions have been invited to send two delegates apiece. There will be a few delegates also from England, from the Bible Lands Missions Aid Society and the Evangelical Alliance.

In preparation for the Conference, some seven or eight committees have been designated, who are making a thorough investigation of problems of evangelism, medical work, publication work, college, high school and theological education, international and interdenominational cooperation, and the more general question of the distribution of the various races of the empire and what is being done for each. These committees represent all parts of the country, and much of their work must needs be done by correspon-



dence; but it is expected that the results of their investigations will be ready and printed in the form of committee reports in time for distribution at the Conference. These will form the basis for the deliberations of that body. As stated in these columns last April, this gathering will be epochal in the history of missions in Turkey, and ought to contribute in every direction to the more intelligent and forceful conduct of the various branches of mission work. The *Congregationalist* says: "It cannot fail to be one the most important religious assemblages in Europe during 1912."

The annual meetings of the Eastern Turkey and Western Turkey Missions will both be held in Constantinople, either just before or just after this Conference. That of the Central Turkey Mission is set for the last week in June, at Aintab, in connection with the meeting of the Cilicia Union.

### COMMITTEE OF UNION AND PROGRESS TO MEET.

Next Saturday some sixty delegates of the Committee of Union and Progress will gather in Salonica for the annual meeting of that body. Each province sends a delegate; the parliamentary party of that name is entitled to eight representatives, and there are members at large. No previous meeting of this Committee has been awaited with such uncertainty as to its outcome; for the movement under Sadik Bey for the organization of a secessionist group or party has been so popular in certain quarters as to inspire no little uneasiness in Committee circles. It is expected that the "stand-pat" element will issue a deliverance setting forth the errors of such treason, and that this Congress will make every effort to strengthen the bonds that unite all wings of the committee and party. The recent tour of Djavaid Bey and Nadji Bey in eastern Asia Minor, especially in the Van and Bitlis vilayets, and along the Black Sea coasts, was timed to increase the prestige and influence of the Committee in that region, and make it possible for it to dictate the policy there during the coming critical year. For it must be remembered that two crises are approaching. Although the divergence of view between Mahmoud Shevket Pasha and Nail Bey on the subject of the Budget of the War Department will probably be amicably settled, it is well understood that the Hakki Pasha cabinet, which has weathered several storms, is by no means on a secure footing. The article from the Committee organ in Salonica, quoted in our issue of last week, shows that the leaders of the Committee would feel safer if the entire Cabinet were in their hands. They are tiring of the job of controlling the dummy players from behind the screen. An unconfirmed rumor has Djavaid Bey, ex-minister of finance, slated for Grand Vizier. But however this may be, the days of the present cabinet seem to be numbered. The Ministers of Education and of Justice have been wishing to resign, and the Sheikh-ul-Islam has signified a similar desire more than once. The other crisis will come next summer. The coming session is the fourth and last of the present Parliament, and in June or July next will come the elections, all over the country, for a new Chamber

of Deputies. There will no doubt be numerous changes in the personnel of that body; and it behooves the Committee of Union and Progress to put on her most winning smile and do her prettiest during the remaining months to make up for several past indiscretions and prevent the disgruntled from refusing to play in her yard. The feverish and apparently reckless shifting about of provincial governors during the past few months, under the direction of the Minister of the Interior, Halil Bey, who was formerly at the head of the Union and Progress party, has apparently as its motive the consolidation of the forces of the organization in the various vilayets. If such a questionable step results as the Committee evidently hopes, it will go far toward securing a return of the party to power in the second Parliament. Finally, it remains for the Committee at its Salonica meeting on Sept. 30th to disprove the popular apophthegm which characterizes that body as divided into two camps, those of Union, and Progress, the one desiring union without progress, the other progress without union.

We are told that the sessions of the Committee are to be behind closed doors, and that all reports save those handed out officially are to be discarded as unauthentic. Nevertheless, the public is certain to find out pretty correctly practically all that takes place; and if the Committee is worthy of the confidence of the country, certainly the country should be deemed worthy of the confidence of the Committee.

### DEATH OF MR. STOLYPIN.

On Monday evening of last week, Sept. 18th, the Russian Premier succumbed to the assassin's bullet at Kieff, after a heroic struggle of three days. His body was interred at the monastery of Petche-ski. A subscription is being raised to erect a monument to his memory. The street where he died is to be named after him.

In the five short years of his career as President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of the Interior, Peter Stolypin did more than any other man has succeeded in doing for the establishing of constitutional government in Russia on a solid footing. By his clear policy and firm hand he gained the confidence of the Duma; but those same qualities won him the hatred of the revolutionary element, which on the second attempt, has compassed his destruction. In 1906, shortly after his elevation to the ministry, a bomb was exploded in his house, but he escaped injury. Mr. Stolypin was in the prime of life, being only forty-eight years of age; and his boundless vigor seemed to promise great things for his country. He was a conservative, in spite of his zeal for the Constitution; and while he failed to satisfy the liberal element, he succeeded in steering a safe course as between the bureaucratic element and the Duma, and gained signal success in unifying the government. His assassin is a Jew, and the Jews of Kieff are in mortal terror of a pogrom of revenge. The government has, however, concentrated 30,000 troops in the city and is determined to preserve order.



### WHY NOT SEND MOSLEM WOMEN ?

A recent letter sent to the *Sabah* from Prinkipo by a Turkish lady, who signs herself Nezhé Moukhlis, takes exception to the decision of the department of public instruction to send four non-Moslem young ladies to Europe to study in preparation for teaching in this Empire. She says her national vanity has been sorely wounded by this, — as if there were some reason why Mohammedan young ladies could not thus be sent. The only objection given by those to whom complaint is made is the ambiguous one, that the national tradition and customs do not allow it. They are not so bold as to affirm that it is *religious* tradition and customs. But she asks in vain for anyone to explain clearly what national tradition deprives her of her right of freedom to learn. She is sure that even the religious leaders will aver that there is no religious barrier, and that the nation has got away in this respect from the propriety and simplicity of the religion and has become slaves to beliefs which time and circumstances have engendered. Such a bogey of fanaticism has been aroused as has become a factor in preventing advance and regeneration. But in the struggle between the two elements, the progressive and the conservative, the former is sure to win. To wait with folded hands for a metamorphosis to be brought about by natural phenomena is to wait in vain. Every person interested in the happiness of the country has a sacred duty (is in a sacred war, — *jihad*), to soothe the feelings of the conservatives in every honorable way while contributing with all skill and despatch to the success of the progressives. We are told by the editor to await the evolution of customs and traditions; but shall we wait till the resurrection day? Is our fear of rousing a savage fanaticism so strong as to conquer our resolution? Let us rather try to remove this fanaticism, on the part of the ignorant, and their mistaken beliefs by the real doctrines of our glorious religion; and let them understand that our religion does not prevent woman from going to Europe, but rather demands it. Let us be more afraid of doing nothing at all for our future than we are of such a visionary and doubtful danger.

The main object of educating our girls is that they should know how to be true mothers. The question is asked, Why send them to Europe? Have we no schools here? If not, let us open schools at home instead of sending our girls abroad. Good. But we must be receptive of those things in the West that we cannot now obtain here, — or rather, we must throw ourselves into the bosom of those Western schools. True, we have a few girls' schools, and even a normal school for girls; and we look forward hopefully to the opening of others. But those we have need improvement. It is useless to add to the number of *such* schools. We must confess that our present schools do not turn out a good product. How many of their graduates have succeeded in applying their acquirements to the necessities of wifehood and motherhood? Witness the baneful custom of swaddling-clothes for babies, which does so much harm to the health of the little ones.

Have our educated girls succeeded in breaking this custom? All our acquirements are buried treasure. The cause of our disability is not ignorance alone, but the inability to apply knowledge to practice. This is true not alone of our girls' schools but of all our schools. They lack practicality in the teaching. The average Turk of equal education with an Englishman or a German cannot be as successful in actual life. The Turk shows his abundance of knowledge, but he lacks practicality and initiative. Our schools have programs equal to those of the best German schools, but still they bear no fruit. The fault is not in the program but in the method of training. Their success will depend on the fruitful application of knowledge, and in the adoption of methods of teaching that are in accord with modern psychology. We must give our education a practical trend. For instance, a class of young ladies studying the hygiene of children should be taken by their teacher to the Maternity Hospital at Kadurgha to see how the babies there are cared for. There ought to be an orphanage attached to our normal school for young ladies, to accomplish the double purpose of relieving the need of poor orphans and of giving practice to the students in the care of children.

But this is a digression. Our trouble is with our methods of teaching. We need practical educators and teachers; and till we obtain such, we must needs send our girls to the West. We see no such practical educators in sight, and have no hope of training up such here immediately. So we insist that Moslem young ladies also should be sent to European schools to learn this system of teaching. And we call upon the Ministry of Public Instruction either to choose two of the four from among the Moslems, or else to add to the Budget an appropriation for two additional girls who shall be Moslems. Thus alone can we answer the censures passed upon us, and show that we are looking out for our future.

### MISSIONARY TOURISTS.

Rev. Charles E. Bradt, D.D., of Chicago, with Mrs. Bradt and three children, Rev. Wm. R. King, D.D., of Monmouth, Ill., with Mrs. King and a son, and Rev. Herbert W. Reherd, D.D., of Waterloo, Iowa, arrived last Friday by train, and leave tomorrow for Beirut. They are on a tour of inspection of the missions of the Presbyterian Board around the world, and are looking in on mission work here on the way, and visiting the two American colleges, and conferring with the workers. The congregation of the Emmanuel Church had the opportunity of listening on Sunday to Dr. King, and the students of the two colleges had similar privileges later. Such tours of investigation are always welcomed by the churches as well as by the workers, and are a source of inspiration to all. Another such hand-to-hand student of conditions is the Rev. Augustus Jones, a fellow of Chicago Theological Seminary, who is here on a similar trip and conducted the service at Robert College on Sunday morning last.



## THE STRUGGLE OF THE ARMENIAN CATHOLICS.

The conflict already referred to some weeks ago grows more acute as time passes, and no solution of the quarrel has yet appeared. It will be remembered that the main point at issue is the question as to whether the laity have any rights in the civil and financial administration of the Armenian Catholic Church in Constantinople and throughout Turkey. But back of this is the more fundamental question, whether the Pope has civil rights in this country paramount to the rights guaranteed to a regularly organized religious community by the Ottoman Constitution. The Armenian Catholics have by virtue of this Constitution a civil organization; what is known as the National Council, a purely lay assembly, elects the Patriarch, or rather nominates three persons from among whom the Pope chooses one as Patriarch. The members of this National Council are chosen by the people. The Pope now keeps in office as Patriarch Mgr. Terzian, who is cordially hated by the members of the council, and apparently by a majority of the people; and this Mgr. Terzian orders the dismissal of the Council, calling them schismatics, heretics and revolutionaries, because they dare to ask that the Patriarch and the bishops present to the National Council an account of moneys collected and spent. As Mgr. Terzian is at the safe distance of the Pontifical Capital, he sends his orders by letter; and the people have thus far succeeded in preventing the reading of the patriarchal letter in the churches. Judging that the *locum tenens* of the Patriarch, Mgr. Djamdjian, had not acted with sufficient vigor, the Holy See has now deprived him of this office and appointed in his place another bishop who has refused to serve. So that technically there is now no *locum tenens* even. An abbot by the name of Mugurditch Ashjian has been appointed *Kapou kyahya* and to him the absent Patriarch has assigned the pleasant task of having recourse to the Turkish Government to "repress the revolutionaries, communicate the list of these to the government so as to inflict on them the punishment they deserve, see to it that during the meeting of the Synod no troubles exist in the Vilayets, and prevent assemblies at the Patriarchate through the intervention of the government." This Synod has been called by the Pope to meet at Rome, whither the Armenian Bishops have been summoned, to settle this quarrel. Naturally the laity is much incensed at this step, for never before has such a council been held at Rome, Constantinople being the natural place for it to meet. Last week an extraordinary meeting of the National assembly was held at the Patriarchate, despite the prohibitions of Mgr. Terzian; and five resolutions were adopted: — (1) Considering the actions of Mgr. Terzian as anti-patriotic, to recognize him no longer as Patriarch; (2) To present to the Holy See a memorial setting forth the doublefaced attitude of Mgr. Terzian and submitting to it the requests of the Nation; (3) To present a *takrir* to the Government asking that it no longer recognize Mgr. Terzian as Patriarch; (4) To send a memorial to the clergy of the

Armenian Catholics containing these proceeding in full, and (5) To prevent the departure for Rome of Mgr. Djamdjian, the *locum tenens*, as ordered by Mgr. Terzian. We understand that as a result Mgr. Djamdjian has postponed his departure for a fortnight, and that the Government has forbidden the departure of the other Armenian bishops to Rome pending fuller information as to the nature of this gathering.

The Armenian Catholics profess their entire submission to the spiritual authority of the Pope; but they submit that the presence of Mgr. Terzian in the patriarchal chair is a real calamity not only for the Ottoman Armenian Catholic community, but for the entire Roman Catholic church, since it gives rise to such feelings within the church. In spite of the assurances of the president of the National Council, Senator Eram Effendi, rumors are rife that the continuation of this strain will lead to a break with the Papal See and union with another church. Whether this will be with the Gregorian Church or not is not indicated. Undeniably, however, the crisis is a grave one. Should the Pope yield on the matter of financial oversight and sacrifice Mgr. Terzian, who seems to be a pet of his, he will doubtless retain his paternal relation to the whole flock. But in its present mood there is every reason to fear that, in the absence of the soft answer, the centrifugal force now apparent in the National Council will prove too strong for even St. Peter's bonds. Pope Pius X. has not the winning persuasiveness of his predecessor, Leo XIII., and his insistence on the letter of the law reminds the Armenians too much of the political tyranny from which they have just been delivered.

### WHAT IS THE MATTER?

The *Keuyli*, a Turkish paper in Smyrna, writes; —

"The people of a country who spend their time constantly in cafés, smoking the *nargileh* or drinking coffee in place of working, can never be happy. Fortune never comes to people as a result of political discussions in taverns, but as a result of hard work in commerce, industries and agriculture. The lot of a State with so lazy a population cannot but be unfortunate both for it and for them.

"If we cast a glance today over the beautiful city of Smyrna, we notice that its wide quay is full of a bustle comparable to that of the American Eldorado. But unfortunately we Turks play no part whatever in all this animation. All the commerce is in the hands of foreigners. And if this is true of the Smyrniote Turks, who are supposed to be the most advanced, what must be said of those in interior cities? Our nationality seeks only government positions. It works in various departments of State at salaries of 200 to 300 piastres per month. At the very best, a Turk will open a little shop or a coffee house or a grocery. Or he will be a boatman, a porter or a day-laborer. Sometimes he is even a vagabond. And then we ask ourselves why the people of our country, and especially in Anatolia, are in a condition such as to break even the hardest hearts. We really need not ask the question; we know the answer ourselves; — it is our laziness."



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### AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

There are one hundred boarders in the American College for Girls and the Preparatory School, and many more are expected as soon as Bairam is over. Indeed all the places are practically taken in both schools. Also, since the cholera seems to be under control, the day students can now be received with safety.

The Christian Association gave a reception at the College on Saturday evening, to the new members of the Faculty and the new students. The former are only three in number, Dr. Mackenzie, Professor of Biology, Miss Kunick, German teacher and sister of Professor Kunick of Robert College, and Miss Rignall, the nurse.

Before the lighter entertainment of reception began, the President, Miss Kyrias, made a graceful little speech of welcome, and the Constitution of the Association was read, especial emphasis being laid on the fact that the object of the Association is to increase the spiritual life of the College.

The Christian Association is also planning a new department in the way of Bible Study Classes to be led by students, such as have proved so successful and interesting in American Colleges.

The Construction at Arnaoutkeuy is progressing every day, and already shows signs of developing into the stately row of harmonious buildings for which the architects planned. It is a surprise to find even the power-house a thing of beauty, since that is not usually demanded of a power-house. The lines of panelling on its stack and the combination of colours make it very pleasing.

### FIXING THE BUDGET OF 1328.

Nail Bey, Minister of Finance, has been working very hard indeed to prepare the budget for the ensuing financial year before Parliament shall meet.

It will be remembered that the budget for 1327 was not presented in Parliament until Feb. 22nd of this current year, or only three weeks before the close of the fiscal year 1326. The commendable zeal of the present Minister of Finance will probably result in the passing of a Budget before the beginning of the coming Ottoman year. There still remains the question of the War budget, and that for a few other departments

has not yet been fixed. These are, however, in course of arrangement, and there seems to be a probability of an early agreement. The reductions thus far made would indicate a saving of some Lt. 1,300,000 on the estimates for last year. Even if the half dozen remaining items are kept at the present figures, — and there is no intention to increase any of them, — the above sum is an indication of a real desire for economy. There are certain items, such as that for the Public Debt, which cannot be reduced. The Civil List has naturally not been tampered with. We are grieved to see a cut in the figures for the department of Public Instruction, where the amount was pitifully small at best. Less than one-tenth as much is spent for this as for the War Budget, and six other departments receive a higher sum, — those of the gendarmerie, navy, finance, interior, public works, and the public debt. The whole country is clamoring for education; foreign schools are not being encouraged, and of Turkish private schools there are next to none; what hope is there for true progress along this line? Two other reductions are unfortunate — those for Public Works and for Agriculture, Mines and Forests. Here, too, there was need for additional expenditure, not for retrenchment. One may hope that Parliament will show its disapproval of these steps, and place the reductions where the future can bear them better.

The following table shows the figures as at present arranged, with the amount of reduction where any is proposed, as compared with the budget of 1327: —

	Lt.	Reduction.
Public Debt	11,832,160	—
Marine	1,276,000	406,716
Public Works	1,200,000	353,866
Interior	1,197,000	158,813
Public Instruction	830,000	144,482
Posts and Telegraphs	745,000	50,376
Justice and Religions	730,000	56,452
Civil List	503,480	—
Sheikh-ul-Islam	500,000	10,686
Public Security	453,000	33,512
Mines and Forests	422,000	59,941
Foreign Affairs	237,500	7,688
Legislature	218,710	—
Defter Hakkani	116,640	* 41
Council of State	33,080	—
Court of Accounts	21,580	* 2,409

Add to these the items about which no definite conclusion has been reached, namely: —

War	9,000,000
Finance	2,855,456
Gendarmerie	1,738,422
Custom-houses	508,082
Ordnance	491,575
Grand Vizierate	28,404

— and the total appears to be Lt. 34,930,000, as over against Lt. 36,233,185 for 1327. We understand, however, that the Minister of War has consented to a reduction of not more than Lt. 100,000, which will diminish this total.

\* Increase.



## EMPIRE NEWS.

## THE CAPITAL.

A project for a railroad line, partly elevated and partly subterranean, to connect the Bosphorus villages with Galata, has been submitted to the Ministry of Public Works.

It has been decided that the old custom of firing cannon to inform the millions of the outbreak of a conflagration in city or suburbs shall be reinstated. This custom is especially pleasing to those residing near the cannon, and particularly between midnight and four a.m., but we doubt its real usefulness.

The Moslem pilgrims from Bokhara on their way to Mecca are not to be allowed to disembark in Constantinople, on account of sanitary conditions here.

The schools of the city will be permitted to reopen today by decision of the Board of Health.

Sunday being the first day of Bairam, the customary ceremony of kissing the Imperial hand took place with great pomp in the throne-room at Dolma Baghtche Palace. Besides the military, civil and religious dignitaries of the Empire, the American, British and Persian Ambassadors were present, also the first dragomans of the other foreign diplomatic missions.

The cholera report is the most encouraging for two months in this city. 131 cases and 91 deaths have increased the totals to 2187 cases and 1213 deaths. But even Bairam has not thus far alarmingly increased the death-rate. Here is a morsel for the croakers: During Ramazan there were 1017 cases and 572 deaths, while during the month previous there were 1037 cases and 616 deaths.

The *Jeune Turc* announces that Zia Pasha, Ottoman Ambassador at Washington, is to be transferred to St. Petersburg and Ab. I-ul-Hakk Hamid Bey, Minister at Brussels, is to be promoted to be Ambassador at Washington.

## THE PROVINCES.

Snow fell during the past week in several parts of Macedonia, while Mt. Vitosh, near Sofia, has been snow-covered for several days.

A single case of plague was recorded in Smyrna during the past week. There have been several cases in Egypt within the past two weeks.

The *Proodos* states that as a result of the anti-Greek boycott at least 5,000 Greeks in Constantinople, Smyrna and Salonica have become subjects of Austria, Italy and other countries.

The census just taken of the island of Crete shows an increase of 35,000 in ten years. The island has now 336,341 inhabitants, of whom 308,011 are Greeks, 27,852 Moslems and 477 Jews.

Moustafa Hilmi Bey, the genial ex-Prefect of the harbor of Constantinople, has a letter in a recent number of the *London Times*, on the impossibility of giving up Crete to Greece and the folly from the Cretan standpoint of desiring such a step.

## NOTES.

Admiral Williams, in charge of the reorganizing of the Ottoman fleet, returned last Saturday from England.

Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of the Chinese Customs, died in England last Wednesday at the age of 76. He had occupied this post since 1863.

Over fifty relatives gathered at Thelford, Vt., on Aug. 29th, to help Dr. Wilson A. Farnsworth pass pleasantly his 89th birthday. Dr. Farnsworth is very feeble indeed.

## OTHER LANDS.

A serious insurrection in the Sze-chuan province of China centres about the cities of Chung-king and Cheng-tu. The family of the viceroy of Cheng-tu have been assassinated. Six missionaries of the Friends' Foreign Mission Association are located at the latter point, and several others in the disturbed area, but all are reported as still safe.

The International Y. M. C. A. Conference planned for this autumn at Helsingfors, Finland, was forbidden by the Governor-General. He has now ordered the dissolution of the Finnish Boy and Girl Scout organizations.

The White Star leviathan "Olympic," with 3,000 souls on board, was rammed near Southampton last Wednesday afternoon by the British cruiser "Hawke," both vessels being badly damaged. There was no loss of life nor personal injury.

A Teheran telegram asserts that the ex-Shah has been captured and is held a prisoner by the Turkomans.

The French armored cruiser "Liberté" was sunk at Toulon on Monday morning by an explosion following an outbreak of fire on board. Most of the crew lost their lives.

A severe earthquake is reported from the northern part of Chile.



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