

# The Orient.

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## DANIEL M. B. THOM M. D.

A telegram from Sivas last week announced the death in that city of Dr. D.M.B. Thom, of Mardin, who was visiting there. Dr. Thom's death occurred on December 6th. He was a native of Owatonna, Minn., and was about 70 years old. In August, 1874, he was married to Miss Park, and sailed with her the next month for Turkey, from New York, arriving in Mardin in October. His wife died Jan. 16, 1888; and he later married Miss Helen Dewey, whose death we chronicled only a few weeks ago. Dr. Thom was in charge of the medical work of the Mardin station for over forty years, and was both active and successful. Statistics are not at hand for the whole of his time of service; but in the first twenty-six years he treated 290,686 patients, or an average of over 11,000 yearly, or more than thirty a day, Sundays included. But his interests were not confined to his chosen profession. He was in charge of a large Sunday school for a long time, where some 400 pupils gathered from week to week under his inspiring leadership. He was fond of touring, and visited the whole region many times over, in spite of having lost the toes of one foot by frostbite before coming to Turkey.

In March, 1912, he was badly hurt in a night encounter with burglars in his house; but with skilful nursing he was able in a few days to resume his calls on his patients.

Dr. Thom visited America three times during his missionary life: in 1885, 1895, and 1908, but he was always eager to get back again to his work. He was a man of warm sympathies; impulsive and exceedingly frank in denouncing wrong-doing; but the people knew his heart was with them, and they took from him rebukes they would not have endured from others.

Dr. Thom had three daughters, one of whom was in mission work at Beirut for some time.

## CONCERNING PEACE.

Younous Nadi Bey writes in the *Tesvirî Efkiar* as follows:—

"The successes that are connected with the present and future of the Balkan campaigns are of very great importance, as favorable to us and unfavorable to our enemies. If we regard the phases which this important campaign has shown up to the present, and the results it has attained and hopes

to attain, we may rest assured that the victory will be on our side. The hopes of the Entente in the Balkans were all dependent on the task of winning all the Balkan States. They clearly needed to do this, for they were impotent to work by their own strength. But the uniting of the Balkans was no easy task. At one time the Entente powers arranged the division of territory without asking the Balkan States. This division, which was meant to please the Bulgarians, angered the Serbs and Greeks. Bulgaria, on the other hand, encouraged by the approval of the Entente powers in regard to her Macedonian national aspirations, spoke louder than ever,— 'I must get possession of Macedonia by some means or other; all sides accept my claims anyhow.' It may be said that when Bulgaria rose against Serbia in the matter of Macedonia, she merely did what the Entente powers had approved of her doing for the purpose of getting her rights. Even so, the Entente powers rose up on their hind legs. Why? Because their purpose was not to secure the rights of this or that race, but perhaps rather to make each race or nation their humble servants. But after Bulgaria had escaped from their hands, in the opinion of the Ententists the Dardanelles-Balkan campaign party was also lost. Their last shadow of hope was in the direction of Greece, and through her, of Roumania. Now the Ententists, in this direction too, so as not to confess the defeats they have suffered, are having recourse to a lot of not very logical argumentation. We can clearly see that whatever they do, the result will be nil; nay, as the result of this illogical course they will even produce a new illustration of the truth that 'He who rises in wrath will sit down in loss.'

"In view of all this, have we got any nearer to peace by Balkan campaign? It cannot be doubted that the Balkan campaign is one of the most important factors in the question of war or peace. The Entente powers, defeated on all sides, had pinned their faith on the Balkans. Had they been able to break through the Dardanelles, their first step would have been to take Constantinople, and the second, to compel the Balkans to obey their orders. Both the results would have been very valuable to their purposes. Germany may have entered Warsaw and Belgium, but they would be masters of the Marmora and of Constantinople. They would thus cut off connection between the East and Central Europe. All the hopes of the Ententists on this score have taken wings, for our group has become master of the Balkans. The Berlin-Vienna-Sofia-Stamboul road has been opened. Henceforth,

just as there now remains no probability of a favorable conclusion to the Dardanelles campaign, there is likewise no possibility of the Entente counting on any success, big or little, in the Balkans. Then does this mean peace? As we have repeatedly said, after a successful campaign in the Balkans, the logical result ought to be peace; but it seems increasingly probable that the Ententists will not easily accept or be happy over peace, but will try again and again to better their lot. They are planning how they may get out of the affair with the least loss. But in our view, since we have ensured our victory, the chance of their doing us any harm is utterly gone. Those who can victoriously dictate terms are those who can continue the war with inexhaustible vigor. We have till now come out successful and victorious on all sides, according to all these tests. Since peace is a thing that the conquered will have to accept, whether or no, in the end, it is a matter that just now does not even enter our minds. Whenever they want it, let the defeated sue for peace. We today know only war; we know only the continuance of the war with daily increasing firmness; we know only how to break the wings of our enemies on ever new sides in ever new victories. Of course the day will come when cries for mercy will rise from the helpless ranks of their soldiers. Till that day comes, we shall think of no other course but to continue the war. But the arrival of that day can in no case be very far away. In fact, by the success of the Balkan campaign the war has in principle been ended. The actual continuance of it will be due to the difficulty on the part of the Entente to acknowledge so overwhelming a defeat. Its continuance will be to them forced, but useless. By keeping up the war, what dreams can they hope to realize? This is clear: they will wish with the opening of spring to try again to break the German lines along the Franco-Belgian front. Till then they will be getting ready for this. Furthermore, if in the meanwhile, no clear and compelling circumstances occur to bring about peace, we may imagine that the war will keep on in the spring for a little longer. It may seem possible that the efforts to turn the tide in the spring may continue on into the summer. That is, barring unforeseen circumstances, we have one year more of war before us. But that is the outside limit. To try to keep on with the war (especially for the defeated countries), is not as easy as might be supposed. There are such allies to be considered as Russia and Italy, where living is seriously difficult, and which are in daily danger of terrible crises. Besides, there is the fear of conjuring up revolution at Suez and in India. In short, the actual securing of the peace which has already arrived in principle, cannot in the nature of the case be very far off. In our opinion, however, the shortest way is not to think about peace, but to go on with the war with daily increasing eagerness and vigor. A victorious peace will follow such a war."

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The Sultan has decorated the famous Imam Yahya, of the Yemen, with the gold medal of the order of the Imtiaz and the diamond placque of the Osmanié, as a reward for his devotion to the Ottoman Empire and to the person of the Caliph.

### THE OTTOMAN CAMPAIGN.

The despatch of the 7th says:—

"On the Mesopotamian front, our troops by violent attacks prevented the enemy from entirely intrenching themselves. Our troops, by an energetic attack that lasted six hours, successfully approached the main position of the enemy. In this fight we captured a mitrailleuse from the enemy, and set on fire by our artillery bombardment a hostile transport. We noted that the foe during their retreat buried a large quantity of war material, and threw into the Tigris cannon, rifles and ammunition.

"On the Dardanelles front, at Anafarta the enemy opened an intermittent fire in various directions, the guns of their fleet participating. Our gunners replied, bombarding effectively the camps, trenches and moving columns of the enemy. At Aru Bournou there was an intense artillery and bomb duel. Our guns replied vigorously and silenced part of the enemy's batteries, and drove off a hostile cruiser that tried to approach Aru Bournou, and destroyed part of the enemy's trenches and bomb positions."

The despatch of the 8th says:—

"Our troops are vigorously pushing the enemy who are defending Kout-el-Amara. We did great havoc among the enemy who tried to retreat. We captured more than 300 camels with their loads. Our advance columns got up on the two wings as far as Sheikh Said, threatening by their unexpected fire the retreating foe.

"On the Dardanelles front, at Anafarta our gunners fired effectively on the assembled troops and the batteries and transports in Souvla harbor, inflicting losses on them and compelling the enemy's boats to retire. At Aru Bournou our guns destroyed the covered positions of the enemy's reserves. Yesterday a mine that we exploded on the right wing rendered useless two of the enemy's mines. At Sel-el-Bahr yesterday afternoon our artillery compelled a monitor and two cruisers that were bombarding Palamoudlouk to retire, also a cruiser and a monitor that were opening fire on Kayal Tepe.

"On the Caucasus front, nothing important except encounters between patrols."

The despatch of the 9th says:—

"Mesopotamian front:— The reply of the enemy's fire grows gradually feebler. Their attempted sorties are checked by our troops who inflict losses on them. Of the six aeroplanes we have captured, four have been repaired and are being used against the foe.

"Caucasus front:— By our counter attack we stopped the enemy who were making an attack against one of our detachments west of Alashgerd. In the other sections of this front, insignificant patrol encounters took place.

"Dardanelles front:— At the Anafartas the enemy opened fire from land and sea in different directions. Our gunners replied and dispersed the assembled troops and drove off the transports that were in Kemikli Harbor. At Aru Bournou on the right wing there was fierce bomb-throwing.

A cruiser fired at this wing, and a cruiser, a monitor, a torpedo-boat and a pontoon fired for a while in various directions. Our gunners replied and destroyed part of the enemy's trenches, and drove off the monitor, hitting it twice. At Sed-el-Bahr there was a duel of cannon and bombs. The enemy fired a large number of land torpedoes. A monitor fired against the right wing. Our artillery by its violent fire destroyed some mortar and artillery positions of the enemy. Yesterday by the effect of our guns an English aeroplane fell in flames near Ak Bash. The aviators as well as the machine were completely burned up."

The despatch of the 10th says:—

"Mesopotamian front: On the north and east our troops are getting nearer the enemy's positions at Kout-el-Amara, and forcing the enemy that is on the right bank of the Tigris to fall back with great loss to Kout-el-Amara. On the east we have captured the bridge over the Tigris, and compelled some detachments and gunboats to return to the town when they were trying to flee.

"Caucasus front: In the region of Milo we captured some hostile patrols and annihilated the rest. Nothing important otherwise.

"Dardanelles front: Some battleships at Kemikli Harbor bombarded our positions for a short time; but our artillery replied and were effective in the enemy's trenches and artillery positions. Two shells struck the landing stage at Kemikli Harbor, producing disorder and losses. Of five mines that the enemy exploded yesterday and the day before, in this section, three exploded right under their own trenches and the other two exploded at an ineffective distance, causing us a loss of ten killed and wounded. At Aru Bournou, an intense artillery and bomb duel took place. In this section also the enemy used land torpedoes. A cruiser intermittently bombarded our positions; our firing compelled another cruiser to retire that got within range of our guns. At Sed-el-Bahr our firing stopped the throwing of bombs and torpedoes, and silenced the enemy's artillery. Two cruisers here ineffectively bombarded our positions.

The despatch of the 11th says:—

"Mesopotamian front: Our troops by victorious attacks have occupied the advanced positions of the enemy. The losses of the enemy in this fight were over 700, while ours on the contrary were less than 200, divided equally between killed and wounded.

"Caucasus front: The attack that the enemy tried in the region of Milo against our advanced positions was repulsed with losses to them.

"Dardanelles front:—The usual artillery duel. Our gun-fire in reply hit twice a transport in Kemikli Harbor, while three shells fell on a battleship. At Aru Bournou, much bomb-throwing. Three cruisers, an armored pontoon and the land guns of the enemy bombarded our positions for an hour uninterruptedly, but caused the death of only one soldier and the destruction of a few of our trenches. Our artillery replied and hit a cruiser with two shells, and this retired. We also destroyed the enemy's mortar position at Kanli Sert. At

Sed-el-Bahr the night before last by our firing we prevented the enemy from throwing bombs and torpedoes, and destroyed some mortar positions. Yesterday the enemy bombarded all our positions; we replied vigorously to this firing, and silenced the enemy's batteries in front of the left wing."

The despatch of the 12th says:—

"Mesopotamian front:—We occupied the place called Sheikh Said, east of Kout-el-Amara, in the direction of the enemy's retreat. At Kout-el-Amara we sank by our gun-fire some hostile barges and a war monitor.

"Caucasus front:—Nothing but insignificant encounters of advance guards and reconnaissance columns.

"Dardanelles front:—A torpedo-boat from northwest of the harbor of Edie, and by indications from a balloon several battleships from Kemikli Harbor bombarded our positions and also our hospital in the village of Toursoun, killing seven soldiers there and wounding one. At Aru Bournou on the right wing the night before last there was bomb-throwing. At Sed-el-Bahr by our gun-fire the bomb-throwing of the enemy was rendered useless; a part of the enemy's trenches and some mortar positions were destroyed. The firing from three cruisers against Altchi Tepe and vicinity had no effect."

The despatch of the 13th says:—

"Mesopotamian front:—No news has come from this region.

"Caucasus front:—We repulsed some surprise attacks in different directions by small detachments of the enemy.

"Dardanelles front:—At the Anafartas, some hostile battleships, guided by the observations of balloons, fired at our positions for a while. Our gunners in reply effectively bombarded the trenches and batteries of the enemy. At Aru Bournou, much throwing of bombs and intermittent gun-fire. At Sed-el-Bahr on the night of the 10th the enemy fired an enormous quantity of bombs at our left wing; and yesterday after an unexpected and violent fire by artillery and infantry, with all kinds of bombs and torpedoes, for an hour, they made an attack which failed under the vigorous reply of our artillery. The enemy had to retreat with heavy losses to their trenches."

### SPEECH OF THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR.

Commenting on the speech which Herr von Bethmann Hollweg made in the German Reichstag on Thursday last, the *Hilal* says:

"The Chancellor begins by doing homage to Germany's allies, Bulgaria and Turkey, and notes with legitimate satisfaction that the road through to the Orient is already an accomplished fact, and that Sir Edward Grey, in foretelling the imminent fall of the Dardanelles, showed himself a very second-rate prophet. The Dardanelles still hold out firmly and heroically; and the mortification that the English have suffered there has just been made all the more bitter by the heavy blow inflicted on them in Mesopotamia. The Chancellor adds that the opening of the route to the Orient puts

Germany in a position to import from the Balkans and from Turkey the products she lacks. The wise and foresighted policy of King Ferdinand has thrown a solid bridge across between the Central Powers and the Near East. After the war is over, this bridge will no longer resound to the tread of soldiers, but will serve for the passage of pacific civilization.

"In the course of his address, the orator dwelt chiefly on three subjects: the Greek question, the question of peace, the question of the exhaustion of Germany. On the first question, he ridiculed with admirable and powerful irony the situation of England. It will be recalled that when England took as a pretext for declaring war on Germany the crossing of the Belgian frontiers by the German troops, the English prime minister used these words: 'The violation of Belgian neutrality will become the instrument of divine punishment against Germany.' Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg now relates one by one the tortures that this England is inflicting on Greece, and concludes: 'Now this same power in inflicting on Greece such oppression, finds itself in a very ridiculous position.' On the second question, that of peace, which he had to touch upon in reply to a socialist deputy the Chancellor said, with much justice, that the initiative for peace cannot come from Germany. To understand how reasonable the orator was, it is enough to read the Entente newspapers. These are all the time trying to stir up popular spirit by alleging that Germany is at the end of her resources and tired out, and wants to make peace; that they must resist only a little longer, and Germany will be broken and will consent to any and all conditions of peace. It is by such asseverations that the Entente leaders still keep up the wavering hopes of their countries. It is clear that the least allusion to peace on the part of the German government would be seized upon by them to be still further exploited. So that the Chancellor had good reason to declare that the initiative for peace, if it come on the part of Germany, would serve the cause, not of peace, but rather of the prolongation of the war. If peace is desired, one should on the contrary wish to have the German nation loudly proclaim its readiness to continue the war until her enemies beg for peace.

"Another piece of twaddle on the part of our enemies is the exhausting of Germany. Germany uses the same coin to pay back the hopes of the Ententists. The Chancellor, in referring to this, said: 'Germany possesses a sufficiency of food, and the territory that extends from Arras to Mesopotamia is vast enough to feed her.'

"In general, the speech breathes the same spirit of self-confidence, and its tone and spirit are as virile as in the first days of the war. The prolonged applause by which the Reichstag greeted it proves that the German nation thinks and feels as does the Chancellor; and this is the best guarantee of final victory."

### THE GENERAL WAR.

Aside from small engagements, the only serious fighting along the western front reported this past week has been in the direction northeast of Souain, in Champagne, where the Germans captured a short piece of French trench, and held it against repeated French charges. A British attack on Neuve Chapelle, southwest of Lille, is also reported repulsed.

On the Russian front, the Russians have captured a small German position; but their attack north of the Kovel-Sarny railroad failed. Some Russian detachments crossed to the west side of the Styr, north of Czartorysk, but were driven back again. South of Jacobstadt, south of Pinsk, south of Lake Wygonowskoye and elsewhere the Russians have been attacking, but are everywhere reported repulsed.

The Italians have been bombarding and attacking as usual on the Doberdo plateau, in the regions of Gorice and Tolmein, and especially in the Giudicaria valley and the Riva region; but apparently they have not succeeded in doing much. Several Italian torpedo-boats on the 8th bombarded Sessana, on the Karst plateau, northeast of Trieste.

The campaign against the Servians and Montenegrins has made still further progress by the capture of Rozaj, Ipek and Djakova in Montenegro, Resna and Ochrida west of Monastir, and Demir Kapou, Doiran and Geygeli, in the southeastern corner of Servia. By these successes the British and French troops that were in the region south of Strumitza and between the Tchernia and Vardar rivers have been forced entirely out of Servian territory, back into Greek territory; and the remnants of the Servian army are now either in Montenegro or in Albania.

The burning question now seems to be, What will Greece do, with the war now carried to her very frontiers? On this point the *Hilal* says:—"Doiran is the very last Servian town on the Greek frontier. The railroad station of the town belongs to the Greeks. So that the Bulgars are already on the Greek frontier pursuing their enemies. What will they do? Continue their pursuit, or let the chance go and let the enemy re-form behind the Greek frontier and take the offensive when the occasion offers? Greece, which till now has only temporized before the pressure and threats of the Entente, is no longer obliged to satisfy at least in appearance the demands of the Entente powers. She has at her gates a victorious army. If she really intends to keep her independence and act in her own interests, she has only to do her duty as a neutral power, as Holland did toward Belgium. If Greece continues to hesitate and to allow the concentration of hostile troops on her territory, she will have no further excuse. A Milli Agency despatch tells us that Greece has at last taken a firm attitude toward the Entente powers, and has filed a categorical objection to the Anglo-French demands. This contradicts, it is true, the latest news of the officious French and English agencies, but we must not fail to note that these agencies do not speak of an accord satisfactory to the Entente. No one pretends to claim that Greece has accepted their demands. Probably this agreement merely provides for the restoring of the Anglo-French troops to Salonica without their being disarmed and interned by Greece. But will the Bulgarians in this case give up their pursuit out of respect for Greek neutrality? Very soon we shall know the outcome of this tragi-comic expedition of the English and French. If, as a Roumanian paper says, King Constantine has already made a promise to the Central Powers, to be fulfilled at an opportune time, we shall know it in a few days, possibly in a few hours. That will be a more tragic ending for the Entente than even that of the Dardanelles expedition."

## THE ORIENT

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**Charles T. Riggs**

Bible House, Constantinople.

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## EDITORIAL.

A recent writer in the *International Review of Missions* has described very fully the problem of self-support in the church in Formosa and its solution. His description of what self-support essentially means is so good that we quote from his words:— "From the earliest days the ideal of a self-supporting and self-governing church was kept before the native Christians. It was pointed out that the foreign missionary was necessarily only a temporary worker, that the Chinese church was the permanent institution and must ultimately be Chinese out and out. Hence self-government was not a matter conceded grudgingly by the missionaries, but eagerly almost forced upon the native church, and self-support, it was pointed out, was a crown which any congregation might be proud to wear. As soon as suitable men were available, the Christians in every little congregation were invited to elect men who were ordained elders or deacons. These men superintended all the affairs—temporal and spiritual—of the congregation to which they belonged. Before the congregation had their own ordained pastor, the missionary visited them at intervals and dispensed ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper. At such times the advice of these men was specially sought after. He would be a most unwise missionary who insisted on baptizing any candidate of whom these men disapproved, or refusing to baptize one whom they unanimously recommended. That was the beginning of self-government." The writer goes on to describe teaching the congregations the privilege of giving as an act of worship, thus taking the first step toward self-support. The growth of the plan in Formosa is then outlined; the average of Christian giving per church member rose from about 33 cents (American money) in 1875 to about a dollar in 1890, \$1.40 in 1905, and \$3.40 in 1913. There were setbacks, the growth was not uniform, and the writer adds of the situation in 1915,

"But lately there have been several bad typhoons, with the inevitable accompaniment of bad harvests," and expresses a fear that the hope of getting the church on to a basis of complete self-support may break down for the present.

## BIOGRAPHIES OF EARLY MISSIONARIES.

## XVIII. GEORGE C. HURTER.

The Beirut mission press, according to Secretary Brown of the American Presbyterian Mission, is the next to the greatest mission press in the world, being exceeded in output only by the Presbyterian Press at Shanghai, China. The Arabic part of the mission press from Malta was transferred to Beirut in 1834, Dr. Eli Smith taking charge of it at first. But the work grew and was so important that it was deemed best to have a professional printer to devote his whole time to the output of Christian literature. The subject of this sketch was wisely chosen for the post.

George C. Hurter was of Swiss parentage, but born in the island of Malta, May 10th, 1813. In his youth he took up the printer's trade, and in Corfu was at work on a Greek and Latin lexicon. Later he went to the United States, and lived in Xenia, Ohio, where he printed a newspaper for a couple of years. In 1839 he married Miss Elizabeth Grozier, of Roxbury, and in 1841 he was chosen by the American Board to go out to Beirut to take charge of the printing establishment there. No better choice could have been made. Mr. Hurter was a practical printer of great skill, as shown both by the quality of the books he turned out, and by his care and ingenuity in securing beautiful Arabic type for the press. But he was more,—he was a deeply spiritual man, whose prayers were both impressive and edifying, and who could lead a prayer-meeting in such a helpful way as to profit and interest even such mature Christians as Dr. Eli Smith, Dr. W. M. Thomson and Dr. H. H. Jessup, who testified to their enjoyment of his talks. Mr. Hurter managed the employees of the Press admirably, and they loved him and were sorry to let him go. For nearly twenty-five years he was connected with the Beirut press. Faithful in the least as well as the greater things, patient and persevering, gentle yet firm, and with a kindness that made all regard him as a brother, he was to the people of Beirut a splendid example of a consecrated business man.

Family reasons made it necessary for him to return in 1864 to the United States, where for twenty years he lived in Hyde Park, Mass. He labored at his trade, and carried on some business with Beirut. Previous to 1865, kerosene oil was unknown in Syria; but in that year or the year following Mr. Hurter sent out a cargo of it for Boston merchants to Beirut. Before that, olive oil was the only sort used for lighting purposes; and as more people used lamps, olive oil became more and more expensive, so that the introduction of kerosene oil was a great blessing to the country. Perhaps the Standard Oil Company has never realized the value to them of this pioneer work, fifty years ago. Within five years,

kerosene oil had practically entirely supplanted olive for lighting purposes throughout Syria. Dr. Jessup, in commenting on this enterprise, says that Americans have been the introducers into this empire of the steam printing press, photographic camera, iron building beams, wire nails, sewing machines, parlor organs, mimeographs, typewriters, dentistry, agricultural machinery, and the telegraph apparatus as well.

On December 29th, 1894, Mr. Hurter passed away, his wife surviving him one year longer. His pastor said at his funeral: "He was for twenty years my parishioner, and I loved and admired him exceedingly. I think he came the nearest to being a perfect man of any that I have ever known." His simple, child-like faith, his prayerfulness and his eager study of the Word of God had made a deep impression on all. His golden wedding anniversary, in 1889, was an occasion of much happiness and interest. An illustration of the strength of the "ruling passion" was seen when, about a year before his death, he was presented with an encyclopaedia; and on being asked what part of it he would enjoy the most, he replied in his characteristic way, "Finding the typographical mistakes."

#### THE SITUATION IN PERSIA.

The *Tanin* says:—

"We believe that as we write these lines, the city of Teheran is already occupied by the Russians. England and Russia, having decided that the situation in Persia was going against them, decided to take everything into their hands, and have finally taken the step of occupying the capital. Thus Persia enters on a new and very serious crisis. We are not mistaken in saying that the duty of the Persian government in the present crisis is not to submit to the Russian threats. It would have been a gain to the Persia of the future and an honorable course for those in conduct of Persian affairs, if they had decided to defend the city against the few thousand Cossacks, so as not to abandon Teheran, that centre of Persian history, and to prove their heroism even to the point of losing the capital and the whole of Persia if this defence failed. Persia could have been saved, not by staying in Teheran and busying themselves with ceremony, but by hurling themselves forward in spite of any possible consequences. The directors of affairs at Teheran did not understand this truth. Happily from the administrative point of view, the Persian government existed only in name. As soon as the Russians began their march on Teheran, all the vital forces of the capital left the city and went toward the south, where they will try to concentrate the national forces which a hesitating and irresolute government was unable to rally."

#### CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, December 19, 1915.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles Anderson, D.D.  
 UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew, D.D.  
 ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., President C. F. Gates, D.D.  
 CONS/PLE COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Miss Frances C. Gage.

#### ISLAM AWAKENING.

The *Ikdam* writes:—

"The *Matin* has published an article entitled 'The Religious Influence of the Moslem and Turkish Empire,' in which it says there are two things to be feared: 1) that all the dissimilar elements in Islam may become united as a result, and 2) that European conceptions may not have a hearing in the religious affairs of the Moslems. The first point is very clear. The writer recommends especially that union and brotherhood as between the various sects, nationalities and parties of the Moslems be prevented. He does not wish the Mohammedans to be conscious of their common interests. As for the second point, it needs explanation. The paper quoted, ignorant of the rites of Islam, wants to keep Islam aloof from the study and investigation of what it terms European conceptions. Yet Islam advises men everywhere to profit by intelligence and investigation. There are, it is true, certain ignorant Mohammedans who do not understand the odious fanaticism of reaction, and who prevent progress and think the least such thing forbidden. What the *Matin* then expects is that the Moslem world is to be always opposed to progress and not appreciate the demands of the times.

"People are very much afraid of the awakening of Islam. And in fact, if Islam had been awake, 300,000,000 Moslems would not have been the slaves of a few French and English.

"Our last word is to say that the Caliphate, the Ottoman statesmen, the Turkish nation and the Mohammedan nations should make the greatest possible preparation. Let us watch events carefully."

#### THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

**7th session, December 9th.** Several bills from the Grand Vizierate were referred to the appropriate committees. It was voted to send on behalf of the Chamber a message of condolence to the family of the late Salih Saadi Bey, formerly deputy for Mosul. Bills were passed regarding the method of nominating officials for posts in tropical countries; the striking off the list of officers who during the general mobilization acted contrary to the regulations; the addition to the budget of the ministry of public instruction for the office of counsellor, and an increase in the budget of the ministry of posts and telegraphs for the year 1311 for printing stamps. The discussion of a bill for an appropriation asked by the Prefecture of the City, was postponed.

**8th session, Dec. 13th.** A bill was introduced by Grand Vizierial tezkere, concerning conscripts of the classes of 1312 and 1313, and was referred to committee. Two deputies from Baghdad and three other deputies were given leave of absence. Several bills were adopted, among them that concerning the issuing of a new series of paper money to the amount of 150,000,000 francs, or Lt. 6,583,094.

## EMPIRE NEWS.

### THE CAPITAL.

Count Wolff-Metternich, the new German Ambassador, who arrived here a month ago, was on Saturday last received in solemn audience by His Majesty the Sultan, to whom he presented his letters of credence. The grand master of ceremonies introduced His Excellency, who made a speech on behalf of his sovereign, and the Sultan made a cordial response. The Grand Vizier and the Minister for foreign affairs were both present at the interview.

The Y.M.C.A. Conference held on Monday of this week at Robert College was most successful.

The ministry of finance has decided that henceforth all communications to that department must be written in Turkish; and any communication of whatsoever nature written in any other language will be disregarded.

### THE PROVINCES

From Beirut comes word that the preliminary formalities for the legislative elections in the Lebanon province are being rapidly pushed forward. The governor of the Lebanon has already given orders that the census lists be revised so as to ascertain how many seats should belong to the Lebanon in Parliament. This province will be represented for the first time in the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies, and, says the Beirut writer, "should elect candidates worthy of it; and we are sure they will know how to make a good choice. The candidates are not yet known; names are mentioned, but the government of the Lebanon has not yet published anything."

A Milli Agency telegram from Caesarea tells of the opening of a government orphanage there for the orphans of soldiers, which includes a branch for the teaching of trades and one for agriculture.

According to a telegram from Berlin the statement was made in the British House of Commons that the British losses in the battle near Ctesiphon, in Mesopotamia, were 643 killed, 3330 wounded, and 593 missing; and that during their retreat they lost 300 more men.

### NOTES.

Rev. Arthur C. Ryan of Constantinople and the Misses Maillefer of Bardizag left by train last Friday morning for Switzerland, going by way of Vienna. Mr. Ryan expects to return to his post in January. On the same train went A. R. Hoover, M. D., on his way to America via Holland.

A son, Wilson Farnsworth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Luther R. Fowle at Hissar on December 8th. He will be called Farnsworth, in memory of his great-grandfather, Rev. Wilson A. Farnsworth, who was for over fifty years a missionary of the American Board in Caesarea.

### OTHER LANDS.

In answer to the demand of President Wilson, through Secretary Lansing, the German Ambassador, Count Bernstorff, has notified the Secretary of State that the German military and naval attachés will be recalled, and has asked for a safe-conduct for them.

An Associated Press despatch is reported from New York to the effect that Yuan-Shi-Kai has accepted the position of Emperor of China.

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