

The Haik.

An Armenian Organ.

Semi-Monthly.

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NOTES.

The European Press has very little published about the oppression of the Turks by the Turks, although without that it is impossible to have a comprehensive view of the real state of things in the Ottoman Empire and to judge correctly of its future possibilities. In an other column we publish a letter of the first importance addressed to the HAİK some time ago by an imprisoned Armenian, a man of education and intelligence, who had taken advantage of his unfortunate imprisonment for studying the fearfully corrupt course of official Turkey.

Until a short time ago the American people knew almost nothing about Armenians, now they not only know something about Armenia but are doing something for her. But in order that they may do their best for her, they must learn yet a good deal more concerning Armenian history, literature, character, religion etc. The

objects of this paper are precisely to aid the humane people of this great country to become sufficiently well acquainted with the Armenian nation so fortunately the subject of American charity and generous sympathy. You will find the HAİK more and more interesting. Do us the pleasure of sending us your name as a subscriber to it. Make this paper your organ as you have made Armenia your adopted child.

Rev. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin writes us from Lexington, Mass.—“I enclose two dollars as a regular subscriber. . . I am praying daily and constantly for some divine interference on behalf of the distressed and outraged nations, and for some avenging visitation upon Turkey and the so called Great Powers that shall satisfy our ideas of divine justice.”

Have you read in “The Outlook” of Feb. 27 the article on “the United States and the Porte”? Every American citizen should read it. It is a careful survey of Turkish violation of American rights and Treaties. “American property has been destroyed, American citizens arrested and imprisoned without trial, American treaty rights flagrantly and openly disregarded, the protection of the American flag scornfully set at defiance—and the American Government has done nothing but mildly protest.”

The Haik,

A Journal devoted to Armenia, Armenians, and
Oriental Peoples.

Published Semi-Monthly

BY

M. S. GABRIEL, M.D.,

AT

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THE NUMBER OF ARMENIAN VICTIMS.

In an Armenian meeting recently held in Paris and organized by a member of the "Académie Française" and attended by ministers, diplomats, authors etc., the number of the Armenian victims was given, for the year 1895-96, as 300,000. We believe there is no exaggeration in that. It is rather short of the real number if we take into account not only those who were killed during the massacres but those also who died from the consequences of the massacres—from wounds, fright, exposure, contagious diseases, sorrow and hunger.

From the Scranton Truth.

One of the latest claimants for public attention in the journalistic field is a semi-monthly publication entitled "The Haik," and devoted to the interests of Armenia and the Oriental peoples. The current number of this interesting journal contains an address delivered some time ago by its Editor, Dr. M. S. Gabriel, in which the following words occur: . . . Dr. Gabriel and his paper, "The Haik," are rendering noble service to the cause of humanity.

From the Wilkes Barre Times.

The people of Armenia, and, in fact, all the Christians of the Orient, have at last an advocate in this country which promises to bring before the public the true facts of the situation under the despotic rule of the Sultan of Turkey. It is a semi-monthly journal entitled "The Haik" and is devoted to the interests of the Oriental people.

THE CONSCIENCE OF EUROPE AND THE COMING CRISIS.

Amid all the diplomatic notes presented in these days to the Governments of Europe the most perplexing is the note of interrogation ever present in the minds of the rulers as to the character and gravity of the approaching events. Europe does not seem to know well its own mind. The Powers can not trust each other, can not agree but on some negative plan of action, can peacefully solve none of the pending questions. What is the cause of this disgraceful impotence? Is it not to be attributed to a weakness of European conscience?

The events of the last few years seem to indicate a state of moral debility. The most striking of its symptoms is the attitude of the Powers toward the Sultan. If any body had told in 1893 that the Sultan would massacre 200,000 of his Christian subjects in 1895-96 and the Powers would not stop his hand, no body would believe in the possibility of such a thing. But that is what precisely happened. It also happened that in 1897 the fleets of the same Powers opened fire upon the Greeks who were fighting for the purpose of freeing themselves from a degrading bondage to the Great Assassin. These occurrences do not appear to be events of the 19th century. They do not answer to the expectations of public opinion, still public opinion is not revolting against these intolerable occurrences. We ask it again whether the moral sentiment of Europe is not suffering from weakness—whether the success of Prussian militarism on the one hand and the success of money power in the hands of some peculiar people devoid of patriotic preoccupations and ennobling ambitions, on the other hand, have not inspired the public conscience with a materialistic spirit. Beside these practical examples of a deteriorating influence there has been also some theoretical agency encouraging the same tendencies. Many people have stopped at the point where Science seems to teach the struggle for life and victory of the stronger over the weak. The deeply moral idea of social

solidarity which is the true teaching of Science, has not yet exercised its moralizing influence over the conscience of Europe. Few people as yet understand that specially in the present developed state of the civilized world, injustice and insult inflicted on one part of it is inflicted on the whole—that outrages in Cuba and inhumanity in Armenia mean real harm to Europe and America. The moral harm is of course done, though we may not perceive it. The Armenian massacres, perpetrated by the permission of Europe, can not have failed to further harden the conscience of Europe. The sickness will have soon its external symptoms, perhaps convulsions, delirium and fighting. Human experience has taught a very positive lesson that fault or sin is invariably punished, if not immediately and visibly, after some time and in some way. There is, however, yet another human experience which is called repentance. It comes generally not right after the crime is committed but after it is punished. It may be that the coming war will serve as a punishment to quicken again the conscience of Europe and to sweep away some harmful features of European constitutions.

The best thing we wish might happen is a general revival of moral sentiment throughout Christendom without a war. Such a thing is not expected to begin in the executive offices but may begin in the Chambers or national assemblies, in the churches, clubs and in the pews. Certainly the public conscience of Christendom, if fully aroused, will be a mighty force to bring the governments into the ground of justice and humanity, and effect the peaceful solution of the oriental question in the best interest of civilization.

Rev. Dr. James L. Barton, secretary of the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, who has received during the last two years the HAIK, says he has convinced himself "of its great influence and power." "It seems to me, he adds, that it is a paper that every Armenian should read who loves his nation and his people, and since the English department has been added the paper contains a vast amount of valuable information for all who are interested in the Armenians and the questions, which gather around their history and their life."

LETTER FROM AN IMPRISONED ARMENIAN.

AN INSIDE VIEW OF TURKEY.

To the Editor of the HAIK.

Sir: I was arrested by night, while in bed, and led to the prison. They carried also my books and papers and manuscripts. I was thrown among the criminals of all races, Turks, Arabs and others. They surrounded me immediately and asked what crime I had committed. I answered that I did not know it either. In fact I did not, but guessed, in view of the fact that my books had been carried away, that I was suspected to be a revolutionist. My fellow-prisoners set to guess the reason of my imprisonment. One of them said that I had written to the Czar of Russia to come and annex Turkey! This supposition made me very unpopular and all began to look at me maliciously. At first they had given me room enough to sit myself comfortably, but when they believed I was a traitor, they made the prison hot for me. I offered a bakshish to one of them, an Arab of gigantic size and strength, and he defended me effectively. My Arab fought some of them and terrorized all; then all behaved themselves and gave me no longer any trouble. They even began to listen to me when I explained the functions of a true government. After four days I was transported into a better prison where I met some other Armenian prisoners. They had not either the slightest idea why they were put there. We were never tried, never any question was asked of us.

I set myself to study prison life, to listen to the conversations of the prisoners, asked them the reason of their imprisonment and learned a great deal. There was something new every day. It seemed to me that during the weeks which I spent in the prison, there was more than the usual number of prisoners thrown in and out. Every night numerous groups of drunken Turks were led into the prison. Not all were drunk, but were found by the police, in revel in the neighborhood of the city. These arrests were made in accordance with a special order of the governor that drunk

people should be arrested. The drink just as carefully as the drinker were brought to the police headquarters, the drinkers were put into the prison and the drink... put at the service of the officials who, forming circles of carouse, enjoyed the liquors all night. Sometimes they would invite a notable prisoner to whom the liquor had belonged to join them in the revel, that is to say to continue in their company to commit the very crime for which he had been arrested. The officials did not even care to save the appearances, they openly gave themselves to the same act for which they were nightly imprisoning the poor Moslems. The next morning these prisoners would be released on paying the penalty and a *bakshish* to the officials.

One night I pitied much two old Turks who were brought to the prison for the crime of having no lantern. The men told me that they were weavers, and had worked until about 9 P. M., and in returning home had lighted a wax-candle, which had gone out just before they reached home. Neither their hoary beards, nor the half-burned wax had any effect on the officials. They were to pay 3 piasters each. One of the two refused to pay, despite my advice, and remained in prison the next day. He lost a day's gain, and was compelled to pay the 3 piasters of penalty. This old Turk, as the other prisoners in general, was most bitterly cursing the Turkish Government. But the most hearty curse I ever heard in my prison life was that of a well-to-do Turk who, paying for the fourth time the same tax in the course of the same year, lifted up his armes to Heavens on leaving the prison, and exclaimed: Allah, save us from this unbearable Government, have mercy upon us and let come whoever may to save us, be it the Mosgoff (the Russians), be it the Engilize (the English.)

"What doest thou murmur, traitor!" shouted the officials and made him return to the prison, to give him an opportunity to repent his rash outburst, which cost him a further penalty of a Turkish pound.

I found one night a Gypsy in the prison. What was the matter with him? He had arrived at the city with his wife some-

what late in the evening, and the police had demanded from him to prove that the woman was his wife. In the mean time, he was thrown into the prison, and his wife confined to the house of the Imam (the Moslem priest). The following day some of his countrymen (if I can call them so), namely some other Gypsies, presented themselves at the court as witnesses and declared they knew the prisoner to be so and so, and the woman to be his true wife. "You are liars," shouted the judge, "get out!" The prisoner was compelled to produce some witnesses more trustworthy and more satisfactory, and he did produce them out of his purse—some Turkish dollars—and thereupon the officials were convinced the woman was his wife and both were released.

One night the prisoners were discussing the question how the administration of justice could be reformed. Various opinions were expressed. I was listening. Suddenly a young Turk, who had been listening to the discussion in silence and evidently was not satisfied with the measures suggested, made this memorable remark: "The remedy is the smell of the gun-powder, gun-powder!" He meant that "war" alone, and war ending in Turkish defeat, was the only thing that could abate the injustice of the official Turks.

Let me tell you the most fearful scene. Some evenings as many as five or six hundred Turks were taken to the prison, rather to the yard of the prison, as there was no more room inside. Who were they? They were peasants, condemned to imprisonment for arrears of taxes. They were ignorant, illiterate, poor peasants. Though they pay sometimes five times over the same tax, but the arrears are always accumulating on their shoulders. At the time I was in prison, the Governor had sent *esterlies*, namely policemen mounted on mules and invested with special authority for collecting the taxes by all means—beating, whipping, trampling, covering with bitumen and exposing to the sun and even hanging the men. In vain the tortured peasants cry they have paid it over and over again, that they were willing to pay once more if they had any means. And it was these miserable Turks who were by the hundreds driven like cattle into the prisons. Some of them told me that the sums demanded were greater than the value of their entire property. This information explained me the reason why at that time some of the villages were altogether depopulated, the peasants having abandoned them and emigrated into the cities.

LETTER FROM ARMENIA.

Aintab, Feb. 5, 1897.

The wish and effort on the part of the Moslems apparently is to minimize and as far as possible to ignore the terrible events of the past year and to resume former relations, with the distinct understanding however that Armenians are to be satisfied with very low seats in everything pertaining to the management of affairs. Very little that is definite has been said here about the "Reforms" and absolutely nothing in that line has been done; there is however a rumor that a certain number of Christians are to be enrolled on the police force, a thing which by itself would amount to very little indeed. There is also no longer anything heard about aid to be given by government to lighten the losses sustained by plunder; the only thing in this line is the fact that large contributions are being demanded by government for special purposes and that these gifts are required only of moslems, very significant and emphatic intimations are however being made that it will be wise for Christians to avail themselves of this opportunity to manifest their loyalty and good will to government. Very little progress has been made with the collections and there is apparently much difficulty in making a satisfactory apportionment of this "Charity."

The great Moslem fast of Ramazan began with the new moon on Monday night and was inaugurated with something more than the usual amount of parade and noise. 31 widows and orphans finally got off for their new home Jan. 22: and we hear of them well and safely on their way. 20 more will be sent as soon as may be.

It is a matter of much local interest that two young Gregorian students one of them a graduate of the Collage and of the Theological School at Marash, and the other having taken a partial course in these institutions, and who were a few weeks ago ordained at Oorfa by their Bishop, after the usual 40 days seclusion have just entered upon their public duties as priests in the Armenian Church. They are assigned to work for the year Ehnesht and Jibin

villages 40 or 50 miles from here where nearly all the Christians were for a time forced to profess Islam. They are to be supported by contributions of friends in Aintab.

The Squadrons of the Hamidia cavalry which were recently sent home from Constantinople via Scanderoon have been exhibiting themselves at Aleppo and have produced a very great sensation: some ominous murmuring has been heard from the ill paid and scantily provided soldiers who have been serving in this region at the lavish equipment and liberal pay and large privileges granted these favorite troops. Apparently it will be well for the peace and quiet of the country that these men should get on to their destination as quickly as possible.

We learn that a special contribution of 7,500 Turkish Liras "For the payment of the soldiers" is being urgently demanded from the Moslems of Aintab; some remonstrance has been made to so heavy an assessment, in reply to which the remonstrants have been bluntly reminded that however large the sum may seem it yet is only a tithe of the property they have violently taken from their neighbors during the past year: this rejoinder would seem to be "a clincher" from our point of view, and yet it does not seem to give entire satisfaction and more interesting developments are perhaps likely enough to occur.

NEW PUBLICATION.

CHRISTIAN ARMENIA
AND
THE CHRISTIAN POWERS

An Address

by

M. S. GABRIEL

TO AMERICAN CHURCHES

This address explains the origin of the Armenian Question and expresses the reproachful sentiment of the Armenians regarding the Governments of Europe.

Price 10 cents. Address Editor of HAIK.

THE FRENCH YELLOW BOOK.

The official correspondence of M. Cambon, Ambassador of France to Turkey, have at last been published. A single line of the Book speaks volumes in itself, and this is the line: "The Armenian question does not exist, but we shall create it." That is the declaration made by a high Turkish official to M. Cambon as early as 1892. We do not need to describe here the system of persecution adopted by the Palace with a view of provoking a pseudo-revolt on the part of Armenians. We are curious to know whether the N. Y. Herald, Hopkinson Smith and their similars will try to resist the irresistible evidence given by the French Ambassador. Moreover, the Yellow Book is a further proof of the fact that Europe was aware of the official intentions of the Turkish Government regarding the Armenians, but with a criminal negligence allowed the Sultan to fully develop his fiendish plans and spread with unbridled ferocity horror and death throughout Armenia and Asia Minor.

ARMENIA AND THE NEW YORK LEAGUE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN.

On March 5 the league held a meeting in the Lenox Avenue Church to hear addresses on Armenia. Miss Anna Longstreth, of Philadelphia, spoke of "Our Relations with Armenia." The first effect of the Armenian massacres, she said, was to arouse sentiment. When practical individuals of a narrow horizon questioned as to the propriety of rushing to the other end of the world to rescue a people whose remoteness made this appear impracticable, and suggested the charity confined within the parish or town, she said they could be answered with William Lloyd Garrison's creed. "My country is the world; my countrymen are mankind."

Mrs. Isabel Barrows, of Boston, was the next speaker. She dwelt on the folly of such protests as she heard in America: "Oh, let them fight it out among themselves!" "Why don't they fight?" She thought this a difficult matter where arms

of any kind were prohibited. She wished particularly to impress upon the League that the important question, at the present time, was what disposition is to be made of the survivors, who are largely children and women, half-naked and ill-fed and bereft of their natural supporters?

ORANGES

FOR ARMENIAN ORPHANS

To the Editor of the HAIK,

SIR: Through the efforts of Rev. W. H. McDougal, of Claremont, and Chas. J. Service, President of Southern California Christian Endeavor Union, of Riverside, California, the National Armenian Relief Committee last week received a carload of oranges which were donated by the fruit growers of Southern California to the Orphan Fund.

Through the kindness of Brown & Seccomb, auctioneers, the car was advertised and sold at auction free of cost to the Committee. David A. King, Truckman, also favored the cause.

Messrs. P. Ruhlman & Co., the Washington street fruit dealers, who have kindly attended to the disposition of the oranges free of commission, have sent to Brown Bros. & Co., treasurers, \$923.99, the proceeds of the sale, and state that they may have \$124.00 more to add to this amount.

The fruit sold at a high figure on account of the object for which it was contributed, there being much spirited bidding.

The Young People's Societies throughout the United States and Canada purpose supporting an Orphanage at Harpoot, Turkey, to care for the orphans left in that center as a result of the Armenian massacres, and this gift of \$1,000 will be the first amount to be credited to the fund. There are more widows and orphans needing aid in Harpoot province than in any other portion of Turkey, and a generous response to the call for funds is hoped for.

FREDK. D. GREENE

SPENCER TRASK

General Sec'y. Chairman Executive Committee.

ARMENIAN SETTLEMENT READY.

From the Chicago Record.

A plan to provide Armenian refugees in America with the means of a comfortable livelihood and render them self-supporting and independent has been devised by Silas M. Moore, chairman of the Armenian Relief Association, who returned from the South Saturday night. For the last two months Mr. Moore has been considering the idea of an Armenian colony, and with the assistance of the Rev. George Manavian and other Armenians has visited several States with a view of ascertaining their advantages with respect to settlement. They have decided upon a tract of land at Eastman, fifty miles south of Macon, Ga., and within ten days the first of the new Israelites will be brought without any preliminary desert wanderings to their land of promise. The tract, which Mr. Moore has already purchased, consists of 300 acres, with an option on 5,000 acres adjoining. It was the property of the Amoskeag Lumber company, who considerably left a number of neat dwellings, a schoolhouse and a church when, after cutting all the available timber, they moved on in search of more. The colonists have nothing to do but to move in with a few articles of furniture and some agricultural implements, and proceed to raise a crop. Mr. Manavian intends to accompany the party of Armenians who start for the settlement from Chicago, and make his home with them, and Mrs. C. E. Gates, who is now in Florida, will go there to assist in the work of organization before leaving America to rejoin her husband, the Rev. C. E. Gates, in Armenia.

Mr. V. M. Donigian writes us from Brookshire, Tex.

"All the Armenians are doing and prospering well here. This place is a paradise for poor people, and there is more opportunity here for our people than any where else that I know of."

The Turk seems to be regarded as a strong individual because he is a Mussulman.—THE PEORIA HERALD.

PRESIDENT MCKINLY URGED TO HELP
POOR ARMENIA.

From The Boston Journal.

Haig Adadoorian, President of the Armenian Republican Club of Malden, sent yesterday the following petition, signed by 150 prominent people of Malden, to President McKinley:

Malden, Mass., March 4, 1897.
To William McKinley, President of the United States:

Sir:—We, the undersigned residents of Malden, Mass., do humbly but urgently remind you of that plank in the Republican platform which deals with the grievances of the Armenians. We most sincerely hope that our Government, under your judicious administration, will extend the hand of help to this persecuted people.

A recent despatch announced that the report that over 2,000 Mohammedans had been massacred by Christians in the city of Sitia in Crete, was found upon investigation to be false. But not a few of the American journals hastily believed in the report and commented extensively on "the barbarity of the Moslem matched by the barbarity of the Christian."

Constantinople, March 12.—A renewal of the outbreaks in Asia Minor is imminent, and Sir Philip Currie, the British Ambassador, has called the Porte's attention to the state of affairs existing there, with a view of averting the atrocities which are threatened. The Christians in Anatolia are in a deplorable condition, and, consequently, subjected to outrage. It is feared that a massacre will occur at Payas, where the situation is extremely critical.

The Porte and the foreign diplomats have received news of bloodshed at Everek a mountain village in Kaisarieh. The situation in those regions is most lamentable, and rumors are current in this city that a massacre is impending there.

A Detroit journal reports some strange utterances by an Armenian, who estimates the number of the Armenians in Constan-

tinople at 500,000; the number of Armenians in Turkey and Russia at 7,000,000. He seems to take delight in doubling numbers. He makes a very important historical discovery—the Armenians have erected the first Christian church... can you guess where? "on Mount Ararat... and it is still standing on the top of that lofty mountain."

A church constructed on the inaccessible top of Ararat, covered with perpetual snow!!!

The name of this fool is H. H. Topakyan, and the name of the paper in which his utterances are reported is "Free Press." A little too "free," the journal, and a little too fresh its reporter...

FACTS ABOUT ARMENIA

This pamphlet contains a report of the Sassoon massacre by a native refugee, the great Chester speech of Mr. GLADSTONE on Armenia and the renowned article of Dr. Dillon on the fearful condition of Armenia for many years before the late massacres.

Price 15 cents.—To write to the Editor of HAIK, 341 W. 23d St.

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Թէև շատոնց է որ այս գործը կընենք, բայց նոր խանութ մը բացած լինելով կողմէնք ծանուցանել թէ Թուրքիոյ ամեն տեսակ բաներ կը վաճառենք—Պլումբ, իւղ, պամիրա և որ ի կարգին: Նոյնպէս անուշագէտներ—լոխում, հելվա, ևն: Նաև ունինք ձեռագործներ, կիւլեաղի, նարկիլէ ևն. և վերջապէս ամեն բան կը գտնուի մեր քով: Մեր գներն շատ աժան են թէ հօլսէյլ թէ րիթէյլ: Օրտրներ կը յղենք ամեն տեղ C. O. D.ով: Մեր հասցէն է—

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Օրագիր

Տարեկան բաժանորդագինն է 10 ռուբլի, Ամերիկայի համար 6 տոլար: Հասցէն է —
Tiflis, Redaction du MSCHAK

ԲԱՋՄԱՎԷՊ

Ամսօրեայ

Տարեկան բաժանորդագինն է 10 ֆրանք, (երկու տոլար) Հասցէն է —

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M. M. MAMOURIAN,

Smyrne. TURQUIE

ՀԱՆԴԷՍ ԱՄՍՈՐԵԱՅ

Տարեկան բաժանորդագինն է 10 ֆրանք, (երկու տոլար): Հասցէն է—

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