

THE TURKS IN MACEDONIA

Condition of the Various Dominions of the Sultan

THE CAUSES OF REVOLT

Misrule Made Worse by Conflict of Race, Religion and Politics—By Constant Warfare the Empire is Gradually Being Reduced in Size—The Navy Not a Factor.

The territory in Europe under the actual sovereignty of the Sultan Abdul Hamid II may now be said to be confined to its southern edge, and the administration of the whole



Abdul Hamid, Sultan of Turkey.

western part of it is in dispute between him and the representatives of the Western Powers, says the New York Sun.

Briefly told, they call upon the Sultan to submit to the amputation from his direct rule of the richest and largest part of his European territory, containing several millions of inhabitants who, unhappily, are divided among themselves by differences of race and religion to such a degree that all attempts made at different times to bring them together in their own interests have totally failed.

Among the Albanians are adherents of Islamism, Catholicism and the Eastern or Greek Orthodox Church. The people of what is called Macedonia are of Bulgarian, Serbian and Greek origin, with about 100,000 of the descendants of the old Roman military colonists scattered over the southwest and given mostly to pastoral and commercial pursuits. The commercial port and capital of this country is Salonica, the old Thessalonica, with a population in which the Jewish element largely predominates, there being a section about 7,000 in number, called by the Turks Dinnah, who profess the Mohammedan religion and have their own mosques.

The consequence of the division of the population into three strong sections is that there are only four full working class in the week, the Turks performing their Selamluk on Friday, the Jews observing their Saturday Sabbath and the Christians Sunday.

That the revolt against Turkish rule in Macedonia was justifiable cannot be denied. The condition of the country, so far from improving, had become intolerable to men who saw the results of the freedom given to the Bulgarians, Serbians and Greeks, and who had, as so many of the leaders of the Macedonian bands, or committees, as the Turks call them, or committees, as we would call them, had a western education.

The treatment of the Christian women by the Mussulman Aghas and Beys, and by the truculent rapiers, or gendarmes, who lived free on the country, had as much to do with the insurrection against Turkish rule as anything else. Against such a rule, and the social and political oppression accompanying it, enlightened and high-minded men could do nothing else but revolt, and maintain their revolt, whether by doing so they hurt the interests of European governments and financiers or not.

AMERICANS IN THE FAR EAST.

Scant Opportunities Offered for Professional Men.

In response to numerous inquiries from the United States regarding the Orient as an inviting field for young men who have entered the professions of law, medicine and dentistry, Consul Anderson has written at considerable length to the state department, explaining the methods and practices that obtain in China. The consul does not offer encouragement for young men who contemplate going to China to engage in a profession. He says:

"While there is always more or less disposition on the part of some young men to push into untried portions of the world, not only for travel and experience, but also for a livelihood, the number of such men received by foreigners in China from people in the United States and elsewhere as to opportunities to engage in business, and even to practice the professions here, seems to indicate that there is rather a well defined movement toward the Far East among some classes. In countries like Great Britain, Germany, France and others with colonial connections this movement has existed for many years and is a recognized course for a certain portion of the nation's population. But such a movement in the United States is new and notable, and probably indicates a turn of national development and national life which merits attention.

"Business opportunities in the Far East, are comparatively well understood in their attractive as well as in their unattractive phases. Opportunities for the practice of the professions, however, are comparatively unknown. In some lines of professional work in the Far East there are well-defined limits of prosperity and adversity, but in others, the result of Anglo-Saxon effort is yet to be shown. One reason for the movement among young men to come to the Far East to practice professions is in reports which have come to their ears of exceptional opportunities enjoyed by other men, of the good fortune of some men in building up large business connections and of the earning of large fees by men in practice here.

"That large fees have been earned in medicine, law, dentistry and otherwise is to be freely admitted. It does not follow, however, that all practitioners here can earn fees of this sort, or that the opportunity will come here any oftener than it does in the United States. If it were true, which is probably not the case, that the average earnings of professional men in any line here are greater than they are in the United States, it is to be considered that increased cost of living, increased expenses for books, medicines and supplies and the absence of other things which go to make life worth living may combine to render practice here less profitable and satisfactory in the long run than practice in Europe or America. Nor has the young professional man here any better chance of work or advancement than he has at home. Generally speaking, and considering matters in all their aspects, I do not believe that young men in America have anything to gain by attempting to build up a professional practice in China."



Miss Rose Cleveland, sister of former President Grover Cleveland, and an author of considerable merit, is known in the State of Maine as "The Queen of Seven Hundred Acre Island." Twenty years ago she paid \$4,500 for this island, only a few miles from Camden, and since then she has realized \$200,000 from the sale of house lots.

Fastidious Irish Clergyman.
The Rev. Dr. Charles Tisdall, chancellor of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, who died recently, was reputed to be the best dressed clergyman in Ireland. Many stories are told of the elegance of his attire. An Irish clergyman once said to Chancellor Tisdall's tailor: "Make a pair of trousers just like the trousers you make for the chancellor." The order was executed, and in a few days the clergyman entered the tailor's shop to complain that the moment he sat down a rent appeared in his trousers. "Oh," said the tailor, "I made you a pair of trousers like Chancellor Tisdall's walking trousers. They were made for walking, not sitting. No wonder they burst when you sat down."

Reflections of a Chambermaid.
Many are called and few are up before noon.
It's a long hall that has no urn in.
Men must work and women must sweep.
Coming agents send their baggage before.—Judge.

THE RAILWAY IN CHINA

Some of the Difficulties to be Overcome in Construction

GRAFT FLOURISHES, TOO

Syndicates Bought Up Land Along Proposed Route and Held It Against the Railroad Company—Trouble Over Removal of Graves—Corner on Building Material.

The final contract for the Shanghai-Nanking line was signed after protracted negotiations by Sheng Tachen and the concessionaires (the British and Chinese corporation) in July, 1903. Between that date and the actual beginning of earthworks further pourparlers were necessitated on points of detail, financial and administrative, in regard to which Sheng Tachen's attitude was persistently obstructive. Eventually, at the instance of the British government, an intimation was conveyed to the Director-General from the Wai-wu pu that further obstruction would entail unpleasant results, and since then matters have advanced more satisfactorily.

The line to Nanking via the provincial capital (Soochow) is approximately 200 miles long, running through flat country intersected by many creeks and covered as far as Chinkiang with innumerable graves, thence to Nanking on the slope of the hills which lie parallel and close to the Yangtze. By the terms of the contract Sheng Tachen receives \$250,000, in return for which he is bound to acquire all necessary land and to obtain the removal of graves within the limits required by the railway. Eighteen months after the arrival of the engineering staff, only thirty-eight miles of the total length had been acquired, and this in isolated sections.

The construction now proceeds as the land is handed over; it is therefore evident that future progress will depend chiefly on Sheng's performance of his duties. He promised to give the company full possession of all the land as far as Soochow before April, 1906, and thence to Wusieh before June; but continuous pressure has not succeeded in securing the fulfillment of this official promise. In the meanwhile it is interesting to observe that, so soon as the survey of any section is completed and the line definitely located, a Chinese syndicate—of which Sheng Tachen's son is the reputed head—purchases the land, wherever possible, from the agricultural owners and holds it against the railway company, claiming a large advance on the market value. (The price paid for agricultural land, compulsorily acquired, varies between £20 and £40 per acre.) These operations primarily concern the Chinese government, but, as they delay construction work and thus increase the ultimate cost of the railway, they concern also the concessionaires to whom Sheng frequently appeals for funds to meet "unexpected contingencies."

Another source of difficulty lies in the removal of graves. This is a question which presents itself everywhere in China; but in the country between Shanghai and Wusieh it is unusually prominent, because the line runs through what might be described as a continuous graveyard. Tombs and family burying grounds, frequently of great size, are scattered haphazard throughout the highly cultivated fields. Many have been removed during the past year, but even on the land already handed over an enormous number remain, and for these gaps have to be left in the embankments.

For each grave's removal compensation has to be paid at rates varying between 10s. and £1 and as this business is also transacted by Sheng's staff, it presents a continual cause of friction and delay. So-called benevolent societies have been formed at various centers and collect subscriptions with the ostensibly pious object of removing the remains of the numerous departed Chinese who left no descendants to practice for them the rites of filial piety. The anti-rebellion left many such cases in its track.

These societies employ coolies to collect the bones, which are then reverently placed in a Devos's kerosene packing case or other equally inexpensive receptacle and thereafter deposited on the nearest piece of waste land, the society's work being confined to claiming and getting the compensation per set of bones collected. The smallest remains will suffice to justify a claim, and unidentified ancestors are therefore in demand all along the line. It is reported, though difficult to prove, that the Chinese members of the board of commissioners and other local mandarins have been prominently connected with the "benevolent" societies.

Another interesting example of Chinese official methods came to light when the construction of bridges was begun. The corporation soon discovered that a completely organized corner had been formed by the Chinese to control the supply of skilled labor and of bricks. So effective was this combine that considerable time elapsed before work could be done at anything like reasonable prices, and one of the consulting engineers (A. J. Barry) has therefore made arrangements for the establishment of independent brickyards and the importation of labor from Tientsin. In the meanwhile the construction of all bridges as far as Wusieh has been contracted for.

ROYAL MATCHMAKING GENIUS.

Has Done Great Things for House of Denmark—Gives Norway a King.

In a family sense old King Christian of Denmark is certainly the luckiest sovereign in Europe. It is all due to the fact that someone—either the King or one behind his throne—has a most marvelous genius for matchmaking. Denmark is about the smallest kingdom in extent on the continent, and the monarch himself, when he came to the throne, was about the obscurest Prince in Europe. But he is the father of one King and the grandfather of another, since Norway elected, Prince Charles to be its sovereign, under the title of King Hakon VII. Christian is also father-in-law of King Edward of England and grandfather of the Czar of Russia, besides being prominently connected through his offspring with most of the other royal families of Europe.

Looking out of consideration the brilliant matches made for Christian's grandchildren the following matrimonial catches were made for his children:

The eldest son, Prince Frederick, heir apparent to the Danish throne, married Princess Louise, daughter of Carl XV., then King of Sweden and Norway.

The eldest daughter, Princess Alexandra, married the Prince of Wales, now King of England.

The third child, Prince Wilhelm, married Olga, Grand Duchess of Russia, and was elected King of



King Hakon VII. of Norway.

Greece under the title of Geogias I. Princess Marie Dagmar, the fourth child, married Alexander III., the late Czar of Russia. She is now the Dowager Empress of Russia, her son being the present Czar.

The fifth child, Princess Thra, married Prince Ernest August, Duke of Cumberland, who hoped to be King of Hanover, but his kinsman, the Emperor of Germany, sat upon his claim.

The sixth child, Prince Waldemar, married Princess Marie d'Orleans, eldest daughter of the Duc de Chartres.

Prince Charles, grandson of Christian, King Hakon VII. of Norway by virtue of election by the Norwegian people, "Hakon" is a favorite name in Norse history. The Prince's matrimonial fortune was made 10 years ago, when the favorite daughter of King Edward VII. of England (then King of Wales) became his betrothed bride. Princess Maud is three years older than her husband, the new King, who is only 33, hence probabilities point to a long reign for the young couple. His full name, not counting his land new one bestowed upon him by his adopted country, is Prince Christian Frederick Charles George Waldemar Axel of Denmark. Husband and wife are first cousins and King Christian is grandfather to both; but royalty has matrimonial privileges—and handi-

cap is not venuehaved by law or custom to ordinary mortals. King Hakon is also the second son of the Crown Prince of Denmark.

King Hakon holds a commission as lieutenant in the Danish navy. He is likely to continue to hold it, though now the sovereign of a foreign kingdom. He was the subject of a serious quarrel a few years ago between his grandfather and his father-in-law, then Prince of Wales. Desiring to be near his favorite daughter the Prince of Wales arranged with the Danish court that Prince Charles should transfer his commission from the Danish to the British navy and that the young couple should take up their residence in London. Then, at the last moment, old King Christian changed his mind and vetoed the scheme. Had Charles become an Englishman then he might have missed his present chance of becoming King of the realm which fate seems to have created especially for him.

King Christian is a democratic and unconventional old monarch, considering his brilliant family connections.—Pittsburg Gazette.

A Foregone Conclusion.
A certain teacher in a history examination asked a class of small girls: "Who was Virginia Dare's grandfather?"
Small Betty had forgotten. But at last a brilliant idea occurred to her. She wrote: "Old Mister Dare, I reckon."—New Orleans Picayune.

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