

It should be remembered, however, that the Janizaries in the first place were youth taken from the homes of christian subjects. It is asserted that altogether half a million of such were forced into service and disciplined by the Turk. It was the enormities perpetrated by the members of this institution that gave the Ottoman the unenviable reputation he bears to this day. For some time before their extinction the Government of the Empire was entirely according to their dictation. At length the Sultan Mahmoud II. saw the necessity of extinguishing the Janizaries in order to save the nation, and accordingly, in 1826 they were all—40,000 of them—slain in one day. From that time hope began to dawn for Turkey; progress and the entrance of humanizing influences were made possible. So much by the way. The Turk, and in fact every Oriental, is by nature hospitable and courteous. Moslems have a special inducement to be so, seeing that their religion counts hospitality highly meritorious, and sure to be rewarded in the future life. To partake of a meal in common with a stranger has with them very much the force of a sacrament. If occasion should demand it, the host, by exchanging morsels of bread with his guest, pledges himself to defend and care for the wayfarer as he would for a brother. It matters not how regardless the person has been of all other law, human or divine; this is an oath that must be kept inviolate on pain of everlasting punishment. This favour, however, is not to be extended to heathen and atheists; it is only for those who believe in the existence of God and who possess a book revelation of Him. No one can be more polite than the Oriental in his way, but his politeness is confined entirely to men—never extended to ladies. Eastern salutations are very elaborate and occupy much time in the performance, sometimes half an hour or even more, it is said. Hence our Lord's command to the seventy, "Salute no man by the way." Time seems to be of very little value in the East. The poorest appear to have abundance of leisure; hurry and speed are entirely unknown here. Among the people there are no hard workers. The labouring man earns ten or fifteen cents a day, and he deserves no more. The typical Moslem never thinks of making circumstances and events bend to him. He resigns all to fate and takes what comfort he can out of the present. Cholera or the plague may surround him, but commonly he shows no alarm and takes no precaution for his safety. His fatalism proves to be indeed fatal to him, for these diseases make terrible ravages among his people, while the Christian population suffer but little from them. This is one reason why the Christian races are