

Turks were summarily arrested and thrown into prison. Many have been sent into exile. Thirty or forty have been consigned to Acre where they have been compelled to work with chain-gangs, among the worst and lowest criminals. Everything in the way of "justice" is conducted in Turkey with so much secrecy and jealousy that it is extremely difficult to ascertain all the facts of any one case. In some instances the Government took great pains to make the Protestant converts turn back again to Mohammedanism, but they very firmly resisted all that terror on the one hand and bribery on the other could do. The worst feature of the whole case is that Sir Henry Bulwer, the English Ambassador, seems to have forsaken the noble policy of Lord Stratford, and to be but extremely lukewarm in his defence of the principles of religious liberty guaranteed in the famous Hatti Humayoun. In these circumstances the Missionaries determined to appeal to the British people. They have done so, and we believe the result will be beneficial.—An influential deputation from the Evangelical Alliance waited on Earl Russell and laid all the facts before him in a memorial from which we extract a few paragraphs:—The acts of which they complain are described as "consisting in the shutting up of rooms hired by missionaries and by agents of the Bible Society, in which they peaceably conducted their Christian labors; in the seizure and carrying away of Christian books; and in the imprisonment of converts to Christianity from the Mohammedan faith, and their threatened banishment from their native land.

"These arbitrary and unjust acts, your memorialists submit, are not only inconsistent with the principles of toleration professed by the Turkish Government, but an express infringement of that clause of the Hatti Humayoun in which his Majesty the Sultan employs these distinct and emphatic words:—

"As all religions are freely professed in my dominions, none of my subjects shall be hindered in the exercise of the religion he professes, nor shall he be molested in the exercise of it."

"This concession to religious liberty, as is well known, was made by the Sultan at the urgent and conjoint importunity of nations professing Christianity; and is more especially due to the enlightened and long-continued efforts, and to the deservedly

great influence of Her Majesty's late Ambassador at Constantinople, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

"Your memorialists, therefore, would respectfully represent to your Lordship how incumbent it is on the British Government to whom Turkey owes so much, to look to the fulfilment of the pledges she has given, and still to maintain by British diplomacy that freedom from persecution for Turkish subjects becoming Christians, and that liberty for missionaries to propagate the Christian faith, which it is the distinguished honor of British diplomacy to have achieved.

"Your memorialists are not ignorant that the recent intolerance is attempted to be justified by the Turkish Government on the plea that the missionaries and some of their converts have acted with great indiscretion in promoting the spread of the Christian religion, and have preached in places and amongst persons where they were likely to excite public disturbance; and it is even alleged that the converts were imprisoned for their own protection against the violence of the populace, which they either had excited or were in danger of exciting.

"Your memorialists are perfectly assured that this allegation has no satisfactory foundation in the facts of the case, and that the apprehended popular disturbance was little else than a gratuitous and exaggerated surmise. Besides that, it will be apparent to every one that it is as dangerous to admit such a plea as it is always easy to frame it.

"It is particularly objected by the Ottoman Government that missionary operations have been carried on in the khans, or, as they were sometimes called, the inns, of the city, places to which mixed multitudes resort, so that the public peace is endangered, and in which, in former times, it is said nothing of the kind was attempted.

"But your memorialists are able to state, on the contrary, that for more than a quarter of a century the missionaries have been accustomed to rent rooms in the khans, a convenient places for meeting those persons who wished to come to them for religious inquiry. And as some misapprehension exists on the nature of the places thus designated, they submit the following remarks:—These khans in Constantinople, while they are sometimes described, as if for the purpose of a clearer definition, by the explanatory word "inns," are inns not in the sense of the European hotel, but rather in the sense in which Sergeants' Inn or the other Inns of Court in London are so denominated. They are large buildings, having an open court in the centre, and are divided into a great number of rooms, for the most part small,