

its cognates when addressing Gentile churches. But their purpose was always the doing of all things "decently and in order." Beyond this, I fail to find any indisputable evidence of elaborate divinely prescribed organization in the New Testament.

This principle, spirit, aim of the Apostles, we possess embodied in what appears to me to be implied in the Eldership, together with all the liberty and elasticity and power to modify according to circumstances, embraced by the principle, and all the freedom from the necessity continually to be insisted upon imaginary prerogatives, and neglecting the preaching of Christ, which tends to characterize the ministry of those holding antagonistic convictions. And for this "glorious liberty of ours, we, I, at any rate, humbly, heartily thank God."

(Concluded.)

ARMENIA.

The following communication from Miss Barker, now working as a missionary in Constantinople, will be read with interest by the Foreign Missionary Auxiliaries of our Presbytery. We leave her letter to tell the story of the massacre. Its pathetic interest requires no editorial words to force its meaning to our hearts.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 9, 1896.

A most terrible massacre occurred in this city on Aug. 26th and 27th, in which it is estimated that 5,000 lost their lives. It commenced in this way. About twenty-four Armenian revolutionists (Russian subjects) gained entrance to the Imperial Ottoman Bank about one

o'clock on Wednesday, Aug. 26th, taking with them a considerable quantity of dynamite bombs. Shooting down several of the guards they succeeded in closing the doors and taking possession of the bank. They at once said they intended no harm to the employees, and did not want money, but would make the building their headquarters till they received replies from the Sultan and the Ambassadors to certain petitions they would send. If the replies were satisfactory, all would be well, but if not, they would blow up the building and all in it. Troops were drawn up in front of the bank and commenced firing in the windows. The Armenians answered with shots and bombs. Several of their own number were killed by the bursting of a bomb. They communicated their demands to the Sultan and Ambassadors through one of the officers of the bank, the remainder in the building being held as hostages. They requested that the troops be removed from the front of the building; that no attack should be made upon other Armenians; that the Powers should see the reform scheme faithfully carried out, and that they be safely conducted out of the country. Sir Edgar Vincent, president of the bank, at about midnight, with several representatives of the Powers, returned from the palace of His Majesty with a favorable reply to their demands. The remaining 17 Armenians were at once taken out of the bank and conducted to Galata, where they boarded Sir Edgar Vincent's yacht. This was surrounded by foreign despatch boats, the men disarmed and the next day placed aboard a French steamer.

Earlier on Wednesday a company of revolutionists had caused trouble at two or three other points in the city. By the middle of Wednesday