

"THE SULTAN'S EVIL GENIUS."

THE MAN WHO SWAYED THE DESTINIES OF AN EMPIRE—A THOROUGHLY UNSCRUPULOUS FELLOW—MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THE DIPLOMATS OF EUROPE.

The London correspondent of the New York Sun is personally acquainted with Said Pasha, the new Prime Minister of Turkey, or rather the old minister restored to power. He has nothing good to say of him. Here is the way in which he describes Said's rise to power. "In the early part of last year he was Minister of Justice, and the official world of Constantinople was even then surprised and disgusted at his sudden rise to a position of so much influence. At the commencement of the Russo-Turkish war he had never been heard of. He was then an obscure clerk in a public office, and was brought to the notice of a very powerful personage in those days, Mahmoud Damad Pasha, the Sultan's brother-in-law, and the evil genius of Turkey; for it was owing to the unscrupulous ambition, the jealousy of all rivals, and the overwhelming influence which this thoroughly dishonest man exercised over the mind of his Majesty, that the latter refused to listen to the counsels of wise and patriotic advisers, distrusted all officers, naval or military, in his employ, and confided the fate of his army to such unmitigated scoundrels as Seliman Pasha, Eyor Pasha, and others. Such a man, universally mistrusted and detested by all the better sort of Turks, needed some instrument as thoroughly unscrupulous as himself, and willing to do the dirty work which formed the staple of his political occupation. Such an instrument he found in Said Pasha, and as the use the latter could be turned to was augmented just in the degree in which he was advanced in influence and position, the Sultan was induced, by the advice of his brother-in-law, to promote him with great rapidity." After the treaty of San Stefano the Sultan, in a violent reaction of rage, sent Mahmoud Damad into exile, from which he has never been allowed to return. Said saw the storm coming; prudently turned traitor, denounced his former patron, and was finally made Cabinet Minister. Here are first impressions. "As a rule a Turkish Cabinet Minister is cold, haughty, dignified and reserved, but Said Pasha was exactly the reverse of all this. Instead of a burly man, sitting on a divan, with one leg tucked under him, imperturbably smoking a cigarette, after the manner of a conventional Ottoman functionary, I saw a Parisian looking little creature trot into the room—a creature with a restless, furtive eye, and a quick, uneasy manner, in which extreme cunning seemed blended in equal proportions with abject servility. Had I been the representative of a great power, he could not have been more overwhelmingly civil, or more profoundly distrustful of my intentions. But I no sooner entered into conversation with him than I was struck with the extraordinary intelligence which his ferret-like features displayed. He is a very minute man, with a stoop, and a remarkably soft, gentle voice. He manages after a time to make you forget your first mistrust, and reproach yourself for having done him an injustice. It is only after the wearisome experience of months that you discover he has been from that first interview your bitterest enemy; that the salient points which he took care to dwell upon in your conversation as more particularly meritorious are precisely those which he has specially denounced, and that his only object in keeping you on the most friendly and confidential terms has been to find out new ways of betraying your confidence. When he discovers that you have found him out he becomes invisible; and, as by this time most people have found him out, he sees scarcely any one. When he first became Prime Minister in October, last year, his oily and engaging manner, and his earnest professions of good faith, deluded most of the diplomatic representatives at Constantinople, but one by one they remarked his treachery, and finally, on the arrival of Mr. Goschen, and at the instance of the latter—for he had been forewarned what manner of man Said was—the Sultan dismissed him."

But Said was too clever to be got rid of in this way. He was friends with all the eunuchs, pipe bearers, mollahs, and other riff raff of the palace, and through their influence managed to retain nearly all his old authority. The Sultan, tired of keeping up appearances, at length dismissed Kadei, and restored Said. This was a direct snub to the English Government at the very moment when their naval demonstration had reached its culminating point. The views of this

correspondent on the future prospects of affairs in the East are worthy of attention.

"What Said will do now that he is again responsible in the eyes of Europe, remains to be seen. What particular bait he will dangle before the powers, what apple of discord he will throw among them, what new and unexpected device he will hit upon to ward off the impending catastrophe, it is impossible to conjecture. He has proved himself more than a match for such distinguished and tried statesmen as Khairaddin Pasha and Mahmoud Nedim Pasha, both of them ex-Grand Viziers, with far more real statesmanship than this pliable adventurer. It is possible he may still pilot Turkey through the storm; but on the face of it his reappearance augurs badly for the success of Mr. Gladstone's policy, for there cannot be a question that Said Pasha is the personification of that passive resistance and that determined hostility to the foreigner which are especially acceptable to the Sultan. He is opposed to all internal reform, for he depends for support on those who fatten by abuses, and, being utterly destitute of anything like a sentiment of patriotism, he would unhesitatingly wreck the ship of State if he thought that the advice that would save it, might be unpalatable to the Sultan, and therefore wreck Said Pasha.

This has always been the trouble. No one dares to tell the Sultan the facts. Honest men who endeavour to open his eyes to the dangers by which he is surrounded, and give him advice which is unpalatable, because it implies concession to the foreigners and the introduction of reforms by which his own power would be limited, he distrusts, and finally gets rid of; and there are always to be found plenty of self-seekers who see that the royal road to favour is by confirming him in all his prejudices, exciting his suspicions against the men they fear because they are honest, while they encourage him in his belief that the only true policy is one of determined obstinacy and defiance in so far as the European powers are concerned.

Hence it is that the calculations of those powers are always wrong. Knowing the true state of the case, they suppose that the Sultan knows it too, and they cannot understand an infatuation which impels him to his own destruction. This has been the secret of his passive obstructiveness. The explanation of the recall of Said Pasha to power is that the Sultan wishes to be strengthened in his attitude of resistance, and to believe that the danger is not so great as it is represented to be. Said is quite ready, for his own purposes, to confirm his Majesty in this view, and to give him the advice which he thinks will be most agreeable to him, perfectly regardless whether it is the best under the circumstances.

The Raising of the Tay Bridge Girders.

The work of raising the debris of the Tay Bridge from the bed of the river is now completed. About 6000 tons of iron have been recovered and loaded at Broughty Ferry and Tayport, at a cost, it is reported, of about £10,000 or £12,000. A considerable proportion of this expenditure will be met by the amount derived from the sale of the iron. In each of the twelve fallen piers there were forty-two pillars, making a total of 504, and the actual number recovered is 510, the half-dozen extra columns being those which fell along with the two girders which were blown down during the construction of the bridge. Portions of those two girders, to the weight of about 150 tons, which had been left in the bed of the river, have also been raised. The work of lifting the material was begun at the end of February, and has been continued until the present time. During the spring, however, the work was greatly retarded by reason of the weather, and the actual working time has been only about four months. Mr. Armit, who superintended the work on behalf of Mr. Waddell, the contractor, deserves praise for the vigour with which he has pushed on the operations; and the fact that the work, which was necessarily of a very hazardous character, has been successfully accomplished without accident, is due in great measure to the care which he exercised for the safety of the men under his charge.

Messrs. McAllister & McLean have sold their Pettawawa limits to James McLean & Co. The figure received, we believe, was something over \$150,000, a very handsome and no doubt satisfactory one to the sellers, who purchased the same limits something over a year ago for only 40,000. This sale demonstrates better than anything we have yet heard how the lumber trade is "booming."—Pembroke Observer.

Gored by an Angry Bull.

FARMER JOHN MURRAY'S BATTLE FOR LIFE IN HIS STABLE—THE GROANS THAT CALLED MRS. MURRAY TO THE RESCUE OF HER HUSBAND.

John Murray is a farmer living in Walker avenue, near Grand Avenue, Greenville, N. J. His two story-house stands in the avenue, and behind it he pastures his cattle. The animals are housed at night in small sheds, one story in height, in the rear of his house. In his herd is a young short-horn bull. The bull is a wiry animal, but has heretofore never shown an ugly disposition. On Wednesday evening Mr. Murray went out of the house, saying to his wife that he had forgotten to give the animals a drink of water all round. He would do it before he went to bed. He had not been gone long before Mrs. Murray heard groans from the direction of the barn. She ran out of doors and called her husband's name. There was no reply, except another groan, that unmistakably came from the barn. Mrs. Murray hastened to the barn, and as she approached the bull bounded out of the stable and ran into the open lot. She found Mr. Murray lying on the stable floor, with his left hand upon a wound in his left side. He had been pierced by the horns of the bull so that part of his intestines protruded. Mrs. Murray called for help, and her sons came and aided her to carry Mr. Murray to the house. Dr. Wilkeson of Bergen avenue was summoned, and the wound was sewed up. He says that three days at least must elapse before he can announce positively whether Mr. Murray is out of danger.

Mr. Murray was seen yesterday by a reporter for the Sun. His bed was surrounded by sympathizing neighbours. He is in the prime of life, and if an active life and a hardy constitution can avail he seems pretty sure to recover. He willingly related the story of the struggle he had with the bull. He said: "The bull is a young fellow and a smart one, too, but I never knew him to be ugly before. He seemed to be as gentle as a cow. It was my custom to tie him by a rope; one end of the rope was around his horns and the other end was fastened to the manger. When I went into the stable I untied the rope; and led him out peacefully enough. When I attempted to lead him back he hung back and yanked at the rope viciously. I pulled at the rope and threatened and coaxed the bull by turns, and at last got him inside of the stable. When I had got him inside of the stable I was sure that he was in my power, and as he gave a lunge for the door I twitched the rope around his horns as sharply as I could. This seemed to make him mad. He made a dive at me and I jumped to one side. Then I saw that I had my hands full. By this time I was pretty mad myself. So I gave the rope another yank and yelled to the bull to behave himself. I thought that I could frighten him. But the next thing I knew he had pinned me to the side of the stable with his horns. I couldn't catch my breath. His horns were small and sharp, and he jabbed at me viciously. I couldn't get hold of his horns, and there was no weapon within reach. My back was against the stable and his horns were against my abdomen. When he knew that he had me he just lifted his head up and pushed, and I could feel the flesh tear. Then the bull relaxed his hold and I dropped. Again he came for me and began to gore and toss me. I made a great outcry and he darted out of the door. Then my wife came to my aid.

Whipping for Certain Kinds of Criminals.

(From the Journal of Commerce.)

On the 15th ult. one of the most brazen-faced ruffians who ever stood up in a British court suddenly wilted and uttered a scream on hearing the terms of the Judge's sentence, and was taken away in a fainting condition. He had no defence. The evidence against him was conclusive. He was sure of conviction and of a severe sentence, and he knew it. But he was not prepared for one part of the punishment prescribed by Mr. Justice Stephens. He screamed and almost fainted, not in view of the twenty years of penal servitude but because the Judge ordered, as a fitting prologue, thirty lashes from a cat-o'-nine tails. This man had robbed and attempted to murder by drugging, and then throwing from a railway carriage, a travelling companion, in whose confidence he had artfully ingratiated himself. It would have ended in murder but for the inability of the assassin to eject his vic-

tim from the car before the train stopped. The ruffian then escaped with his booty, but was followed by the half-stupefied, badly injured man, who staggered on the platform and gave an alarm which led to the capture of his assailant. This strange affair took place in a car (of the London underground line), of which the two men were the only occupants. Mr. Justice Stephens, in passing sentence, said it was "the most cowardly and brutal outrage that had ever been brought under his notice." He marked his sense of horror, as well as made the sentence a wholesome caution to all other like-minded desperadoes, by prefixing the thirty lashes to the twenty years' imprisonment. The prisoner would not have flinched from the incarceration, but he winced terribly under the judgment of the cat, as if he already felt her nine tails raising wales on his bare back.

It is the uniform experience of British Judges that corporal punishment is the most certain known deterrent of cowardly and brutal offences. When any peculiarly shocking crime against the person begins to become common in England, the Judges always check it by ordering a dose of the cat, well laid on, in addition to a long term of imprisonment with hard labour. This is the best known preventive of outrages on women and children. It is the only thing that has put a stop to garrotting. Its success is so marked in the declining frequency of cruel and malicious assaults upon the person in England that the British public almost unanimously approve of it. Only a little minority of those philanthropists whose sympathies for criminals rise in exact proportion to the diabolism of their proteges, continue to protest against the lash as a remedial agent of society. While that agent does so manifestly good a work in England, it will be judiciously conserved there. The theoretical opposition to it in the United States is widespread and intense, as any man finds out to his cost who proposes to reintroduce it in our judicial system. But now and then thinking Americans will brave the consequences, and ask themselves and their neighbours if corporal chastisement, so common among our ancestors as a penalty for minor violations of law, might not be revived, with signal advantage to society, for the punishment of certain specially atrocious crimes.

GENERAL.

ALL reports from France and Italy agree that the silk crop in those countries will be more abundant this season than for the past ten years. Advices from different districts in Japan, announces that only about four hundred and fifth thousand cartons will be manufactured this year, and, as a considerable quantity will be required for home use, it is expected that the cards available for exportation will realize very remunerative prices.

At the sale of a herd of a noble stock owner in England, the other day, two young bull calves of the purest bred short-horned family to be found in Britain, and with a pedigree back to the fifteenth generation, were sold to the owner of a Californian ranch for 800 guineas apiece. The owner had his costly purchases conveyed to town in a special wagon, and then had their lives insured at a high premium before starting them on their long westward journey.

A HUGOIST sketch: He was a newspaper man. He carried a big club in his hand. He walked firmly and determinedly up stairs to the composing room. He had a bad look in his eye. He walked straight up to where the intelligent compositor was eagerly butchering manuscript. He raised his club on high and felled the i. o. to the floor. He clubbed the i. o. into a jelly. He was arrested and tried for murder. He asked for a jury of newspaper men and got it. The jury, without leaving their seats, brought in a verdict of justifiable homicide. Solid.

No Christian grace is likely to be called in to play more frequently than that of Mutual forbearance. If we resent every apparent injustice, demand the avenging of every little wrong, and if all the other persons in the circle of our acquaintance claim the same privilege, what miserable beings we shall be! We need to guard against a critical spirit. Some people carry a microscope fine enough to reveal a million of animalcules in a drop of water, and with these can find countless blemishes in the character and conduct even of the most saintly dwellers on earth. Bear and forbear is a good rule for all.