

gardens with trees, which relieve the sombre colour of the buildings, and the sameness produced by a succession of flat terraces.

"The population is estimated at an extravagant rate by the people of the country; but it may be safely asserted, that at the present moment there are about fifty thousand inhabitants. The great mass of these are Turks, as soldiers, government-officers, merchants, and mechanics. Besides these, the Armenians, who, next to the Turks, are the most numerous, are thought to have a thousand families. The Arab, Turkish, and Armenian followers of the Catholic communion, have five hundred families. The Syrian sect includes at least four hundred families. The Greeks, who are the least numerous among the Christians here, have about fifty. But the Jews have of late so rapidly declined, by emigration to Bagdad, Aleppo, and Constantinople, that there are now not more than a dozen houses of them left.

"There are fifteen mosques with minarets, nine of these having circular shafts and galleries in the Mohammedan style, and the remaining six having square towers, after the manner of Christian churches, which it is generally thought these edifices once were. There are five other mosques, with cupolas only, and several smaller ones without any distinguishing mark. Of the Christian churches, the Armenians have two, one of which is large and richly decorated, while the other is smaller, but more tastefully adorned. The Catholics have a church, and a convent attached to it, in which two Italian Capuchins live with their usual dependents. The Syrians and the Greeks have also a place of worship each, and the few Jews have a small synagogue for their service.

"There are more than twenty baths in the town, and about fifteen khans or caravanserais, one of which

is particularly fine, and superior to any of those at Orfah. In its lower court, the corn-market is usually held. The magazines, within the piazza which runs round this, are generally filled with goods. In the upper galleries are carried on several trades and manufactures, and the rooms around form temporary lodgings. The bazars are not so regularly laid out, or so well covered in, as in the large towns of Turkey generally. They are narrow, often crooked, and mostly roofed over with wood. They are, however, well supplied with goods, and thronged with people. The manufactures of the town are chiefly silk and cotton stuffs, similar to those made at Damascus; printed muslin shawls and handkerchiefs, leather of all colours, smith's work in hardware, and pipes for smoking, covered with muslin, and embroidered with gold and silver thread.

"Among the minarets of the mosques, we noticed some that were highly sculptured, and in several of the square towers were intermediate layers of burned bricks, mixed with stone work, after the manner of the Roman towers in the walls at Antioch, and quite as well executed as the buildings there. Amid the ruins of the castle too, we had seen some fine arches of highly burned bricks, which, from their form, as well as material, looked more like Roman than Saracenic work. In the bazars and baths, however, there are portions of brick work of a similar kind, which are decidedly Mohammedan, as well as the mixture of basalt and limestone in layers of black and white, in the khans and other large buildings; while, among the broken columns of black basalt, which are seen scattered in different quarters of the town, there are several Ionic capitals, which can leave no doubt of their being of Greek origin."—*Lady's Magazine*.