

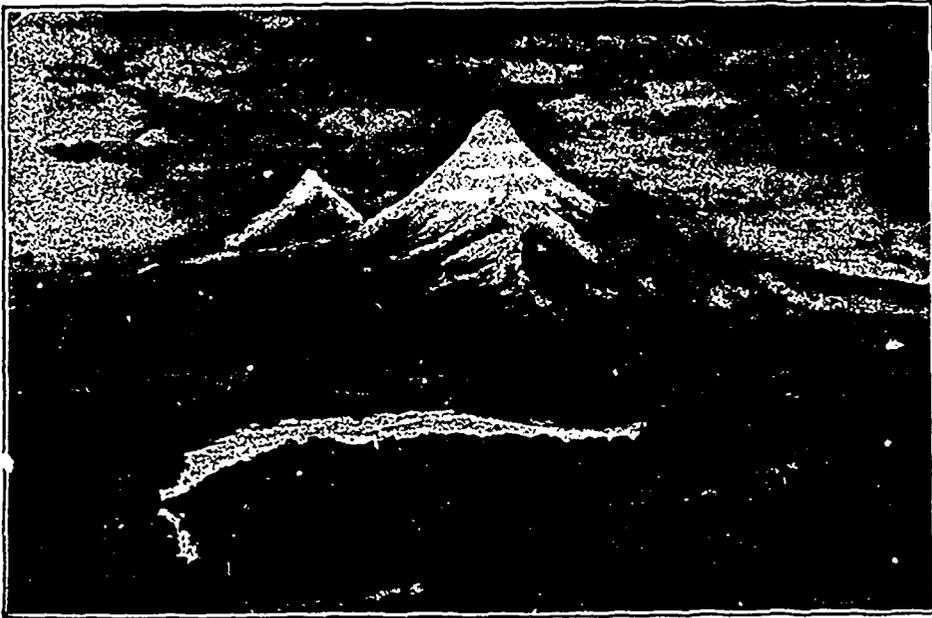
never devoid of interest and not infrequently it was attended with real danger. "Sometimes we were climbing steeps that seemed almost perpendicular, and we wondered how the horses or the men ever managed to cling to the sides. How often I would shut my eyes as one man led the mule and two went behind to steady the *moffa*, or carriage upon the mule's back in which the traveller rides, as we passed over the sides of the mountain on what was little better than a sheep path, where one misstep of the mule might send us hundreds of feet down the precipice into a roaring torrent. Such journeying is not the most healthful for nervous women, but I think no people learn so thoroughly to trust God as the missionaries, and He has kept His promise to them, often in a most wonderful way."

Soon the missionaries were located in their

honored), or the one who enters first is motioned to the upper right-hand corner of the divan where there are extra cushions. The next most honorable person is assigned to the left-hand corner, which also has extra cushions.

"As you must curl your feet up under you on these cushions, you are expected to leave your outside shoes at the entrance before you step upon the raised, carpeted floor.

"In most of the houses the reception room has a divan on three sides of the room and no chairs are needed. This arrangement is now giving way to a divan on two sides, and on the third, a table and chairs. When you are seated, the hostess kisses your hand and bids you welcome. If the host is present he touches his forehead and bids you a thousand welcomes, and asks you if you are comfortable, to which you reply, 'Thank



MOUNT ARARAT.

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home in Harpoot, called by the people the "Prote Konak," the language was commenced, and acquaintance with the people begun. Some of the customs of the Armenians described by Mrs. Wheeler are interesting and even beautiful. "The manner in which they receive you into their homes is more graceful than ours. You are greeted at the door with '*Paree yegar*,' 'You come in peace.' Then as you enter the reception room they say, '*Hrametsek*,'—which surpasses in meaning any one word which we have, but which gives you the right to the place as you give the right of the city to a distinguished guest. Finally you are motioned to a seat of honor, and, as there are degrees of honor, the person they esteem most honorable (age is always

you, I am very comfortable.' Then all the other members of the family salute you silently by touching your hand to their lips and foreheads, to which you reply by saying, '*Abrees*,' 'May you live,' or '*Shad abrees*,' 'May you live long.' When these greetings are over, the younger members of the family leave the room or stand with folded hands near the place where you left your shoes, and this means, 'I am at your service.'

"The host and the hostess sit down on the divan below you and say politely, lifting the hand to the forehead again, 'You come in peace.' You reply, 'I see you in peace.' The younger members help to entertain you by bringing in sherbet or coffee and often some kind of sweetmeat; or