

because of treaties made with European nations, foreigners are more highly favoured than the natives of the country. They are secured against arrests, and the entrance into their homes of any civil officer unless he be accompanied by the consul, by whom also they may claim the right to be tried in all cases of law. The importance of this privilege can be fully estimated only by those who know the constant annoyance to which natives are subjected by groundless trials and domiciliary visits in which boorish officers may insult the household and damage the owner's property without fear of punishment. An accused party may select to be tried according to either the Mohammedan or the French code. In 1839, in order to put an end to secret executions, it was decreed that, "in future the cause of every accused party will be tried publicly, and until a regular sentence has been pronounced, no one can put another to death, secretly or publicly, by poison or any other means." The oft repeated statement that Turkey is governed according to the Koran, is misleading. Only a small part of the Koran can be construed into law, and still less of it can be made to apply to the present time. The Mohammedan code, framed in the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent, (1520-1566) was gathered from the Koran, the life of the prophet, early traditions and commentaries. This work is said to consist of fifty-five books, and to contain religious, civil, criminal, moral, political, military, judiciary, fiscal, sumptuary, and agrarian codes. The defects so often charged to the Turkish government are due, not so much to the laws which in the main are just, but rather to frequent failures in enforcing these. Bribery, corruption and extortion prevail to such an extent as to bring within sight the complete demoralization and decay of the Empire. The elements of destruction developed and harboured within itself, have so far accomplished their work as to make the question of 'who shall divide the spoil,' the subject of greatest international interest relative to Turkey.

*Tarsus, Turkey.*

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*(To be Continued.)*