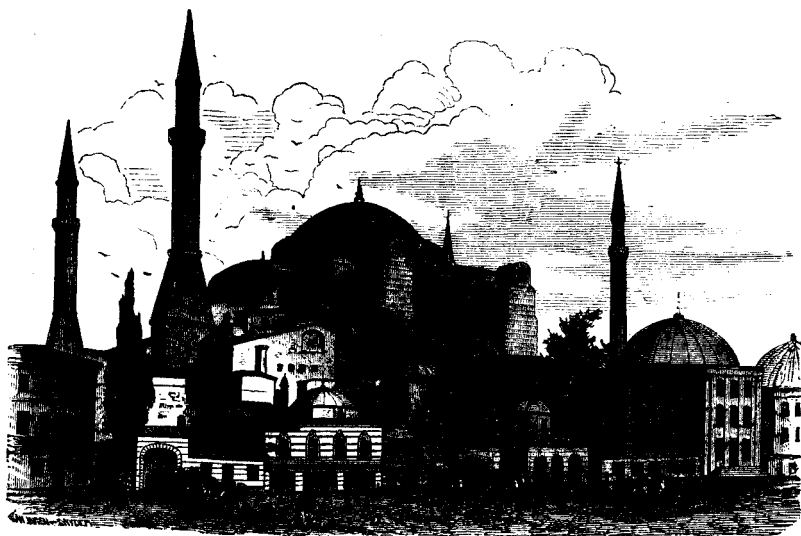


the Bosphorus empties into the Marmora ; in a deep bay on the Asiatic shore opposite are the islands of Prinkipo, Prote and several others ; and on the mainland the view is bounded by the snow-capped mountains of Olympus. On the right side is the Sea of Marmora. To the left, as



MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA.

far as you can see, the Bosphorus stretches away toward the Black Sea, its shores dotted with towns, cemeteries and palaces ; on the extreme left the Golden Horn winds between the cities of Stamboul and Pera ; while behind you is St. Sophia and the city of Stamboul. It is a magnificent view, never to be forgotten. There are several other pavillions near the one just described. A small one in the Chinese style, with piazza around it, has the outer wall covered with blue and white tiles, and inside blinds inlaid with mother of pearl. The floor was matted, and the divans were of white silk embroidered with gilt thread and crimson and green floss. A third pavillion was a library.

From the Seraglio we drove to St. Sophia. Stamboul can boast of one fine street, and a few others that are wide enough for carriages. When the government desire to widen a street a convenient fire generally occurs. At the time they proposed to enlarge this, the principal street, it is said the fire broke out simultaneously at many points along the line. As the houses are generally of wood, they burn quickly, and a fire is not easily extinguished by their inefficient fire department. Then the government seizes the necessary ground and widens the street, the owners never receiving any indemnification for their losses. I need not attempt a minute description of St. Sophia. We took the precaution to