

with permission of the Imperial Council of Public Instruction.' " Then we said, " Well, we will accept this condition." It was significant that these astute diplomats and politicians of the Turkish empire should not have discovered that any book with the imperial imprint on it goes at once and freely into the hands of every Turk all the way from the northern to the southern and from the eastern to the western part of the empire. The result has been, that ten thousand copies of portions of the Bible that were printed while the revision was going on have gone into the hands of the Mohammedans. They have been reading them and comparing them in public and private with the utmost freedom and fearlessness. No harm can come to them by reading a book that has the imperial imprint on it. So that the Turkish government has constituted itself one of the most prominent dispensers of the word of God.

Another fact is that which is already known to you all, viz., that through the events of the late war, and of those various movements which preceded the war, God has brought greater liberty into Turkey. He has shown in a most marked manner, by wonderful illustrations, over and over again, how the " heart of the king is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water, and he turneth it whithersoever he will." Just those results least expected, and at times when least expected, have transpired, so that by them greater liberty has been introduced. The influence of liberal and enlightened England has gained the ascendant, and the result is, no Turkish minister can now any longer say that, " My august master will not permit the powers of Europe "—" my august master " has had to permit the powers of Europe to do a great many things within the last few years that he did not like to permit. Do you suppose that he will be able to oppose the arm of God in the Turkish empire?

Then those very sufferings through which the people have been carried—of famine and of war—have been used as the very agencies and avenues by which to introduce the Gospel of Christ. God has made use of the black-visaged angels, famine, war and pestilence, to do what no influences of ours could ever do, viz., to break down right before our eyes those high, strong walls of prejudice which have for centuries separated the Mohammedan from the Christian races. There are hundreds of thousands of Turks to-day scattered all over Turkey, who cherish the memory of the kindness experienced in time of famine and in times of war from Protestant Christian hands. When the war closed the Turkish population of the Balkan range and of the plains below, and of the valley of the Danube, flocked panic-stricken to the seaboard, by railway trains, on wagons, on horseback, on foot, all intent on the one thought of finding safety at the capital, of escaping the vengeance of the pursuing conqueror. Many hundreds died with cold and hunger on the way, and thousands perished by disease in those mosques and overcrowded refuges opened by foreign charity at the capital. Piteous, indeed, were those faces of these poor people, huddled together in low, dark rooms under the mosques—piteous in the expression of utter and blank despair, as they sat sick in body and sick at heart, by their dying and their dead. They soon learned whose hands administered the aid that saved their lives. Often and often did they say, " These people are better Musselmans than we." God has been using these agencies to open up the hearts of the Turkish population to the reception of the Gospel all over the land. Now that the word of God is put into their hands they take it and read it. Already despairing of their own future in church and state, they look over to Christian Europe and America, and they are quick to discern that it is the Protestant Christian races of the earth that have the greatest power and influence; and the Oriental always connects religious faith with the temporal prosperity of a people. Hence it is a natural thing for him to take up the Bible to see if he can there find any reasons why these Protestant Christian nations are more prosperous than any others.

For the regeneration of Turkey we trust to these moral influences. What-