

THE METHODIST MAGAZINE.

AUGUST, 1895.

IN THE LEVANT.

BY THE EDITOR.

SMYRNA TO CONSTANTINOPLE.



SMYRNA AND MOUNT PAGUS.

EARLY on Saturday morning our good ship glided into the magnificent harbour of Smyrna, the largest and most important city of Asia Minor. It occupies a most magnificent position, backed by an amphitheatre of mountains, its fertile plain covered with richest foliage. Its crowded shipping and splendid quay give the city quite a European character; but as we penetrate its interior and visit its suburbs, it becomes strikingly Oriental. Not at either Cairo or Constantinople is such a variety

of tongues spoken; no less than seventeen different languages are in use. I saw signs in Turkish, Armenian, Hebrew, French, Italian and English. The commerce of Smyrna is very extensive, chiefly cotton, figs and other fruit, silk, opium, liquors, sponges, Turkey carpets and rugs, leeches and attar of roses.

We visited the quaint Cathedral of St. Photinus, and the Armenian church, where the strange service of that ancient sect was in progress. The spacious church was situated in