

twice referred to my compass, which I carried in a noticeable position.

At sunrise the view of Lake Gotchka burst upon us as we gradually descended towards it, and the Turks in ecstasies shouted out "Therapia, Therapia," declaring it resembled the Bosphorus; like the ten thousand Greeks when they shouted "Thalassa" at sight of the ocean after their retreat from Persia. This large and noble-looking sheet of water abounds with trout. One of apparently ten pounds' weight was brought to us at the village of Elenofka for sale, thickly spotted with black markings. Half a mile from shore, upon a small island, stands the monastery of Sevan, where quarters can be obtained. The houses, as one travels south and approaches Persia, have more of mud and less of stone in their construction, till at length one finds them built entirely of the former. The numbers of tame geese here was perfectly enormous, tens of thousands of these birds were to be seen along the shore of the lake. I was now in Armenia.

Erivan, the capital of Armenia, was four stages distant, the three intervening stations being named Nijni Akty, Suhaya Fontanka, and Eiljarskaya. Chiefly noticeable, as we proceeded, was the splendid military road the Russians are making to the Persian frontier. The whole of the inhabitants of the surrounding country seemed to have been collected together for the purpose of breaking stones, heaps of which, carefully measured, lay alongside the track for miles and miles. I noticed also that when piling