

PRESERVATION OF PROTESTANTS IN THE WAR
DISTRICTS OF TURKEY.

The safety of mission helpers and other Protestants who were supposed to have perished when Eski Zagra was destroyed, has been confirmed, and has occasioned great joy to the Christians of Constantinople.

Mr. Dwight says:—"I presume you have heard of the safety of the Merichleri Protestants and of the Eski Zagra preacher. All these were accounted slain, but God has kept them for other work. I doubt not they will find plenty to do among the thousands of refugees within the Russian lines. The teacher of the Samakov girl's school, Stomata, has also reported herself safe and well at Sistov. There has been a special Providence to watch over the Protestant Christians in this country."

Mr. Pierce says that the Koords destroyed all the villages on the Alashgerd plain but two, and *those two were largely Protestant*. The Lord has marvellously saved Bulgarian Protestants from death this year. The Adrianople preacher writes that a Bulgarian brother in that city was arrested, at the instance of some Turks who live near his home, at the foot of the Balkans. The Turks testified that they had seen this man with arms in his hands ranging the country. But the Turkish captain of the guard at Adrianople, to whom the man was brought, learned who he was, and replied, "Your story cannot be true. There is a mistake somewhere. This man hasn't done any wrong—he is a Protestant!" and the brother was released at once.

A Samakov boy, who had been out selling books, was stopped in a Turkish village and carried before the authorities, who found out that he was a Protestant, and let him go, saying that "he was all right." The by-standers remarked, that "probably many Bulgarians would become Protestants, so as to escape arrest!"

The Turks have an impression that the Protestants are good people. This probably accounts for the escapes of some of them.

Mr. House tells an amusing story of a Bulgarian Protestant from Samakov, who was going over the mountains in company with a Moslem neighbor, and was talking with him of religion. The Turk was interested in what he said, and an idea suddenly struck him. "Have any Moslems become Protestants?" he asked. "Yes," said the Bulgarian. "Then stop talking to me of your religion, or I'll have to become a Protestant too," said the Turk. "Stop, I tell you. I shall have to kill you, if you don't stop talking!"