

FREEMASONRY IN TURKEY.

In Constantinople there are two English lodges and one Irish lodge—the Oriental, which is the mother lodge of Freemasonry in that capital; the Bulwer, founded by the famous diplomatist; and the Leinster. Until within a few years past there was also a Scotch lodge, the Caledonian; but, owing to certain administrative measures adopted by the Turkish Admiralty, the British colony was so thinned out that that lodge had to amalgamate with the Irish lodge.

At the last meeting of the Bulwer Lodge, held on the 19th ult., Bro. Otto Dingler was unanimously elected as W. M. for the ensuing year, in place of the W. M., Bro. B. H. Hanly. The lodge being closed the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

The W. M., Bro. B. H. Hanly, in proposing the toast of "The Sultan," remarked upon the great administrative capacity, love of work, and the marvellous tact which distinguished the Sultan. But his Imperial Majesty had a far higher title to the admiration of Freemasons, for his Majesty had constantly—and more especially recently, in the matter of the earthquake at Tchesmeh—given proofs that he had at heart the fundamental principle of Freemasonry—Charity. Political questions being interdicted in a meeting of English Masons, he could not go into particulars as to his Majesty's diplomatic qualities, but perhaps the brethren present would allow him to remark that the promotion of W. Bro. Woods Pasha—(loud applause)—proved that the sympathy which existed between Turkey and England at the time of the Crimean War still existed. That promotion occurred at a time when Englishmen had commenced to entertain some doubts on the subject, and it had dissipated those doubts not only in Constantinople, but elsewhere. The honor conferred upon Woods Pasha, however, had been well earned by many years of loyal service. (Ap-

plause.) Therefore, in proposing the toast of the Sultan the W. M. called upon Bro. Woods Pasha to respond.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

W. Bro. Woods Pasha replied said that he was not only surprised but overwhelmed by the honor which had been conferred upon him. He could, however, say from his own personal experience, for since his promotion he had had the privilege of having interviews with his Imperial Majesty, that what Bro. Hanly had said about the Sultan's personal qualities was true. He could also add that what had struck him most was the charming affability of the Sultan and his marvellous knowledge of details on technical questions. He was sure that the only wish of his Majesty was that his people, without distinction of race or religion, should be prosperous. He felt also sure that his Imperial Majesty would be pleased to hear that the brethren of the Bulwer Lodge, comprising as it did so many different nationalities—he could count nine amongst those present—had drunk to his health so sincerely and so enthusiastically. He thanked the brethren, as an officer in the service of the Turkish Government, for the toast which they had just drunk, and in conclusion he thanked the W. M. for the signal honor he had done him in calling upon him to respond to such a toast and for the fraternal remarks he had made about him. This speech was loudly applauded, and after the usual toasts the brethren separated, thoroughly satisfied with their evening's entertainment.

There are 15,000 Masons in Georgia. Now, isn't it just possible that the startling spectacle of a column of men in high hats and embroidered bibs, marching down the street in broad daylight, carrying clothes-props and map-rollers, has given also rise to the rumors of a revival of the Ku-Klux organization?—*New York Dispatch.*