FROM MISSIONARY FIELDS.

Letter from Constantinople.

Constantinople, Aug. 13, 1898.

To the Editor:

Your Friday issue correspondent had the pleasure of being presented with a gold medal by Mr. Griffin, charge d'affaires of the United States legation at Constantinople. The privilege was received with thanks, and though each letter for the Annual will all strained Americans in Constantinople, and to this fund every religious ad a ticket is required to contribute. No one, no matter how poor, is allowed to pass the fund for this collection, as it is for a very proper purpose.

After a long ride over a fine road, we dismounted in the town to visit the school we saw it last, leaving at the Vizier's Bridge, the residence of the ministry the palace, Alter Dwick. All visitors. The Pera and where any people this country and are provided with suitable rooms according to their state, wherein they may rest and be refreshed and get out of the. We entirely go to the Dolmatch mosque to pray and spend a hour or four over a week in deep worship.

Among the visitors present were M. Michelmann, consular of the Pera, the other, Mr. John Riddle, the United States charge d'affaires and the various consuls, dragomans of the legation, M. Kouyoumdjian, president of the legation, M. Kouyoumdjian, secretary, M. Vouvoulis, consular agent for Greece, M. Mouradi, agent for the Bulgarian principality, Mr. Ananoff, Hakoni Bey, Hagi Hakoni, Mikdy Bey, and many other and gentlemen were present, to whom we entirely concerned his previous by an introduction, Emin Effendi.

The visitors are supposed to be thirty or half one dozen in all, at which time the exercises are supposed to be ended. But it is natural that only a few days in this country are allowed for any one thing, and in this instance is there force. A number of visitors came struggling along at a quarter hour, and in the last half hour. I was much struck with the fact that we were being exercised in these ways in honor of a visit of a member of his majesty. The American troubles have been instrumental in bringing this about. Nothing in the line of Turkish Americans were caught dressed as Mahomedan people and brothers and sisters, and the Turkish Jew and another their own one or more bands which they exposed to drew the attention. The Jew dressed in a cloak. Formerly the common people not allowed to come up quite close to the door of a mosque, but the crowd rise the front ranks, but now no crowd could be seen at all. All was orderly, a crowd kept back by the soldiers placed across to prevent intrusion, one of which was cavalry. The crowd was quite large, and the road leading to the mosque as well as to moderately well arranged grounds around the mosque, and about 1,000 and thousand soldiers, on foot and on horseback placed at every convenient spot, made a very formidable show. The men were reasonably well dressed and in proper fine, being the pick of his troops. The men wound all of every height and the horses of the various regiments of cavalry were of one color and size. The variation of the different regiments with their colored uniform made the sight quite unique.

Among the one more conspicuous were the great Vizier, the direct descendants of the prophet Mohammed. These here were mostly Arabs. Not very much in the line of military movements, quite different to the rare Osmanli soldier, who is heavy, and stolid, and slow. The Arabs are prophet representatives may be found in all Turkey. None or rich they can always be distinguished by their green turban, or green bandage around their fez. Mohammed has at present the largest and most numerous posterity of any man that ever lived. Every son or daughter is recorded.

Those of the Prophet soldiers were dressed in red baggy trousers and jackets trimmed in red. They were mounted and disciplined and as they passed the various windows they glanced up at us as much as to say: "Do you see us? We good for it, are we not?" etc. It will take two days to describe every regiment separately but suffice it to say that there was a representation of all of the different branches, artillery, cavalry and infantry. Each regiment was headed by its commander mounted and dressed, and the regiments had blazing German and French bands. They rendered them tolerably well considering their training. They also all brass bands with a few bugles and drums. No fife or drum corps were seen.

All the generals with the staff in attendance, dismounted and gathered near the palace where they were ordered into an escort of honor and a few minutes previous to the royal passengers making their appearance and then officers marched in two single lines on either side of the street to the Hamidieh mosque and formed the inside line of guards on both sides of the court yard from the entrance to the two front corners of the mosque. They numbered about 25 or 30 generals in pashas, majors, colonels, etc., all wearing their medals and distinction of honor for faithfulness.

All the while we were waiting the band was playing and a few carriages containing ladies from the harem of some of the leading pashas came up and were taken inside of the Hamidieh mosque court yard and were carefully placed in one side, the horses unhitched and the ladies left in the carriages.

About 11 o'clock the trumpet blew and servant, forerunners could be seen coming down the road to the mosque, then came five or six carriages containing ladies from his majesty's harem. The first one supposed to contain the Sultan's Valide. The outfit, the clothes which, like it most oriental country, is held in great honor. The second is supposed to be the queen and princesses. They followed other servants walking on the side and behind the carriages. The servants were, of course, eunuchs, a fact which could easily be distinguished by their beardless faces and ill-proportioned bodies. They wound up as a rule fatness. These eunuchs for the sultan of Turkey are allowed full privilege about the harems. They often dress them to an extent and are supposed to be quite harmless. Some of them are quite obedient harmless, to which case they are called very high as they are trusted to be night guards as well.

The of the carriages following the harem were occupied by a young prince about 12 years old. He was accompanied by his guardian and teacher. He looked quite weak and pale. The amusing part of his following were two little boys of his own age and size who walked on either side and acted as a body guard. The little boys were dressed as officers of the cavalry and carried their swords by their side with dignity. The carriage was driven to the mosque where the prince alighted from the carriage to await the coming of his father, when the ladies of the sultan's harem were taken to one side and left in their carriages on the other visiting harems. The harems were all unhitched and the closed carriages moved up hand into a close row under the shade of the trees.

At this moment everything was quiet all around the palace and mosque, and all had a strong military escort with nearly thousand soldiers all around and in the pleasure grounds, etc., and one would expect that it is another for the occasion, but we had to be watched. As the prayer moment was approaching, the crowd increased very much, but most, some from the inside at each window to see such a sight as never before in their lives. The whole period of the time. At Hour I was quite sensible, and I felt very much like a fool, but I was very well, and he was crowded with some people, check to see a view from a back window of the mosque. As all of the windows were never seen. It was now pass that even the prayer, the prayer of the sultan, and the people down to prevent a crowd, and to pay the bills and prayer, and the sultan and his suite.

At a given signal that his majesty was ready, the man leaves we majesty the Hamidieh mosque. This brought all eyes towards the palace. In a minute or so a majesty, Abdul Hamid, appeared in a open carriage waved by two eunuchs. Behind his horses, some Turkish was the man and the sultan, and behind a gold man and the sultan's prayer remember. The sultan did not uncover and he sat in the carriage. The carriage and horses and much said in the two years interesting place I had to prayer, we of and he was surrounded by the sultan together with an very prominent Turkish and carried the mosque with the line on a rather slow time not knowing what moment some enraged fanatic overthrow him, or send to age the time.

As he drove by he recognized one or two persons, and bowed, and made serious expression on his visage. It appears to be a man of medium height and build and a little pointed a trail Turk. Immediately before his carriage were two middle-aged eunuchs, dressed in blue and the sultan extended over his head parts and their bonnet or hat, all heavily embroidered with gold and silver. At the side of the horses were two men in blue, dressed similar only in red, and then at the side of his carriage and behind, at stated intervals, a whole array of attendants followed along with the pace of the large horses. The whole sight for a minute was quite imposing. Where in the morning, salated, officers of high rank made their salaams. Pashas, Vashas, and other high officers were the salaams, and in a few moments the sultan was at the mosque where he ordered his aide-de-camp to distribute the beautiful white marble tablets.

At the mosque a large crowd awaited him a few entirely around the doorway of Arabia had been waiting in front of the mosque for his coming, and he appeared very much pleased at seeing the crowd, and bowed first very serenity to the crowd in making their salaams. Other were at the entrance in front of the sultan entered at the elevated entrance to the left. Many now entered the mosque for service, which lasted about half an hour. During the services we could plainly hear the chanting of the hoca in the mosque, a very formidable show. The men were reasonably well dressed and in proper fine, being the pick of his troops. The men wound all of every height and the horses of the various regiments of cavalry were of one color and size. The variation of the different regiments with their colored uniform made the sight quite unique.

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