

Office:  
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1755.

# The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## ABDUL HAMID PLEADS FOR LIFE.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

London, April 28.

The special correspondents of the London newspapers in Constantinople this morning send thrilling accounts of the scene which took place in the Yildiz palace when the Parliamentary deputation attended to inform Abdul Hamid of the people's decision. The great halls were at once cleared of all eunuchs, servants, women, and officials, and shortly afterwards Niuzzi Bey and another officer, accompanied by a dozen fierce-looking soldiers with loaded rifles and fixed bayonets, besides two Senators and two Deputies, forced their way into the Sultan's private apartments. The soldiers roughly laid hands upon the Sultan and brought him out to where the officers were waiting. When he set eyes upon the officials and Deputies standing impassively before him, Abdul Hamid's face assumed a pallid hue, perspiration stood upon his brow, and this man who for long years had been the all-powerful head of the Ottoman race, trembled as if seized with palsy. In a shaking voice he cried: "Why do you seek my life?" to which no answer was returned. Trembling in every limb, and searching each stern face for a sign of sympathy, he pleaded with his captors, evidently believing himself faced with imminent death. "Did I not bring about the war with Greece? Why do you now demand my life?" Still the same ominous silence from the officers and Deputies. "I have reigned for three and thirty years," stammered the wretched monarch, "and during that time I have never committed wrong; why, therefore, do you clamour for my blood?"

The bearers of the nation's message evidently thought the time had not arrived for an explanation, and they listened unmoved to the pleading of their lawful ruler. The Sultan's fearing eyes seemingly read in their solemn mien his impending fate, for, raising his hands in an attitude of supplication, he cried: "Only give me my life, and I will do everything you demand!" The representatives of the people remained silent and pitiless before the fallen tyrant. No longer able to stand, his trembling body sank upon a divan, he covered his face with his hands. Suddenly, springing to his feet in desperation, he cried: "Carry me and my family to the palace of Tcherigan; there was I born and there will I die!" The carriage stood waiting at the palace portal, and a few moments later the Sultan was bundled unceremoniously into the vehicle and was on his way to the palace, the people's prisoner,—so lately their despotic tyrant. On the way he continued to protest against his treatment, but finally sank into apathy. Arrived at the palace he was confined in a suite of apartments, over which a strong military guard was at once placed. The latest account says that Abdul Hamid is extremely depressed.

## NATIVE OUTBREAK NEAR ADEN.

Aden, April 28.

A party of the Warsangli tribe under the leadership of the Sultan's son has plundered twenty villages and killed many natives who were friendly to Great Britain.

## SERVIA AND BULGARIA.

Sofia, April 29.

The report published by the Belgrade journal *Zwono* of a pending meeting between the Kings of Servia and Bulgaria on the Servian frontier is a complete invention.

## THE NEW SULTAN'S MESSAGE. AN ENGLISH JOURNALIST'S FEAT.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

London, April 29.

Mr. M. H. Donohoe, the special correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* in Constantinople, has succeeded in interviewing the new Sultan Mohammed V. in the palace where for 33 years he was kept virtually a prisoner by his deposed brother. The correspondent is thus the first European to have held speech with the new monarch, and he forwards the following interesting account of the event to his journal.

Upon his commencing to address Mohammed V. as "Your Majesty," Reshad raised his hand and laughingly interposed with the words: "Not yet! As yet I am still only a Royal Highness!" He then clasped Mr. Donohoe cordially by the hand, and delivered the following statement: "I am delighted to see you. The English have always been my friends. They are the first Europeans to whom I have granted audience since being in this place, now more than 33 years. You are, moreover, the first correspondent whom I have ever received, and I thank you for your timely appearance. The moment is one of extreme importance for the whole Turkish nation. My enemies calumniated me; they said I was foolish, and kept me captive for many years. But in His grace and goodness Allah has decreed that I shall ultimately fulfil my destiny and reign over Islam. The press of the world has a high mission to carry out, particularly the English press. The man who carries a sword is mighty, but the man who wields the pen is mightiest of all."

## MOHAMMED'S FUTURE POLICY.

"I beg you to be the medium through which I may send a message to Europe and to the whole world, the first which I have sent from these walls. Say that I have always been a convinced and ardent believer in freedom and progress. If it is the will of Allah that I shall ascend the Ottoman throne, I will enter into this important office with a full sense of my duties and my responsibilities, and will endeavour to loyally carry the precious burden which has been placed upon my shoulders. By the help of Allah, the Almighty One, I will tread unbiassed the path of duty, seeking to rule with right and honour, and doing my duty to all, whether they be Giaours or true believers. My voice has been silenced for 33 years, but never the voice of my conscience. You ask me what I think of the situation of modern Turkey, after viewing it for the first time since my virtual captivity. To that I will answer: Although mewed up within these walls I have nevertheless managed to some extent to keep in touch with the progressive movements in the outer world. Some few adherents, who during the darkest hours stood loyally by me, will bear me out when I assert that, while I have strictly held to the letter and word of the Koran, I have from the first been an advocate of a Constitutional charter and of parliamentary institutions. These views I have never abandoned, and they are strengthened by the experience of Western civilisation and Western methods which I gained as a young man. I am unable to believe that complete political freedom is incompatible with the sacred Mahomedan laws."

## TRIBUTE TO KING EDWARD.

After making this significant announcement, the new Sultan turned to other affairs, and questioned his interviewer about England and her "mighty Caliph" (King Edward) who did so much honour

to his Mohammedan subjects, and whose photograph he had never seen. He asked whether King Edward would visit Turkey, and concluded the interview with the following words: "I go to the Yildiz as an energetic defender of the national liberty and inviolability. I will work for the cause of peace and friendship among all men. May Allah protect your land, which has ever been a powerful friend of Turkey. I beseech your good offices in winning the good will and support of England on my behalf, who stand trembling on the steps of the Throne." As Mr. Donohoe left the Palace he met the Parliamentary deputation on its way to announce to Reshad Effendi his election as Sultan. Commenting on the impressions he received of the new monarch, the correspondent adds: "Mohammed V. at first appeared somewhat dull-witted and hesitating, and presented exactly the picture one would expect of a poor prisoner suddenly confronted with light and liberty after long years of solitary confinement. But he soon cast off this manner, and the tenor of his speech struck me as being that of a man gifted with keenly penetrative and logical faculties."

## THE SITUATION IN STAMBOUL.

Constantinople, April 29.

Yesterday passed off completely without incident. In the evening the Embassies, public buildings, many private houses, and the ships lying in harbour were all illuminated. In spite of the state of siege proclaimed and still hanging over the city, the streets were packed with animated crowds of people, but there was no sign of disorder. The salutes and firework exhibitions have been suspended. On Saturday the new Sultan will pay an official visit to Parliament. Further details of the departure of Abdul Hamid are as follow: The deposed Sultan appeared in civilian garb, and did not seem so depressed as formerly. With him there went eleven women from his seraglio, Prince Abdur Rahim, his youngest son Prince Mohammed Ali, and two eunuchs of the Palace. Their luggage consisted of only a few bundles collected and packed in all haste, and probably held money and jewels. Hussein Husani, the commandant of the victorious army, and Colonel Galib supervised the departure from the Yildiz. The cortege was guarded by two officers, and 16 gendarmes carrying loaded rifles. The coronation and investiture of the new Sultan will take place in the Mosque of Ejub some 40 days hence. It is reported that Mohammed V. has given the fullest guarantees that the life of his deposed brother will be respected.—Some of the imprisoned mutineers have confessed they were indirectly plied with money from the Sultan. A sergeant of the 4th Rifle-battalion received a sum of 15,000 pounds sterling for distribution, and the title of Colonel.

## AMERICA'S GOOD WISHES.

Constantinople, April 29.

The new Sultan issued a proclamation yesterday to the effect that it is his desire to feign strictly according to the Sheriat laws and the Constitution. He was proud to be the first real "freedom Padi-shah." The Turkish press acclaims the new Sultan and hopes for the dawn of a new era. The Cabinet has tendered its resignation, but is temporarily remaining in office; the Sultan has entrusted Tewfik Pasha with the formation of a new Cabinet.—Telegrams of congratulation from all over the world continue to reach Mohammed V. President Fallières of France has sent a lengthy message of congratulation. President Taft sends a long message assuring the new monarch of the friendship of the Government and people of the United States, and appending his (the President's) personal good wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the new régime. (Continued on page 4.)