

is low and they want their supper. On the plain before us a still greyish-blue veil of smoke indicates the proximity of a town, and soon the stacks of dung with their domed tops appear out of the smoke. A few minutes later the team stands trembling and shaking their heads before the *yus-bashi*, or house of the headman, where we are saluted by barking dogs, women, and children in red tatters, and officious soldiers. These, and a resonant bugle-call indicate a garrison town, and here, in Diadin, it seems that two regiments of Hamidiehs are stationed. In a comparatively cosy room I am waited on, as usual, by the authorities, one of them a lieutenant who has learned French in Constantinople and is remarkably outspoken. He says that the country is impoverished by bad administration, and that it is impossible to understand the Sultan's intentions. Only in one respect do the Sultan's views coincide with his own—in hatred of the Armenians, who cherish the same feeling towards the Turks. This is a mutual national aversion, which cannot be extinguished till one race becomes the slaves of the other, and meanwhile implacable dissensions bring the country to rack and ruin.

On November 24 the sky is brilliantly clear, and immediately beyond Diadin we commence the ascent up to a small secondary pass, from the top of which there is a charming view of Ararat, most of it lying in its own shadow of dull greyish-blue tints, with the light azure-blue expanse of heaven as a background. The sun-lighted slopes are dazzling white, and contrast sharply with those in shade. To the right of Great Ararat is seen Little Ararat, of a still more regular conical form, and to the west a smaller crest with a little snow. On this side of the famous mountain stand some lower elevations which, however, will presently hide the magnificent view.

Ararat, or, more correctly, Airarat, "the plain of the Aryans," is the name given from time immemorial to the high land on the middle course of the Araxes, and when it is stated in the first book of Moses, chapter viii. and verse 4, that Noah's Ark rested on Ararat, this high land is really meant, and the name has been in Europe im-