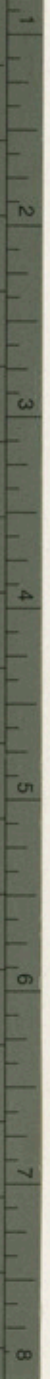


[ca. 9/23/97]

On Tuesday, Feb. 4th, a warrant¹³ was issued by the British authorities for me to appear at court the following Saturday in answer to the charge of being a "disturber of the peace". I at once communicated by wire with the Legation, and on the day I should have appeared at court entered a protest saying that I could not be present without an American Consul or without instructions from the Legation but that with the approval of the latter I was ready to meet my accusers at Constantinople, also I should demand that they receive the proper penalty in case they failed to prove their charges. Later dispatches from the Legation instructed me to do practically as I had done and finally the arrangement was made that I should go with the families via Moscow with proper guard & Consular escort to Constantinople as soon as the roads were good. We began preparations for the journey in the hope of getting started by the first week in May.

About the first of March some sixty leading Armenians, who had been imprisoned four and a half months, ever since the massacre, were released. During their imprisonment

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged, yellowed paper. The text is mirrored across the page, suggesting it was written on the reverse side and bled through. There are some red ink marks in the top left corner.]



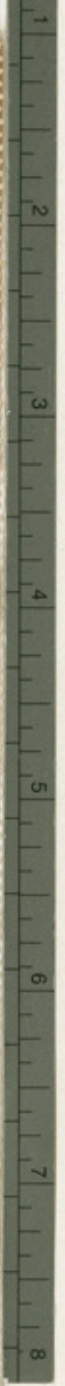
27. 1. 1882

of the Gov't had tried in vain to get them to sign
a statement attaching the blame of all disturbances
to some of their own number, and to the American
missionaries, myself in particular. Already
depositions against me had been secured from
some of the chief Catholics & Jacobites, and a few
Gregorians. The release of the prisoners was merely
an attempt to secure, by another policy,
signatures against us from the leading
Gregorians. During the Bairam calls the
Tali plainly told some of them in the pres-
ence of fanatical Moslems that it was for
the interest of the Armenians to demand
the expulsion of the Americans from the
country. The idea was sedulously broached
for some days. On one occasion the Tali said that the Missions
since going abroad had shown ingratitude to
the Gov't; that letters of Mr. Cole and Dr. Reynolds had
been seized, which showed that they could not be
allowed to stay in the country. As for me, there were
indubitable proofs that I had furnished the pistol
and ordered the shooting of the Armenians who
had been shot at several months before.

On Thursday, March 18th, eight or nine
of the leading Armenians, with their
Bishop, and as many of the leading Moslems
were called into the presence of the Tali, with the
object of reconciling the two communities.
The condition of the reconciliation was

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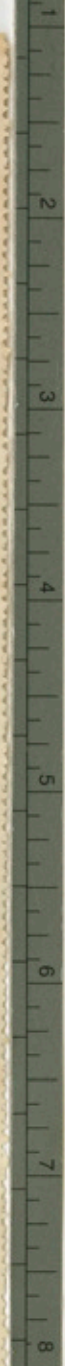
[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]



I definitely stated to be the willingness of the Armenians
to unite with the Moslems in sending a letter ^{from} to
the Porte, declaring the Americans to be the cause
of disturbances, and demanding their expulsion
from the country. An insinuation was made
by the leading Moslems that it would go bad
with the Armenians if they did not comply; &
the populace renewed that talk of another
massacre. The Armenians asked for a day
or two in which to consider the matter, & on Saturday
rejected the proposal, saying they had no part in
bringing us into the country; in fact had been
opposed to our coming; that the evidence against
us was in the hands of the Gov't, not in theirs; &
they could not truthfully say we were at fault.

Meanwhile I thought the matter over.
I saw that it was not a personal matter; that
the effort was to get all the American missionaries
out of the country; & that the method they had used in
my case was merely a convenient way of starting
the ball a rolling. However I felt that my presence
there with my case undecided was a constant
menace to the safety of the city. If I could
get away and have proceedings on my case
started, it would probably relieve the strain
in the city, and doubtless prevent action in
reference to the missionaries while my trial
was in progress. Therefore on Friday Mar 20

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I sent a telegram to the Legation asking that a
consul be sent, & that I come at once to Constantinople
without my family, & how my trial goes ^{Chen}.

In the afternoon of Wednesday, March 25,
all the approaches to our house were held by
police & gendarmes. Communication was
entirely cut off from the town, even our ser-
vants were hindered while attempting to go to
market for supplies. The next day officials
came on the part of the Padi & notified us that
orders had been received for us all to leave.
We were told to be ready to leave at any time.

Mr. Cole called on the Governor the next
morning to ask for explanation. He was told
that for himself & the families there was no
special hurry; that he was his friend, & that
he might secure permission for him to stay
on; but that I must go in any case in
three days; that I did ^{not} comply with school
regulations & made him trouble in other
ways. He supposed from this that I was to
leave Tuesday, & made plans accordingly.

The next morning March 28, the replies
my telegram came from the Legation,
telling me that instructions had been
given for me to wait & come at my convenience
with my family, & that the local authorities
were to let me alone. Mr. Cole was just

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[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]



5/ starting to show this telegram to the Galici^{an}
when he was met by the chief-of-police ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~
handed him a free passport for me to be
conducted out of the country, & bade me be
ready to start for Alexandria the next
morning (Sunday) This was two days earlier
than we had planned - I now addressed a
protest to the Governor, saying that my
request to be allowed to go at once to
Constantinople had not been granted
I now addressed a protest to the Governor
and that I was not free to go at present;
but that if he forced me to under protest
I hoped he would at least not urge me to
travel on Sunday, contrary to my usual
practice. Mr. Cole took this protest to the
Governor, but he treated it ^{with} contempt -
he said if I acted on the protest he would
telegraph to the Porte that I refused to
come whereupon stringent orders would
come to take me out with soldiers, in which
case it would be very bad for me - I was a
criminal - He had not put me in prison
, but had surrounded our house
instead, out of consideration for our
families - as to the time of starting, if I
did not go at the set time, I must
take the consequence -

1/2

[Faint, illegible handwriting covering the page]



9. We deliberated for some time when Mr. Cole returned with the reply. He feared ~~there~~ ^{was} some embarrassment at Constantinople which might make my residence to be a futile in the end & disastrous as well. It seemed evident that most of the leading Malins had signed a petition for my expulsion & there was a report, which I did not have a chance to verify, that the Malins had agreed to make a disturbance in the city, & perhaps attack my house, if I should refuse to go. Rather than be the cause of precipitating on our families or on this city another disaster, I thought it was best to yield. I then sent a telegram to the Legation, saying that I was being sent the next day under protest out of the country via Alexandretta, & asking permission to change my route at Siertskir & come to Constantinople with the Harport Americans.

Early Sunday morning, March 29, the Alai Bey (Commander of gendarmes) came to my house with a number of police & gendarmes. In the course of conversation, while seated in the sitting room, he misunderstood something that was said, and thinking that we were trying to postpone matters, remarked that the people about us were barbarous Kurds, & if they should get the impression that we were assisting the Gov't, it might be impossible to keep them quiet.

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[Faint, illegible handwriting covering the page]



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No stronger threat was needed for such time and such a place. I finished preparations as soon as possible, taking two horses of our own, one for myself + 2nd for the baggage consisting of road equipment, provisions etc.

It was agreed to let two young men accompany us as servants, but after I got started, only one was allowed to come and he was given no road papers. A strong guard accompanied me to the outskirts of the city, where I was left in charge of five mounted gendarmes. He had not gone far when the sergeant told me that he had instructions to take in charge my revolver, if I had one. I gave it up + it was formally passed with papers from cordon to cordon. ^{on, an} emphasizing ^{way} that irritating way the fact that I was a prisoner. I was thus forced out of Bittis at a time + by a road, which practically made it impossible to take my family along; + it was a circumstance that the Turkish Govt. has no credit that a ^{gully-} Miss Y was left to take care of them.

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