

## LITERARY TREASURE HOUSE.

Christian World May Again Have Access to Ancient Records.

Antiquarians and historians are now to have for the first time since the Turks took possession of Constantinople the opportunity for making a thorough investigation of the literary treasures stored away in the great libraries there.

The contents of the bookshelves of the St. Sophia and palace libraries are known, but in the cellars under the palace library there are many manuscripts in Arabic, Greek, Latin and Eastern languages. These manuscripts are in hopeless confusion and no person with special aptitude for research work has been permitted to examine them in recent years. About 30 years ago a German dragoman obtained permission from the sultan to spend a week in those cellars. In that time he was able to make only a very superficial examination of the manuscripts, but his search, short as it was, revealed many books in Greek and Arabic of great value. Among the discoveries he reported were the lost books of Livy, the great Roman historian.

Among celebrated British scholars who are planning to go to Constantinople to delve among the long-hidden manuscripts is Sir Edwin Peirs, the historian, who has spent many years in Constantinople. Sir Edwin told the Associated Press correspondent that at least six months would be required for the investigation. He does not think the libraries have been damaged by the Turks, who, he says, are utterly indifferent to their value. His only fear is that the manuscripts will be found in a sad state as a result of neglect.

The fine libraries of the Byzantine empire were taken by the Turks in 1453. The greatest number of books are deposited, not in St. Sophia's, as popularly believed, but in the Imperial palace about a quarter of a mile from the church. Under Turkish rule these libraries were added to from time to time, the most notable acquisition resulting from the defeat by the Turks of the king of Hungary, whose collection of books was brought to Constantinople and placed either in St. Sophia or the palace library.

"The shelves of the palace library," said Sir Edwin, "have been constantly picked over and the most important manuscripts probably have been stolen or destroyed. At present, what is shown to visitors is a room about 30 feet long and 15 wide, nicely fitted up with glass cases containing books with well polished bindings. But there is not a book displayed which an archeologist would consider worth having. The cellars, however, contain hundreds of manuscripts which have never yet been satisfactorily examined.

"The library in St. Sophia's also contains many unclassified works and it may be that they include manuscripts of importance."

The greatest finds of manuscripts made in the vicinity of Constantinople during the last half-century were not in the palace or St. Sophia libraries but in local libraries belonging to the Greek church. One of these, which Sir Edwin terms the most important theological find of the century, was a book containing the teachings of the Twelve Apostles, a document frequently quoted in the early centuries of Christian literature. The last half of the text had been copied and preserved, but the complete copy was lost until about 40 years ago.

"At that time," Sir Edwin said, "the grand old scholar, Bishop Briennius of Nicomedia, the modern Ismid, one of the few Greek scholars who not only knows Greek well but is an authority on paleography, was looking for the epistles of St. Clement."

"In the library of the church of the Holy Sepulchre in Constantinople he came across a small volume entitled simply 'Saint Clement.' It contained not only the epistles of St. Clement but the teachings of the Twelve Apostles, lost since about 1050. Some authorities date the book as early as 70, some as late as 120.

"Another book of equal value was discovered in the library of St. Sophia in about 1875, called 'The Manuscripts of Critobolus.' This is the only record we possess containing an account, from the Greek side of the siege of Constantinople. I was the first to take advantage of this find in my writings of the siege. The book unearthed by Critobolus was a life of Mahommed. It revealed how the Greeks turned Romans to save their skins."

Another library which Sir Edwin plans to explore is at Mt. Athos, a peninsula devoted to the Greek church since 1100. It is situated between Constantinople and Saloniki. About 15 years ago a Greek made some interesting discoveries there. Sir Edwin visited it shortly after the discovery of the teachings of the Apostles, and learned from the li-

## NO BAR TO CONFEDERATES.

Colonel Springs Publishes Wire From Lieut. Col. Roosevelt.

Georgetown, May 4.—Col. Holmes B. Springs, formerly of the thirtieth division who is the temporary chairman of the South Carolina organization of the American Legion, today made public a telegram from Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt denying that it was proposed to admit veterans of the Spanish-American war and former Union soldiers but not ex-Confederates. Colonel Springs gave out Colonel Roosevelt's telegram as follows:

"I notice clipping from New York papers stating that the American Legion proposed to admit Union veterans and not Confederate veterans. This is absolutely untrue. If the committees at the convention decided to admit one both would have to be admitted. The question of eligibility of course is one for the convention. The Confederate Veterans is one of the organizations which is to welcome delegates at St. Louis. Trust you will do your best to stamp out all question of sectionalism. This, to my mind, is one of the important functions of the proposed organization. We fought shoulder-to-shoulder in this war and in the Spanish-American war. My own forbears are members of both the G. A. R. and Confederate Veterans."

## Beguiling Giles.

Everything in the dear old village seemed the same to Giles after his absence of four years as a prisoner of war in Germany. The old church, the village pump, ducks on the green, the old men smoking their pipes while the women talked—it was so restful after the treatment he had received at the hands of the enemy.

Suddenly he missed something. "Where's Hodge's other windmill?" he asked in surprise. "I can only see one mill, and there used to be two."

The native gazed thoughtfully as if to verify the statement. Then he said, slowly:

"They pulled one down. There weren't enough wind for two of 'em!" —London Tit-Bits.

## Real Punishment.

"Germany is going to be badly surprised when the allies' peace terms are read to her. The peace terms are very severe—just, but very severe."

The speaker was assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt. He went on:

"Germany is going to feel like Rastus Rosin, who was convicted of stealing a hog.

"Rastus," the judge said to him, 'you are fined \$5.'

"Jedge," said Rastus, 'Ah'm obliged to ye. Ah' got dat five spot right here in mah left-hand vestpocket.'

"Well," continued the judge, 'just dig down in your right-hand vestpocket, Rastus, and see if you can find 30 days.' —Los Angeles Times.

## Bent.

He had tried in vain to cut through the slice of roast beef the restaurant waiter had served him.

"Look here, waiter," he said at last, "I can't do anything with this beef. Bring me something else instead."

"Sorry, sir," replied the waiter, "but I can't take it back now—you've bent it." —Pearson's Weekly.

## So Say We All.

"Do you understand the league of nations propositions?"

"I think so."

"Would you mind explaining them?"

"I'll feel better if I don't try. I only said I think I understand. Whenever I get to explaining I have my doubts about whether I do or not." —Washington Star.

## "Business as Usual."

A sorry blow has been dealt at those who maintain we are not a commercial race. "You gave me prussic acid in mistake for quinine this morning," a man told the chemist the other day.

"Is that so?" said the chemist; "then you owe me another two pence." —Punch.

New line of novels at The Herald Book Store. 1918 and 1919 copyrights at 75c per volume. Books exchanged, when in good condition, for 15c difference.

brarian that none of the books were properly classified.

St. Athos escaped molestation by the Turks. The only time the library was violated was in 1824 when a large number of manuscripts were cut up for haversacks for Turkish soldiers.

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The above statement was given by Mr. Mitchell on May 29, 1914, and on January 22, 1918, he said: "I always have a good word for Doan's Kidney Pills, because they cured me of disordered condition of my kidneys and the cure has remained permanent. All I have formerly said in praise of this remedy I gladly confirm. Doan's Kidney Pills are certainly a fine medicine."

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