

mentarily. In the interval great efforts were made toward popular education and for the establishment of institutions of a nature calculated to elevate the public enlightenment. I am now happy to know that the people are more able to understand the benefits of a constitution, and I was heartily glad to restore it, notwithstanding influential advice to the contrary. My will is definite and unalterable, and henceforth the constitution will regulate the affairs of the nation. The cabinet which Kiamil Pasha has formed will fulfill our decisions.

According to the dispatch of the Chicago Inter Ocean, "the scene was perhaps one of the most remarkable in the political history of the world. All the creeds and races of the Turkish empire sent their duly elected representatives, and the varied costumes of the delegates, some in flowing silk robes and others in the fashionable frock coat, formed a gorgeous and multi-colored picture never before witnessed in a legislative gathering in Europe. Albanians, Syrians, and Arabs were among the Moslem representatives, while Greeks, Armenians, and Bulgars represented the Christian nationalities. Members from Jerusalem and Mecca rubbed shoulders with their colleagues from the European provinces and the far off Kurdish, Armenian, and Arab districts on the confines of the Indian ocean." Enormous crowds, greater than ever seen before in Constantinople, lined the streets as the Sultan proceeded to and from the Parliament, a remarkable feature being the great number of Turkish women filling the windows and balconies along the line of march. A never to be forgotten scene was presented at the mosque of St. Sophia, the roof of which was crowded with spectators, even to the summit of the central dome. The Grand Vizier, Kiamil Pasha, insisted upon the Sultan's passage being by the road which leads through the European quarter of Pera and through Stamboul, thus bringing him into contact with the masses, instead, as suggested by the timid hearted, of proceeding by water; and by this move gained further popular prestige. At night the city was brilliantly illuminated.

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#### Land Value Taxation in Great Britain.

Advices from London indicate a growing pressure of the land values taxation movement in Great Britain (p. 894) upon the Ministry, and "Land Values" for December is full of news upon the subject not heretofore published in this country. To begin with, a conference on the policy of making the taxation of land values an item in the Parliamentary budget (the fiscal measure with which the House of Lords cannot tamper) has been called by invitations to some 4,000 societies—trades unionist, labor, and Liberal. They are asked to send delegates to the conference which is to be held in London in February. Meanwhile a group of radicals in Parliament—led by Josiah Wedgwood, Dundas White and Philip Mor-

rell—had called a Parliamentary caucus on the subject. It met in one of the Committee rooms of the Commons on the 3rd of November, and was presided over by Mr. Whitley, one of the Liberal "whips" and a leading single taxer. At this conference a petition to the Prime Minister was adopted, asking that the taxation of land values be included in next year's budget. This petition, signed by 245 members of Parliament, was presented to the Prime Minister on the 11th of November. Another meeting of members of Parliament was held at the House of Commons on the 16th of November to consider the same general subject. It was presided over by Sir Charles Dilke and favored a valuation of land by imperial authority with a view to taxing land values. The city council of Glasgow also has acted in the matter of taxing land values immediately through the budget. By a vote of 30 to 14 on the 19th of November, this body resolved to petition the Ministry "to include in or in connection with the next budget the provisions necessary to give effect to the principle of the taxation of land values." Another body acted to the same end in London on the 5th of December. This was a conference of delegates from Boards of Guardians and other public bodies, including mayors of cities. After a two days' session at the Guild Hall, they adopted unanimously a resolution asking the Ministry to put a tax upon land values in the next year's budget. Joseph Fels addressed this body an hour before leaving London for the United States, where he arrived three weeks ago; and one of the most active supporters, who is reputed to have silenced such carping criticism as there was, was George Lonsbury, a British socialist of the Keir Hardie type.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—The British Parliament (p. 879) adjourned on the 19th. The next session will begin in February.

—Donald Grant Mitchell, famous before the Civil War as "Ik Marvel," author of "Reveries of a Bachelor," died at New Haven on the 16th, at the age of 84.

—Governor Hughes of New York has appointed a commission to inquire into the conditions under which speculation is carried on in the stock and commodity markets in New York. Horace White is chairman.

—The Fairhope Single Tax corporation is to celebrate its 14th anniversary with a reception and dinner at the Fairhope Hotel, Fairhope, Ala., on the 1st of January. Joseph Fels and Daniel Kiefer are to be among the guests.

—The third annual convention of the American Sociological Society (p. 949) will meet at Atlantic City, N. J., on the 28th, 29th and 30th. The American Economic Association, the American Statistical Association and the American Association for Labor