A MUSLIM SIR GALAHAD: A PRESENT DAY STORY OF ISLAM IN TURKEY

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A Muslim Sir Galahad: a present day story of Islam in Turkey by Henry Otis Dwight

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HENRY OTIS DWIGHT

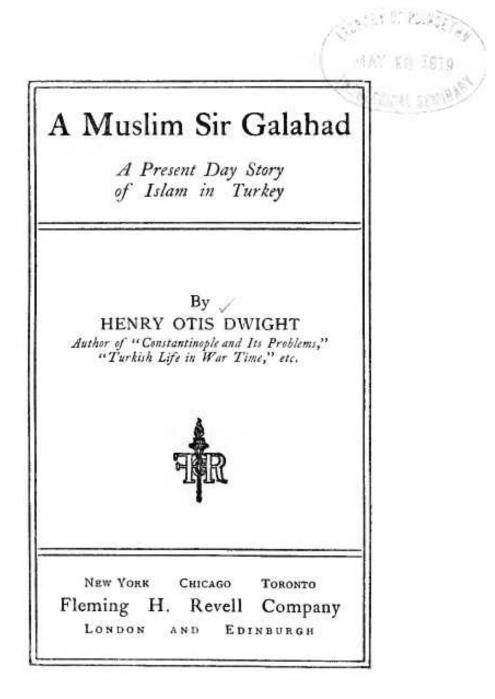
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Introductory Note

HERE is a pathetic significance in this true story of a heart quest for a better religion than is to be found in the wild fastnesses of the Kurdish mountains. There is a strange fascination to many a thoughtful soul in the "Man with a black hat and a white life" who bears the gospel message to the Eastern world. To many who hide their secret yearnings amid the shadows of Islam he brings welcome news of a religion which shows a better way and teaches a higher life. The symbolic description of the missionary above given represents not an unusual verdict of native public opinion, whether his teachings are or are not accepted. Beneath his black coat and his foreign attire is discovered a white heart, and the light of the heart shines out in the life itself, and imparts a luminous charm to what at first may have seemed to be a forbidding and alien exterior.

The young hero of this story is typical, I believe, of many wistful searchers after a

more satisfying guide than they find in Islam, and they discover in the missionary one who reflects in his gentle and kindly attitude, and his loving service, the character of that Supreme Guide who may be trusted to point the way to a nobler life here and to grander hopes beyond.

Dr. Dwight's local colouring is genuine, and he gives true glimpses into real experiences in the lives of thoughtful Moslems whose hearts have not found peace and spiritual rest in Islam. This story of Selim suggests struggles and perils of which the free born know nothing. The author has lived for many years in the atmosphere of incidents such as he records, and can vouch for the basis of truth which underlies them.

JAMES S. DENNIS.