

SUPPRESSING REPORTS OF WRONG-DOING.

Turkish Government Said to be Exercising Careful Censorship.

Reports received by members of the Syrian colony in this city show that a very uncertain condition of affairs exists in the Lebanon, and that the Turkish Government is exercising a very strict censorship so as to prevent all political news

from reaching the outside world. All letters have to be taken open to the Postmasters, who are authorized to read them, and decline to forward them if they judge that the missives contain anything derogatory to the Government.

An instance is given of a cousin of the Right Rev. Jarajiri, a Maronite Bishop in the Lebanon, who lives in the town of Btedin. He had occasion to go to Zahle, and on the way encountered two highwaymen, from whom he managed to escape. On arriving at Zahle he told his experiences to a friend. He was overheard by a spy, and the local authorities reported to Naum Pasha, the Governor General of the Lebanon, that the man had complained about the insecurity of the roads, and was trying to slander the Administration. Naum Pasha thereupon had the man arrested and brought back to Btedin, where he was thrust into prison. The Bishop heard of this, and wrote to the Governor, asking him to release his cousin, as he had not done anything wrong. The Governor refused, and the Bishop sent him another letter. Then the man was released.

Reports have also been received about the suppression of the Arabic paper *Kashf el Nukab*, in Paris, through the influence of the Turkish Government. The editor of this paper was the Prince Ameen Araslan, the hero of a romantic love affair which was recently published in *THE TIMES*. Prince Ameen vigorously attacked the Turkish Government in his paper, and the Sultan, it is said, asked the French Government, as a personal favor, to suppress his paper, which was done.

Still a third report comes from Egypt about the efforts to control antagonistic editors, when it cannot suppress their newspapers. The Rev. Louis Sabanjee edited *The Sidah—The Echo*—in London, and sharply criticised the Turkish Government. The Turkish authorities invited Mr. Sabanjee to Constantinople, where he was given a lucrative place, and so discontinued publication of *The Sidah*. Mr. Sabanjee has a friend in Cairo, Egypt, by the name of Najeeb Shawish, who edited *The Nibras—Lighthouse*—an anti-Turkish Government paper, in that city. Mr. Sabanjee persuaded him to suspend his paper and come to Constantinople. After a conference, Shawish and another man by the name of Shmeyll were sent back to Cairo, where they started an Administration paper called *The Nahlé—The Bee*—subsidized by the Turkish Government.
