

As to our relations with Turkey the President says:—"In my last annual message I adverted to the claim on the part of Turkey of the right to expel, as persons undesirable and dangerous, Armenians naturalized in the United States and returning to Turkish jurisdiction. Numerous questions in this relation have arisen. While this government acquiesces in the asserted right of expulsion it will not consent that Armenians may be imprisoned or otherwise punished for no other reason than having acquired, without imperial consent, American citizenship.

"Three of the assailants of Miss Melton, an American teacher in Mosul, have been convicted by the Ottoman courts, and I am advised that an appeal against the acquittal of the remaining five has been taken by the Turkish prosecuting officer."

At the conclusion of the reading of the message there was a scramble among Senators to get resolutions of inquiry before the Senate. Senator George was first recognized, and presented a resolution contemplating a cloture rule in the Senate. Senators Hoar and Blanchard offered resolutions calling upon Secretary Gresham for reports as to what action has been taken in regard to the Armenians in Turkey, the one offered by Mr. Hoar being adopted.