



Arthur 17000

TEHRAN

13 Boulevard St. G.

April 18. '13

My dear Noel

I have been away in
Oxford, & return to find your
letter. Very sorry to hear about
the neuralgia

I cannot at all say why
I wrote the story in the way
I did on the particular point
you mention; - ~~that~~ happened
before the war, & what happened
after. There was certainly not the
slightest conscious intention.

On the other hand I was
of course thinking about you
very much when I wrote there

really felt well all the book,
wrote itself. I didn't have to
ponder over, or deliberately select,
any of those details. No alternative,
as far as I remember, ever
presented, ^{itself}, I wrote straight
ahead with the only ideas I had
got. It is interesting to speculate
that somewhere telepathy, or
something akin, may have played
a part, but it is very uncertain
ground.

It is very nice of you to
think the book had an influence
in Bulgaria, but I have no reason
to suppose that any single
Bulgian has ever read it. The
publisher sent a copy to the
Legation at the time, but I
never heard anything ^{more} of it.

TEHRAN



all is the wrong! For I don't really
think the Turkish atrocities in the
war are more than a drop in the
ocean in comparison with the
Christian performances. I am very
glad that you brother saw
Turkish villages where no harm
was done. I saw none, & all
along the way up to Dumlupinar
from all one heard from every
side, Konia, Monaster, &c, there
was some indication that the
desolation was universal. The
best mosques have been bagged
everywhere, including at Drama
a very fine one built by

Abdul Hamid at a big cost. Even
the scandal of protestants at
Drama have been presented
with a mosque by the authorities.

But it will be a pleasant
land in ten years time, & I
am sure the work was good.

I hope very much that
you are well & out again
to-day. I'm looking forward
very much to your party
on Thursday

Yours ever
Arthur Moore

I would come & see you, but
I my own neuralgia craves to
be left alone. I hope you
abandoned your former
engagements.

3.

General Staff "I,"
Salonica Expeditionary Force.

(Major Nye, whom you probably remember
at Drama in the penitentiary in the old
days) is not expected for another 3
weeks, so temporarily I carry on in
Plumbrook's place.

I think I may freely write to
you about ^{our} Balkan diplomacy, for the
simple reason that I can say nothing
which could betray an official secret, as
we, or at any rate I, know nothing here
as to the present intentions of the
higher Command. This army is under the
Command of General Sarrail, but the higher
Command is in London & Paris; the
last word, I think, is in France, with
General Joffre.

So as far as I say is a purely personal view,
based of course on my present local knowledge,
as well as on my old interest in this part of
the world.

He
diffused
last
June

I think it is self-evident to all but
those who will not see that the F. O. made
a first-class break a year ago in not
taking your tip, & dictating their
territorial settlement to the Balkan
States. Or rather [to be fair to the F. O. -
I should say the allies made a break, for
at that time Russia was certainly a
great obstacle in the way of any heart to
heart talk with Serbia.]

But I do not think, as some people
out here (I don't mean soldiers) still think,