

“taken up a position in the plains of Chaldaea . . . and learnt of the arrival of the whole
 “army together, had made a five days’ march towards the Turkish army. He had with
 “him 8,000 horse in three divisions, at the head of one of which was his son, himself com-
 “manding the second, and a brave general of his the third. The Turks made several
 “days’ march through the enemy’s country, which was absolutely deserted, and then
 “came to a scarcity of corn and fodder: one horse’s feed was costing 20 aspri (which is as
 “much as one-third of a gold ducat) while one small loaf of barley bread was being sold
 “for 4 marks, and the men were already complaining, apprehensive lest the price would
 “become dearer from day to day. In part those who should have sent supplies from Cappa-
 “docia were the cause of the rise in prices, because they were not sufficiently diligent; and
 “for that reason the Grand Signor had them beheaded.

“The man, who had gone to obtain the submission of the Georgians in the name of the
 “Grand Signor, as related above, obtained as much as he sought, but, having on his return
 “journey reached a wood in that country he was attacked by forty unknown men who killed
 “him, but did not harm those accompanying him, from whom they merely took the letters
 “which the Georgian prince had written to the Sultan. When the latter heard this news
 “he began to suspect, as was the case, that the Georgians were intending to cause some
 “trouble to the supplies coming from Cappadocia: and so he sent another Baiglarbaigi
 “with several officers and a good number of cavalry into the country of the Georgians,
 “charging them to do no harm, but only to take up their quarters in that district, so that
 “from fear of these men the Georgians should refrain from causing damage to the country.
 “. . . He (Sultan Sulaiman) himself marched on with the army, keeping the Persian king
 “on his front, and trusting soon to bring him to the action in which he had placed all his
 “hopes of bringing the war to a speedy termination. This did not come about because the
 “Sufi, who very well realizing the disadvantage he would have in a battle on account of
 “his being without artillery wanted by all means to avoid an action; but, seeing the numbers
 “of the enemy’s forces to be so very large, he deemed there would be no better way of
 “fighting them than by keeping them to the locality where they (the Turks) had come by
 “a shortage of provisions, so that, lacking these, they should be compelled either to retreat
 “or to perish of starvation: and to keep them constantly harassed by exertions and being
 “caused to stand continually on the *qui vive*, and by being made to march by difficult and
 “tiring roads, where they would find no facilities, and that it would come to pass, as actually
 “happened, i.e. that sicknesses of various kinds would appear among the troops and wear
 “them out. . . .”

The writer went on to relate how, in consequence, in their abortive attempt to bring the Persians to a battle the Turks daily arrived at a place where the Persians had camped a few days previously.

“When the Turks saw that each day they drew closer to the Persian army, they con-
 “sidered it certain that they would overtake it in two days and bring it to a battle; but
 “this never happened, for during more than twenty successive days the one army camped for
 “the night in the encampments which the other (the Persian) had quitted that morning.
 “Each day the Turks pushed on the faster, making longer marches, but they never were able
 “to do enough to come up with one from the Persian camp. Of the Turks themselves,
 “as many as went in advance of the others, 500 and 200 horse strong, in order to make an
 “attack on the enemy, or get a sight of them, all were hardly handled, many being killed
 “and many made prisoners. The one army never came in sight of the other; and many
 “times there was but half a day’s march between them. As a result of the arduousness
 “of the marching, and the hardships, and the very great heat, and also of the bad water
 “they were drinking, the men of the Turkish army contracted serious sickness, especially
 “dysentery, from which many died.

“When the Sultan saw these maladies spread, because the number of the many dead and