

liberal” for their taste, even though basically they were not averse to the idea of written rules for the conduct of *millet* affairs.⁹⁹

It was obvious that the *amiras* had pulled some strings and had used their influence within Ottoman official circles to prevent ratification of the *Regulations*. For the moment, *amiras* prevailed and defeated the forces of liberalism. They were proving that they were still strong enough to impose their views and will over the *millet* leadership. But this was a temporary and ephemeral victory; in essence, they had lost control over the *millet*, for they had to resort to direct governmental intervention to impose themselves.

The first serious attempt at adopting a constitution had thus proved abortive. The constitutionalists had failed to carry their mission to its successful conclusion. But the setback was temporary, for immediately after the government’s announcement of its decision, the constitutionalists, who now included the young intellectuals, and the liberal elements of the clergy and the *esnaf*s, embarked upon the drafting of a new *Regulation* acceptable to the conservative camp. Dr. Servitchen, Dr. Rusinian, Nigoghos Balian, Krikor Odian and their friends on the Education Committee as well as Krikor Margosian, the *logothete*, began to work in earnest on a new draft.¹⁰⁰ By then several members of this *intelligentzia* had found employment with high Ottoman officials, notably the various grand vezirs and foreign ministers, each of whom had his own Armenian adviser. The physicians Servitchen and Rusinian served Ali Pasha and Fuad Pasha respectively, not only in their professional capacity but also as advisers and assistants. Others, such as Harutiun Dadian, Krikor Margosian (the *logothete*), Sahag Abro, Stepan Arzumaniyan and Minas Minasian worked at the Foreign Ministry, holding prominent positions. Still others worked for high officials: Hagop Grdjigian has already been mentioned as the interpreter, legal counselor and adviser for Mustafa Reşid Pasha; Hovsep Vartanian (later Vartan Pasha) served *Kapudan* “admiral” Damad Mehmet Ali Pasha, Hamamdjian and Simon Serferian worked for Ali Pasha, Sahag Abro rendered similar services to Fuad Pasha, Harutiun Dadian (later Artin Pasha) served Mahmud Nedim

⁹⁹ Ormanian, *Azgapatum*, 3:4016. The accusation was not openly voiced by the contemporaries, but later writers and students of the topic, such as Alboyadjian, overwhelmingly share in Ormanian’s opinion, who is an excellent source for this period.

¹⁰⁰ Torkomian, “Rusinian” (July 1902), p. 207.