

projects that the government felt the state economy needed. The government determined the policy of the industrialization program, its direction, emphasis and the amount of investment; Dadian's task was to implement the program, in all its aspects. Recently, a keen observer of early Ottoman industrialization efforts remarked: "Sultan Abdülmecid apparently gave extensive authority to Ohannes Dadian as effective head of the new industrial program. In 1842 Ohannes helped select specific sites for the Istanbul factories, the model farm, the Izmit wool mill, the Bursa sheep-ranch..."⁷⁹ By the early 1840s, Hovhannes *Amira* was considered "probably more experienced in industrial management than was any other Ottoman subject."⁸⁰

The administration and management of all these industrial enterprises were exclusively in the hands of Dadians. While Hovhannes was absorbed in the technical aspects of the industrial program, his nephew, Boghos Amira (Hovhannes's elder brother, Simon's son), was the supervisor of both powder mills. Hovhannes *Amira* took responsibility for governmental relations, foreign and domestic, and for importation of machinery, his nephew acted as chief administrator. Other members of the family were entrusted with key positions in the factories. Hovhannes *Amira*'s eldest son, Arakel-Sisag, was the manager of the imperial model farm at Zeytinburnu, set up in 1847. In 1857 this young Dadian was named *barutcubaşı* of the powderworks at Rados (Rhodes?), as well as director of the sulphur and saltpeter (or potassium nitrate) factory. After his father's death in 1869, he was appointed *barutcubaşı* of the powder mill at Azadli.⁸¹

Hovhannes *Amira*'s second son, Nerses-Khosrov, an engineer like his older brother, was named director of the wool mill at Izmit after his return from studies in Paris in 1845, and two years later became manager of the foundry at Zeytinburnu. Following in his father's footsteps, this talented man was an innovator and, to some extent, also an inventor. In 1847 he built the first railroad track in Turkey on the Straits of the Bosphorus.⁸² This short track was built to facilitate movement of freight to and from the brick factory at the village of Büyükdere on the Bosphorus. He further invented a water

⁷⁹ Clark, *Industrial Revolution*, p. 71.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 70.

⁸¹ Boghosian, *Dadian Gerdastane*, pp. 123-127.

⁸² *Ibid.*, p. 158.