

The East and the West have become united in closer commercial relations, and the people of the oldest and newest nations have exchanged domicile in their vocation and pursuits. Prominent among the



HADJI RAPHAËL.

distinguished personages who have become residents of California is Hadji Raphaël of Egypt. The Hadji was born in Cario, Egypt, in 1862. His father took up his residence in Lahore, India. When thirteen years old Hadji began a correspondence with his father, hoping to bring him back to the land of his birth. To this correspondence he lays the foundation of his taste for literature. At an early age he was thrown on his own resources in the battle of life and by his own efforts earned fame, distinction and honor as an eminent scholar and successful merchant. He commenced his education at Ismalia, Egypt, continued it in French at

the "Frère" College, and in Arabic at Kootab, finishing at the University at Cairo.

His comely person, bright intellect and correct deportment attracted the attention of what is known as the "wise men" in Egypt, and one of the beautiful belles, whose father was a rich and prominent merchant of the Soudan, was selected for his wife. Early marriages among the higher classes in that country being considered highly desirable, Mr. Raphaël married at the age of nineteen, while his bride was only thirteen.

As a representative of high society, he has been associated with Sir Arnold Morley, M. P., Mr. Gardiner, M. P., and Lord Porchester of England.

The Hadji was initiated and raised to the degree of Master Mason in Waubansia Lodge, No. 160, F. and A. M., Chicago.

He speaks fluently seven languages,—English, French, Italian, Spanish, Turkish, Greek, and all Arabic dialects, five of which he can write and hold correspondence in.

His enterprise, sagacity and upright dealing while in Chicago gave him an *entrée* into the best society, and he was associated with Messrs. Paul Blackmar, Melville E. Stone, the journalist, and the leading citizens of Chicago, as a representative of the best society. During our Midwinter Exposition he was prominently identified with the Cairo concession, and his square dealing and gentlemanly deportment have given him great popularity as a merchant.

He secured in Chicago \$20,000 through the Globe National Bank, also \$20,000 in bonds, for the furtherance of his enterprise of conducting over forty stores in Cairo Street, Chicago, in conformity with his contract with the Directors of the Cairo Street Syndicate at the World's Columbian Exposition, for which he received four highest awards and diplomas. His sales, according to the statement furnished by Mr. Paul Blackmar, the Superintendent of the Department of Collection, aggregated \$150,000. He is established now in one of the stores under the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, and has fully determined to make California his future home.

Naturally of a literary turn of mind, a thorough academized training, extensive travel, successful merchant and pleasing address are advantages that he possesses that will help to give him a prosperous career.

The Hadji is a merchant for support and a scholar for research and pleasure. In his career he has exemplified the principles of the great Arabian poet:

"Be the son, whomever ye are
And obtain good principles."

"It is not the person who says my father was,
But blessed be the man who says I am the one."