

## IV.

## THE SO-CALLED "HITTITE" HAT.

THE cone-shaped hat on the monuments of Cappadocia and Ionia approaches in form the high tiara worn by Kheta Sar on an Egyptian bas-relief, and is a fairly distinctive article of costume. The following notes are, therefore, of some interest, perhaps, as indicating the race which wore this hat. Herodotus says (vii, 64) :—

"The Sacæ, who are Scythians, had on their heads caps which came to a point and stood erect."

In Italy, also, the Tutulus is described by Varro (*see* Dennis, "Etruria," i, p. 341) as a high white cap of the shape of a cone (*meta*) worn on the heads of priests. The Flamens wore a wool cap of the same form—perhaps not unlike the Astrakhan hat of the Circassians. An Etruscan goddess is represented in a high cap of this kind, with four wings, and holding a hen (ii, p. 465).

In the travels of Rubuquis in 1255 A.D., in Tartary, we find similar hats described.

"They have an ornament for their heads," says the good monk, describing the nomadic people of South Russia, "which they call *Botta*, which is made of the bark of a tree, or of some such substance as they can find, which by the thickness and roundness thereof cannot be held but in both hands together, and it hath a square sharp spire rising from the top thereof, being almost two feet in length, and shaped like a pinnacle. This *Botta* they cover all over with a piece of rick silk, and it is hollow within, and upon the midst of this same spire they place a bunch of quills, or slender canes, a foot and a half long or more, and the bunch on the top thereof they beautify with peacocks' feathers, and round about they stick the feathers of a mallard's tail and adorn it with precious stones. Also great ladies wear this kind of ornament on their heads, binding it strongly to a kind of hat or coif which hath a hole in the crown fit for the spire to come through."

A hat of this kind, but edged with fur, is still worn by the dervishes in Turkestan (*see* Schuyler's "Turkestan," frontispiece, vol. ii), but is not more than about a foot in height. The Maulawiyeh dervishes in Syria also wear a somewhat similar hat, but it is a truncated cone made of fine felt, and with the green turban sometimes wound round it. The cone was also worn by the Turks in the 18th century with the Moslem turban wound round it (*see* portrait of Hassan Pasha in the "Modern Traveller, Syria," vol. i, p. 25). Thus the old Scythian headdress of the Cappadocian monuments has been worn in various ages by Turanian peoples, and still survives in our own time.

---