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THE NEWS IN ISTAMBUL

by Michael E. Stone

Watching the news in Istanbul I understand nothing;
But the weather forecast is easier.

Temperatures and winds in different towns, Names from all the centuries, From all the human layers, Of which the Turks are top.

Mostly, if I know them,
It is in their old forms:
Sinope and Trebizond and Ephesus,
Kars and Van and Erzerum.
Greece on the west,
Armenia on the east.

And Constantimople straddling the two continents.

But it is Istanbul now.