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Faris ef-Shidyak (060057)

Ali Efendi, Basiretci (011424)

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# CRAFTING HISTORY

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in Honor of Cemal Kafadar

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## Conjuring Emotions in Nineteenth-Century Istanbul through the Journalistic Writings of Ahmad Faris Al-Shidyak (1805–87) and Basiretçi Ali (1845?–1910)<sup>1</sup>

Ilham Khuri-Makdisi and Aslı  
Niyazioğlu

### Introduction

Drastic urban transformations swept Istanbul in the second half of the nineteenth century, as the research of many urban historians has illustrated.<sup>2</sup> Major infrastructural works such as street widening, the installation of water and sewerage systems, and the introduction of a tramway dramatically modified the city and urban experience. They were spearheaded and funded by local institutions, most prominently a recently established municipality, as well as foreign companies and foreign capital. The city was changing at an uneven pace, sometimes against the will and interest of many of its inhabitants.

- 1 The authors would like to thank Kerem Tınaz for his invaluable help in securing copies of *al-Jawab* and making this chapter possible and Ümit Açıkgöz for his comments on an earlier draft.
- 2 See, for instance, Zeynep Çelik, *The Remaking of Istanbul: Portrait of an Ottoman City in the Nineteenth Century* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993) and Murat Gül, *The Emergence of Modern Istanbul: Transformation and Modernisation of a City* (London: I. B. Tauris, 2009) among others.

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