

Mediterranean the snow fell in greater quantity than has been known for many years. The hills around Sorrento and Naples were white for several days. The great olive orchards were sadly damaged and millions of oranges were hurled from the trees by the wind. The oranges beaten down will no doubt be of advantage to the poor, who can buy them cheaply, but the owners of these orchards will suffer a great loss. The oranges of Southern Italy are usually exported largely to New York and London, where they command a good price because of their beautiful appearance, and because they will keep a couple of months at least, whereas American oranges, delicious though they be, will spoil in a few days.

Old Vesuvius was covered with a cloak of the "beautiful snow" from top to bottom, except a black patch on its northern side, which indicated that last year's outflow of lava was not yet cool. The 16th of March, 1889 was the first time for more than a hundred years that Vesuvius was decked in a snowy mantle.

J. H. WARD.

EUROPE, April 15th, 1889.

IN TURKEY.

The readers of your highly esteemed paper may have been informed by correspondence from "42 Islington," or perhaps through Bro. Clove, at Constantinople, concerning the apparently serious turn of matters in the Oriental Mission. If so, this communication is to but little purpose; if not, it will be novel to hear that, as the Turkish and Armenian papers put it, two expatriated "Mormon" Elders fleeing from America landed on these hospitable shores and dared, under the very shadow of the Ottoman Crescent, to elude its officers, and are now wending their way to the interior of this unspotted land to besmear it with their polluting doctrine! The officers are tracing them to the centre of this peninsula, whence they will be carried beyond the Turkish frontier, which they so cunningly crossed over as soon as the "Porte" took the matter in hand.

Really, the only Utah Elders now inland, or who have been since Brothers J. M. Tanner and T. Spori left here, are President F. F. Hintze and myself. Brother J. Clove has remained in Constantinople, and Brother J. M. Sjodahl has not yet moved from Palestine, from which part we who are now inland migrated, fearlessly presenting our "Feskereh" or special pass at every relay or visit we make to a city. More than that, to any and every greasy, hungry "baksheesh" loving representative of the leader of the faithful, who legally or not detained us on all manner of pretexts, the innermost of which would always turn out to be an innate hankering for a gift (*baksheesh*).

From an article, both in English and French, in the *Levant Herald*, it would appear that two Armenian brethren have been carried in chains towards Constantinople for trial, supposed to have been influ-

enced by "Mormonism." It is freely admitted that they were, perhaps, the most exemplary men in their community, and of course highly esteemed. Detailed and reliable information we lack. Their offense seems to consist in having too publicly declared: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." During the preliminary process they told the authorities that the injunction applied equally to the high functionaries and to the people, and that the officials, if unwilling to believe, should at least begin to administer their affairs justly and honestly.

Naturally enough the *Levant Herald* in its French wit adds: "Nobody here needs to repent; consequently 'Mormonism' must go!"

According to the same journal, the matter is being wired over all telegraphic lines.

Things here are lively. Scores came the first days. Later, even two and three days' journey off, we had over one hundred a day. Greeks, Catholics, Romans, orthodox Armenians, Mohammedans, disciples, and various Protestants and Non-conformists, or those who are real or quasi-apostates from any of these faiths are the material of which our gatherings consist; besides an occasional incursion of Nestorians from Assyria, who travel with caravans to and from the districts where Nineveh and Babylon anciently heaved and swayed their jeweled but formidable sceptres. These Nestorians have no priests, recognizing their lack of authority.

To the majority of these Brother Hintze cannot always preach a whole sermon without some Turkish interpreter, as these men speak a language made up of Arabic, Armenian, Persian and other words considered dialectic, but which may in reality be nothing less than a remnant of the language of the Babylonians which itself received a great infusion of Hebrewisms during the captivity of the tribes of Israel. However, the most usual words of the Turkish tongue, when confined to ideas they can easily grasp, they have learned through trading, etc., in Turkey.

These labors, though tiresome (as we are called upon from 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., besides being followed in the streets when going to meals) are yet a source of much satisfaction; and a few stones thrown at our windows, and scoffing in the street, and even an occasional burlesque song about "Mormonlar" (the "Mormons") have not done much to scare us off.

Quite a number have a smattering knowledge of English, and still more of French and Italian.

The Americans have done a noble work in this benighted land, having introduced the Old and New Testaments and advanced the civilization and education of this country. Despite the diversity of motives and interests, and sometimes even the selfishness that may have revealed itself in accomplishing their philanthropic mission, my heart swells with some strange emotion at the sight of an occasional rusty tin shield, the paint of

which, though peeling off through the combined efforts of rain and a scorching sun, represents clearly enough for a patriotic heart that emblem of many privileges—the American eagle—upon some consul's portal.

In numerous other places the British missionaries have done fully as great a work. The English-speaking nations certainly lead in this as well as in almost countless other enterprises, and Volapuk, the universal language, stands but little show alongside Anglo-Saxon, which language furnishes over forty per cent of the roots of Volapuk, the proposed substitute for all languages.

Flens are numerous. In travelling one receives an education not otherwise easily obtained. Thus flees coming suddenly under my notice, in a very forcible manner, in Middle Egypt, I had an opportunity, never before equalled, of learning their habits, disposition, and proclivities. Brother Hintze, sadly enough for him, missed that opportunity, and is thus ignorant of that branch of natural history.

Crops are promising. The rainy season is nearly over; living is cheap, and moderately good. A young man from Palestine (F. Dieterle) has arrived here, having been called to assist in the field. Shortly we proceed to Aintab, in Aleppo district, and President Hintze starts to look into the commotion referred to in the fore part of this article. More anon.

C. U. L.

ADANA, Turkey, April 9, 1889.

ON THE WAY HOME.

The last Conference we attended on the Sandwich Islands, the preparations, the farewells, the trip around the island and many other things all furnished food for thought and would have made an interesting letter perhaps had time permitted my writing before.

Our conference was well attended, and was an excellent one withal. There seems to be a very energetic and lively spirit at Laie. The Honolulu Branch is also in a most satisfactory condition. This is due to the earnest and faithful labors of Elder Mathew Noall, who has devoted himself exclusively to this branch for two years. The native Saints in Honolulu are full of "aloha" to him, and the results of his labors are most gratifying.

Brother King has exerted a highly beneficial influence not only among the natives but also the white brethren and sisters during his presidency on the Hawaiian Islands. We parted with him with much regret.

Brother Fred. Beesley has done his duty well. It would be next to impossible to find anyone to fill his place at Laie as school teacher and music master.

It is unnecessary to allude to Brother Barrell's labors among the native Saints at Lani Huli. He so well represented himself to your many readers in a recent issue of the News that anything from me on the subject would be needless.