

represented by the two nations. For this reason the outcome is of importance to every country on the globe where the followers of the Nazarene or the believers in the Arabian prophet dwell.

The Greeks were among the first nations in Europe to accept the teachings of Christianity. They were early prepared for the new doctrines. In Greece even the lower strata of society had been in contact with advanced civilization under a comparatively free government. Naturally they felt most keenly their position and listened gladly to a message that pointed out the way to redemption from serfdom by proclaiming the equality of all before the Supreme Ruler. Christianity brought this glad message. It spoke words of hope to those who suffered oppression and appealed to the oppressors in the name of mercy and justice. It purified the family and the state, and made its triumph all the more complete, because it commenced its mission in the depths of society, undermining the foundations before those at the summit had any idea of the extent of the influence exerted. Some of the earliest branches of the Christian Church were founded in the Greek colonies. Some of the early teachers of note were Greeks, and the sacred literature at first was published in the Greek language. No wonder, then, that the Greeks from the start came to look upon Christianity as a national inheritance, entrusted particularly to their care.

In the dark ages that followed the Apostolic century the Greeks stubbornly fought the development of Christianity on the lines laid down by the Romans, until in the 11th century the pope excommunicated the whole Greek empire. From now on the western division of the church was left free to follow its own course until the days of the Reformation. The eastern division practically remains where it was at the schism, as far as religion is concerned.

The conquest of Palestine by the Turks led to the crusades and the final dissolution of the Greek empire. The nation, however, was far from annihilated. Its religion has proved a connecting element, indestructible and powerful. The gatherings of the Greeks in their houses of worship where they lay their offerings down on the altar and listen to words of patriotism from consecrated lips, asking for the blessings of the church as they are about to depart for the seat of war, reveal the true nature of the struggle now on. It is an attempt to drive back from the soil of Europe a nation regarded as the great enemy of the Cross. It is a revival of the spirit that prompted many of the Crusaders to lay down their lives on the sacred ground of Palestine. It would therefore not be surprising if before all is over, the followers of the Cross and the defenders of the crescent should be rallied against one another in hosts more numerous than ever before. It may not be possible to regard the contest as one for truth against error. The Turks are probably as far removed from the original standard of Mohammed as the Greeks are from the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, but the war no doubt is necessary as a preparation

for the final victory of truth, and therefore of the greatest interest and importance.

TODAY'S CANAL DECISION.

The decision rendered by Judge Norrell today in the canal companies' dispute covers a subject of great importance to the people of Salt Lake City and county. The question involved the use of the surplus canal for purposes of drainage and carrying off surplus water from the Jordan to the Lake. The decision by Judge Norrell is in favor of the canal being used for these purposes. It is a clear and comprehensive document, the substance of which is given today, as, owing to pressure upon our columns at the advanced hour when the text of the decision was available, we cannot publish it in full, but may find it advisable to give it in another issue, as the findings and arguments are of such widespread interest. The force of the decision in behalf of the people of city and county cannot be overestimated, and it is gratifying that the court has been able to reach its conclusions in such a plain and logical manner, free from any points of narrow distinction. Under this decision the surplus canal remains for its original purpose of handling the surplus waters in and to the west of the city.

THE WORK IN WISCONSIN.

From Wisconsin, as well as the other states where the Latter-day Saint Elders are preaching the Gospel, come reports of excellent success, and of the kindness and attention of the people. A notable feature there, and one which aids greatly to getting for the missionaries a patient hearing, is the fairness of the newspapers, in making notes of the Mormons without injecting untrue and scandalous reports or prejudiced remarks. An illustration of this just treatment is given by the Oshkosh Northwestern of April 20, in the following article culled from that journal:

The semi-annual conference of Mormon Elders which began in this city Saturday morning closed with a business session Monday. The chief business of the Monday session was to reassign the Elders of the state conference to fields for labor as follows: Elder J. J. Simmons remains in this city and will be assisted by Elder Burton S. Rupp of Madison; Elders Andrew Larsen and E. W. Croft remain at Fond du Lac; Elder Herman Christensen of Madison and Elder R. M. Lynn of Chicago have been assigned to Waukegan. Elder J. E. Boyce remains at Eau Claire and will be assisted by Elder J. W. Merrill, who has been assisting Elder Simmons in this city. The next semi-annual state conference will occur in October and will be held either at Milwaukee or Fond du Lac. In speaking of the conference held here, Elder Simmons of this city, president of the state conference, said: "The attendance of outsiders was at first slim but toward the close of the session the audience almost filled the hall. The people who attended became interested and expressed themselves as satisfied that we were teaching the truth. Many are closely investigating, and though none in this city have applied for baptism, I feel confident that

our work will be rewarded by several conversions. In Fond du Lac some good results are being obtained. Within the last two weeks five have been baptized there, four more have applied, and a number of others are investigating. There was quite a good-sized party of Fond du Lac people attended the conference here. This state is a very fruitful field we think, and before long the working force will be increased by ten or twelve more Elders. I expect to remain in this city several months."

GREECE AND TURKEY.

The comparative strength of the forces of Turkey and Greece has been variously estimated. The subjoined figures are from the New York Journal:

TURKISH ARMY—PEACE FOOTING.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Infantry | 226,400 |
| Cavalry | 24,600 |
| Artillery | 38,400 |
| Civil guards | 40,000 |
| Engineers | 7,500 |
| Ordnance and subsistence departments | 12,700 |

Total, standing army..... 349,600

TURKISH ARMY—WAR FOOTING.

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Standing army | 349,600 |
| Reserves | 460,800 |
| Mustahfiz | 230,400 |
| Hamidian cavalry | 65,000 |

Total..... 1,105,800

TURKISH NAVY.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Armored battle ships | 15 |
| Unarmored | 8 |
| Armored gunboats | 3 |
| Unarmored gunboats | 20 |
| Dispatch vessels | 27 |
| Torpedo boats (No. 1) | 37 |
| Torpedo boats (No. 2) | 5 |

GREEK ARMY—PEACE FOOTING.

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Infantry | 16,039 |
| Cavalry | 1,146 |
| Artillery | 2,287 |
| Engineers | 1,213 |
| General service | 501 |
| Gendarmerie | 3,229 |
| War offices | 240 |
| Military schools | 222 |

Total standing army..... 24,877

GREEK ARMY—WAR FOOTING.

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Standing army | 24,877 |
| Reserve force | 104,500 |
| Territorial army | 140,000 |

Total..... 275,377

GREEK NAVY.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Armored battle ships | 5 |
| Unarmored | 4 |
| Gunboats | 2 |
| Corvettes | 2 |

It is generally understood, however, that the Turkish fleet is about useless, a view confirmed by the recent order from Constantinople to keep the ships under the protection of the guns of the forts. The Greek navy, on the contrary, though small, is in fine trim and manned by efficient crews. The great difference in the numerical strength of the armies is offset by the fact that Greece can concentrate almost her entire fighting strength against the enemy, while the Turks necessarily must have vast military bodies all over the empire in order to suppress possible re-