

ridge at Strada Roala, where the steps are so very steep that they have regular steps, all of marble. It has barracks and magazines, custom house and health office. A naval arsenal, hydraulic crane, victualling yard, naval and civil hospitals, military hospital, with a room 480 feet long, law courts, post and telegraph office, and very many churches and nunneries. A body of monks and nuns is to be seen wherever anybody may look. The capuchin mummy tombs at Floriana are interesting. The trade in Valletta is mostly in wine, oil, various kinds of fruits, honey, figs, cattle, coral, and artistic gold and silver filigree jewelry of all descriptions are manufactured by the Maltese.

Valletta is also a great sealing station, 1500 Mediterranean steamers are yearly calling for coal. The climate of Malta is said to be excellent in winter, with a bright sun and blue sky. Provisions are said to be good and cheap. It has a garrison and is the headquarters of the English Mediterranean fleet. It is a favorite resort. Malta is not a good place for persons with delicate lungs or weak hearts. No wood is to be seen anywhere except at the governor's gardens, which are grand. The land is parcelled into small fields and orchards, divided by stone walls, and is highly cultivated. Cotton, wheat, red clover, sulla, potatoes, egg and blood oranges, figs and numerous other fruits. Cactus are grown in abundance. Among the handsome buildings in Valletta is the governor's palace, formerly the palace of the grand master. It has five corridors and tapestry, a large armoury of the Knights and Phoenicians, and other antiquities. It is always open to visitors. The Church of St. John, built in 1576, contains monuments of the Knights in the thirteen aisle chapels, and very rich tapestry, with a mosaic pavement of 400 monumental slabs of colored marble, jasper, agate, etc. All the churches in Valletta are magnificent. The St. Paul's Collegiate Church is an imposing structure. The Boschetta and Antonio gardens, belonging to the governor, are beautiful, having tropical plants and flowers of all descriptions. There are hundreds of other things of which I could write about Valletta, Malta; but as they would not perhaps be interesting enough to the readers of the News, I will close with Malta and say a few words about Syra, where I arrived October 2nd.

Syra, on the isle of Syrus, built in an amphitheatre, is the second town of importance in Greece. Near the port are the steam offices, lazaretto. The modern town, called Hermopolis, has two principal streets of the merchants and of Eolus, also a theatre, casinos, market-place, Otha square, a new Greek cathedral, hospital and several factories. Old Syra has a fine view of the Cyclades. Syra has a population of 4,400, and is built on the side of a steep mountain, commencing at the seashore and running up to the top of the mountain. It is most picturesque to look upon from the sea. Every house is visible and as white as snow. Some of them are built entirely of pure white marble and nearly all have flat roofs, which are very handy to sit upon, or for a promenade in the evening. There are a number of govern-

ment buildings, one of which is for police purposes on the Otha square, of the latest architecture. It is an elegant structure, of white marble. The houses and streets are so white that the reflection of the sun will cause sore eyes to strangers who are not used to it. The streets are similar to those in Malta, being very narrow. The art of sculpture is admirably developed in this little city.

The next place at which we landed was Smyrna, Asia Minor, belonging to Turkey. Smyrna has a population of 160,000, including 50,000 Turks, 80,000 Greeks, 10,000 Jews, 8,000 Armenians, 10,000 Europeans. It has casinos, European and Greek, with reading, billiard and ball rooms. Armenian and some small theatres for occasional Italian and Greek comedy, with cafe chantants on the quay and an international library. Smyrna is the second city in Turkey and the great port of Asia Minor and the Levant trade. It makes a fine appearance as seen from the bay. It has a noble inlet 45x22 miles, with a light on Cap Mermingi. Among the grand buildings are the governor's palace, the barracks and the Vizier Khan, on the site of the old theatre. There are twenty mosques, besides many other churches, numerous coffee houses and gardens. One coffee house fell into the river a few years ago, drowning 200 persons. The Frank, Greek, and Armenian quarters are well built, have respectable streets and fine houses, while the Turkish and Jewish towns and Bazaars are extensive and picturesque. There are English and other colleges for the various denominations, English and other hospitals, English and other masonic lodges, Turkish bath houses and many ware houses for Turkey carpets and other local manufactures. Smyrna raises a great deal of opium. Meerschaum for pipes is found in great abundance.

There are five or six Smyrnas, one over the other. It claims to be the birthplace of Homer. Hero, Polycarp, the first bishop was martyred A. D. 169. Close by is the Isle of Patmos, where the Apostle John was banished and wrote the Revelations A. D. 96. I would have liked very much to visit the isle, but lack of funds prevented my doing so. The Byzantine Castle is on the site of the Acropolis, on Mons Pagus, and contains many remains. The corner nearest the city is Cyclopean, and the farther walls were built by Lysander. The way to it leads past the cliff, marked by three streaks of oyster shells, like flints. Parts of aqueducts are seen. The antiquities of Smyrna, except the "burnt columns," are scattered two and three miles apart, on the site of the old Ionian town, where Homer was born, up to Meles. In view of Mount Tmolus. It was rebuilt in 627 B. C. and half ruined by Tamerlane A. D. 1402. The district is very rich in archaic remains. It is the best place for numismatists I ever saw.

Smyrna is the centre of the caravan traffic in Asia Minor; it has a few hundred miles of railroad and telegraph. On account of the abundant fruit crops of all descriptions numerous steamers run to Liverpool and London, as well as other parts of Europe. About one million tons of shipping enter yearly. It has two harbors, one of the

seven churches, the seventh Laodicea, and many other ancient things. The caravans use camels for the transportation of goods and traveling purposes.

We left Smyrna and arrived at Constantinople October 6th.

ALBERT HERMAN.  
CONSTANTINOPLE, November 20th 1891.

## RECEIVED WITH THANKS.

### Editor Deseret News:

The Salt Lake Tribune of Monday last contained the following complimentary notice of my lecture in the Theatre last Sunday evening:

"Charles Ellis, the Mormon mountebank and pensioner, delivered a lecture at the Salt Lake Theatre last evening, and in his usual nauseating style blackguarded the Tribune and the Protestant and Catholic religions. He declared that if the Protestants and Catholics accepted the Bible that they also accepted polygamy and priesthood, the only difference being that the latter practiced them openly, while the Protestants and Catholics did it on the sly. A patriarch stood at the entrance with a basket soliciting alms for the mouthing mendicant, and although fully 300 people were present, there were not as many cents in the 'pot.'"

In the first place I would say, I am glad to know I did not entirely destroy the writing corps (e) of the "Trib." last winter. It has been so silent with reference to myself for eight months that I feared it had gone down home. It gives me pleasure to learn the contrary.

Secondly.—"Mormon Montebank and pensioner" is good. I like that. It is in the "Trib."s, best vein and has the real guttersnipe flavor of that exceedingly "Liberal" organ. I am not so good a "Mormon" as I might be, but I have mounted the "Trib." mule and banked it or broken it to saddle and bridle in spite of its vicious bucking and kicking. It speaks from its own experience.

Thirdly.—As to "nauseating style." This, from the "Trib.," can mean only that, as "usual," I made it "sick to its stomach." This is a confession that I did not expect it to make.

Fourthly.—"The mouthing mendicant" is touching. The "Trib." evidently is offering me a bribe by making an appeal to the people to "chip in" generously for my benefit. That, I am something of a mendicant is shown in the fact that I "mouthed" the "Trib." and its "Liberal" party, that have lived on cant all these years, into a partial paralysis.

Fifthly, "Although fully 300 people were present, there were not as many cents in the 'pot.'" There the selfishness of the "Trib" comes to the surface and gives it a black eye. Did it want that money and was chagrined because it could not play a "hold-up" game on the doorkeeper and "get away" with the "cents?" Singular what a love of money the "Trib." has! The sight of a few dollars blinded its eyes to the fact that 600 people were present composing as bright, intelligent and appreciative an audience as can be gathered in Salt Lake and one-third of the persons present were non-Mormons, most of whom learned many things in reference to the Mormons.