

Journal of a Salt Lake Pilgrimage

(Special Correspondence.)
PARIS, May 15.—From Paris to Paris, by way of Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria and Switzerland—and that in six weeks' time! It has something of a George Washington Phipps suggestion about it, but that is what the pilgrims set themselves to accomplish, and today sees the rapid circle described. In that time, of course, a party can only hope to "do the high places," and pass the others by, and this letter will be devoted to mere fragmentary extracts from the journals of the trip. It may, however, serve as a guide to other western travelers, whose time, like ours, is limited, and who may wish a ready-made itinerary of a rapid run around the main points of central Europe.

THREE DAYS IN HOLLAND.

April 7 to 9.—Three days in Holland, after leaving Brussels, in which city we had a pleasant visit with Missionary David Thomas. In Rotterdam we called upon President Sylvester Cannon, who with his wife and family are pleasantly located in the residence part of the city. From him we learn that the Holland Mission is prosperous and steadily growing.

In Amsterdam a most pleasant and interesting trip to the diamond polishers, the Zoological gardens, said to be one of the greatest in Europe, the panorama of Jerusalem, and an inspection of the famous painting "The Night Watch," by Rembrandt. Here we met Elders Schettler and Woolley, laborers in the cause, and with them have a very interesting and instructive trip to the island of Marken, up in the Zuider Zee, where the inhabitants dress in the costumes of 300 years ago and where the manners and customs are quantity

delightful. April 9, 10, and 11.—A rapid run of six hours to the south brings us to the famous cathedral city of Cologne, the great church is everything that fame has claimed for it. We climbed the dome and obtained a wonderful view of the city, also inspecting the great bell, which is only rung on rare occasions, and which it takes 25 men to swing. The church of St. Ursula, where the bones of 11,000 martyred virgins, are exhibited packed away in the walls and ceiling form a most impressive sight. A short trip to Bonn to view the birthplace of Beethoven. In this old house the master's violin, cello and spinet, with many of his manuscripts are exhibited.

We remained in Cologne over Easter the 11th, and saw the crowds pouring into the cathedral for the service, but could get no where near ourselves. Then up the Rhine to Bingen, a delightful boat ride, pausing a little while at Coblenz, where the Rhine and the Mosel unite with a few minutes more at Bingen to look over the town made famous by the poem "A Soldier of the Legion lay dying in Alsace." It seems a beautiful and peaceful spot.

IN OLD HEIDELBERG.

April 12.—We paused in Frankfurt only long enough to ride about the town, to view the house in which Goethe was born, and to exchange greetings with Elders Miller, Wright and Belpap. From Frankfurt we take side trips to Heidelberg, the famous university town, where we spend the morning of the 13th, in the ruins of the old castle, and then on to Weisbaden, the great water cure resort, where Kaiser Wilhelm maintains a palace. The afternoon we hear a wonderful orchestral concert at night. The wealth, fashion and display here are almost overpowering.

April 14.—Started for Leipzig, viewing from the car, the ruins of the Castle of Wartburg near Eisenach; it was in this castle that Wagner laid his singing contest in "Tannhauser,"

and here also that Luther translated the Bible. Also passed Weimar, famous as the residence of Schiller and Goethe.

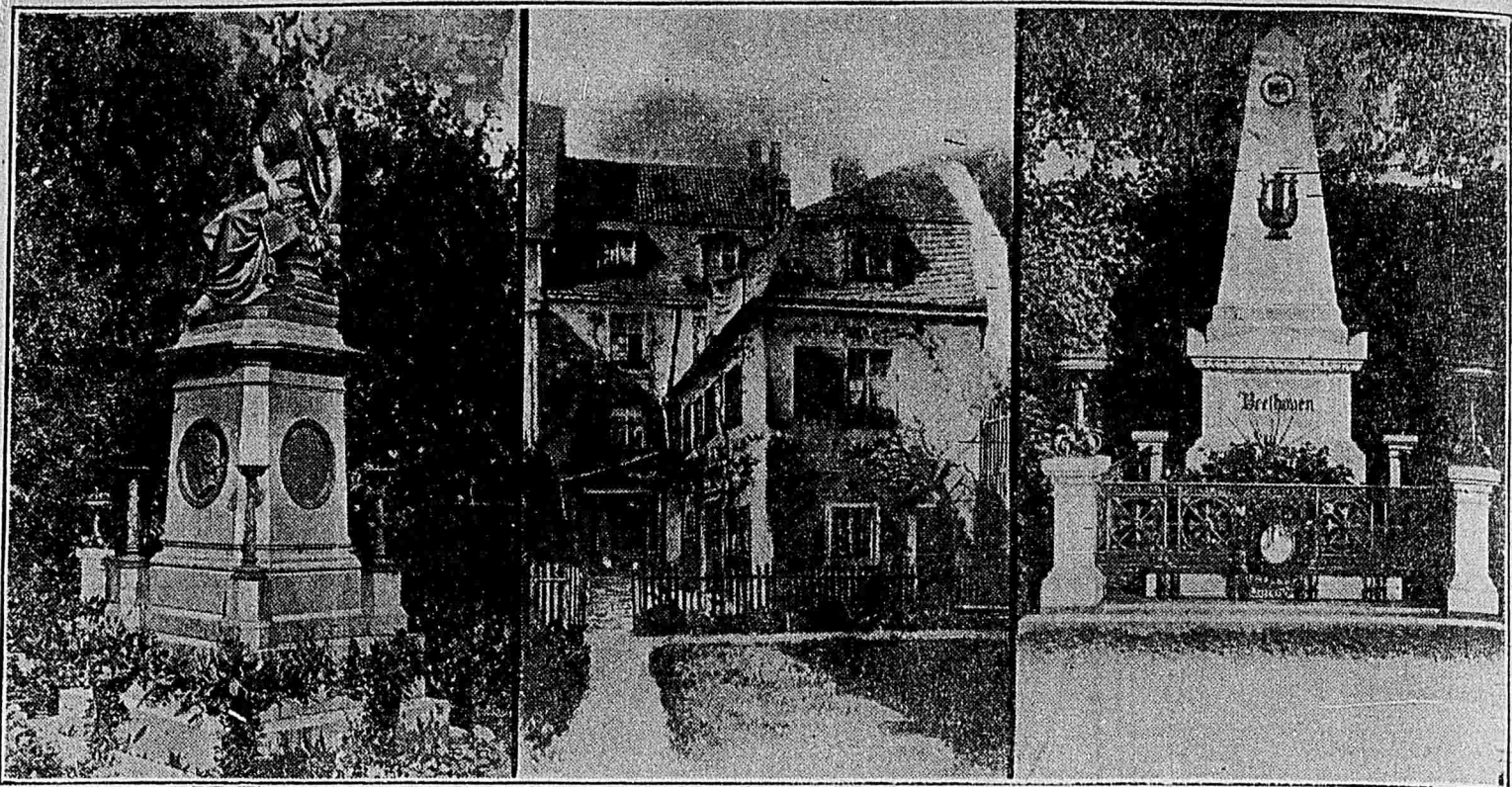
April 15.—Two days in Leipzig, where we greatly admire the fine buildings, and visit the great monument being erected as a memorial of the victory over Napoleon in 1813. It is to be finished in time for a centennial celebration of the event. The great art gallery is also a notable place for tourists as it contains the famous painting of Napoleon on Fontainebleau, 1814. While at Leipzig we enjoyed a pleasant visit with Elders Bowker Preston and Merle Taylor.

BERLIN AND DRESDEN.

April 16 to 27.—This period we passed in Berlin, with a side trip to Dresden, where the picture gallery is voted the most complete yet seen in Europe. Here, too, we witnessed a performance of Richard Strauss' new opera "Elektra," a most wonderful creation, produced in an opera house which has few superiors in Germany.

In Berlin our time was largely devoted to sight seeing, a pleasant part of our visit being with Emma Lucy Gates, an account of whose debut in the Royal Opera House has already been sent to the "News." After her two performances we enjoyed several parties with her in the delightful country around Berlin, the first at Potsdam, founded by Frederick the Great, and still filled with relics and mementoes of his reign, and the second to the tomb of Mendelssohn, where we catch a snapshot of the singer as she hums the composer's "Spring Song."

Berlin impresses us more than any other European city for its cleanliness, good order, reasonable living prices, wonderful hotel facilities, etc. It is said that the city's population is now running towards the three-million point, and that over 2,000 lodging houses and hotels were built last year. Another pleasant experience in Berlin was found in attending the conference meeting, at which President Thomas



HERE LIES MOZART.

HOUSE AT BONN WHERE BEETHOVEN WAS BORN.

BEETHOVEN'S TOMB.

McKay spoke and Miss Gates sang. The meeting was held in a hall which was crowded, and was presided over by Elder Brinham, president of the Berlin conference.

April 28.—Arrived at Nuremberg after a brief pause at Bayreuth, where we only have time to see Wagner's famous theater on the hillside. It is at present closed, or we might have tarried longer. The old castle at Nuremberg, with its torture chambers, and thousand fragments of armor, keep us a full day, while the beauty spots which surround the city might easily claim a week if we had it to spare. The famous clock still "does its act" at noon each day and is gazed at by hundreds besides ourselves.

April 30.—We reach Vienna by a night trip, our first experience with sleeping cars in Europe; the service is called "first class," and charged for accordingly, but it does not approach the American Pullman, to our view. At Vienna a most interesting experience is a visit to the cemetery, where in one memorable corner are the tombs of Beethoven, Mozart, Schubert, von Suppe, Brahms, the two Johann Strausses, Gluck, Millocker, Lanner, and the once famous singer, Marie Giesinger. Another delightful day at the emperor's country home at Schonbrunn, which we decide excels both Versailles or Potsdam in artistic beauty. The famous Danube river is seen by night, and looks the largest of any river yet viewed in Europe. An evening spent at the Prater, which is a little world's fair all to itself, can

never be forgotten. In Vienna are laboring Elders Rees and Gowans, with whom we have a pleasant visit.

May 3.—We reach Munich late at night, spending here a day and a night for the purpose of seeing the wonderful clock and viewing the great statue, "Favaria." Here also in the renowned gallery are many original paintings by Murillo. Munich is emphatically the land where beer is king, and the sights to be seen at the Hofbrau (Royal Brewery), where men, women and children assemble by thousands and drink the beverage of the country in a way impossible for anyone else to imitate, is something strange and startling to behold.

ROUND TRIP AMONG ALPS.

May 4.—We arrive in Zurich, crossing Lake Constance, and meet here President William McKay and Elders Winder and Sontker. In Zurich we call at the well known Church headquarters at Hoshgasse 68, where the elders are living in most homelike fashion; and also have the enjoyable trip up the mountain Uetliberg, where a superb view of the Alps is obtained.

May 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.—These days are passed in a round trip of Switzerland, where the cheapness and excellence of the railroad transportation are quite remarkable. All the roads are owned and run by the government. We visit Lucerne, the Italian lakes, Montreux, Chillon (the chateau made famous by Byron's poem), Ouchy, where he wrote it in two days' time, after a

visit to Chillon, Geneva, where the church in which Knox and Calvin preached, are special objects of interest, Lausanne, Berne, Interlaken (which we vote the most beautiful of all the Swiss towns, and from whence the famous peak, the Jungfrau, looms up like a glistening icicle above the other mountains), Meiringen, where we go through the Aareeschlucht, a monster gorge formed by glacial action, and several other towns of lesser note. It takes us 16 minutes to pass through the great St. Gothard tunnel, and 2½ minutes to go through the Simplon.

At Lucerne we spend a day visiting the localities made famous by the story of William Tell, and live over again the memories of Gesler and Albert. A moonlit ride on Lake Lucerne is indescribable.

At various points on our Swiss trip, we meet with several missionaries, who give us some pleasant greetings; among the number are Rulon Seymour Wells, Jr., president of the Basle conference, President John J. Toronto and family, who are now living at Lausanne, Elders Laurence Squires, Boyer, Pettit, Luter, Turner, Driver, Ralphs, Kunz, Hatch, and Wilcox. Prof. Toronto, whom we regret to miss, is still visiting his brother, but just now is off on a ramble to Egypt.

May 15.—One day at Strasbourg, to see the wonderful performing clock there and we shoot westward to Paris on route to England, pausing again at the Hotel du Louvre, to gain the fortitude for the passage of the dreaded

English channel.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

Looking backward, in a brief mental review of the six weeks' circle, we find that the impression most strongly fixed on our minds, is the wonderful development of Germany and more than all, the all pervading evidence of military spirit of the day. Soldiers everywhere, marching, drilling, or camping, saluted our gaze, whether at the railroad depots, along the country roads, or in the heart of the business commercial sections. It all seemed to hint that Germany is aching to try her wonderful military organization once again, out of fear perhaps, that it may grow rusty with long disuse. A new generation of soldiers has grown up since France was invaded in 1871, but the old Bismarck and Von Moltke system remains, and every youth of German birth, physically able, must put in his two years with the army. What a nation of fighters such a system of training must develop! It is the air that sooner or later, Germany and England will clash, but it seems impossible that the rest of the civilized world would stand by and permit such a crime. But of Germany's preparedness for this, or any other conflict, there can be no question. Not alone her army, but her cities, her buildings, her public improvements, her railroads, the tone and bearing of the people themselves, all seem to suggest preparedness and a sense of strength and superiority.

H. G. W.

ARMENIAN TROUBLES IN TURKEY

New Light on the Subject by a Resident of Utah Just Returned From Asia Minor.

THOMAS P. PAGE of Riverton, Utah, returned home a few days ago from Asia Minor and Turkey where he had been for several months. In an interview Mr. Page throws considerable light on conditions under the star and crescent and the Armenian troubles in Turkey generally. In telling of his experiences Mr. Page said to the Deseret News:

"Adana was reached on March 2, and later we visited or went through Tarsus, Mersina, Alexandretta and Kyriak Kahn, reaching Aleppo March 11, where we stayed 12 days. The above are the places where fighting occurred between the Turks and Armenians and the village Kyriak Khan is the place where the papers state the entire Armenian population was massacred. The common opinion is that the trouble is a religious one, and that the persecution of the Armenians is on account of their being Christians. We desire to correct that misconception. The troubles were entirely political. The Armenians were far more tolerant in regard to religion than many of the Christian nations, with this exception that if a Mohammedan (something hardly heard of in Turkey) he would subject himself to ostracism and possible violence in some districts.

"We have to quote history to explain conditions. For many years Turkey was a despotic country, with tyrannical customs that had been handed down from a remote past, and with a disinclination to use any modern inventions and customs.

TRAVEL IS RESTRICTED.

"One could not travel from city to city or from province to province without making application to the government, and having the permission stamped on your tekere, or Turkish passport. While I traveled quite a little over Turkey in 1900 and permission was never refused me, it was refused to many of the natives and a member of the Mormon Church who went to another city some 20 miles away without permission to work at his trade and was arrested, cuffed and escorted back to his home town.

MODERN THINGS TABOOED.

"The restrictions were so severe that typewriters were not allowed so, it would disguise the individuality of the handwriting. Telephones were not allowed as people who had them might possibly conspire against the government, and as all the telegraph lines were owned by the government messages were censored.

"I recollect that at that time, W. Lester Mangum, the mining stock broker of this city, had lately arrived in Turkey and that I wrote a telegram to him, stating that I wanted to hold conference and asking him to meet me.

SOME WORDS PROHIBITED.

"The operator read it and refused to send it, saying that conference was a prohibited word and intimating I was foolish in asking him to send such a message. His reply being 'I am not a villager, but am an inhabitant of Constantinople.' I changed the message to read: 'I am going to hold a meeting.' Again I was met with a rebuff, 'meeting' being a prohibited word. Making it still more definite, I wrote of the higher officials, with whom I had business formerly I explained the situation to him, and asked him to kindly write a telegram for me, that would bring our fellow missionary to Aintab, the city at which we intended to hold conference. He did so using the words that 'I would be pleased to be introduced instead of conference' and 'meeting,' and I shortly had the pleasure of Mr. Mangum's company.

BOOKS LEFT WITH CENSOR.

"All books had to be left with the censor and a few of them would probably be returned to you after an inter-



MR. PAGE'S TEKERE, OR TURKISH PASSPORT.

val of some months, with a stamp on them, which would allow you to use them in future without investigation. It was the same with newspapers. I subscribed for the weekly edition of the London Times for six months and received one copy the rest having been censored. The Deseret News, however, hardly ever failed to arrive and the Turkish censor in that district seemed to favor our Salt Lake Deseret News.

"At that time we received news of the assassination of the king of Italy and in speaking of it to some friends they told us that the king had died of heart failure. We accepted the correction at that time as we did not want to have our papers confiscated and as far as we were concerned the king of Italy died of a stoppage of the heart.

"The foregoing will give some idea of conditions in Turkey up to last summer, when the educated and military classes in Turkey, (the Committee of Union and Progress, or the Young Turk party) demanded a constitution from the sultan which was granted. In the parliament which was established, all the numerous races under Turkish rule were represented, Turks, Greeks, Arabs, Armenians, Albanians, Kurds, Jews, Christians, Druses, etc.

LIBERAL CONSTITUTION.

After the inauguration of the constitution the laws were more liberally construed, the restriction on travel, the censorship of the press and the many oppressive laws and

customs referred to were abolished. Equal rights were accorded all classes, races and religions, excepting that the army was entirely Mohammedan, but arrangements were being made to have the soldiery come from all the different races in the empire in the near future.

The Christians and other non-Mohammedan people felt grateful at the time for the freedom given them under the constitution, and on its promulgation, and for some time after, it was a common thing to see Mohammedan imams, Christian bishops and Jewish rabbis publicly kiss each other, because of their joy in receiving the liberties accorded them.

OLD RACE FEELING RETURNS.

"Later some of the expressions of good will between the people of different races abated. Some of the Armenians and some of the Druses began purchasing arms which the previous laws prohibited. No one was allowed to own a rifle or pistol using cartridges or a cartridge of any kind. In many places you would find the old flint lock fire arms being manufactured, the modern fire arms being restricted to the soldiery and the military police. At the time of the constitution this restriction was also abolished and vast quantities of modern arms were sold in Turkey. Some of the Armenians were also talking about independence. They had secret societies and were

(Continued on page twenty-nine.)

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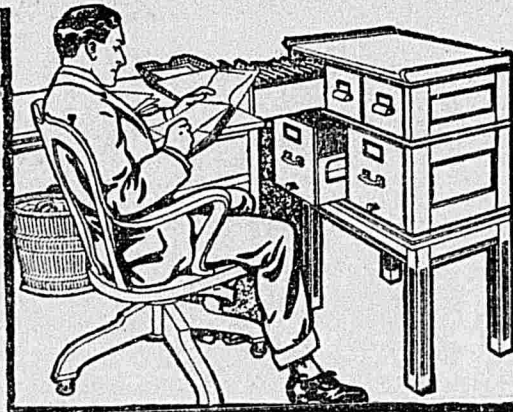
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