

His people here. The first week after arriving in Aintab a man and his wife desired baptism, and as it was our rule to send all applicants to Brother Larkis, the presiding Elder, (he being now ordained to that office), we also sent these. He told us that in his judgment they were not just ready yet. He said the man was about to go out into the village to trade with cheap jewelry to beat the villagers if possible. Now, he said, this is not becoming a Saint. He instructed the man to work honestly for his living if he wanted the blessings of God, and not engage in anything so questionable. He promised he would take the counsel and work at home as he had work and pay his debt. Brother Larkis further said that if he failed to do this and went out to the villages, he would probably be robbed and hurt besides. In a few days we heard the man had left for the villages, the temptation to make easy money being too great for him to withstand. But how swift the judgments of God. The man went and in a few days his wife received a telegram that her husband was at Marash, a city about ninety miles north, robbed and wounded, and for her to come at once.

A few days ago our brethren from Sivas, Elders Dekran Shahabian and Nishan Sherinian, arrived; they had been more than two weeks on the road. How pleased we were to see them, we had waited so long. When we met we embraced and wept with joy, the most impressive being the meeting of Brother Hagob and his cousin Nishan. They embraced and kissed and cried like children. Brother Hagob particularly gave way and cried until he had to be pacified. For nearly three years they had not met. Brother Hagob had been in Zion and was now returning with the blessing of the servants of God and of His holy House, and Brother Nishan had closed up his business to come to meet us two hundred miles and to see an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to assist in the important movement now being carried on in this land. Brother Nishan is a genuine Latter-day Saint; for over seven years the Saints in his town have not seen an Elder and all the time God has protected them, and led them by His Spirit, so that now there are nineteen members and many investigating, and what is remarkable, they are free from false doctrines, which have had some hold in other parts of this mission.

Brother Hagob left immediately with the returning caravan to Sivas, and Brother Nishan was invited to go with us and to assist us in our work.

Our health has been good, Brother Lund's excellent. The Saints have treated us well and done all to make us comfortable. We had a room which they furnished for us. Here we spread our beds upon the floor, having good, heavy quilts to sleep on. The food was as good as could be expected, and as we are in a strange land, of course, we have to have strange things; their seasoning and preparing seems to be the greatest trouble with the food.

Kind regards to all our friends from Brother Lund, Brother Maycock, Brother Larsen, Brother Nishan, and from your humble servant,

F. F. HINTZE.

Aintab, Asia Minor, April 15, 1898.

Our experience at Kilis was comical. Brother Lund had a camera along and as the crowd here was mixed indeed, made up of men, women and children, camels, horses and donkeys, and not forgetting the everlasting dog of Turkey, the scene seemed perfect for the occasion and we got the lieutenant to go down on the market, which was just under our window, to quiet the crowd. He succeeded, and after a

successful attempt to take their pictures had been made, we were astonished to find, in a few minutes, a large crowd at our door wishing to see the pictures. We had to explain to them that this was out of the question, as it took time to develop them. Later on we found one man shivering with fear because he was told his picture had been taken and would be sent to America and would probably be sold for money. The poor fellow was found by your correspondent in some uncertainty as to whether or not he would be a prisoner or what would become of him. He was comforted. Another fellow with a camel loaded with twigs for sale, was taken by surprise, for he did not observe that his camel and twigs had been photographed. When informed he was much concerned, as he was not certain that his twigs could be sold, and as he did not understand the process, he was not right sure but that his twigs had in some mysterious way been injured; hence to save the situation and be sure that no one would hear of his misfortunes and thus refuse to buy his load at the usual prices, he moved to another place.

At Kilis the weather was very cold and during the night a heavy frost proved quite injurious. In the low places a great many fine olive trees were winter killed. Olives and grapes and figs seem to flourish here, and in the immediate neighborhood of this town a great deal of fine fruit is grown. The road from Kilis to Aintab, a distance of 36 miles, is in places quite rough and volcanic. The snows having just melted off, the trail was still soft. This piece of road was made on horseback, riding on pack saddles. Everything proved that the winter had been very severe. Reports from the high mountains of Asia Minor stated that many had frozen to death, and that even babies in many places had died with cold in the cradles. This seems awful, of course, but it is possible, as the people have no stoves. Their houses are often poor and the cold walls and damp floors are never warmed through. Besides, the babies are not dressed as warmly here as in Europe and America. In the place of a dry, warm cotton flannel wrap they are bedded in fine, dry clay for cleanliness in the cradle; around the body the mother wraps a cloth, and when a change becomes needed, the clay is taken off and dried for use again, etc. It is a wonder that many more do not die from such treatment.

At length we reached Aintab in safety, and our soldier, whom the government had sent to protect us, was dismissed. He did not refuse his backwash.

We were made welcome at the home of Brother Sarkis Nigoghossians, the presiding Priest. We had not been here long before it was noised around among the Saints that we had arrived. Soon they filled the house and made us welcome. They sang the songs of Zion, which Brother Vizerian had either translated or composed, of which they have 345 in Turkish and 60 in Armenian, in number, all written by hand, and of these there are many copies, and every new Saint takes right hold to copy the hymns, that is, the most important ones. George Vizerian, though now not a member, has been a wonderful worker. He still works in a way and declares his firm conviction that the Gospel is right; but he has not yet been re-baptized, owing to some peculiar circumstances.

The Saints were happy indeed. Many of them were my old acquaintances. Most of them had seen me. Many of them had received their first knowledge of the Gospel from me nine years ago. Great was our joy at meeting. Tears

of joy rolled down our cheeks when we met. Your humble servant felt blessed indeed. Nine years ago or more he arrived in this city without a friend or acquaintance to bid him welcome, and now there was a branch of thirty souls and about twenty-five ready for baptism. These we soon baptized, seventeen at once, making now (at this writing) a total in the mission of about 104. Our Saints have had many obstacles to contend with in this land, and it is really a wonder that they have been able to hold out as long and well as they have. As yet we have not a book or pamphlet printed in Turkish. Few Elders have visited them and few have been able to talk with them except through an interpreter. Yet they have preserved the faith and many are the testimonies that show that they have been led by the same Spirit that has accompanied the Saints wherever they have been found. We have had much joy in listening to them relate how God protected them through the troubles which the Armenians had. One man says he saved his life by saying he was a Mormon. The villain, not knowing what that was, spared him. The Saints in Zara fasted and prayed for seven days when they saw the murder clouds gather around their town. The result was God raised up a few staunch friends just in time and saved the city. Although they saw them sharpen their swords and parade the streets, they believed God would save them, and He did.

Many are investigating, and it is likely more will be added to the fold of Christ here. Apostle Anton H. Lund's visit to this mission has been of a very great benefit to the people, and they recognize it as a special blessing from the Lord.

F. F. HINTZE.

BATTLE AT CARDENAS BAY.

Key West, Fla., May 12.—When the United States gunboat Hudson came up to the government dock at 8 o'clock this morning, the bodies of five dead men were lying upon her deck. They were the remains of Ensign W. Bagley and four members of the crew of the torpedo boat Winslow, who were killed in an engagement at Cardenas harbor yesterday. The bodies were covered with the Stars and Stripes.

In the cabin of the Hudson was Captain J. B. Bernadou of the Winslow, who is slightly injured in the left leg, and several others of the Winslow's crew who are slightly injured.

The dead are: Ensign North Bagley, John Vervoris, oiler; Josiah Tunnett, cabin cook; George B. Meeks, fireman, first-class, and J. Daniel, fireman.

The engagement took place inside the harbor of Cardenas. The gunboat Wilmington, the torpedo boat Winslow, and the gunboat Hudson, were the only vessels engaged.

They entered the harbor for the purpose of attacking some Spanish gunboats which were known to be there. These latter, however, were not discovered by the American force until the Spaniards opened fire. The land batteries of the Cardenas supported the fire of the Spanish gunboats.

The engagement commenced at 2:05 p.m., and lasted about an hour.

The wounded are: B. E. Cox, gunner's mate; D. McKeon, quartermaster; J. Patterson, fireman; F. Gray, and Lieut. J. B. Bernadou.

All are slightly wounded except Patterson, whose condition is serious. Ensign Bagley was appointed from North Carolina on September 7, 1895.

The battle, while it lasted, was terrific. The Wilmington and the Hudson were ahead and opened fire on the Spanish boats, which were lying at the dock. The firing began at a range of about 3,500 yards. A few minutes later,