

Russia every year steal a child or two from "Christian" parents. This child they kill, and sprinkle the flour from which the bread is made with its blood. This blood-sprinkled flour is then sent around the world to the Jews, so that they may be able to celebrate their Passover properly by eating Christians.

Despite this blood-curdling tale, I have tasted the bread and found it really excellent. But just think of such tales being invented and circulated! I do not believe the "Mormons" have yet been accused of eating children, and the fact that such tales are believed in Russia accounts for the hatred there shown to the Jews, as well as indicating that the hour of their delivery is near. When the hatred has reached its climax the Jews will have to leave Russia—this "land of the north," and where can they go but to Palestine?

A knowledge of the customs of the Jews is necessary to the right understanding of many passages in the New Testament. One of these is Luke vi: 1. In this verse the original has the words: *sabbato deysteroproto*, which, rendered literally would be the second first Sabbath—an expression somewhat hard to understand. It has, however, become perfectly clear to me now. I have already mentioned that the Passover commenced on the 15th of Abib. This was the great Sabbath, and the first one of the ecclesiastical year. From the next Sabbath they counted seven Sabbaths to the feast of Pentecost, when they celebrated the feast of their completed harvest. This Sabbath was consequently the second in the ecclesiastical, but the first of the seven Sabbaths intervening between Passover and Pentecost. It was therefore literally the second-first, however odd this expression may seem to us.

Now to other matters. Two or three days ago a considerable number of tourists were seen coming into Haifa on horses and mules, as the custom of this country requires. They all wended their way to the steamship office. Some time later the said tourists were seen with that peculiar expression on their faces which indicates disappointment, "longitude of nose," as a geographical friend of mine, a "latitudinarian" in language, once put it. On enquiry it was learned that the disappointment was caused by the fact that no tickets could be had at this office for this trip of the steamer. This is really a misfortune here, where a ship calls only once every other week. Travel overland always comes expensive, and is hard work besides. What was the reason that no tickets could be had? Well, the boiler of the ship had not exploded, neither had the captain, crew and all jumped overboard, nor was the ship filled up with passengers. The cause was this: His Majesty, King Milan, of Serbia, had telegraphed to the company that he wished the steamship exclusively for his trip from Beynith to Constantinople, and that, therefore, no passengers could be boarded on this trip. That is how kings travel. He was to

have the ship, and the other tourists could stand there with their "long noses" or continue on horseback as far as they desired. I do not know that I have any prejudice against anyone on account of social position. A king can be as honest and good a man as anybody, but on that account he ought not to inconvenience everybody else. The Austrian Steamship Company, which for a sum of money favored a king and disappointed the public, did not know what it was doing, for certainly it does not live by kings but by common mortals.

I wonder if King Milan thinks that Serbia is the greatest country under the sun? I know that the Americans think so of America; and I have also heard that Englishmen are ready to prove any moment that England is the most wonderful and the greatest power on earth. Russia positively claims to be greater than any other power, and lately I have been convinced by Germans that Germany is not only the greatest power that exists, but the greatest that ever was or ever will be. As for Turkey, there is not a Turk who does not think that his countrymen, if they wanted to, could rise up and wipe off the whole of Europe from the face of the earth! I wonder, too, if Serbia is not the greatest power on earth! If so, the king may be excused for wanting a steamboat all to himself—even if he did not have one of his own.

I must not forget to say a word about the weather. It is indeed beautiful here. The days are warm and sunny, the nights delightfully cool. Once or twice already the sirocco, that dreaded scorching east wind, has visited us, accompanied by flies and mosquitoes innumerable. When that wind comes it is very hot indeed. I have observed 30 degrees Celsius in the shade. The wind lasts three days and sometimes seven, and is very trying to foreigners. The harvest has commenced and promises pretty fair round Haifa. For my own part, I am living in the care of God, happy in the contemplation of His mercies in the past, and trying to exercise faith in His promises for the future.

J. M. S.

HAIFA, May 1st, 1889.

BEAR LAKE NOTES.

The Fourth of July was appropriately celebrated in this northern valley. At Montpelier they had a procession, and a gathering in a bowery, music by the brass band, recitations, reading of the Declaration of Independence, an oration by R. S. Spence, base ball games, horse racing in the afternoon and a ball in the evening. There was too great a quantity of ardent spirits afloat for the good of the people.

At Paris the people gathered at Passey's grove, where they had a good programme and an enjoyable time. There was a ball in the evening, at which the best of order prevailed. No one appeared to have

imbibed "intoxicants and all was quiet."

Bloomington had the best celebration of the Fourth that the people there have ever had.

A boy five years old was accidentally thrown from a wagon by the wheels going into a chuck-hole and had his leg broken. This happened on the morning of the Fourth.

The lack of water is causing trouble in this valley. There never has been known a time of such scarcity. The Bouthwell Company are laying claim to the lake and have started work to make it into a reservoir to supply their canal scheme for Ogden. They also propose to put in a dam and raise the lake five to ten feet in high water in the early spring, then by dredging the outlet to draw off the water of the lake. The people of Bear Lake Valley are greatly concerned regarding the matter, for if this plan is carried out, the lowering of the outlet will ruin most of their valuable meadows by draining the water from it and making it too dry to produce good hay. The hay crop will be short on account of the drought.

It is reported that eastern parties have purchased the warm mineral springs near the outlet of the lake, near the east side of the valley, and propose to establish a health resort, as the springs possess potential medicinal properties.

The stock range is poor here this season. The grass has dried upon the hills.

H. S. Woolley goes east today with a train load of cattle for the Blackfoot cattle company.

The work on the Stake Tabernacle is being pushed. The ceiling is put up and is of the Queen Ann style. It presents a pleasing appearance. The internal finish surpasses that of any other house in the west.

Paris has its mining excitement and some of her citizens are carrying rocks in their pockets, hoping to make colossal fortunes from their claims.

Haying season has just begun.

The roads are deep with dust. A rain shower would be acceptable.

TRAVELER.

PARIS, July 6th, 1889.

The late Peleg W. Chandler, who was hard of hearing, was one of the most effective of war-time speakers. Every occasion illustrated his eloquence, and one demonstrated the quickness of his repartee. At one meeting he was frequently interrupted by a blackguard at the rear of the hall, who kept shouting: "Why don't you go yourself?"

For a time Mr. Chandler's deafness prevented him from catching the exacting nature of the interruption of which he had been for some time conscious. At last Mr. Chandler caught the words of the disturber. Then, in the mildest accents, which emphasized the force of the words, he said:

"Young man, if my ears were as good as yours and as long as yours I shouldn't be here to-night."