

rooms. We went in, I should judge, about five hundred feet and would have gone further, had we possessed more lanterns. The natives claim that the cave is several miles long, and relates a story of a woman who many years ago got lost in there, but who finally succeeded in reaching the top of the ground through an opening near Mua, three miles away. This is undoubtedly an exaggeration, but it is nevertheless a very interesting and extensive underground system—by far the largest cave I have ever seen. If such a cave were situated in a thickly populated country, or on a regular route of travel, it would be visited by tens of thousands of people. On our return to Mua, we took another more round-about road, in order to avoid the wet grass in the "bush," and thus passed through the village of Haveliu. Being hungry, we also helped ourselves to a niu, the native name for a cocoa-nut, and a papau or pummy apple, called by the natives olesi, which in taste and size resembles American mush melon. We drank the milk of the cocoa-nut and ate its flesh with much relish. There is a law in Tonga which authorizes traveling people who are hungry to enter anybody's premises and help themselves to all the fruit they can eat; but they are not at liberty to waste or to carry any away. If Tonga lay on the way of the genuine American tramp, I am afraid that that law would be very much allured; but there are no real tramps in Tonga.

Sunday, Sept. 1st. Two general meetings were held at the mission house at Mua. Only a few children attended the forenoon meeting, while a nice little congregation of adult natives attended the afternoon services and listened attentively to a discourse on the first principles of the Gospel and the Book of Mormon by Elder Durham. This being the first Sunday of the month, it was observed as fast day, and in the evening at our little testimony meeting, the Sacrament was administered, and all the brethren spoke. It was observed that we seven Elders who had spent nearly two weeks in pleasant association together would most likely never meet again in the same place, three of us being about to depart for other fields of labor. Late in the afternoon, in company with Elder Durham, I visited the neighboring village of Halaki, situated about one-half mile southwest of the mission house. At this village stands a very large banyan tree, (native name ovava) the combined trunk roots of which measures about one hundred feet in circumference. It grows partly out of the water of the lagoon and partly from the steep bank, and is by far the largest tree on the island of Tongatabu.

ANDREW JENSON.

NEIAFU, Vavau, Tonga, Sept. 9th 1895.

OUR STOCKHOLM LETTER.

STOCKHOLM, December 4th.—Mrs. Eva Nansen, the wife of Dr. Frithiof Nansen, the brave Norwegian explorer, who is now on his way to the North pole, has just given a couple of concerts in Stockholm, one of which was attended by King Oscar and the Princes. The large hall of the Academy of Music was at both occasions filled by a very enthusiastic audience. Mrs. Nansen is a cantatrice of rank, and has besides, a very lovely appearance. Being interviewed by your correspondent, who inquired, if

she had not already begun to wait for the far away husband, she answered smilingly: "Oh no, two years from now—not before—is it time to expect him, and I know he will surely come back," she added with a firm voice.

Many offers, among those several from the United States, have been made to purchase the summer-house of Emanuel Swedenborg, the famous scientific spiritist, whose doctrine has, perhaps, a larger number of confessors in the United States than in Europe. At the same time great efforts have been made to keep it in Sweden, which have at last been crowned with success. The summer-house was a few days ago sold to Dr. Arthur Hazelius the founder of the great Northern Museum at Stockholm, and will now be removed from its present place, a backyard in Stockholm, to Skansen, a zoological garden and a branch of the aforesaid museum. As it will be known, Swedenborg is said to have experienced most of his visions in this little house.

Mrs. Filand N. Gore, born at Stockholm, but was married to Professor J. Howard Gore of the Columbian University in Washington, has some time been visiting with relatives in Dalecarlia. She now returns to the capital of the United States, where she intends to lecture on the peculiar customs and manners of the Dalecarlian people, taking with her for this purpose quite a number of national costumes.

A lecture on the Swedes in America was recently held by Editor Ernst Lindblom in the hall of the Academy of Science of Stockholm, the lecture being for the benefit of the John Ericsson monument to be erected in that city. With one Ericsson monument in New York, another at Filinstad and a third soon to be erected in the city of Gothenburg, the famous inventor of the Monitor will have no less than four monuments raised in his honor. Certainly, were he able to speak now, the plain man, as he was in life, he would give an order to raise them all.

The Stockholm Aftonbladet has purchased about fifty pair of letter carrying pigeons from Belgium. Chief engineer S. A. Andree, who intends to strike out for the North pole next summer by means of a balloon, will carry the birds along with him in his air vessel for the purpose of letting them loose by crowds as the journey proceeds. In that way, the Aftonbladet believes, the world at large will not be in ignorance of the fate—be it success or failure—of this original expedition. The pigeons are to be trained on the northern coast of Norway in such way that fishing vessels will conduct them as far north as possible, thereupon letting them loose that they may find their way back to the pigeon house, from which the dispatches will be wired to the Stockholm paper.

A rumor is out according to which Prince Carl, the third son of King Oscar is to marry Princess Elizabeth, the twenty-six year old daughter of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

The Danish minister of foreign affairs has received a dispatch from the Spanish government, who complains that Danish steamers have carried volunteers, guns and ammunition to the insurgents on Cuba. On that account the minister has (through a proclamation) warned all Danish ship-brokers and ship-owners by taking part in such dangerous expeditions, as the Danish government can do

nothing for them, in case their ships should be overtaken by Spanish men-of-war and confiscated.

The next Norwegian Storting will be asked to grant an appropriation in order that Norway be represented in a worthy manner at the great industrial exposition to be held at Stockholm in 1897. Even Denmark and some other European countries will be represented at the same.

As perhaps known an expression of opinions in favor of negotiations has been prevailing both in Sweden and Norway during the last month. On the kings part steps were first taken to open negotiations, and since the formation of the new ministry in Norway, called especially in view of negotiations with Sweden, the two governments have nominated a commission of fourteen members—seven chosen by each—to devise a plan, which shall put an end to the differences. This is probably already known to the readers of the NEWS. It remains, therefore, only to say that serious negotiations, which will probably embrace a thorough revision of the act of union have now been opened. The difficult thing will be to bring them to a satisfactory issue. The first requisite for this is that there be on both sides an honest intention and a dispassionate temper. In this regard the evidence which has been exhilarated by unreasonable men in both countries, has done much evil. No real danger of a disturbance of the peace on the Scandinavian peninsula has, however, arisen therefrom. Maybe that after these vaporings the public tempeament will become all the more calm and consiliatory.

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

Perhaps one of the most fitting and appropriate celebrations ever held by the Saints in commemoration of the Prophet Joseph Smith's birthday, was that which took place in the Sixteenth ward meeting-house December 28, commencing at the hour of 6:30. It was the ninetieth anniversary of his birth and there were present in the congregation twenty-six persons who had been acquainted with the Prophet in Missouri and Illinois, twelve of whom were related to him. The names of the twenty-six are as follows: Joseph R. Smith, John Smith, Lucy W. Smith, Ellen M. Smith, H. P. Richards, George Romney, Bishop Kessler, John McDonald, Elizabeth Jeffs, Jane Carrington Young, Theodore Curtiss, B. W. Aldrich, Elizabeth P. Nebeker, Rachel Tanner, Mary Ann Burnham, Mary Emma Terry, W. E. Wilcox, M. W. Wilcox, H. B. Clawson, O. G. Workman, Joseph C. Kingsbury, Eben Barrus, James Leach, James W. Phippen, Archie M. Hill and Seymour B. Young.

The services were presided over by Bishop Kessler of the Sixteenth ward, and during the rendition of the following exercises, refreshments consisting of sandwiches, cakes, oranges, etc., were distributed by a number of the young ladies present, to those assembled. During the meeting a good spirit prevailed and all seemed to enjoy themselves immensely.

The choir, under the leadership of George H. Tuomas, and congregation, sang as an offering hymn:

Praise to the man, etc.

Prayer was offered by Elder Joseph O. Kingsbury.