



Marash, Turkey.

Apr. 23, 1920.

Dear Family:

Great doings in Marash! Mail came a couple of days ago from America, and I got a letter! An order had been issued that no mail could be sent or received unless written in Turkish, but Dr. Wilson sent a telegram to Mustapha Kemal protesting against this. As a result Mustapha sent orders to Marash that we could send & receive letters provided they were censored. So I got a letter, but the censor cut out everything but the envelope, and all I got was an empty envelope with a Washington postmark! Mr. Lyman got several magazines, one of them the Manchester Guardian, which had a few remarks to make about Marash and Anteb. From what the article said (written Feb. 20) it seemed that the outside world had not received the true report of the Marash affair by Feb. 20th. According to the paper, the French press was still in favor of giving Cilicia to the Turks. Apparently nobody in Europe cares what happens to the Armenians.

The political situation here changes quite often and no one ever knows what will happen next. There has been quite a scare here for the last few days. The news from Anteb was decidedly bad (from Turkish viewpoint), as the Turks were apparently getting the worst of it. They say here that the French attacked from three sides and shelled the city, destroying the Turkish quarters & killing many soldiers. As a result the Turks withdrew from the city & are remaining on the edge side next to Marash, in



2/ order to prevent the French from coming here. The Aintab
Turks have appealed for help, so practically all the Marash
men have gone, & only a few are left here. But these few
are making enough trouble. They gathered a few days
ago & made a demonstration against their governor
calling him "Gower", which means "Christian Dog".
They drew up written charges against him, as follows:—
1st. He has been friendly to the Christians, the Armenians and
Americans.
2nd. He protested when the Turks burned and looted Armenian
houses.
3rd. He goes riding in the American automobiles, etc.
They threatened to kill him if he should attempt to go
to his office, so he resigned, but didn't dare leave the
city. At present he has regained a little favor but
has no power, Arslan Bey (the "cheta" leader) being in
power now. Arslan Bey told Dr. Wilson that all the
Americans owe their lives to him, as the Turks had
decided to kill all of us and all the remaining Armenians
a few days after the French left, when they heard of the
murder of Dr. Mustapha in our hospital. Even now we
aren't any too sure of our position, and from every
side we hear little things that show us how much we
are loved. Today the rumor came that the chetas were
going to kill Dr. Wilson & Mr. Lyman first, as they
have the most influence on the government, then they
could kill all the other Americans & Armenians without
any interference. The Moslems have a peculiar
way of telling what they intend to do. A Moslem
woman passing Miss Buckley on the street stopped
long enough to say "You have two days to live".



3/ Today Miss Timm (^{the only} one of the German Mission workers whom the British allowed to stay here) was coming across the city thru the Turkish quarter, when a Moslem woman in a doorway stopped her and asked her to come in a moment & talk. Miss Timm stepped inside & the door was closed behind her. There were several Turkish women in the room. They were so ignorant to keep their mouths shut & blabbed a whole lot of things that the Turkish men would never say openly. First they asked Miss Timm if she was an "Alleman, or a Gower" (a German, or a Christian Dog.) She answered, "Alleman" (German). You see the Turks don't class the Germans with the Christians! When they found Miss Timm was a nurse in the hospital for Turkish wounded they talked freely, telling all the latest news - that the French were destroying Antab, & that all their sons & husbands had been sent to help fight the French & keep them from coming to Marash. They said, too, that the Americans helped the French & not the Turks & that the Americans had machine guns in their houses.

Today the market was closed again, & all Moslems were called together. About three P.M. I heard a great shouting at the hospital gate & ran down to see what was going on. A great crowd of Turks were gathered around their big banners, & a Dervish was crying out "Mustapha Kemal yashasin!" and all the Turks would shout together "Amin!" (Long live Mustapha! Amen!) Then they paraded down the street, & celebrated the rest of the afternoon by firing their cannon on the citadel, and by a big picnic in a garden outside the city.



4/ Their leaders lectured to them today, telling them to be friendly with the Armenians, & that they fear the French, & can see that if the French come to Marash again they will take revenge if for these massacres.

We are all prepared for trouble, & have big stocks of rice, etc on hand in all the American compounds and orphanages. Mr. Lyman is staying in Beitschallan (the most hated by the Turks), & I am living in the Turkish hospital, & the others are in the American mission compounds.

It will be Mother's birthday in a few days, but I guess I can't send anything now, ^{not} even a letter. Hope you all celebrate the event properly.

I hope I don't have to wait till I start home, to mail these letters I've written. Anyhow I must close now & stick this in a drawer with the others to wait.

Lots of love to everybody at home. Hope some letters are on the way here from America.

Stanley.

P.S. Will enclose some photos of work lately.

SSM.