

Aleppo, Syria.

June 29, 1919.

Dear Mother,

Today is a scorcher, but I guess I can write a short letter. All the Americans say they never felt such heat, but this house is quite cool. Just now I'm living in the house of Dr. Altoonian, the Armenian representative at the peace conference. He wanted the Americans to occupy it while he was away, and as the Major who was ~~staying~~ staying here went away, Sunnaway & I were fortunate enough to get here. It is a wonderful old house, full of old Persian & Turkish rugs, & all the comforts you could want, including a bath tub. It's the first I've seen in Turkey. Major Trowbridge just came back a few hours ago so Sunnaway & I will move out again. The Major has been away for a couple of weeks to Der El Zor on the Euphrates trying to take Armenian girls from Arabs, but with rather disappointing results. Only one of 30 was willing to come, the rest all said they wished to remain Moslems. Most of them were only about eleven or twelve yrs. old when taken and now don't want to leave their children & Mohammedan friends. The Major discovered one little boy in a dirty Arab village and brought him home, & he turned out to be the brother of one of the servants in his house. He is down stairs, now & says the Arabs are better than the Americans. Here in Aleppo Sunnaway has the same trouble, but he takes the girls whether they like it or not, & after a few days in the Refuge Home they are very happy. I've been with





him on a few of his rescue parties & think he has the most interesting job here. He also runs an employment bureau, a relief bureau for distributing money where needed, & is now starting a few industries on the side, such as rug weaving, lace making, etc.

Our dispensary is running full blast & very soon two more hospitals will open here in Aleppo. The lab work is increasing all the time, and it begins to look as if I might be kept here in Aleppo some time.

Things are moving pretty fast all the time. Two or three days ago the British had a battle with the Kurds near Urfa, & the Kurds had about 300 casualties. A cannon has been booming for over an hour from the hill here in Aleppo, but I guess it is the Arabs celebrating the Feast of Ramadan. The British uncovered another plot to resume massacres at Adana recently, & are on the watch all over. Major Knowlidge, who just came back from Der El Zor says skulls & bones were seen everywhere. Some caves and old buildings were heaped with bones. The native who helps me in the lab is one of twenty who survived out of 4,000 deported from Aintab to Der El Zor. He has some horrible things to tell. His brother, a Yale graduate was killed. He told me one very interesting thing. The men of Zeitoun banded together, about thirty of them, and managed to keep together in the mountains all during the war, fighting the Turks, & killed great numbers of them. I have a picture of the leader of this band & will enclose it if I can find it. Two of their band were killed and in revenge the rest of them wiped out a Turk village.

One of our men came down from Derinje & brought some news. Dr. Usher & Dr. Husch are returning to U.S. on account of overwork. Practically everybody has left Derinje except a





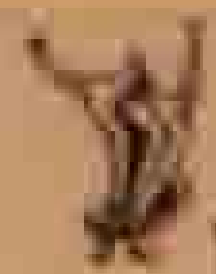
small staff to take care of the warehouses. A great many more went to the Caucasus to help out there. The unit to Harport finally got there after much difficulty.

The report about the daughter of the American consul at Constantinople being killed at Beirut was wrong, but she was badly injured, + also the other girls. I guess that is about all the news. I wish you would send me a copy of that paper put out by the A.R.N.E. committee in New York. We don't know a thing about what is going on in other parts of Turkey nor in the U.S. I heard there had been a transatlantic flight, also that peace was signed.

I got a bunch of letters two days ago including one from Marion, one from mother, + one from Dad from Wernersville, + a card from Stuart from Lancaster. I was glad to get them + especially to hear that you + Dad took a little vacation. Also had a letter from Elliott, in which he told me to address him at Darby from now on. Also one from Harold Voelkel which I'll answer as soon as possible. I guess people think of me as writing once in a while, but it is really hard to get time to write. Also had a letter from Aunt Martha. The package hasn't come yet, but is at Derindje, I hear. Eighty or ninety carloads of supplies are on the way from Derindje to Aleppo, mostly clothing, hospital supplies, etc. Refugees are still piling in so fast that it doesn't take long to give out all the blankets + clothes in sight.

Must close now. Hope all are well + happy at home. I was S.H. up to two days ago when something of ate gave my stomach an awful kick, but it is all right now + I'll





go back to work tomorrow. This native food is enough to get anybody's goat. For about a month it is all right, then you get sick of the sight of rice & vegetable marrow. We are plotting to either kill our cook or fire the housekeeper. Everybody seems to be getting fat just the same.

Glad to hear the two courts will be used this summer. Wish I could have a set myself. Love to all the family,

Dear to the ladies..

from

Stanley

P.S. Was interested to hear about Dorcas being in Turkey. He will probably be in Aleppo soon, + Durra + I will give her a Pennsylvania party.

A Miss Schalty in our party knows Mabel Kurtz + asks to be remembered to her. She is at Marash, I think.

P.S. next day The cannonade was due to celebration of peace. Today sounds like the Fourth of July.

June 29