

Story of An Attempt to Dynamite the Holy Sepulcher



His beatitude - The Patriarch of Jerusalem

Copyright, 1910, by Frank G. Carpenter.
BEETHLEHEM—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—Palestine is boiling and seething with the quarrels of religious fanatics. Every sacred place in the country is claimed by the Greeks, Latins, Armenians and Copts. The holiest spots are divided up into sections, and lines are drawn here and there indicating the church to which each part belongs. The various sects are divided among themselves as to who shall control the monasteries, convents and other institutions belonging to them, and the quarrelling goes on over the very spot where Christ was born and upon that where it is supposed the crucifixion took place.

Dynamiting the Holy Sepulcher.
 These quarrels are serious. Knives are frequently drawn and many are killed. A short time ago a monk was shot by an Austrian pilgrim in the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem, and just before last Easter a gigantic candle was sent to Jerusalem, addressed to the care of certain priests. This candle was nine feet high and two feet thick, and as far as its outward appearance was concerned seemed to be entirely of wax. It was shipped in from abroad, and was intended to be lit outside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and to burn there while the celebrations were at their highest. At that time the church would have been filled with Greeks, Armenians, Latins and Abyssinians. When the candle came to Jaffa the customs officers held it for duties, and sent word to the priests to come and get it. They failed to appear, whereupon it was cut open and 6,000 little dynamite balls were found inside it. Had it exploded at the time of festivities 10,000 or more people would probably have lost their lives.

The War of the Greeks.
 That candle was probably sent by a Greek who is disgruntled at the church, and in his desire for revenge cared not how many he killed. There is a great war going on among the Greeks, and I am told that some of the factions have refused to go to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher until their wrongs are righted. Turkey has now a new constitution, by which it is provided that every sect shall own and control its own churches and church property. The Greek church here is ruled by outsiders, and the Greeks who are natives of Palestine claim that they have the right to the church and church property. There have already been numerous riots between these Greeks and the foreign monks, and not long ago the people demanded that the patriarch, or head of the Greek church, resign. The native monks threatened to put him out, and the Mohammedan authorities here wired Constantinople as to what they should do. The sultan has favored the outsiders. He telegraphed the patriarch to hold on, but nevertheless there were more riots, the people rose and the patriarch is here now only on sufferance.

Monks Who Control Millions.
 The fight among the Greeks is to some extent sentimental, but it is also largely one for the loaves and fishes. The Greeks are the most powerful religious body in Palestine, and their property runs high into the millions. They have monasteries, convents and hospices scattered over the Holy Land from Dan to Beersheba, and at all of these the pilgrims who travel over the country make contributions. Some of the places are so valuable that the priests in charge are said to pay a neat sum of \$100 or more a year for the privilege of preaching at the church, and expecting to recoup themselves from the gifts of the pilgrims. Here in Jerusalem there are thirty-five Greek monasteries and other buildings managed by 60 monks. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the greater part of which belongs to the Greeks, brings in tens of thousands of pounds every year to the church. There are thousands of Russians who make pilgrimages to this city, and each is expected to leave an offering according to his wealth and spiritual desires.

The Patriarch of Jerusalem.
 During my stay here I have had an interview with the patriarch of the Greek church. He is the pope of this part of the world as far as that denomination is concerned, and he controls the vast possessions owned by the Greeks in the Holy Land. I am told that the income of the church is something like \$1,000,000 a year, and that the greater part of this fund is administered by him. I have met the pope at Rome, but his holiness does not appear in such splendor as does the patriarch of Jerusalem. The patriarch comes out upon state occasions in hat and gown, decorated with diamonds, emeralds and rubies. His clothes are of woven gold and silver, and the bishops who march with him have crosses of diamonds which hang from their necks, and they are gowned in gold and silver brocade.

Laying an Ocean Cable.
 The cable-laying steamship *Colonia*, owned by the firm of British contractors, who are laying a cable for the Western Union Telegraph company between England and New York, was off New York for coal and supplies necessary to complete the cable, the end of which is now buoyed up 120 miles off Cape Island.

Equipment of Wellman Airship.
 The abandoned Wellman airship was equipped with a complete lighting system, telephone system and wireless outfit. It is the Boston Transcript, in its opinion, that the most serious difficulty in designing the installation was the necessity for the insulation and the flexibility of the generator. The insulation problem arose from the fact that the steel frame of the ship serves as the aerial of the wireless station. The other difficulty was caused by the necessity of providing against the stoppage of any one or two of the three engines, in which event the generator would have to be moved and connected with a live engine. To procure adequate insulation, a special order was specified, consisting of B. & S. No. 8 gauge stranded copper covered with a fine asbestos shield and immersed in rubber solidified to a coating of 1/4-inch thick. This was then spun with jute to give tensile strength, and the strands woven in fabric, and treated to fireproof solution. On picture test this insulation withstood 25,000 volts between potentials. The flexibility of the generator enabled the building of three frames, one at each engine, and providing three sets of pulleys and belts to secure the proper speed at each engine. To devise adequate circuits to take care of this portable feature, multiple cable was run from the forward to the aft engine, and a double-throw switch installed, so as to open the multiple at such times as the generator is being operated for reverse position, thus avoiding all chance of grounding on the frame.

Electricity of the Earth.
 In the course of a discussion on a paper by Dr. Chesebrough, read before the British Association, Sir J. J. Thomson said that the crust of the problem of thunderstorms was the question of how the negative electricity was brought back to the earth. He thought that it was almost certain that rain in certain regions was the main factor in supplying the necessary positive electricity required to balance the positive electricity of the surface of the earth. As was well known, there was



MONKS WHO CONTROL MILLIONS

Δείσποτα Κύριε, ὁ Πατήρ τῶν οἰκτιρῶν καὶ Θεὸς πάσης παρακλήσεως, τοῦ ὑποκλιτικῆς Σοῦ τας ἐκπτώτων κεφαλὰς εὐλόγησον, ἀγιάσον, προύρησον, ἐνδυναμῶσον ἀπὸ παντὸς ἔργου πονηροῦ ἀπόστασον, ἀπὸ δ' ἔργῳ ἀγαθῷ συναψὸν τὰ πάντα αὐτοῖς εἰς ἀγαθὴν ἐξουσίαν κατὰ τὴν ἐκάστην ἰδίαν κρίσαν' πλέουσι συμπλευσον, ῥοδοπερθεὶ συνδέουσον, νοσεόντως ἴσται. Ὅτι Σὺ εἰ ἡ πηγή τῶν ἀγαθῶν καὶ Σὺ τὴν δόξαν ἀνεπέμπομεν τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ καὶ τῷ ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Ἀμήν. Ἡ χάρις τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ Πατρὸς καὶ ἡ κοινωνία τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν. Ἀμήν.

THE PATRIARCH'S BLESSING TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

have been picked out to represent the apostles he takes off his grand gown of woven gold and lays aside his domed hat. As he does so his long hair falls to his waist, and he stands forth in plain sight of his people clad in a long robe of cream-colored silk crepe, which is bound in at the waist with a golden-white girdle. He now takes a Turkish bath towel which he

Progressive Activities in the Field of Electricity

experts all along the line may now work on to overcome. It is only a physical question, say these naval and army experts, and they add that they would be very much surprised to find anything to bear out his suggestion that the wireless could not be practically worked in war time.

High Voltage Transformer.
 Probably the highest voltage rating for which a transformer has been designed is that of one recently shipped from the General Electric company's works at Pittsfield to the R. Thomas & Sons company of East Liverpool, O. The latter firm manufactures insulators for transmission lines, and will use the transformer for testing their products. The transformer has a capacity of 500 kw. and is intended to operate to 60 cycles, with a primary voltage of 130 or 2,500 and a secondary voltage of 40,000. The primary winding is placed directly on the core, according to the construction usual in such transformers, and is provided with taps for grounding when connected for either 130 or 2,500 volts. The secondary winding is in the form of a large number of circular disc coils, separately wound and insulated. The coils are finally taped and impregnated with insulating compound, forming a solid mass of winding and insulation. Sectional porcelain insulators support the high-tension winding. Concentric cylinders with flanged ends are placed between the two windings, and between the cylinders are vertical and horizontal ducts through which oil is circulated. The high-tension leads are sectional and are filled with oil. The transformer case is cast iron and contains a manhole to permit the interior to be examined, and this can be done without disturbing any external connections. This transformer has been tested for thirty minutes at 60,000 volts, with the center of the secondary winding grounded, and also at 40,000 volts, with first one and then the other of the secondary terminals grounded. Its efficiency at full load is 94.9 per cent. It occupies a floor space of 5 feet 7 1/2 inches by 19 feet and stands 16 feet 9 1/2 inches high to the top of the leads. It will hold 2,270 gallons of oil and weighs 30,000 pounds.

Current Flashes.
 The New Hampshire state prison has discarded candles and installed electric lights. The largest single telephone exchange in the world is said to be in Hamburg, Germany. Wireless telephoning from a moving train has been successfully accomplished in England. Of thirty electric meters recently tested the one that was most accurate was a New York one that ran too fast, two were slow and the rest were within the legal limit of accuracy. An electric magnet was recently used to "fish" a broken steel drill from the bottom of a 300-foot driven well. The magnet not only brought up the broken drill but all the metal particles or borings which were in the hole. Italy is developing all kinds of electrical conveniences. Railways are springing up in all parts of the country, water powers are being harnessed and the current is being applied to the industries. Nearly all of the larger towns and cities now enjoy electric lights.

Defects in Wireless on Warships.
 The recent battle practice of the Atlantic fleet off the Virginia capes, says the New York Tribune, disclosed defects in the wireless telegraph apparatus that will be productive of renewed efforts to perfect that line of work. The navy experts would be surprised to find any troubles not susceptible of improvement as the result of the experiments and the inventive ingenuity of its men engaged, both in the practical operation of the system aboard ship and in researches looking to making the wireless one of the vital features of naval efficiency as reliable as possible.

Future Christianiaity.
 I asked his holiness as to the life of the priests and whether he thought it was as good as that of the hermits who lived in the second and third centuries after Christ. He replied that he had no doubt that the time would probably be far in the future. I was surprised to hear him speak well of the Protestants, and to say that all Christian sects would eventually unite and work together as one for the salvation of man.

Patriarch Blesses the United States.
 His beatitude was much interested in America, and at my request gave me the blessing which he gives to all true believers, saying that I might transmit it to the American people, each of whom could regard it as being made especially for him. This blessing was given to me in a golden frame. The words are printed in Greek in letters of gold. Literally translated, it reads: "Almighty God, the Father of Mercy and God of Mercy, purify and strengthen these Thy disciples, who now bow before Thee. From every wicked work withdraw them, and in every right action give them Thy aid. Make all things smooth to each according to his wants. Be with those traveling upon the water and upon the land. Comfort the poor and heal the sick. We praise Thee, O our Father, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the source of all righteousness and glory. And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen."

FRANK G. CARPENTER.