

Miss C. O. Van Dyke

ASA

Bridgeton, New Jersey.

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Rev. W. H. Belden.

Bridgeton.

New Jersey.

U. S. Am.





Salmas. Dec. 16th. 1887.

Mr. W. H. Belden.

Dear Sir,

Your letter did not reach me until Oct. and then I had such a pressure of accumulated work that it was impossible for me to reply. I had been away from home six weeks, and every thing was to be done in preparation for winter, for the new missionaries and for a boarding-school. I had scarcely time to write to my own mother.

I am getting a little more time now, and yours is one of the first letters to be answered, but I am too late for your meetings.

I earnestly hope for they ever an success in the highest sense of the word, and that we shall

reap the fruits of them in the near future. Our work here in Salmas is a new one as far as the Armenians are concerned, and it is with special reference to them that a station was started here. You probably know that I came here from Erzeroum, wh. had been my headquarters for sixteen years. I like the place very much, and there is very much of work to be done. Salmas is a plain containing numerous villages, Armenian, Nestorian, and Turkish. and everywhere we go the people "hear us gladly" but the priests interfere.

We have eight boarders, and twelve day scholars in our girls' school, which is newly opened. There are fifteen boys in the boys' school. There are Sabbath services at every week, and the congregation is twenty or thirty, but men come steadily. In this village Haftivan, we have a great many friends, but no one has yet come out on our side, and the priests are

doing their best to prevent people from coming to us. There have been no missionaries here yet, ^{to stay} except Mr. & Mrs. Wright (she is best) and myself. Mr. Wright speaks Turkish smoothly, and but has learned Armenian since he came here. ^{from Salmas} You know how people prefer their own language. We have now Mr. and Mrs. Michlin, and Miss Robert. just come from America, and they are devoting themselves to the Armenian language. When we have more workers, we hope the work will develop faster.

What a wonderful crisis is awakening there is in America! May the Lord carry it forward until the whole world is converted to him.

I will inclose a report of the last year's work.

Yours truly,

C. O. Vanduzer.