

search lights over the city, five miles
the populace that where there is so
al supply of fire.

amers plying in the Levant and on
os of the company and are not equal
whose vessels we would advise as
Constantinople), the perfect weather we
in resisting the fatigues of the jour-
Smyrna and were delighted to find
in the harbor. Although this smart
squadron did not force the passage of
nian unpleasantness her officers have
ds and learn much about the geo-

Minor while off on leave-of-absence
ar vessel left Smyrna about the same
s of the Greek archipelago a ter an
Smyrna is propably the only live,
an Empire. It has about 300,000
ard appearances of a prosperous and
e could learn this prosperity was
of us who mailed letters here had a
em, as every European nation of any
n. This is the rule in all the large
anomaly, while the international pos-
five cents, one sends a letter to Amer-
e. We visited the native postoffice and
o spoke French and gave us all the
that he could not explain the com-
mal postage. Even in Smyrna the
a glass case at the front door of the
ay read his name on them!

o certain of our party buying venti-
le, was quite uncalled for. Indeed,
delightful summer resort that one
ng breeze blows all day long from
often cold in summer. Rain falls
city is full of trees. There is about
ere in August as there would be for
v.

the heat of the summer season and the
y American tourists in the city, and
otels and their attendant satellites

all our own. We have the pick of the foreign accommodation of all
sorts and are enjoying ourselves immensely. Somebody has dis-
covered that the butter is made from sheep's milk, but even that does
not disturb us.

It is no small matter for us Americans that we have come at the
beginning of the fruit season, and it has helped greatly when con-
fronted by the olive oil messes in which the oriental delights. Fresh
figs, pears, nectarines, all sorts of grapes, melons, tomatoes, plums,
peaches, etc., are here in abundance. On the street maize is sold,
hot, roasted and boiled, but it is, we have discovered, our
common field variety, and we have looked in vain for the sweet corn
of our native land. The city has greatly improved since the days of
Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad" (the importation of which into
Turkey is expressly forbidden), but most of the scenes descended in
that inimitable guide book are still true to life. We have run across
a number of interesting things, however, that he does not speak of.
The fire department, for instance, exhibits some of those mysteries
forever impenetrable to the Anglo-Saxon, that one constantly encoun-
tered in this eastern country. There are in the city half a dozen sta-
tions, each manned by some twenty or thirty men and provided with a
small hand engine of the pattern of 1852 and two or three vehicles
filled with ladders from eight to twelve feet long. As the streets are
generally mere passages or lanes too narrow for horses, the engines are
dragged or carried by the firemen. Several high towers have been
built in various quarters of the city, and from these watchmen look
out for conflagrations. As soon as a fire is discovered the local bri-
gade does not at once rush to the rescue. That would be "aping the
infidel dog." Permission must first be given, after due application,
from the Imperial palace to extinguish the fire! Until quite rec ntly
this was obtained by special messenger, but it so happened, not long
since, that a fire started near the Sultan's residence, and there was for
a time extreme danger of its extending to the palace itself before the
nearest brigade arrived. Since then his majesty has graciously per-
mitted a telegraph line to be erected by means of which more direct
communication can be obtained. Last night we saw the force pro-
ceeding (that is the only word that will adequately describe the per-
formance) to a fire which was extinguished after twenty houses had
been destroyed.

The supply of water to the city, it must be acknowledged, is
excellent, and various sultans have done good work in erecting acqu-
educts and extending the pipe service to all parts of the town. Doubt-
less the command of the Koran, to pray five times daily and to bathe