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Provenance:

Category: **Document**Person: **John Alexander Clark**Date:

mission. Fortunately, President Booth's wife had joined him ten days before. Back to Sister Booth and to the Saints he loved, he wended his solitary way, to work out alone, under God's guidance, the destiny of the mission over which he had been called to preside.

ELDER EDGAR DILWORTH SIMMONS

The first elder to die in the Turkish (now the Armenian) mission was Elder Dilworth Simmons, who arrived in the field July 9, 1889. After studying the language with his companion for a few weeks in Aintab, Syria, he was left alone, and in January, 1890, was taken down with smallpox, and after fourteen days, with only native friends to care for him as best they could, he died, on February 4, 1890. He was buried by a kind Protestand minister, known as Budville Krihor. A suitable monument has been placed over his grave. Elder Simmons was 26 years old at the time of his death.

More than two years before this parting, President Hugh J. Cannon and I had miracously met Brother Booth at Haifa, when we were all three on our way to gather and to succor the scattered Armenian Saints. That memorable meeting was about 2 p.m., November 4, 1921. Brother Booth's first desire, following greetings and explanations, was to take us to visit the graves of Elders Adolph Haag and John A. Clark, who sleep in what is known as the German cemetery, just outside Haifa. Later, in Aleppo, we visited the grave of Elder Emil J. Huber, who laid down his life there. Elder Edgar A. Simmons lies buried in Aintab, but we had no opportunity of visiting his resting place. None of us imagined then that President Booth, himself, would also end his earthly labors in that far-away land.

In Vol. 12 of the Improvement Era, under the title "Four Heroes Far Away," Brother Booth has written an account of these brethren and their heroic deaths. He himself now brings the number to five.

The three of us left Haifa for Beirut, a few hours later, where we stayed that night.

At 2:30 p.m., November 8, 1921, we reached Aintab. The alacrity with which the Saints, who, like hunted hares, were living in caves and ruined houses, became informed of our coming, is still an unexplainedmystery to me; but at 5 p.m. seventy-four grateful people, including some who were not yet Church members, assembled in a fairly commodious place to greet us. Only those who beheld the heartfelt welcome which that people gave President Booth can realize what his return to them meant. One kind woman, whose countenance reflected deep and sincere appreciation, expressed the feeling of all when she said: "For seven years we've been in hell, but today we are in heaven."

That evening it was decided that the members of the Church and their near associates should leave Aintab at first opportunity. They would have started that night, if possible.

ELDER ADOLPH HAAG

This brother was the second missionary of our Church to lay down his life in the Armenian mission. he was born in Stuttgart, Germany, February 19, 1865, and, because of his knowledge of German language, was appointed to labor among the people of that race in Haifa, Palestine. After two years of earnest