

Tirana Hospital,  
Tirana Albania  
May 17, 1924

Charles R. Gillet - Esq.  
Dean of Students,  
Union Theol. Seminary  
Broadway 120<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York.

Dear Dr. Gillet -

Your letter has been  
travelling three months in  
search of my address.

At first - I was in Bulgaria  
then Macedonia & now  
in Albania.

Thank you for the  
sympathy in our bereave-  
ment & sorrow. Now

as to the facts you request.

In 1900, May 30<sup>th</sup> we left U.S. for Kortscha Albania. Here my husband worked under the A.B. F. M. He was engaged both in missionary & educational work & even in political, as the necessity presented itself. He had to fight the Turkish authority many a time because they wanted to close our school & hinder in every way the educational & Christian work.

In 1911. The Board decided to open a second mission field in Elberan & for that purpose chose my husband, leaving in Kortscha a new man just come from America. We had just settled in Elberan & planning the work, when in 1913 the Balkan war broke out.

The Servians invaded Albania. Understanding that my husband was a protestant & a devout patriot for the Albanian cause they put him in prison for six months. After that he was never the same man in

health. He suffered much.  
From 1913 + 1914, Albania was  
left independent, that  
is, the European powers  
gave her, her independ-  
ence.

In 1914 - 1915 - the great  
war broke out. People were  
driven hither + thither.

We happened to be in  
Sofia, Bulgaria at that  
time, for a visit - to my  
parents. The roads closed  
& we were obliged to stay  
in Bulgaria until the  
end of the war which  
was in Oct. 1918.

Just - when we were

about-to return to Albania  
my husband contracted  
the Spanish fever (epidemic  
then) & died in five days  
illness.

In his pocket-note book  
among other jottings were  
the following.

"The world needs the  
belief in the After life, or it goes  
to the dogs."

"Real morality, impossible  
without-the belief in Immor-  
tality."

Mr Seilka has left behind  
him two daughters & two  
sons. Ellenché the first  
daughter, now married

to Mr C. Minor of Virginia  
connected here with the  
American Consulate.

The second daughter  
is Apredita 17 years old  
& the two boys Skender &  
Stefan. 15 & 13 years of age.

I would very much  
like to have a history book  
of the students of Union  
Seminary. We had many  
friends among them.  
Especially the classmates  
of my husband.

Thanking you in advance

I remain most sincerely  
yours  
Katerina G. Tsilka  
over

Friends may be interested to know just what I am doing.

This is the second year since I have taken charge of the State hospital here which at the time of the war was started by the American Red Cross.

Love