DAY 4:

I went into another super-market today. This one had live animals, though only from the sea. As for the meat, they use ice to keep it fresh. Very clever, but how did they convince the clouds to drop snow in this nice, warm town? I guess if they know how to tell doors to open and carriages to drive, they also got the clouds to listen. A very big woman standing at the cashier was reading a colorful letter in her hand. It had ten times more pictures and fewer words than my mother’s favorite Sunday Bible. No wonder everyone can read. Amazingly, people here don’t pay for the food. They give the cashier a small card, which she shows to one of those eyed objects and gives it back to them. That card probably tells her how much food they can take out. But what does it depend on? Social standing? Family size? Ability to hear voices? There sure was no correlation with the heels. Another big woman at the door was holding two huge plucked birds in her arms. I’ve never seen birds that big. “You buy one, you get one free,” she said to me excitedly. A sacrificial offering for the food they get, I guess. But how can you set a dead bird free?