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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No. 117.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15th, 1880.

PRICE THREE PENCE.

"CYPRUS"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor of *Cyprus* will always gladly receive news of local events for insertion in the journal; and a feature in the new conduct of the paper will be a desire to render it an organ for the expression of public opinion. To this end letters on subjects connected with the interests of the Island will always command attention, and when free from personal allusion, will have publication. The Editor cannot, however, hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed, and will not undertake the return of rejected manuscripts.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The charge for subscriptions is 3s. 9d. for 3 months; s. 6d. for 6 months; and 15s. for 12 months, postage paid throughout the Island. For all countries included in the International Postal Treaty, it is 4s. for 3 months; 8s. for 6 months, and 16s. for 12 months.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The scale of charges for advertisement is low, and may be had on application at the office. Subscriptions and Advertisements are in all cases payable in advance.

"Cyprus" can be purchased in Nicosia, at the New Albert Hotel, and in Larnaca at the Office of the Newspaper.

All letters or communications to be addressed to the Editor of "Cyprus".

PRINTING.

Printing orders of every kind, and in English, Greek and Turkish characters, executed with promptitude and economy at the office of this journal.

Chief Intelligence of the Week.

(From the "Overland Mail".)

Lord Northbrook was present at the opening of a new Liberal Club at Birmingham on Oct. 30, and in his speech replied to Lord Salisbury's attacks on Mr. Gladstone.

Mr. Chamberlain was also present on the same occasion, and referred to the Irish State prosecutions.

A banquet was given at Edinburgh on Nov. 2 to Mr. W. P. Adam, M. P., the new Governor of Madras. Mr. Adam sailed from Brindisi on Nov. 22.

An important report by Mr. Caird on the condition of India has been published as a Parliamentary paper.

Government has commenced the State prosecutions against the Irish Land Leaguers, writs having been served on fourteen persons—Mr. Parnell, Mr. J. Dillon, Mr. Biggar, Mr. T. D. Sullivan, and Mr. Sexton being amongst the number.

Mr. Parnell was presented with the freedom of the city of Limerick on Nov. 2.

The seat in the India Council vacant by the death of Sir W. Merewether is, it is said, to be filled by Mr. B. W. Currie, a partner in Glyn and Co.'s bank.

Lady Ripon has postponed her departure for India until Nov. 10. Mr. Lepel Griffin has arrived in England.

Mr. Justice Lush is to be Lord Justice of the Court of Appeal in the place of Lord Justice Thesiger, deceased. Mr. Watkin Williams, Q.C., M. P., succeeds Mr. Justice Lush in the Queen's Bench Division.

Latest information concerning the Dulcigno difficulty states that Germany, France, and Austria have persuaded the Sultan to surrender and not evacuate the place.

Fears of a rupture between Greece and Turkey are still entertained. The former State will have 60,000 armed men by the end of November.

A rumour that Prince Bismark had again tendered his resignation has contradicted.

General Garfield has been elected President of the United States.

The Lord Mayor on Nov. 3 gave a banquet at the Mansion House to the members of the Royal Academy. The Duke of Cambridge spoke upon the condition of the army.

The Baroness Bourdett-Coutts has been presented with the freedom and livery of the Haberdashers' Company.

Mr. Ruskin and Mr. Bright have been nominated for the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University.

Mr. T. Pelham Dale, rector of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, has been arrested and imprisoned in Holloway Gaol.

Amongst the deaths recorded this week are:—Sir F. Lycett; Sir T. Bouch; Right

Hon. R. M. O. Ferrall; Capt. H. Eden, R.N.; and Hon. Mrs. C. Thesiger.

EGYPT.

(From "The Egyptian Gazette", 6th Nov.)
We are pleased to learn that H. H. the Khedive has conferred on Mr. Gerald Fitz-Gerald, C.M.G. the order of Commander of the Osmanieh. It is a gracious acknowledgement of the services Mr. Fitz-Gerald has rendered to the Staff.

We are authorised to state that the reports which have appeared respecting the causes of the death of Mr. Kirby, B. L. are utterly untrustworthy. We consider the comments made by some of the local press are a disgrace to journalism. Giving a sort of authentic publicity to remarks made on the authority of street rumours calculated to wound private feelings, is, to say the least, unkind and undignified. The circumstances of the case are now receiving careful consideration at the hands of the proper authorities, and a certain degree of reticence might reasonably have been expected on the part of our confrères while matters are still, so to speak "sub judice."

In order to expedite business and to facilitate matters the British Auxiliary Commission appointed some of its members to act as a sub-committee to consider, in the first instance, the various modifications desirable in the constitution &c. of the Tribunals. They have held several sittings this week and the members of the English Bar resident in Egypt, as well as the British community have been invited to make any suggestions they may think necessary. In connection with this subject we would draw the attention of our readers to the notice published in our advertising columns to-day calling a meeting of the members of the British community for Tuesday next at 3.30 p. m. at Messrs. Carver and Co's office, when it is to be hoped all interested in the efficient working of the Mixed Tribunals will make a point of being present.

We are glad to announce that the leading bankers and merchants have signed a memorial asking for sales of Government produce by auction as advocated in a recent issue of this paper.

A meeting of the Alexandria Market Company Limited will shortly be held at a dividend at the rate of eight and a half per cent will probably be declared.

The agent in Alexandria of the P. and O. S. N. Coy. has addressed a letter to "L'Egypte" announcing a change in the arrangements of the Marchioness of Ripon. According to this communication her Ladyship and suite will leave British on the 18th (P) instant per "Thibet," direct for Port Said. The mails that week for Alexandria will arrive via Port Said.

The Cairo Theatrical Season opened on Thursday last with "Les Mousquetaires au Couvent." The Khedive honoured the performance with his presence. We reserve further notice of the event for our next number.

From Port Said we learn that the S.S. "Clan Kanald" took fire on 1st inst.; all efforts to save her were unavailing and she had ultimately to be scuttled and sunk. Fortunately we have no loss of life to deplore.

TURKEY.

(From the "Constantinople Messenger," Oct. 26, and Nov. 2.)

Mr. F. R. St. John, Secretary of Embassy, proceeded to Smyrna on Wednesday, by Egyptian steamer, on a special mission and will afterwards visit Samos.

We regret to have to announce the death of Lord Sinclair, who died on Sunday at the Royal Hotel after a protracted illness. The deceased nobleman James St. Clair, thirteenth Baron Sinclair in the Peerage of Scotland, had attained a ripe old age, having been born in 1803. The funeral will take place to-day.

Kurds and Albanians at this present time are in the enjoyment of a large share of Court favour. On Friday, an Albanian was promoted to be a general officer and appointed aide-de-camp of the Sultan. On Saturday, a young Kurd of good family,

named Osman-Bey, son of Bedrihan Pasha, who was promoted in military rank last week is placed on his Majesty's staff of aides-de-camp.

The army of the Black Mountain does not appear to be in very good fighting trim to judge from a recent telegram. In fact it would seem, according to this statement, that the Montenegrins are, to all intents and purposes, "hors de combat." Fever and dysentery have made havoc amongst them, and their hospitals and ambulances are over-crowded. Insubordination has broken out on such an extensive scale that a whole brigade of malcontents has been disbanded. There are only two brigades left at Sutorman—one at Podgoritz and one at Basojevici. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Montenegrin Government are quite ready to declare themselves satisfied with the cession of Dulcigno and the neighbouring coasts district, and have no intention of claiming more.

The names of the seven officers of the gendarmerie, the renewal of whose contracts for six months has been recommended by Baker Pasha to the Ottoman War Office, are Colonels Shuldham, Norton, C. Baker, Allix, Briscoe, Synge, and Blunt. Of these officers Colonel Blunt is in command at Adrianople, and with very restricted means has brought the small force at his command into a very creditable state of efficiency; Colonel Briscoe is at Aleppo, where the services he has rendered have elicited the frequent praises of the governor-general Said Pasha; Colonel Norton is at Bitlis, in which remote station he has to contend with difficulties of every kind. It may now be hoped that the arrears of salaries due to officers whose contracts are not renewed will be promptly settled. The amount, though relatively a small for the Treasury to provide, is sufficient as an outstanding to cause considerable individual inconvenience.

The Earl and Countess of De-la-Warr left for Broussa the middle of last week. They were invited to dine with the Sultan on Tuesday, but the invitation, which included the Hon. Mrs. Hampden, Hobart Pasha, and Sir Algernon Borthwick, did not reach the yacht in time. News has since been received of the arrival of the yacht "Edeline" at Moudania with the Earl and Countess De-la-Warr on board, who proceeded immediately to Broussa. The noble Earl on his arrival visited the governor. Sir Algernon Borthwick is making a short sojourn in Constantinople before returning to London by one of the direct routes. He has been staying for the last few days with Count Corti at Therapia.

The German functionary who has been recommended by the Government of Berlin as one of the standing counsel to the Ottoman Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is Mr. Guesner, who now becomes a member of the staff of foreign jurists in the service of the Porte. Parnis Effendi and Monsieur Tarin who have long and ably served the Ottoman Government in their department, may be congratulated on the appointment of a colleague whose co-operation will lighten in some measure their present arduous duties.

The Right Hon. W. H. Smith, First Lord of the Admiralty in the late Conservative administration, arrived here in his yacht, the "Pandora," on Wednesday last and is staying at Therapia.

It is stated that H.R.H. the Duke of Westergothland, second son of the King of Sweden and Norway, has postponed indefinitely his projected visit to Constantinople.

An order of the War Office calls out the redifs of the first ban in the provinces of Trikala and Janina.

GREECE.

THE WAR STRENGTH OF GREECE.
Not long ago—last August—the Greek Government published a statement of the resources in men which could be relied upon. They included all who were liable to service during the last nineteen years, including 1880 and 1862. There are some curious differences shown in the various years for which we cannot quite account. For instance, the contingent of this year is 12,996 men, of whom 10,554 have been declared fit for service by the revising councils; but in 1879

the number was little over 8,000 men; in 1878 it was 12,874; in 1877 it was 10,764; in 1876 nearly 12,000; and in 1875, 16,634. Now it is extremely difficult to understand why there should be between 16,000 and 17,000 men available in 1874 and only 8,000 in 1879. But there is an even more extraordinary contrast between two years which come together—namely, 1870 and 1869. For 1870 there are set down 17,587 men and for 1869 only 7,335. The discrepancies together with other causes, lead us to suspect the accuracy of the numbers, and in all that follows the exact statement made by the Ministry must be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. The nineteen contingents are divided into: three for the active army; that is, 1878, 1879, and 1880; six for the reserve, which takes us back to 1872 inclusive; and ten for the territorial army, or National Guard. Now, if we might believe the figures of the Greek Ministry, the three contingents of the active army would give nearly 34,000 men; those of the reserve, 80,000; while there would remain for the territorial army nearly 114,000. The whole force of Greece thus taken together would be about 228,000 men between the ages of twenty-one and forty. It would be only reasonable to deduct 50 per cent. from these figures for various causes, and there would then remain what may be considered as a fair estimate of the resources of the country for war—namely, about 114,000 men. Now, small as is the peace footing of the Greek army, she has by the system of short service and reserves already passed through the ranks, or retains within them, about 42,000 men; but of these about 8,500 belong to the classes which form the territorial army, and are therefore exempt from necessity to take the field. They may, however, volunteer for the active army, and no doubt would in many cases. This may be a small force of trained soldiers—some of them, indeed, trained for a very short time—but it contains a sufficient element of steadiness to help the recruits and volunteers in learning their duties. If we take the number of trained men in the ranks at 35,000, and suppose that the Government enrolls another 20,000 men who have hitherto been without instruction, we should still find the very respectable force of 55,000 men for the active army, the greater proportion of whom would have had a year or two's service in the ranks, while the remainder will have been trained for only a few weeks. In order that a force so composed should be as valuable as possible, mobilization ought to commence three or four months before there is likely to be occasion for its services, and accordingly the Greek Government, wished to begin the mobilization in June last, but submitted to the counsels of the Great Powers and postponed the gathering of the reserves until the 5th of August, when all men and officers were recalled from home and the reserves began to be embodied, the King having signed the order for mobilization. Meanwhile, however, a large number of volunteers commenced their military drills in camps of instruction: even by July 10 there were above 2,250 of them. On July 18 the recruits for 1880, about 10,000 in number, were called upon to join the colours, and it is probably their efforts to learn their drill which give occasion to certain correspondents to question the efficiency of the army. The order for mobilization laid down what is to be the war strength of the Greek army, at least as far as the details are concerned. The total numbers were not given, and probably not known; but it has been calculated that there will be about 84,000 infantry, nearly 1,000 cavalry mounted, 3,800 artillery, 2,040 engineers, together with a doubtful number of the auxiliary services, besides depots and gendarmerie. It may be considered that the active army, exclusive of volunteers, will comprise about 50,000 men, with 3,700 horses and 7,500 mules, four field batteries, eight mountain, and two garrison or siege batteries, making a total of fourteen batteries—that is, eighty-four guns. It will be seen that the army is weak in artillery, weaker still in cavalry; but there would be so much mountain work in a campaign that none but a good cavalry would be of any use, and the proportion of mountain guns is high. There is no reason why the active army which is now nearly all present with the colours, should not be gradually increased, as it will certainly be improved in training. The Greeks may also count upon the goodwill of Europe which will not allow them to be crushed. They may also base their operations on the fact that the sea will always be open to them as a source of supply. They are even now in a position to occupy any province which might be handed over to them, but they are still far to undertake, without great rashness a contest with even such a Power as Turkey. Their only chance, and upon that they probably count, is in the insurrection of Eastern Roumelia, which would keep a large portion of the Turkish army employed elsewhere.

CYPRUS.

(From the "Daily News".)

From a letter from Cyprus which we published on Saturday it appears that an extraordinary movement has been set on foot in that Island by a person calling himself "Charles, Prince de Lusignan." We do not know whether he is the same individual who, when the Anglo-Turkish Convention was concluded, claimed to be the lineal representative of the Lusignan Princes, who were formerly rulers of Cyprus, but there can be little doubt that he wishes to pose as a member of that family. He has, it appears, endeavoured to induce the Cypriots to form themselves into committees for the purpose of promoting the independence of their island; and he has even offered to defray the expenses of a deputation to England "where they are to go for the purpose of submitting to the Queen and the English Government a petition, of which he will send the form." He does not hint at his having any ulterior object in view, but we presume that it is only modesty which restrains him from putting forward, at the present moment, the claims of the Lusignan family. The Cypriots, it appears, have shown no eagerness to accept the strange proposals which have been pressed upon their literary clubs. They are not quite sure about the nationality of their correspondent, and they are even disposed to suspect that the Turks are not altogether ignorant of his project. In all this the Cypriots have exhibited commendable prudence. Their answer to the 'soi-disant' Prince shows that, however simple-minded they may appear in his eyes, they are by no means destitute of common sense. They tell him that, while thanking him for the interest he takes in their welfare, he would earn the gratitude of the entire population if he consented to employ his influence and means to promote their union with Greece. A people who show so much discretion must surely have enough intelligence to be entrusted with a real—not a sham—municipal government. The story may be commended, from this point of view, to the Colonial Office, which has just assumed the responsibility of administering the affairs of Cyprus.

(From the "Daily Telegraph".)

.....Cyprus has had, in fact, as yet no justice done it. Reviled and ridiculed as a valueless possession by those who were not fortunate enough to assist in its acquisition, it was condemned offhand as a plague-stricken, barren spot, which was certain to prove more costly than serviceable. In this, perhaps, it only shared the condemnation which has been lavished by a certain faction upon every new possession which the Empire has acquired. Still the abuse which it has received has been almost unlimited. The advantages it has conferred upon us, recognised by every other Power as tangible and certain, have been minimised, while its responsibilities and cost have been greatly magnified. Yet it commands the eastern end of the Mediterranean, the Syrian roads, and the mouth of the Suez Canal; it completes the chain of communication which, running between England and India, is kept up by Gibraltar, Malta, and Aden. It gives us a point of action and a base from which movements of the utmost importance may some day be made, should our possessions and Empire in the East ever be seriously menaced. Not, however, so much in the light of a fortress or a camp would we now regard it. Cyprus is a natural and an easily reached sanatorium for this country, and herein lies its singular value. With a little trouble it might be made a regular and most admirable resort for the very many who every year quit these shores in search of warmth and health, and thus, in place of foreign towns being benefited by British money, our own possessions would be enriched. Of course but little can be expected from the Government, whichever party may be in power. It is not the custom in this country for the Administration to initiate public works on the scale undertaken by the French authorities. They, finding Algiers could be made attractive were the public money laid out upon it, did not hesitate to devote a certain portion of the revenue yearly to the improvement and exploitation of its resources, with this result, that the capital town of the French African colony has become a miniature Paris, rejoices in and great prosperity. But, though a great deal cannot be officially done by the Colonial Office, English private enterprise may accomplish much for Cyprus, and it is certain that, were efforts wisely directed to the utilisation of the many advantages it offers, they would be well and profitably employed. There may be a certain section of politicians who would willingly hand the island back again to Turkey, just as the Spanish press recognises that there are at present statesmen in office to whom a renewed appeal for the surrender of Gibraltar is not altogether displeasing. But no Minister will ever dare to give up either Gibraltar or

Cyprus, and the island of the East is as much a permanent possession of Great Britain and an appanage of the Crown as Malta itself. Let the same enterprise then which has been lavished upon other parts of the Empire be extended to Cyprus. With the consolidation and expansion of English rule, the island has before it a brilliant future. Those who have lately trod its shores are enthusiastic in its praise—there are no bounds to its hygienic possibilities. What is needed is the establishment of such attractive buildings for invalids and hostels for travellers that those wandering in search of increased strength and hiding from the bitterness of the northern winter may there find shelter and happy repose. The climate of the island will do all the rest. Cyprus lies in the most favoured portion of the "wine coloured" sea, and we believe that when the necessary preparations have been made for invalids the splendid isle will become the favourite winter resort of British vacationists.

Special Telegrams.

London, 10th Nov.

The French Chambers opened yesterday. The Ministry has resigned in consequence of a vote of censure.

Mr. Gladstone, speaking last night at Guildhall, pointed out the anxieties of Government, chiefly respecting Ireland. He laid down that the maintenance of order was the first duty; and that possibly it will be necessary to adopt strong measures. The Government seeks the execution of the treaty of Berlin, and the improvement of the situation of all races in Turkey, with the least possible change in the actual condition. In conclusion Mr. Gladstone laid stress upon the utility of the European concert.

The surrender of Dulcigno is expected to-day.

London, 12th Nov.

The English and foreign press approves of Mr. Gladstone's Guildhall speech.

Irish proprietors are gathering their crops protected by numerous troops owing to the hostile attitude of the Land Leaguers.

The Albanian chiefs have consented to surrender Dulcigno.

Fresh shocks of earthquake have been felt at Agram (Austria) causing great panic.

The Hungarian Diet has been suspended.

The French deputy Baudry d'Asson has been expelled from the Chamber by soldiers.

London, 15th Nov.

Mr Goschen has announced to the Porte that England should propose an international financial commission for Turkey.

The Channel Squadron has arrived at Cork. Outrages continue in Ireland.

Violent storms have had place throughout Italy, causing great damage.

Five Nihilists in Russia have been condemned to death. Eleven others have been sentenced to forced labours in mines.

Dulcigno has not yet been surrendered.

The Persians have captured Sandibulah and a great number of Kurds have been killed, wounded or made prisoners.

Russia has expressed a disposition to assist Persia.

"CYPRUS"

Larnaca, Monday, November 15th, 1880.

No one can reasonably accuse the *Times* of being a light or frivolous journal. By everyone it is looked upon as the leading newspaper of the day; and, accordingly, the influence upon the interests of a colony for good or harm which it exerts when it takes upon itself to deal with its affairs is weighty. We do not know whether or not to congratulate ourselves upon

the recent leading articles which the *Times* has bestowed on Cyprus.

We, some weeks ago, took occasion to remark upon the subject of the first leader in question, that it was hardly worthy of the time and trouble spent on its compilation. The singular fact at which it seemed to arrive was that, by the occupation of Cyprus, we have been submitted to some method of political vivisection, and that after a good deal of crucial experiment England had managed to acquaint itself with the difficulties attendant upon the government of an Eastern country. We contented ourselves, at the time, with saying that there is more than one country in the East which, released from Turkish misrule, enjoys now the benefits of good government.

The second article of the *Times*, and the one with which we are more immediately concerned, arrives at considerably happier conclusions. It draws the attention of the Government to a scheme of irrigation necessary "no less in the cause of our successful administration of the island than in the interests of the heavily burdened peasantry." These views we have always held and proclaimed. We fully believe that unless Government is prepared to give its urgent and earnest attention to this question the time is not far distant when the British occupation will have been found to be a complete failure; because, although the expenses of administration have been trebled since English rule has been introduced on the Island, nothing whatever has been undertaken in order to augment its income in similar and reasonable proportion. On this point, everyone will be of accord; and Cypriots will feel grateful to the *Times* for bringing the important matter of the material prosperity of the Island before the Home Government and the public opinion of England.

But, at the same time, we cannot help remarking that all the leading journal says on the questions of local improvement, and especially on the important matter of municipal and judicial organization, falls very wide of the mark. This paper has, we believe, no correspondent in Cyprus, and we can readily understand that, having to derive its information from blue books and parliamentary papers—and we might add the not too direct medium of the "Gibraltar Chronicle"—it may occasionally be lacking of intimate knowledge of the situation here. We do not desire to repeat the narration of facts to which we have often given utterance; but all the world knows that of legal municipal systematization we have none whatever. For months past we have been anxiously awaiting the promulgation of one; but up to the present it does not seem to have been matured, and, without the necessary laws, it is plain that it is impossible to speak of a regular organization of the Island municipalities. As to the "purification of the courts of law" we should feel much obliged to the *Times* if it would take the trouble to cite to us one solitary instance of change in the personnel of the existing local courts. The staff, as a matter of fact, is precisely the same as under the Turkish regime; and the noteworthy remark which Mr. Gladstone made in one of his electoral speeches that the local organization of justice in Cyprus was "a disgrace to England" is as true now as it was then.

To sum up, the most marked characteristic—the most prominent feature—in the British rule of Cyprus has been an increase in administrative expenditure and in salaries. As we have before said, it would indeed be strange if the change from an effete and bar-

barous Turkish to an enlightened and Christian government was not in the nature of change productive of some good result. But, as to the results of the direct action of the authorities up to the present, they have been comprised almost wholly in the more stringent ordering of the collection of taxes. And the citizens—not more than the peasants—have no motive for the expression of a too exuberant enthusiasm about the blessings conferred upon them in regard either of their material or social improvement.

If the feelings with which Larnaka regards the strides of progress which Limassol is making are sometimes a little sore, it is not to be wondered at. It is naturally not comfortable to know that one's own affairs are at a comparative stand-still, while those of a neighbour—a friendly rival—are enjoying the special favour and attention of Government. If the sentiments which we have mentioned exist at all, they certainly do not approach to anything like jealousy. Larnaka views with pleasure the spectacle of a sister town advancing in prosperity; and the only regret which enters into the consideration is that at the present moment she is unable for want of a properly representative municipal organization to make the same advances herself.

Any healthy spirit of rivalry or emulation which there may be between the two towns, is for the present changed into one of sympathy. Larnaka has heard with considerable concern of the disaster which has befallen Limassol; and, moreover, if the necessary steps were taken would, we believe, evince its consideration in a practical way.

On the subject of the wisdom and advisability of all the steps taken by the inhabitants of Limassol in respect of the recent calamity it is not necessary to be agreed. For instance one of our correspondents at the town in question has written that the Lord Mayor of London has been telegraphed too, in order, we presume, that he may promote a fund in aid of the sufferers. We cannot call this a very dignified or self-respecting step to take. In the first place the extent of the injury done has hardly been sufficient to necessitate such a measure. £2000—the amount at which our correspondents assess the damage done—is a sum which the Island ought to be able to raise without having recourse to mendicancy.

Although, too, it is a curious coincidence that our two correspondents should be mutually agreed to a penny as to the pecuniary loss sustained, a rumour has reached this that the relief committee which has been formed has estimated and notified to the Chief Secretary that it amounts to £10,000. Finding this computation not in accord with his own information and the newspaper reports Colonel Warren has, we believe, written the committee asking it to further consider the matter.

Another circumstance which in the interests of the Island we must regret is that Reuter's agent at Limassol should have thought well to take upon himself the responsibility of telegraphing that "All parts of the island have been visited by severe thunderstorms, which have done great damage to property. Five houses in this town were washed away by the torrential rains. The roads have also suffered considerably." Such exaggerated statements as that the disaster was general throughout the Island are not calculated to do any good. Their effect, if persevered in, would be to bring the Island into disrepute, and consequent disregard.

Local Notes.

The general committee formed in order to promote the next Larnaka Race meeting met on Friday evening. The races were definitely fixed for the 6th and 7th of January next.

We hear from Nikosia that Mchemet Ali effendi of our town, and Mr. Economides, a member of the Temyiz Court, have been appointed unofficial members of the Legislative Council of the Island by an Ordinance of the High Commissioner. A meeting of the Council is convoked for Thursday next, when, it seems, various matters will be submitted for elucidation by the assembled representatives of the people.

The premises lately occupied by the Larnaka Municipality in Wolsley St. have been vacated. By order of the Commissioner of

Larnaka, municipal affairs will in future be conducted at the residence of Mr. Cobham on the Marina.

We have been informed that the Hellenic Government has chartered a steamer of the Austrian Lloyd's Coy. in order to transport the mules which have been purchased for the use of the Greek Army. The number acquired amounts to about 230. The steamer will arrive here about the middle of the week, and the Greek officers at present on the Island will leave by it.

Mr. Ongley, Senr. has been appointed a member of the Daavi Court here. Mr. Cobham announced the fact this morning at the sitting of the tribunal.

From the *Constantinople Messenger* (The Levant Herald) we are able to gain some additional information in regard of "His Highness, Charles, Prince of Lusignan." It appears that at Prinkipo, where he resides, this gentleman is known by the more commonplace appellation of M. Charles Roux. He is of respectable Levantine family, and in his earlier manhood devoted his attention to the culture of youth. Becoming tutor in the family of H. H. Mahmout Nedim Pasha, he found special opportunities, which he used with intelligence, of acquiring the fortune he now possesses. Our contemporary thinks that M. Roux, in issuing his manifesto, had in idea only a joke. In which case we may hope he enjoyed it as much as did his ungrateful subjects.

The *Athenæum* regrets to hear that General di Cesnola, the celebrated Cypriot excavator, and superintendent of the Metropolitan Museum of New York, is seriously ill.

General di Cesnola will be remembered as at one time American Consul here.

The English journals have lately been bestowing some merited attention upon Cyprus affairs. The *Times* comes first with a course bureaucratic leader; the *Daily News* follows with an article, which we print elsewhere, advocating very properly real and not "dummy" municipalities; and the *St. James's Gazette* remarks on the subject of the wines of Cyprus. This last article is an especially interesting one, and we propose to quote it *in extenso* in our number of next week.

We learn from Limassol that Col. Hackett commanding the newly arrived 35th Regt has not allowed of the band of the regiment playing occasionally, as did that of the 20th, in a public part of the town. The reasons which have led to this decision—which has been received in Limassol with much regret—are, we understand, that such a measure if permitted would interfere with the discipline of the troops, a point on which Col. Hackett is severely strict. The conduct of his men is extremely exemplary.

Whilst on the subject of Limassol we may remark that the necessity which exists at Polymedia of deriving its water-supply from a far distant well is a very great inconvenience for the troops in camp there. The commissariat is obliged to pay ready money for it to a rich proprietor of the town, and a not less sum than £8 per month is expended in this way. Such scarcity of drinkable water is a sensible privation. Several thousand pounds have been spent in Limassol on the means of furnishing the inhabitants with a plentiful water-supply, but they still find themselves without the ability of obtaining it in sufficient quantities for general needs.

The next mail arriving from Brindisi, and which under ordinary circumstances would arrive here on Saturday, will not reach this until Sunday. The delay is in consequence of the fact that the steamer has on board the Marchioness of Ripon, and will proceed to Port Said before calling at Alexandria.

FAIR AT ARADIPPO.

(Continued from our last)

The church which had its doors open all day long was well resorted to by visitors anxious to kiss the pictures and relics. Outside the scene had a certain sort of sedate liveliness. The peasants each attired in his brightest, gayest costume presented a mass of garish colour which showed they have no idea of the sort of æsthetics fashionable in England just now, and of which Mr. Ruskin and Mrs. Haweis are, I suppose, among the exponents. A lengthened residence in Cyprus, however, serves to dull artistic sensibilities, and the decided colours affected by these poor islanders seem to me to afford a welcome relief to their surroundings. Mud huts, a blazing sun, and

an absence of paint provide us with neutral tints enough and to spare without introducing them into dress. Some of the costumes I saw on Saturday were both quaint and gorgeous, and their wearers might have stepped out of some illuminated M.S.S. of mediæval times.

It was quite refreshing to see so many pretty faces. Cypriot young ladies have not yet learned when in public, to give their looks the set defiant mould common to well-bred misses in European towns; and when you meet them they mostly look down their noses with real or affected modesty, which is, however, entirely free from *gaucherie*. If I might be allowed to speak on a subject on which I cannot claim especial knowledge, I would venture to say that a little flirtation would not have been—perhaps was not—amiss to some of the good looking girls at Aradippo on Saturday.

A feature of the gathering which must have been especially noticeable to Englishmen was the perfect good order which prevailed. There was not the faintest approach to anything like rowdyism, and though everyone seemed happy in an all-serene kind of way, the occasion seemed to have suggested to no one the advisability of getting drunk. Considerable covert consumption of "mastic" was no doubt going on, but its only result was a little good-natured moaning or groaning—for singing is too good a word for the kind of vocalization in which Cypriots indulge. If it was not Béranger it was someone else who said: "Teach me the songs of a country, and I will tell you its history." Judging by this standard Cypriots must indeed have had a bad time.

Nicosia News.

Nicosia, Nov. 13th, 1880.

The usual Bairam reception was held this afternoon at the Konak, and was very numerously attended. The notabilities of the town and a number of officials met His Excellency at the Papho Gate, accompanying him through the town to the Konak, outside which it may safely be said not less than 3,000 people were assembled to view the procession. The Konak hall was elegantly got up for the occasion. The English officials seated themselves on the left side, leaving the right side vacant for the reception of the natives. His Excellency, the High Commissioner, assured the various deputations that he had much pleasure in informing them that the trade of the Island was making great progress, as was evidenced by the very considerable increase in the amount of tonnage entering the harbours. He thanked them especially for the cordial assistance he had received in carrying out the measures taken for the collection of locusts' eggs, of which a vast quantity had been destroyed, thus giving hopes of their speedy and entire disappearance. The harvest had been generally a good one, while the rains which had fallen over a great part of the Island gave every promise of a good harvest for next year.

I ought here to add that the band of the Pioneers is making very creditable progress. On His Excellency's leaving the court of the Konak it played "God save the Queen" with great accuracy and enthusiasm.

We have had signs of rain for the last two or three days, but unfortunately it will not descend. The natives are beginning to feel anxious.

Limassol News.

Lt. H. L. Sapte, Adjutant of the 35th (Royal Sussex) Regiment arrived by the mail steamer from Alexandria on Friday, and proceeded at once to join his regiment at Polymedia.

Dr. Heidenstam, Chief Inspector of Cattle Disease, arrived on Sunday last in this district. He is engaged in making an inspection with a view to permittance of the removal of cattle, for ploughing purposes &c. from one locality to another in neighbourhoods from which the disease has disappeared.

I hear that H. M. troop-ship *Jumna* which left China on the 28th ult. is expected to arrive here about the end of the month, and will take to England a few men of the 35th Company Royal Engineers who have up to now been employed by the Island Government as printers, lithographers, &c.

Capt. Lord Kennedy of the Cyprus Pioneers is in our town to conduct back to Nicosia the detachment of that corps which has lately been doing guard duty here. I believe the military guard functions are to be performed by a detachment of the 35th, which will remain in Limassol for the purpose. The necessary prison surveillance will be discharged by zaptichs.

Another of our correspondents at Limassol writes on the 12th instant:—

It is reported that a fire broke out in the village of Agro, about eight hours' distance from Limassol, on the 5th inst., and it is said that seventeen houses have been either damaged or destroyed. The fire occurred about midnight and spread rapidly through the village. Fortunately there was no loss of life. Some 500 persons assembled and it was, I understand, found necessary to pull down a number of huts in order to prevent further spread of the flames.

I am informed that H. E. has contributed the sum of £25 towards the relief of the families whose houses were inundated and whose property was ruined by the recent floods. H. M. 35th Regiment has contributed a like sum for the same charitable purpose. The subscription list is still open, and it is hoped that a sufficient sum will be collected for the aid of the sufferers.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE. LARNACA.

(Before Mr. Deputy Commissioner Tysler.)

Mucci v. the Government of Cyprus. These are two cases arising out of certain transactions between the plaintiffs, who are two Italian gentlemen, and the defendants who are the Government of Cyprus. One refers to the planting of certain eucalyptus trees, and the other is based on a contract for the establishment of a nursery ground on the Island.

The Deputy Commissioner was understood to say, that in view of this being a case the magnitude and importance of which would probably necessitate its being sent to England for decision, statements of claim and defence should be put in by the parties to the litigation.

He then, under the provisions of the Ordinance, ruled to the effect. The continuation of the examination by the defendants of Lieut. Sinclair, R. E. was then entered upon, and on its termination, the case was adjourned until such time as the pleadings on both sides should be put in.

NOTES ON CYPRUS.

BY AN OBSERVER.

(Continued from our last.)

American tobacco is obtained from the Virginian plant called *Nicotiana Tabacum*, while that of China is yielded by the *Nicotiana Rustica* which produces also the well known and highly prized tobacco of Latakia. It is a very natural enquiry to make how is it that Cyprus, so near to Latakia, enjoying the same climate and soil, should have to import all the tobacco it smokes. It was not so, however, formerly, as 20 years ago the Island grew enough for its own consumption, and even more. What then, we may reasonably ask, can have induced or compelled the peasant to give up the cultivation of a plant in such universal use and which well repaid them for their exertions? The population of the island is estimated at about 200,000; and if we take the number of smokers to be only 75,000 and allow them to consume four pounds per head per annum,—a by no means exorbitant quantity,—we may fairly calculate the money value of the crop, if grown, supposing the average price of the tobacco to be only 40 piastres the oke, at not less than £120,000, which, with the tithe that would have been formerly payable, if it had been grown in the island, is entirely lost both to the government and the native cultivator. It was not, however, that the peasant was discontented with the profit derived from its cultivation, or that the land was exhausted and refused to support a paying crop, as at least a quarter of it was lying waste, but the senselessly unreasonable and needlessly vexatious, restrictions and exactions imposed by the Turkish authorities on its cultivation and sale, so harassed and worried the peasants that they were obliged to abandon its cultivation. Now the hardship consequent on this suicidal blundering (really killing the goose that laid the golden eggs) is that the Island is, as it were, not only robbed of the proceeds of a crop which is specially suitable for its growth, but that it has to pay hard cash for all the tobacco it requires to Roumelia, from which it is principally imported, and which takes none of the productions of the island in return, the only good derived from this trade arising from the duty paid to the Customs. The terms of the Cyprus Convention forbid so important an amount of revenue, estimated at £10,000, to be at all lightly jeopardized, and we must enquire how it can be replaced? Cannot, however, the conflicting of interests

the Revenue and of the peasants, who are equally the objects of the solicitude of the Government, be reconciled? Can they not be made even identical? The native produce was far superior in quality and flavour to what is now imported, it being a well known fact that both deteriorate the further north the plant is grown, as it appears to be necessary to the production of a delicate flavour that it should be cultivated in a warm dry climate. The price it commands, too, in the market most conclusively proves this, the tobacco of Canada not realizing more than fourpence a pound while that of Havannah readily attains three shillings and sixpence! I would, then, make the following suggestion. Let the cultivation of tobacco be as free and unrestricted as that of wheat and barley. With proper care Island tobacco would easily compete with the best growths of Turkey (it used to be sent to Egypt where it was much esteemed), and would then command a ready and illimitable market in England. At harvest the crop would be weighed by an excise official, and a register kept by him of the quantity stored in each village by each grower, who would receive, to prevent mistakes or disputes, a printed ticket stating the amount of produce belonging to each. When Petro or Ahmet has found a purchaser for part or the whole of his crop he must obtain a permit for its sale (for which a mere nominal charge could be made), and would then make the purchaser pay the excise duty for the privilege of preparing it for consumption. In this way I hope that the interests of both the Revenue and of the peasant would be protected, and a great encouragement given to its growth, as I would tax the Island produce only say 40 per cent (thus giving in its favour a differential duty of 35 per cent over the foreign or imported tobacco), as the value of this crop is so much greater to the peasant inasmuch as the work can be in great part done by his wife and children leaving him at liberty to attend to the more laborious duties of his farm. The duty on tobacco in England which was a short time ago 3s a pound having given great temptation to smuggling has been so reduced as not to make it worth while to run the risk and penalties of discovery. It is unavoidable but that a duty of 75 per cent here must largely encourage smuggling (with a parallel loss to the Revenue) which would be diminished in proportion to the increased growth of the native production. In two or three years at the utmost I fully believe that by this method the present revenue from the import duty on tobacco would be more than covered by the sale of the Island growth, and that an important export trade would be established to the great satisfaction of all parties and a material addition to the Island revenue.

(To be continued.)

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS INWARDS DURING THE WEEK

November AT LARNACA.
9th S. S. 'Fortuna' 433 tons, British, Mails from Beyrout, general cargo.
9th S. S. 'Minerva' 1289 tons, Aust., mails from Alexandria and the coast of Syria, general cargo.
9th S. S. 'Apollo' 1273 tons, Aust., mails from Constantinople, and Smyrna, general cargo.
12th 'Catingo' 64 tons, Greek sch. from Chio,
12th S. S. 'Elpitha' 462 tons, British, mails from Alexandria, touching at Limassol,

November Cleared Outwards.
9th S. S. 'Fortuna' British, for Alexandria via Limassol, general cargo.
9th S. S. 'Minerva' Aust. Mails for Smyrna and Constantinople general cargo.
9th S. S. 'Apollo' Aust., mails for Syria and Alexandria, general cargo.
13th S. S. 'Elpitha' British, for Beyrout, Mails and general cargo.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

By the S. S. 'Minerva' from Syria and Egypt Alessandro, Georgi Effendi; Miss C. Biddulph and governess, Lieut. Wisely A.D.C. in attendance, Capt. A. Baker and Lady and six deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Alexandria and Limassol Colonel Hackett and wife, Swindley, Clarke, Mr. Leach and wife, Mr. Bridgeman, Mr. and Mrs. Carnaual, Mr. James Cunningham, Habbul Muleck, Mrs. Avania and sister, Mr. Pan, Mr. Waber, Mr. Raphael, Mr. Pappadaky and 18 peck passengers.

LIMASSOL ARRIVALS.

November
8th 'Cleopatra' Cypriot brigantine 109 tons from Laraca, general cargo.
10th S. S. 'Fortuna' British, 433 tons from Laraca, Mails and general cargo.
11th 'Filanthropia' Cypriot schooner 99 tons from Alexandria, general cargo.

12th S. S. 'Elpitha' 462 tons, British, from Alexandria, Mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

November
7th 'Lisa' Italian brig 146 tons for Venice with wine and carobs.
9th 'Aphrodite' Cypriot brig 96 tons for Alexandria, general cargo.
10th S. S. 'Fortuna' British 433 tons, for Alexandria, mails and general cargo.
12th S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons, for Larnaca, mails and general cargo.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Alexandria Col. Swindley, Col. Clark, Mr. J. Cunningham and nine deck passengers.

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2 Prizes of 30,000 Marks
5 Prizes of 25,000 Marks
2 Prizes of 20,000 Marks
12 Prizes of 15,000 Marks
1 Prize of 12,000 Marks
24 Prizes of 10,000 Marks
4 Prizes of 8,000 Marks
3 Prizes of 6,000 Marks
52 Prizes of 5,000 Marks
6 Prizes of 4,000 Marks
108 Prizes of 3,000 Marks
214 Prizes of 2,000 Marks
10 Prizes of 1,500 Marks
2 Prizes of 1,200 Marks
533 Prizes of 1,000 Marks
676 Prizes of 500 Marks
950 Prizes of 300 Marks
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100 Prizes of 150 Marks
20,345 Prizes of 138 Marks
2300 Prizes of 124 Marks
70 Prizes of 100 Marks
7300 Prizes of 94 and 67 Marks
7850 Prizes of 40 and 20 Marks

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Larnaca, July 6th 1880.

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