

CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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"CYPRUS".

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor of *Cyprus* will always gladly receive news of local events for insertion in the journal; and a future, 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.

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PRINTING.

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

AN INTERVIEW WITH A FALLEN PRIME MINISTER.

Mr. Roustan arrived in Paris from Tunis at the beginning of last week. The same day Si Moustapha ben Ismail left Paris for Tunis. The Beylic is not large enough, remarked a Parisian paper, to hold two such great men at one and the same time. The return of the late Prime Minister of the Bey to Tunis will give interest to the following account of an interview which I had with him shortly before the occupation of Kairavan. His little entresol of the Boulevard Malesherbes, a furnished apartment, displayed no Eastern splendour and none of the fabulous wealth with which Si Moustapha ben Ismail is rightly or wrongly credited. He understands a little French, but expresses himself with difficulty, and Dr. Mascaro, the first physician of the Bey, a highly cultivated and most amiable man, was kind enough to interpret. I confess that I had been much prejudiced against Si Moustapha ben Ismail by all I had heard about him in England. I had imagined him to be a heavy and apathetic Oriental of the old school, an amateur statesman, superficial, and incapable of an original thought. Instead of that I found a courteous and pleasant man, uniting the shrewdness of the Arab—though he is by birth a Turk—to much common sense and to a perfect knowledge of Continental politics. Quick in grasping any given subject, he astonished me by the soundness of his views on all topics of the day, Eastern and Western, and the keen interest he took in European affairs.

I expressed my belief that Tunis would become "the Mexico of the Republic." He shrugged his shoulders like a man who would rather not give an opinion, but after a moment he said, "Yes, they have made a great mistake, and though, no doubt, the local resistance of the insurgent tribes will soon be crushed—and the submission of some of them is imminent—no one can foresee what complications may ultimately arise out of the occupation of my country. I should lament if a great nation like France were to come to grief over so insignificant a stumbling-block as Tunis. France is closely watched by her enemies; yet I can assure you it might all have been avoided had the French Government been

less excitable and had they not allowed themselves to be driven by—let us call it circumstances, into a fatal misconception of French interests. M. Roustan is a most able man, and we have always been on the best of terms with him; in fact, all worked well and in perfect harmony until the arrival of Signor Maccio. The preponderance of France had been uncontested, the Bey and his advisers had accepted the tutelage of the French Consul-General, as a necessity, if you like, but one by no means unpalatable to a little country obliged to lean on the powerful arm of some neighbour. The other nations, especially England, had tacitly acknowledged that France was entitled, on account of Algiers, to a kind of supremacy at the Bardo, and the conciliatory attitude of Sir Richard Wood had much contributed to ensure harmonious working. An Italian firebrand upset the work of years, and as unfortunately personal differences had long existed between M. Roustan and Signor Maccio, their private relations envenomed the strife for a preponderant voice in the councils of the Regency. Jealous of what they called Italian encroachments, the French retaliated with new pretensions, and neither of the two noticed that a secret agency was endeavouring to provoke, if not a conflict, at least a breach between the warring rivals. It is obvious that Italy was acting at the instigation of the German Chancellor; at least there cannot be a doubt that she had been encouraged at Berlin in her views on Tunis. Only the moment France and Italy were at daggers drawn Prince Bismarck remembered that France had more ancient rights, and he sanctioned French aggression, French dreams, and conquests. I will give you a simile, which explains the situation better than volumes could do. You see a cage; inside is a mouse, that mouse is Tunis; the door is open: in jumps a cat, the cat is France. But to the door is tied a string, and far away in a corner stands a giant. The giant is Bismarck, and in his hand he holds the other end of the string, ready to close the door the moment the cat is well on to the mouse. Opening a richly jewelled cigarette case, with the portrait of the Bey set in diamonds, Si Moustapha offered me another cigarette, saying, "Don't you think Prince Bismarck is a great man?" and after a pause he added, "It is inconceivable that France and Italy should not have been on their guard, and should have listened to advice coming from Berlin. They should have known better; but now it is too late," and he gave a deep sigh.

Inquiring whether the occupation of Kairavan would increase the ill-feeling of the Mussulman population, Si Moustapha replied, "No, not if the French respect life and property in our holy city; but if the religious feelings of the people were hurt there might be serious consequences. Just as in Algiers, so there will always be fighting in Tunis. I do not anticipate that the rising will take more alarming proportions. Since the 12th of May I have been myself a staunch supporter of the new state of things, though previous to that date I have been struggling, as it was my duty, for the independence of my country and of my master."

I asked him whether he thought that the French would incorporate Tunis in case the Bey came to die. "That is in God's hands," was his reply; "but Ali behaves well, and the French would find endless difficulties if they had no intermediary between them and the Tunisian people." Speaking of Khedive, the late Grand Vizier, he said, "He is too ambitious; when he could not supersede the Bey of Tunis, he wanted to be made Khedive of Egypt, *un candidat perpétuel*, and he has done much harm both in Tunis and Egypt." Turning to the dangers of a religious war, he said: "It would be a dreadful thing for us all, for though primarily directed against Europeans only, it would also sweep away the ruling Mussulman classes. It

would become a Socialistic movement as well; for the day the long-suffering masses begin to realise the power vested in numbers, there is no telling what they might do. In the interest of all it is sincerely to be hoped that such a calamity will be spared us. Alluding to Sheikh Sanoussi, who recognizes neither Sultan nor Khedive as his master, he said, "He can put 100,000 men into the field, well armed and well supplied with ammunition of his own manufacture; moreover, a rising of the Mahomedan world would present grave dangers for India—it would scarcely be limited to Turkey, Egypt, Tripoli, Tunis, and Morocco. Therefore, let us hope that it will never come to such extremities." I expressed to him my surprise at his sudden dismissal, after having been decorated with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour and received with so much distinction by the French Government. He smiled and said:—"They wanted a scapegoat for the blunders and improvidence of their generals, and they selected me, to make people believe that I had impeded the progress of their arms. The fact is they are badly officered; for, after all, who are their adversaries? Wretchedly armed tribes, so badly off for ammunition that they use the telegraph wires and even pebbles as projectiles; as to powder, it is all of their own making, and not of much good. The only advantages they have are that they are used to the climate and require no 'army service corps,' for, being very abstemious, a little goat's milk is all they require."

I inquired whether it was true that the insurgent tribes had been supplied with money and arms by foreign Governments, as it had been stated in the papers. He said, "No" (though Dr. Mascaro seemed to be of a contrary opinion), but qualified his "No" by adding, "They may have got some from foreign merchants;" and I noticed a malicious twinkle in his eye. Expressing my hope that his exile would not be lasting, he brightened up, and begged me to believe that if he ardently wished to return it was because he felt that he might contribute to cement the new régime and conciliate the ruffled feelings of his countrymen, while his successor, a Mussulman of the old school, would be likely to widen the gap by his ill-disguised antagonism to French rule. "I know," he concluded, "that the French Government are aware of the mistake they made in superseding me by a fanatic, but Governments no more than individuals like to acknowledge a blunder. However, we must hope that M. Gambetta will not undervalue the importance of a conciliatory policy, and he knows that M. Roustan and I managed to get on well; and what more do they wish?"

(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

The Cypriot Petition.

We give a translation from the Greek text of the Petition addressed by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of Cyprus to the Colonial Secretary through the medium of His Excellency the High Commissioner.

EXCELLENCY

Unfortunate Cyprus has been under the Turkish yoke for more than three centuries, during which long time her sufferings were very great and her condition intolerable.

She experienced some relief only when the Greek revolution of 1821 broke up and changed the face of Eastern affairs generally. This small relief, our long-suffering island bought very dearly, for, remembering her origin, she gave to the general cause the blood of many of her sons, sacrificed at the altar of Liberty. Thus the ties of the origin have been strengthened by common sacrifices, common sufferings, and the prosecution of the same

end. From that time, with its small and gradual material well-being and moral development the Island acquired more of political emancipation, for then there had come to the aid of Eastern populations, the humanitarian forces of Christian Europe led by generous and liberal England, and, gradually, Turkish oppression was compelled to surrender certain liberties to the people: there may be instanced the Tanzimat of 1840, the Hatt-Houmayoun of 1856 and the Constitution of 1876. These concessions of the Sultan, although incompletely fulfilled, afforded, nevertheless, to those under the Turkish yoke, not excepting the people of this Island, room wherein to breathe, and kept alive within them courage and persistence in the desire for a greater development of their naturally progressive tendencies. Consequently, the administration of the Island, at one time centred in the arbitrary will of a satrap, had its power confined within certain limits, by the institution of administrative councils (Idaré) many of the members of which were elected by the people. The municipal councils were instituted and improved by the law of 1877, which was directed to be applied also in Cyprus, and by the right granted by the last Constitution Cyprus was represented at the Parliament assembled at Constantinople. In this state, then, was the Island when she came under the sway of Great Britain. This political change the Cypriot people hailed with joy; they hoped they were relieved of a corrupt administration, and they looked to a better future. Not only did they hope for a righteous exercise of the privileges accorded to them by the past rule; for the diminution of the avowedly heavy and disproportionate taxation of the exhausted island; for the fulfilment of the promise of the Porte made through Sava Pasha for the admission of the Greek language on an equal footing with the Turkish; but even for more sweeping reforms and greater liberties in accordance with the constitutional principles of Great Britain, the country which has undertaken the administration of this island, and which is justly distinguished as leading in liberty, humanity and civilization. But even after the three-and-a-half years which have lapsed since the British standard was planted on our isle, these legitimate hopes have, unfortunately, not been realized in great measure; and the Cypriot people whose hopes were at first so sanguine, found themselves deprived of some of their most important privileges wrung from the previous government, and estranged even from the imperfect participation they had possessed in the conduct of the affairs of their fatherland by a restriction of the rights and duties of the administrative Councils (Idaré) (vide report of the High Commissioner to Lord Kimberley dated March 19th 1881); by the appointment by the executive power of the judges previously elected by the people; and by its more heavily-felt intervention in our municipal councils. Notwithstanding, the Cypriot people are still convinced that a more prosperous future is reserved to their country; for her fate rests with a Government which has earnestly aided the cause of the oppressed, and which has been provisionally prevented from bestowing its high care on us by reason of more important questions of external politics.

As now however, the Government of the island has been placed under the Colonial Office which will, we think, undertake seriously the better organization of the country's affairs, we carry out the wishes of our fellow-citizens and fulfil what we consider to be our duty when we submit to your Excellency, together with the two preceding memorials, the present statement, which deals with some of the requests which will be known to you, and the fulfilment of which will for ever gain for her most Gracious Majesty the Queen and her Government the gratitude of the Greek population of the country.

We have thought it best to deal only in the present statement with some of the requests contained in the first memorial of 1879; for it is our opinion that if we succeed in rendering acceptable to your Excellency our project for the formation of a representative Council, as we shall have the honour to set forth, this body may deal with and solve the remaining subjects in course of time. Expense will be involved in the realization of our wishes in regard to these latter subjects, but the country would bear this without a murmur, convinced that the measures proposed will, in a short future, produce the desired result of rendering our Island self-supporting and no longer a charge upon the English Treasury. In reference to the second memorial of 1881, signed by the representatives of all the districts, and with which we have been entrusted by the Greek population of the island in order to submit it respectfully to your Excellency, we find it necessary to accompany its presentation with a statement of the following considerations.

The memorial commences by setting forth a cordial national wish, which has been the only hope from which the Cypriot people have derived courage to sustain so many martyrdoms without being crushed; but we declare in all sincerity and we beg to assure your Excellency that from the time our fate was placed in the hands of Great Britain we have not for a moment thought it probable that our wish could be complied with otherwise than through the benevolence of England and her humane rulers, a benevolence towards Hellenism of which we have had very recent proof in the fact that Great Britain took the lead in the enfranchisement of our oppressed friends. Perhaps premature utterance has been given to this wish; but at a time when it was seriously discussed in the English Parliament as to whom the *damnum hereditas* should be abandoned, the Cypriot people thought it opportune and to be their duty to manifest their desire as to their fate. As for the rest, we have always declared, and we reiterate the declaration, that we conform to the English protectorate, awaiting the happiest results from the liberal principles which actuate the great English nation and its humane government.

Your Excellency, we beg now respectfully to be allowed to submit to you our sentiments in regard to the following requests, to which we ask your kind attention:—

(1) **Legislative Council.**—By the memorial of 1879, the Greek population of the island expressed a wish for the creation of a representative system here which might contribute to the ends undoubtedly pursued by the Government of the Queen, namely our moral and material development. We desire again very respectfully but also more hopefully, to place this wish before the Government, which has been pleased already to express an opinion on the subject not contrary to the prayer of the memorial. The working of the Legislative Council which has now been in office more than three years has convinced every Cypriot that it is not able to carry out the object for which it was instituted. It is because of this that we desire to be permitted to express our opinion on this important subject, a subject which, we believe, is now receiving the serious consideration of the Government. It should be the aim principally of this Council to provide for the wants of the Island and to occupy itself with the furtherance of moral and material development. It is then necessary that it be composed of persons intimately acquainted with the country's affairs, and responsible to the Government and to the people, of which latter they must possess the confidence. To this end they must be taken from amidst the people themselves, and be elected by them in proportion to the number of each race according to the results of the last census. A majority must be assured to the native members, the number of whom it is desirable should not be less than 18, in order that the Council should be in possession of a thorough knowledge of the requirements of the country. We regard as indispensable rights of the elective Council: that it should legislate; that it should vote the Budgets of revenue and expenditure; that it should be empowered to take the initiative in proposing laws, the veto resting with Her Majesty's Government.

(2) **Law Courts.**—Having acquainted ourselves with the scheme for the reform of the Law Courts of the island, dated July 1881, we beg your Excellency to allow us to submit our humble opinion on some of its details. The institution of Justices of the Peace will be useful in three of the principal central villages of each district the neighbourhood of which is distant from the District Courts. These posts should be filled by

persons who possess the confidence of the people of the several districts as testified by their votes. The jurisdiction of these local magistrates should extend to civil cases, to a sum of £1 without appeal and £5 with appeal. As regards the Tribunals of First Instance, we think it proper that they should be composed of two native members and an English president; but the six tribunals which now exist must be conserved, because when the Tribunal of Commerce is dissolved, as is projected, they will hardly suffice for the timely solution of judicial affairs even with the help afforded them by the Justices of Peace. The undersigned, having considered the absence of easy means of communication, and the loss of time which would result from the removal from place to place of the District Courts, beg your Excellency not to approve the adoption of the circuit system.

The jurisdiction of the *Daavi* Courts extends now to a sum of £50 without appeal; and beyond £50 to an unlimited sum with a right to the litigants to appeal. We think it very useful that such jurisdiction should be given to the District Courts; but their penal jurisdiction must be increased to the extent of sentencing to imprisonment for three years. This will especially tend to check robbing in the provinces, where, on account of an objection to absent himself from his home, the evidence of a witness is difficult to be obtained. But it is just to always concede the right of appeal to those condemned to imprisonment, except in cases of robbery in the provinces, which should be decided without appeal within the limit of six months' imprisonment.

The aid of lawyers is certainly indispensable to the conduct of the courts that a proper distribution of justice may be assured; but if the system of circuit-going be introduced the litigants would have to suffer very heavy pecuniary sacrifices to obtain legal help.

Having submitted our opinions in regard to the District Courts, we beg the kind attention of your Excellency to a more important question, that of the replacement in the room of the Appeal or *Temyiz* Court of two English judges. Our task is easy, because your Excellency has not hesitated to declare frankly that such an innovation could not be satisfactory, and the absence of natives—a reason imparted on erroneous information—alone has induced your Excellency to adopt provisionally the plan in question. Your Excellency will appreciate the reserve which is imposed upon us in regard to a question which despite its generality must necessarily be one of persons. But looking to its importance and to the sincere desire of your Excellency to be correctly informed on the subject, we beg to assure you that at the proper time the Government, if it acts impartially, will be able to find, even for the Supreme Court, Cypriots possessing the indispensable qualifications mentioned by your Excellency in your scheme.

We think that an Appeal Court, presided over by an English judge and composed of three native members, of whom two should be lawyers, Christians, and a Mohammedan, would discharge most effectually its high functions. By the adoption of this constitution of the Appeal Court, the anomaly that the District Courts should be composed of three members while the Courts of Appeal consist only of two, contrary to the existing practice in all countries, will disappear. The first and indispensable requisites to a proper administration of justice are: that the judge possess a knowledge of the law he has to enforce, and of the language of the litigants, in order that he may form his opinion from an intimate understanding of the suits he hears. Your Excellency will perceive that if this were the case, the intervention of a third person—the interpreter—without any responsibility in legal matters, could be in great measure dispensed with. The interpreters either cannot translate in important legal discussions; or they render the meaning imperfectly comprehensible to the judges; or they garble it. We may add as a further reason for the appointment of native members that the dialect of the lower classes and principally of the peasants renders much of what they have to say difficult to be understood, especially to strangers. We consider that during the early years of the operation of the proposed judicial reforms, it would be well if a list of the names of the proper persons to act as judges, were submitted to the Government by the Representative Council; because the judicial appointments made up to the present have been unsatisfactory owing to the imperfect knowledge possessed by the administration of the persons nominated. The difficulty of the language renders necessary in the Court of Appeal, as also in the Courts of First Instance, that

Greek should act as Registrar, to keep the records and register the judgments delivered. The Greek language is the language most often used before the Courts, it being that of the litigants and of the lawyers who plead before them. The reasons we have already expressed why circuit-going is not desirable for the District Courts apply even more strongly to the Court of Appeal.

(3) **Language.**—To the very interesting subject of the introduction of the Greek language into the administrative and judicial services we asked the kind attention of the Government in the memorial of 1879, a copy of which accompanies this. Since it was presented, the Right Hon. Mr. Gladstone expressed himself in the House of Commons on June 1st, 1880, in a tone favourable to our wish. We hope then that the fulfilment of this earnest and legitimate desire of the Cypriot people will not be longer delayed. As yet we have not had the happiness to see a single judgment written in Greek, a record kept in this language, or a Greek registrar in any of the administrative Councils or Courts, without excepting the Commercial Court in which, however, the English occupation found a Greek president in office.

(4) **Education.**—In Cyprus, as in other Eastern countries, there is an intimate connection between the Church and education. The question here is in the care of committees presided over by the Bishops of the various provinces. They and the churches of the communities contribute even beyond their means to the instruction of the Greeks in the island. It may perhaps not be futile to point out in passing that the majority of our ecclesiastical dignitaries, before reaching their present high stations, have for many years taught in our Greek schools.

The Government, appreciating the value of and necessity for the extension of education in the island has been pleased to grant a sum of money for the purpose. We express our deep gratitude to Her Majesty's Government for the solicitude it displays in respect of this all-important subject, and to your Excellency we beg to tender our grateful acknowledgements for the kind sentiments you have expressed regarding the teaching in Cyprus of the Greek language—the language of the country. But it is allowed that the money devoted in the budget to instruction, as also the nomination of a Directorship of Education have not been productive of result. The school instituted for the teaching of the English language has not been a success; and the people generally have declined to receive any grant from the Directorship, such subventions being subject to conditions which have been found unacceptable. We are then of opinion that the adoption of the following system, which we beg respectfully to submit to your approval, will be in accord with the views which we are glad to know your Excellency holds on this question. The Representative Council to be elected ought, we think, to enact provisions to assure pecuniary means for public instruction, more especially for the aid of elementary schools, which schools should form the basis of an increased moral development of the people. The Council should enact a complete system of education for the island, to be carried out by School Boards elected by the inhabitants, presided over by the Bishops of the several provinces and inspected by the Commissioners.

(5) **External Relations of the Church to the State.**—Since the English occupation these relations which before were regulated by firmans and the *Hatt-ı-Houmayoun* have been tacitly ignored. They have not been again organized, and the legitimate authority with which the Church, which amongst us especially forms so important a part of our social system, is invested more or less in every State is disregarded. It is necessary that these relations should be adjusted by the ecclesiastical authority and the representatives of the orthodox Cypriot community, according to existing usages. The resolutions thus arrived at should be submitted to the Representative Council and afterwards form the external ecclesiastical canons.

These are the wishes which we are entrusted by the Greek population of Cyprus to lay before your Excellency. They have already been submitted orally to His Excellency the High Commissioner of the Island, who has been kind enough to hear us and has consented to transmit our requests to you. We venture to assure your Excellency that, your consent granted to these reforms, the interests of the English occupation will not suffer. With confidence, we ask the favourable consideration of our petition by your Excellency and by the Government of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen whom GOD SAVE.

CYPRUS.

Saturday Dec. 31st. 1881.

It is the custom of many newspapers in entering upon the new year, to glance retrospectively upon the twelve

past months. The practice is a commendable one and we may be able to follow it at the end of 1882; but the events of 1881 do not afford much subject for satisfactory reflection and we do not wish to commence what we hope will prove "A Happy New Year" to Cyprus and to our readers in other than a happy frame of mind. We prefer to look forward hopefully to the future rather than back upon a period which however much better than many years which have preceded it, has still left much to be desired. A statement of the expectations of the people will be found in the petition recently addressed to Lord Kimberley by the committee elected by the people themselves. The desires to which it gives utterance cannot be considered unreasonable, and a concession of them would be the most welcome "New Year's Gift" with which the Government could present the country. The petition explains itself and we need not therefore further refer to it. We look upon the presence of Mr. Fairfield amongst us as auguring well for the future of the island; from all that we hear he is giving the subjects connected with his errand here the most careful attention. The prospects for the harvest are good, and if the wisdom of men is on a par with the bounty of Providence it will not be in vain that we have wished to Cyprus a "Happy 1882."

That we live in an age of scientific wonder most people will admit; and if succeeding centuries keep pace with the nineteenth, he would be a bold man who would say what may not be done—ay, even before the termination of the present. There are some among us who can look back and remember the first steamship which sailed the ocean; the first gas-light which illuminated the great cities of Europe; the first iron road, which dispelled all the pleasant coaching days of our ancestors; Daguerreotype or sun pictures as they were then called, and for the invention of which poor Daguerre was placed in a lunatic asylum; photography; telegraphy; and all the wonderful inventions which it would take almost a volume to catalogue. One of the latest and not the least wonderful of these—the telephone—by which persons at distances may converse in their natural voices has been lately introduced to Cyprus, and we are told many amusing incidents have been the result. On one occasion a Turk gentleman was asked at Nicosia if he would like to converse with a friend of his residing in a distant town of the Island—we believe Paphos. He was directed to ask his friend some trivial question, speaking to the disc of the telephone. Immediately he heard his friend's voice which he recognized, it so startled and frightened him that he lost all his Oriental apathy and "made tracks" for the door with an alacrity which must have surprised himself. One of these instruments has recently been introduced to the official bureau of His Excellency at Nicosia and we have heard "sub rosa" of many funny little episodes which this marvellous instrument reveals. Conversations carried on in an at-all loud tone may be heard at either end of the wires without the knowledge of the speaker so long as the waves of sound are carried to the disc. Of course as there are two sides to a question so there are two ends to the instrument, and we trust that some of the weighty secrets of State may not get to the ears of those who might not respect the gravity of the position. The wires are laid from His Excellency's residence to the Chief Secretary's offices and will, we believe, be carried to

other government offices as soon as instruments arrive. This is doubtless, a move in the right direction although the telephone has not, we are told worked, hitherto with unalloyed success. The instrument is almost as eccentric as some clocks, and one young gentleman complained to us with tears in his eyes that "he could not go out for a morning tonic without the brute of a thing calling out to know where he was." Conversation in the office is carried on with fear and trembling. Both ends "Prenez Garde."

Local Notes.

We hasten to correct an error in the "Local Notes" column of our last issue. W. R. Collier Esq., Queen's Advocate, is appointed a Member of the Executive and not of the Legislative Council.

The "Larnaca Musical Society" met on Tuesday last at the house of C. Watkins Esq. Many of the "Part-songs" were executed under the leadership of Mr. Collier, and some charming *morceaux* for the violin were given. Mr. Russ accompanied by Mrs. Triandafyllides.

Some of our townsfolk had also the pleasure of assisting at this pleasant reunion.

We are pleased to see the Larnaca Musical Society open their doors (mouths perhaps we ought to say) at the house of Mr. Hayshaw on Tuesday evening next, and permit their expectant friends to participate in the enjoyment of the harmony of sweet sounds. We understand a very large number of invitations have been issued, and are sure there will be an equally large response. We need hardly say the matter is in the hands of their active conductor Mr. E. Collier.

Excellency the High Commissioner is regret to say suffering from an affection of the eyes which will prevent him, until recovery from giving his usual active attention to his official labours.

We are glad to perceive the Government Engineer's department here actively engaged in the transport of material for the destruction of locusts. There arrived by the "Laconia" 115 boxes of canvas for locust-traps and some 480 locust-screens, besides a considerable quantity of picks and shovels for the use of the men to be employed in exterminating if possible this plague of our land as of all the East. We learn that Mr. Hutchinson holds a contract for making the Government 5000 traps, and Mr. Mattei another for 1000. Their construction is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and it is hoped they may be ready for use by the end of January. The Government will not lose sight of the fact that it is the decided opinion of the agriculturists themselves that the proper time to effectively attempt the destruction of the locusts is when they are just beginning to fly and swarm on the shrubs.

NICOSIA NEWS.

The theme of conversation here is the resignation of Mr. Caravias, late translator for the Greek language in the Chief Secretary's office. I hear it openly stated that the reason was that Mr. Caravias was badly used and regarded with suspicion and dislike by high officials. "Oud'it that Mr. Mermoris will be appointed to the post, but I am not in a position to say whether or not the rumour is true. It is generally thought it will be difficult to find a person willing to occupy the position and at the same time possessing such qualifications for it as Mr. Caravias.

Miss Baruti has left Nicosia for Athens to complete her studies at the Arsakeion. The managing committee of this institution have written to friends here saying they would receive into their school gratis one girl from Nicosia, the selection to be made by competitive examination. This has accordingly been held, with the result that of the four girls who competed, two, Miss Fiszentzidi and Miss Baruti proved the most advanced in their studies, their merits being considered equal. A

second competition between the two young ladies resulting like the first that there was no appreciable difference in their qualifications it was finally decided by chance which was to be sent.

Rain has been abundant in our district and the prospects for harvest are good.

Limassol News.

The refreshing showers which have been prevalent during the last ten days, have worked a wonderful change in the appearance of the country round Limassol. During the previous three weeks' drought much of the seed that had already been sown lay dormant in the ground and the earliest planted grain that appeared above ground retained almost "in statu quo." Consequent however on the first rain, was the starting into life of the whole vegetable world; to the dreary burnt-up look of the plains succeeded the fresh green of grass and springing crops, while thus early in the year might be observed the blossom of many a wild flower, hyacinth, anemone etc.

Over all the district is great promise for next year's crops, and the husbandmen taking advantage of the improved state of affairs resulting from last season's harvest, have cultivated more extensively in the hope of gathering more plentifully. Beans, wheat and barley all look well and carous have flowered thickly; and immense activity in ploughing and sowing everywhere prevails, fully justified by the fine healthy appearance of the young blade in the first sown fields.

Captain Harden and Lieutenant Todd-Thorn-ton and a Detachment of the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment, fifty strong marched from Polemedia Camp at 8 a.m. on the morning of Wednesday the 28th inst. en route for Nicosia there to be stationed. Surgeon Johnston A.M.D. who came down specially from Nicosia for the purpose was in medical charge of the party.

There were we hear a large number of sportsmen shooting at the Salt Lake here on Monday; but owing to the unusual warmth of the weather for this time of year the birds were very wild and the bags were not as large as might otherwise have been the case; though on the whole we believe the number killed was not despicable; snipe making up the major part of the spoils as the few ducks there were wisely kept out of reach in the centre of the lake. As most of the shooters were Irishmen we presume that they substituted snipe for the "wren" whose hunting is so prevalent in Ireland on St. Stephen's day.

It is rarely that we find even the greatest misfortune unproductive of some good, if we knew rightly where to look for it. The improved condition of Limassol since the floods of this time last year is exemplative of this. One or two stone houses were all that were to be seen at that time in the town, but now fine buildings with ornate iron balconies are to be seen in course of erection on every side. Large and well-lit stone built stores replace the miserable mud hovels destroyed by last year's rain, and merchant's offices newly built and furnished in accordance with European ideas, show that the trade of Limassol is steadily increasing, and that the merchants of the town are at the same time endeavouring to keep pace with modern progress. Last year travellers by steamer or ship had often to be carried ashore on men's backs getting unpleasantly wet in the attempt to land; now we have a magnificent pier, offering every facility for the debarkation of passengers and cargo, besides affording a pleasant lounge on which the inhabitants may take their promordial stroll. A new Konak and Custom House of handsome design vastly improve the appearance of the town and we hope ere long to see it still further improved by the substitution of a properly built sea wall for the ruins and broken causeway which now make parts of our Strand an eyesore and disgrace to the town.

LATEST NEWS.

Vienna, Dec. 28.

Diplomatic relations between Austria and Roumania have been re-opened, the latter having afforded sufficient explanation on that part of the Royal speech which referred to the Danubian question.

Paris, Dec. 27th.

Mr. de Courcelles has been appointed Minister to Berlin, and Mr. de Chaudordy to St. Petersburg.

Constantinople, Dec. 21st.

Russia opposes the arrangement of the Ottoman debts because the Porte has ceded new sources of revenue in payment.

Tunis, Dec. 24th.

The three principal tribes in the south of Tunis continue their resistance.

London, Dec. 25th.

The "Standard" publishes a telegram stating that a fort of Cronstadt has been destroyed by explosion. The Nihilists are supposed to have committed the deed.

Paris, Dec. 24th.

The tone of the semi-official journals of Berlin which claim guarantees for the freedom of the Pope in Rome has caused great commotion in Italy.

A telegram from Bombay dated 22nd inst. to the English-consul at Alexandria says that during the week ending the 20th inst. there have been 23 cases of cholera of which 20 proved fatal.

Berlin, Dec. 22nd.

The relations between Germany and Russia seem strained. Count Schouvaloff has been summoned to St. Petersburg to confer with his Government.

"OUR RIDE THROUGH ASIA MINOR."

TO THE EDITOR OF "CYPRUS."

Sir,

There are always among us persons of the most estimable character whose delight is to differ on all points from established facts and well recognised opinions. If they do not edify us, at least they amuse us. Your correspondent "Smyrniote" who has favoured us with some criticisms on "Our Ride through Asia Minor" is a specimen of this class. In his opinion the book is "a complete failure," the verdict of the "Times" and other leading Journals being that it is a complete success, a view supported by the fact that a second edition has been called for within six weeks from its publication.

I am, Sir, etc.,

FACT NOT FICTION

Our correspondent will not have seen the Daily News opinion of Mrs. Scott-Stevenson's book. It appears in its issue of the 22nd inst. and certainly does not condemn "Our Ride in Asia Minor" with faint praise. "Was cordially welcomed by all who feel the double charm of womanly wit and womanly courage. Mrs. Scott-Stevenson disclaims any literary pretension. The result of all these gifts and graces is a book which from the first page to the last captivates, instructs, and satisfies the reader by its easy grace, its overflowing spirit, and its evident trustworthiness and freedom from prejudice." These are but some of the eulogiums which the "Daily News" critic showers upon the work of which "A Smyrniote" has so unfavourable an opinion. —Ed.

TO THE EDITOR OF "CYPRUS."

Sir,

Last week's "Alethia" in an article concerning the salaries of the officials, and their capabilities, quoted as an instance of mis-placed munificence the fact that Mr. Ongley senior receives £18 per month in his position of member of the "Daavi" Court, hinting that this sum is more than his services are worth.

Now I beg leave to differ altogether from the editor of the "Alethia."

It is well known that Mr. Ongley is a man of education having for many years occupied the position of Consul in various parts of the Levant, is conversant with the English, French Greek and Turkish languages, and from the experience in Eastern manners and customs gathered during his long consular career is eminently fitted for even a more important position than that which he at present holds in Cyprus. The only circumstance which may be imagined to militate against his usefulness is his age, and even in that the editor of the "Alethia" doubtless hopes to imitate him at some future time.

There are many officials who, possessing few, if any, of his qualifications are still receiving much higher salaries.

I am, Sir,

Yours etc.,

A KERN OBSERVER.

NOTICE.

SELLING OFF

FOR CASH ONLY.

Mr. CONSTANTINIDES begs to inform the public that he has now made a very large reduction, amounting to between 30 and 40 per cent, in the prices of his large and varied assortment of English goods. This enormous reduction is made on the understanding that all purchases shall be for CASH only.

Mr. CONSTANTINIDES particularly requests that all outstanding accounts may be settled before the end of the year.

M. CONSTANTINIDES,
GENERAL MERCHANT AND COMMISSION
AGENT.

LARNACA and NICOSIA.

NOTICE.

Nicosia Spring Races will take place on the 16th and 17th March 1882. Full programme will be issued shortly.

E. CROKER

HON. SECR.

RACE COMMITTEE.

NOTICE.

DIRECT SHIPMENT TO CYPRUS

A fast-sailing vessel will be dispatched from London on, or about, Feb. 1st, 1882 for Larnaca and Limassol direct, taking cargo at through rates for all parts of the Island. For freight, passage, etc. apply to

Messrs. Warre, Curtis and Co.,

Strand,

LARNACA.

NOTICE.

Photographic Views etc. of Cyprus and Jerusalem 9d and 2s each are sold by ANTONIO MATTEI, Mantovani Street No. 9 Larnaca.



LIVERPOOL AND THE EAST.
PAPAYANNI & CO'S
STEAMERS.

LINE OF FIRST CLASS

BRITISH SCREW STEAMERS.

These first class screw steamers run regularly between Liverpool, Malta, Alexandria, Larnaca and the Syrian coast; they carry a stewardess and have splendid accommodation for passengers.

The "Laconia" was advertised to leave Liverpool for Larnaca on the 10th Dec.

THE Proprietor of "Cyprus" is prepared to execute orders for every description of Printing, and to give estimates if desired, for Cards, Circular Bill-heads, Memorandum-forms, Mourning-Cards, Programmes, Hand-bills addresses, etc. on the shortest notice. Price-Lists, Reports, Posters, etc. expeditiously printed. Apply at the office of this journal.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

CHARLES SAMMUT SMITH
No. 214, Saint George Street
LIMASSOL.
DEPOT OF

GENERAL ENGLISH GROCERY
Spirits, Woodhouse's Best Marsala Wine,
Draught Bass' Ale & Guinness' Stout
in 18 gallon Casks,
Richmond Mixture, Habana and
Virginia Cigars.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
Very reasonable terms.

NICOSIA.

PONY EXPRESS.
Livery and Bait Stables.
Near Larnaca Gate.
NICOSIA

Saddle Horses and a Dog Cart to be let on
Hire by Day or Month.

A Night Groom Kept.

Proprietor, H. T. COMMELINE,
Late Pony Express.

ALBERT HOTEL
NICOSIA.

Proprietor:

Mr. JOHN SOLOMIDES.

THIS Establishment is now under
entirely new management and has
been re-decorated at great ex-
pense. Tourists and travellers will
find every accommodation.

Table d'hôte daily at 12.30 and
6.30 p.m.

Charges extremely moderate. Guides
and mules supplied for the con-
venience of travellers.

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SHIP-BROKER, SHIP-CHANDLER AND

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The above has just imported a use-
ful, English-made and varied assort-
ment of CROCKERY and EARTHENWARE;
a large supply of the best PERSIAN TUM-
BEREKE, PORTLAND CEMENT and SPORTING
and BLASTING POWDER of superior
quality.

PRICES VERY REASONABLE.

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PILLS & OINTMENT.

THE Troops in Cyprus will find HOLLOWAY'S PILLS
invaluable to them if taken in such doses as will
act gently on the system once or twice in the day.
They correct all disorders of the liver and stomach.
In cases of weakness and debility, they are priceless.

The late Col. Sir JAMES DENNY, of the 3rd Buffs
many years ago, and on the day of his arrival in
London, with his gallant regiment from India, called
to see Mr. Holloway and said that he considered he
was indebted for his excellent health whilst there,
to the use of his Pills. Col. Denny afterwards lived
in Ireland, and frequently sent to Mr. Holloway for a
supply of his Pills.

THE OINTMENT will cure any Old Wound, Sore,
or Ulcer, and is famous in cases of Rheumatism.
The Pills and Ointment are sold at Professor Hol-
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nearly all Medicine Vendors throughout the civilized
world, in Boxes and Pots, each with directions for use,
in almost every language. They may be procured in
Larnaca at the

ESCUAPIUS PHARMACY

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MR. LIASSIDES begs to inform
his numerous customers that
they will find at his stores a large
stock of wines, spirits, etc., etc. He
has also recently received an assort-
ment of English goods of the best
quality, which he is prepared to offer
at lowest prices.

THE
LEVANT HERALD.

ESTABLISHED IN 1856.

THE LEVANT HERALD is published daily on a
single broadsheet, of which the two external pages
are devoted to advertisements, and the inner pages, one
English and one French, to general news. The daily
edition of the *Levant Herald* has the character of a ge-
neral newspaper, and is intended for readers in the
East.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget consists of
sixteen to twenty-four pages. It is published every
Wednesday in winter and every Tuesday in summer.
It contains only Eastern matter selected from the co-
lumn of the daily issue, and is a *Levant* newspaper
specially designed for readers not residing in the
Levant.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget contains
from two to four pages of Commercial information
gleaned from the best authorities and carefully collated
and edited. Merchants engaged in trade with the
Levant will find the *Levant Herald* a valuable and
trustworthy business record.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget contains
provincial correspondence, reviews of the Turkish
press, sketches of Eastern life, and much extractable
matter which renders it of great utility to the Editors
of Country papers, to whom it is confidently recom-
mended.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget will be sent
post free to any part of the United Kingdom on the
following terms. Three months, 15s; Six months, 25s. 6d.
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be made payable to EDGAR WHITAKER, Constantinople.
Subscriptions and advertisements are received at
the Office of Cyprus for the *Levant Herald*.

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DEPARTURES:

From Alexandria on the arrival of the
Brindisi Steamer (every Thurs-
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„ Larnaca for Alexandria every
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p.m. arriving at Alexandria on
Tuesday at daylight.

The above Company take passengers
to and from the above ports, and goods
at through rates to all ports of Europe,
Syrian Coast, Asia Minor, and Egypt.

For particulars apply to

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REGULAR
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BETWEEN
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Departure from Larnaca daily at 6 a.m.

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Tickets, 3s. 6d. each.

The proprietor, Mr. Liassides, sup-
plies also special conveyances for
Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagousta, Ky-
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be hired either in Nicosia or Larnaca.

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the offices of Mr. Liassides in Nicosia,
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is one of the largest and most successful of
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Its Income exceeds Three Quarters of a Million
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Policies of Assurance from restrictive and unne-
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Agents H. S. King and Co. Larnaca.

Mr. A. MOMJIAN NICOSIA has a large and varied
assortment of goods on hand. The Offices and stores
are situated near the Post Office the premises
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Boord's well Known "Old Tom"
Plymouth Gin
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Ayala & Co.—Champagnes
"extra dry", 1st, and 2nd, qualities.
H. S. King & Co. are sole Agents
for Cyprus.
Bouche, fils & Co. Rheims—Qts and Pts.
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Flower and Sons Draught Ale and Stout in
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Ross's Famed mineral waters.
Webb and Son do do
Newry mineral water Co Ginger ale and Le-
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A Stock of the above fresh from England con-
sisting of Danish Butter, Jam, Lobsters, Salmon,
Olive Oil, Marmalade, Cheese, Haddocks, Rai-
sins, Sultanias, Valencias, Currants, Beef Suet
in 7lb Tins,
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Anglo Russian Iron and Tin Plate Co. a consign-
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Best Coke Tin Plates, Nails, Cooking utensils and a
various assortment of hardware a Large assort-
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Paints in All Colors.
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Hodson and Co's Paints in all Colors
Foulger and Co do do
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Tents to hold 2 people very light and useful.
Patent beds fitting into cases for Transport.
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NOTICE.

Purchasers of Goods will kindly understand
that after the last day of the present year all cur-
rent accounts must be settled at the end of each
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of interest current in the Island will be charged
until the account is paid, unless otherwise spe-
cially arranged.

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N. Rossos, B.L. at the "Cyprus Printing Office"
19 Valsamaki Street, Larnaca.