# 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 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.

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

"Cyprus" can be purchased in Nicosia, at the Stores of Mr. Constantinides, and also of Mr. Michel Christofides; in Limassol at the office of Mr. Euthybule; and in Larnaca at the Office of the Newspaper.

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


## AUSTRIA AND HER NEIGHBOURS.

There has been nothing more remarkable about King Humbert's visit to Vienna than the warmth with which the *entente cordiale* between Austria and Italy has been welcomed by every portion of the Austrian press. It is not often that the policy of the Austrian Government, even in foreign affairs, meets with the hearty approval of those classes of its subjects which lie outside the sphere of bureaucratic influence. But in this instance the independent organs of public opinion have vied with the papers habitually tender to the Government in the expression of their delight, and this unusual harmony at Vienna is not marred by any discordant note from Pesth. This fact is far more important than might be readily supposed. At first sight it might seem that the benefits which Austria may hope to derive from a good understanding with Italy are so obvious and so unmixed that only the most cross-grained grumbler could find anything to question in the policy which has secured them. When more closely looked at, however, the Italian alliance no longer appears pure gain for Austria, at least if her objects be such as they are commonly represented. Every alliance, as it promises mutual support, implies mutual sacrifices; and in this instance it is not only Italy which has had to renounce certain fond aspirations in order to make friendship possible. If Italy, in offering her hand to Austria, has turned her back upon the seductive rodomontade of the Irredentists, Austria in accepting it pledges herself to forego, for the present at any rate, that extension of her territory in the south-east which Italy could not but contemplate with such extreme jealousy. It is not by any means a matter of course, and it is a fact as noteworthy as it is reassuring, that an alliance which implies this renunciation on the part of Austria should have public opinion throughout that empire so strongly in its favour.

The desire for aggrandizement with which Austria is credited has no deep root in popular feeling. To say this is not to deny either that such a desire exists in certain quarters, or that the suspicion which it has excited, especially throughout the young States of the Balkan peninsula, is not to a great extent justified. With the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina fresh in men's minds, it is absurd to pooh-pooh the notion of an "advance beyond Mitrovitza" as out of the question; nor is it likely that the influences which were strong enough to overcome the vehement popular opposition to that occupation, both in Austria and Hungary, have lost all their vitality in the short space of three years. The land-grabbing policy of her past rulers, and the practical homage so lately paid by Count Andrassy to the time-honoured fallacy that increase of territory is equivalent to increase of strength, are sufficient reason for any amount of distrust of Austria on the part of Roumanians, Serbs, or Bulgarians. But, natural as that distrust may be in their case, it is only just that impartial onlookers should recognize the reassuring features of the situation. If the forces that make for a policy of aggrandizement in Austria are powerful, there is also a force of public opinion making against it which is constantly increasing in strength. It may well be that even in high places the growth of such a public opinion is not watched with regret. There is reason enough to welcome an influence calculated to check the unseen but constant pressure of an ambitious diplomacy which has before now driven the rulers of Austria, against their conviction, into a Forward policy full of danger and barren of substantial rewards. But, however this public feeling may be regarded in high quarters, there can be no doubt of its existence. While the Slavs are for the most part indifferent to the enlargement of the empire, both the Magyar and the Germans protest, and protest most emphatically against the professed or virtual incorporation of any fresh Slavonic nationality with the incongruous Austria-Hungary. So fully alive are they to the danger of any new conquests, that they cannot regard the advice occasionally offered to them to extend their boundaries south of the Danube as given in good faith. With characteristic suspicion of England, the Austrian papers agreed in regarding the late famous articles in the *Times* as a piece of duplicity. Nobody, they exclaimed, could possibly be so foolish as to suppose that Austria would adopt the policy there marked out for her. The only object of the suggestion, therefore, must have been to intensify the solicitude of the Balkan peoples with regard to her intentions. There can be no doubt whatever of the sincerity of the Austrian press in repudiating the policy recommended by the *Times*. Nor is there any reason to suppose that, whatever may be the intrigues of its subordinates, the Austrian Government has any present thought or wish of extending its territory at the expense of the smaller Danubian States.

Does Austria, then, regard herself as having no special interest in the Balkan peninsula, and no claim beyond that of any other European Power to exercise influence over its future destinies? By no means. It is beyond question that all parties and all classes in the Dual Empire regard the affairs of the Balkan countries as in a pre-eminent degree the concern of Austria. But the interest which they feel in their south-eastern neighbours is not, as many people are so ready to imagine, merely the interest which the cat feels in the mouse. The annexation of territory may be an object in some quarters, but only ignorance can suppose that the bulk of people of political intelligence in either half of the Empire desire it. What they do desire is a fresh field for Austrian enterprise and fresh markets for Austrian goods. The development of the Balkan countries, and not their subjugation, is what they hope for, provided that that development can take place under Austrian rather than under Russian influence. "We are more than sufficiently burdened already," says a late article in the *Neue Freie Presse*, "by the territory "which the Berlin Congress gave us, and "there are populations already within our "boundaries which require so imperatively "the exercise of our well-known duty of "spreading civilization eastwards that we "may be glad to dispense with the exercise "of this mission outside them." Any number of passages to a similar effect might be quoted from the Austrian press. It is well that this spirit of moderation should be more generally recognized. As long as the political growth of the young States of the Balkan peninsula is preserved from foreign interference, it can only be for the general good that the bonds of intercourse between them and Austria should be more firmly knit. The Western Powers especially can afford to watch without jealousy the growth of the legitimate influence of Austria between the Danube and the Ægean. It is their interest that Austria should succeed in establishing the peaceful hegemony which her superior civilization is sufficient to give her, if only because it presents the best possible antidote to the policy of aggrandizement which rash politicians may favour and imprudent friends suggest, but which is as distasteful to the wiser statesmen of Austria as it would be dangerous to the peace of Europe.

(*From the Pall Mall Gazette.*)

## JEWISH COLONIZATION IN PALESTINE

It is not unnatural that in these days, when a large portion of Christendom seems to be repenting itself of the tardy justice which after centuries of persecution recognised the rights of the Hebrew race to live and move and have its being, the Jews should once more turn their eyes towards the land of their ancestors, and seriously consider whether it may not afford them a haven of rest from the vexations to which they are exposed, even as it did to their forefathers when they went forth out of the land of Egypt. But the new exodus, if it is to take place, must be of a very different character from the armed migration of the children of Israel. The only conquest to which they can now look forward is such as they can achieve by their endurance, their industry, and their intelligence,—the same weapons in fact with which they have hitherto defended their national existence against a continual aggression. To such a restoration they have every right to aspire, and any scheme conducive to such a result may well awaken the interest not only of the Jewish race and of its well-wishers, but of all those who would fain see a new element of life and prosperity introduced into one of the fairest but most unfortunate provinces of the Turkish Empire. The idea, which seemed at first to be merely the visionary dream of religious enthusiasts, has received of late years a considerable amount of practical support. After labouring at Constantinople for upwards of a twelvemonth to secure its immediate realization, Mr. Lawrence Oliphant at least succeeded in giving valuably evidence of its feasibility in "The Land of Gilead." Nor has the seed which he has sown fallen on barren ground. The precise reasons of his failure it might be difficult to determine. The Ottoman Government, which has always shown marked favour towards the Jews, and which often gave them the most liberal hospitality when they were outcasts from the rest of Europe, never refused to approve his scheme in principle. But it is possible that it entertained towards it some vague and unconquerable suspicion as coming from a man who was avowedly connected by no ties of race or religion with the community on whose behalf he pleaded. In the East, where charity is always bounded by the narrow limits of a common faith or a common nationality, there must always be considerable difficulty in understanding and appreciating motives of abstract philanthropy. Mr. Oliphant's idea has, however, been brought forward in a new shape, and the objections which the Porte formerly entertained have been so far overcome that there seems now a reasonable prospect of its speedy realization.

A scheme has been laid before the Turkish Government, under the auspices of influential Jews, chief among whom figures Mr. Cazalet. He is supported by many leading Hebrews, both at home and on the Continent, and he commands all the financial facilities required for carrying out the vast undertaking which he patronizes as soon as it has obtained the consent of the Sultan. His representative at Constantinople has so far succeeded in pushing it successfully through the various and difficult stages which all proposals emanating from foreigners are required to fulfil. It has even passed unscathed out of the fatal ordeal to which all concessions are subjected by the Tophanch Commission, deservedly nick-named "the Undertaker's Commission" in allusion to the funeral rites which it usually performs over every proposal laid before it. The scheme only awaits now the approval of the Council of Ministers and the iradé of the Sultan, and both are expected to be given in due course. So little indeed is asked of the Turkish Government, and so much is offered, that it seems difficult to suppose that any reasonable objection could be raised. The concessionnaires only ask for grants of Government land in any part of Syria at the Porte's own choice, and they offer to spend five millions sterling on settling Jewish colonies upon them and developing the resources and means of communication of the country. The only condition upon which they insist is that the Porte shall allow them full freedom for the construction of all works of public utility which they may think necessary for the benefit of their colonies. This condition is so fair and so unexceptionable that even the Turkish Government can hardly fail to admit it.

How far the realization of the scheme is likely to justify the hopes of its suporters the future alone can tell. But there are many circumstances to justify their sanguine expectations. The condition of Syria itself, which experience has proved to be favourable to similar enterprises; the prosperity of the German colonies there, and even of several smaller jewish agricultural establishments; the tendency of Russian jews, who may be expected to contribute the principal body of immigrants, to adopt agricultural pursuits—are so many factors which point to success. And the results with which success could not fail to be attended are certainly of a nature to justify the attempt, were it even ten times more hazardous than it is, for it would not only be beneficial to an oppressed community, as the "Jewish Chronicle" correctly observed with reference to Mr. Oliphant's sheme, but it would powerfully promote and accelerate the civilization of Western Asia—i. e., of a region in which we are and ever must be specially interested.

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With reference to the preceding letter written to the "Pall Mall Gazette" from Constantinople, Mr. Edward Cazalet has adressed from Fair-lawn, Tonbridge, the following:- "First of all, I am not a Jew, as your correspondent implies, and my family has never been in any way related to members of the Jewish race. Secondly, although the interests of the Jews are mainly concerned in the scheme, and many influential Jews have expressed great interest in its success, yet it is incorrect to say that the scheme was laid before the Turkish Government under Jewish auspices. Thirdly, the scheme does not involve any obligation to spend five million sterling for colonization purposes. Your correspondent also gives other details of the scheme which are not quite accurate, but as the concession is not yet granted, it would be premature to enter further into the matter."

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## THE ENGLISH PRESS ON CYPRUS.

The following are the views held by the "Christian World" on the subject of the Island:—

The advantages to England of the annexation of Cyprus still tax the ingenuity and imagination of Conservative statesmen to discover, and altogether elude the search of the most diligent inquirer who is unbiassed by the associations of political partisanship. Lord Beaconsfield dazzled his admirers with the idea that somehow the possession of Cyprus would give England a great advantage in

withtsanding a possible attack upon India by Russia. Lord Salisbury, the other day, alluded, somewhat darkly and mysteriously, to "the wisdom of the policy which has given us a hold upon Cyprus," in view of the Egyptian troubles and uncertainties. The one fact about Cyprus about which there is no doubt is that it is in a bankrupt condition, that it is costing our Treasury about £80,000 a year, and that there is no reasonable prospect of its being able to pay its way. It is rather hard to have to invent reasons for standing by a bad bargain ; but every body has discovered that it is far easier to make a bad bargain than to get out of it when it is made.

## CYPRUS,

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR R. BIDDULPH, K. C. M. G., C. B., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Troödos, July 7, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Blue Book for the Island of Cyprus for the year 1880. The returns comprised therein have, for the first time, been prepared in the form prescribed by the Colonial Regulations.

*Agricultural Produce and Trade.*

2. The year 1880 was in most respects a more favourable year than 1879. In some parts of the island the harvest was good, but the rainfall in the Messaria was not sufficient to ensure a good harvest in that otherwise fertile plain. Nevertheless, there was a marked falling off in the imports of grain and an increase in the exports of breadstuffs as compared with the preceding year, as appears from the following figures:—

| | 1879. | 1880. |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Value of imports of cereals | 49,651 | 12,308 |
| Value of exports of cereals (including flour) | 5,928 | 13,906 |

The imports above shown do not include flour, because, for reasons which I have before brought to notice, the importation of flour from Egypt is, in a great measure, independent of the harvest here, so that, whilst flour to the value of 40,354*l.* was imported in 1879, the value imported in 1880 was 43,236*l.* There was, however, a falling off in the importation of flour during the last six months of 1880 as compared with the corresponding period of 1879.

3. Of the remaining chief products of the island, olives were better than in 1879, and the grape crop was again a good one, this being the third year, in succession, in which there has been an excellent grape season. 5,754,515 okes of wine were made in 1880 as against 6,664,741 in 1879. The exports of wine were to the value of 31,600*l.* in 1879 and 46,400*l.* in 1880, whilst the amount exported in the latter year was not proportionately in excess of the amount exported in 1879, thus showing that better prices were obtained in 1880 than 1879. It could not be expected that the carob trees would yield for the following year a crop equal to the abnormal harvest of 1879, yet the total value of the carobs exported in 1880 was only 1300 less than that of those exported in 1879, whilst their amount was about 3000 less. The Chief Collector of Customs has touched on these matters in his report, which I transmit herewith; but with reference to his remarks on the decrease in the exports of olive-oil and cotton, I must point out that these exports represent the crops of the preceding years. The exports therefore of those articles for 1880 do not represent the harvest of that year, but of 1879. The exports of silk cocoons and of raw silk show a considerable increase.

*(To be continued.)*

## "INSANITATION"

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

The "insanitary" condition of our Island is a subject which has been almost talked out. Occasionally English journals of the "know-nothing" order refer to it; but in the present state of our finances the Eucalyptus trees all look like attenuated weeping willows, and drainage is a question to which reference must not be made. In regard to this latter subject it is some consolation to be informed by no less eminent an authority that Professor Huxley that unless the modern system of drainage was most perfectly carried out, it was an admirable machinery for distributing death and disease. I cannot, however, help thinkig that much might be done for the sanitation of Cyprus if only it was endeavoured to impart to the peasantry some idea of the disinfecting properties of substances in common use with them.

For instance there is charcoal, the properties of which in absorbing effluvia and the greater number of gases and vapours have long been known. Dr. John Stenhouse, F. R. S. lecturer on chemistry at St. Bartholemew's Hospital, long ago drew special attention to its value. After remarking on its use for many centuries in filtering and removing organic impurities from bad water he says:

"It is somewhat remarkable that the very obvious application of a perfectly similar operation to the still rarer fluit in which we live namely, the air, which not unfrequently contains even more noxious organic impurities floating in it than those present in water—should have been so unaccountably overlooked."

Dr. Stenhouse goes on to point out that charcoal not only absorbs effluvia and gaseous bodies, but that especially when in contact with atmospheric air, it oxidises and destroys many of the easily alterable ones by resolving chiefly into water and carbonic acid." It is on this oxidising property of charcoal, as well as on its absorbent power that its efficacy as a deodorizing and disinfecting agent chiefly depends." All charcoal which has been exposed to the air, even for a few minutes contains within its pores highly condensed oxygen and when effluvia and miasmata come into contact with this the component, easily-altevable parts of which they consist are oxidised and destroyed. It is thus possible for every Cypriot household to remedy, to some extent, its own insanitary condition. The whole teaching for the prevention of the spread of epidemic fever, writes Dr. Talbot whose experience entitles his opinion to respect is "avoid filth ; isolate epidemic disease." And the practice of the first item of advice of the sanitary or sanatory—the difference, although I have seen it defined by Professor Holloway is, I take it, the same as between tweedle-dum and tweedld-dee — will result in a decided improvement in our "insanitary" condition, never so bad as has been represented.

Dr. Stenhouse, whose special attention, for more than a year, was given to the deodorizing and disinfecting properties of charcoal, ultimately brought the subject to the attention of the Society of Arts. On the first occasion he dwelt at some length "on the utility of charcoal powder as a means of preventing the escape of noxious effluvia form churchyards, and from dead bodies in other situations. Our burial-places are in a somewhat "insanitary" state : might not something be learnt as to their sanitation from the hints of Dr. Stenhouse ? On the second occasion Dr. Stenhouse made a suggestion which I think you will find it worth while to quote *in extenso*. He advocated the adoption in all places where foul air is apt to accumulate—water-closets, hospital-wards and in the close and unhealthy districts of large towns—of charcoal ventilators, made of a thin layer of charcoal enclosed between two thin sheets of wire gauze. All impurities are retained by the charcoal and pure air alone is admitted into the neighbouring rooms. "Such an arrangement as this remarked the lecturer" "carried out on a pretty large scale, would be especially useful to persons necessitated to live in pestiferous districts within the tropics, where the miasmata of ague, yellow fever, and similar diseases are prevalent." The pestiferous districts of Cyprus are beginning to recover from the vilification they have received. But in the absence of money of carrying-out of sanitary measures as they are regarded to-day, the observations of Dr. Stenhouse appear to me well worth regard. The doctor appends : "The proper amount of air required by houses in such situations might be admitted through sheets of wire gauze, or coarse convas, containing a thin layer of coarse charcoal powder" another ricommendation which appears to me valuable in a country where the question of sanitation is as yet in its infancy is that tolerably thick charcoal ventilators as those described should be applied to X gully-holes, sewers and sinks," Such an arrangement would effectualy prevent the escape of any effluvia, would be easy of construction, and not likely to get soon out of order."

The use of charcoal has been well exemplified at more than one of the Metropolitan hospitals, and the progress of gangrene and other putrid sores has been arrested by its means. It is used not unfrequently quilted loosely in a little cotton wool. "And it has" remarks Dr. Stenhouse "in many cases restored to health patients who were rapidly sinking."

I have only to quote the final remarks of the doctor. "After all consideration, I feel perfectly confident that charcoal will prove by far the cheapest and best disinfectant. Unlike many others it evolves no disagreeable vapours, and if heated in close vessels will always act, however long it has been in use, quite as effectively as at first. The efficiency of the charcoal may be greatly increased by making it red hot before using it. This can easily be done by heating it in an iron saucepan covered with an iron lid. Of course when it has to be applied to inflammable substances, such as wooden floors, etc. it must be allowed to cool in close vessels before being used. Then, it "Enquire Within" is to be believed, charcoal is useful for some other purposes. All sorts of glass vessels and other ustensils may be cleansed by it from long-retained smells by rinsing them out with charcoal powder and we are informed that when meat, fish, etc, from intense heat or long keeping, are likely to pass into a state of corruption a simple and pure mode of keeping them sound and healthful is by putting a few pieces of charcoal, each the size of an egg, into the pot in which the fish or flesh is to be boiled.

Then again there is coffee. I find it stated —again without pretending to be an expert —that numerous experiments with roasted coffee have proved it to be a most powerful means not only of rendering animal and vegetable effluvia inocuous, but of actually destroying them. In a room exposed to the effluvium occasioned by the clearing out of a dung-pit, the stench was completely removed in half a minute on the use of three ounces of fresh roasted coffee, whilsst in other part of the house were permanently cleared of the same smell by being simply traversed with the coffee roaster, although the cleansing of the dung pit continued for several hours after. "The best mode of using the coffee as a disinfectant is to dry the raw bean, pound it in a mortar, and then roast the powder on a moderately-heated iron plate until it assumes a dark brawn tint, when it is fresh for use. Then sprinkle it in sinks or cess-pools, or lay it on a plate in the room which you wish to have purified.

In conclusion, a word as to our own able sanitary officers. As they are without funds to carry out any practical sanitary measure, their time would, I think, be well employed in inculcating principles. A few lectures on "Insanitation" publicly delivered might lead to some beneficent results. But the advocacy of schemes which cost much money will accomplish nothing.

Yours, etc.

SANITAS.

## Local Notes.

The "Larnaca Musical Society" met, for the third time this season, on Tuesday evening last at the house of Charles Watkins Esq.; the members mustered in full force, and were most hospitably received by the genial host and hostess. Several of the favourite four-part songs were executed very creditably, and one or two new pieces were studied. We believe the next *réunion* will take place at the house of the Commissioner.

It is distressing to learn that the Cattle Plague has broken out at Aghios Theodoros in the Larnaca district. We hear however that prompt measures have been taken, by the Police, to prevent the spread of the disease.

We are not surprised to find that under the energetic proprietor-ship of Mr. H. J. Commeline the establishment at Nicosia known as the *Pony Express* Livery and Bait Stables is in an increasingly prosperous condition. Mr. Commeline has lately made several additions to his stud, including *Lady Lucy*, a handsome light-chesnut mare, which her owner may confidently be expected to steer to victory if she is entered for any of the events to which we are now beginning to look forward.

We are in a position to say, that serious doubts are entertained as to the truth of the report, that an English gentleman had been molested, by highwaymen, on the road to Famagusta.

Many of those who were most industrious in circulating the report, are now amongst its most earnest dis-believers.

It seems that the English gentleman in question was the *bona fide* victim of a hoax, perpetrated on him by a Turk possessing a lively imagination.

We are glad to learn that the Police, in its Civil capacity, is now represented at the Konak, an arrangement which will greatly expedite the execution of its functions.

Rain has continued to fall on the Island in some quantity during this week.

## A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND.

*(Continued from our last.)*

### XIV.

Before starting on the journey to the Jordan and Dead Sea we despatched servants in advance with mules carrying tents and provisions. Our dragoman, and two bedouins accompany us. These latter are swarthy fellows of the tribe of Abu Dis, well mounted and armed. Each carries a double barrelled gun slung at the back, and knives and pistols at the belt. The stocks of the pistols and handles of the knives are profusely inlaid with silver, ivory, and ebony. Like all descendants of Ishmael they present quite a war-like appearance. For a consideration they have undertaken to conduct us safely through the country we are about to visit. It is not considered safe for travellers to attempt the journey without an escort on account of the nomadic robbers who prowl about the banks of Jordan and the Dead Sea in quest of plunder. Abu Dis is friendly

with all the various tribes of his people, and hires out his followers to accompany travellers. The sheiks of the tribes passed get a share of the fees paid to Abu Dis for escorts escorted no danger need be apprehend: Abud provided, and so long as travellers are thus Dis is nothing less than captain of a bead of robbers, and engaging an escort from him is submitting to a system of black mail which cannot well be avoided. For centuries the Turkish government has in vain attempted to subdue the Bedouin rovers, so, to prevent robberies and probable bloods hed the system is tolerated. Infact it is looked upon as an established law of the land.

Quitting Jerusalem by the Damascus gate, we proceed down the valley of Gihon; along the foot of Olivet; past Gethsemane; and are soom fairly on the road to Jericho, which is to be the halting-place for the night. We pause for a while at Bethany just to glance at the reputed ruins of the house of Mary and Martha; the side of Simon the lepers house; and the tomb of Lazarus.

It is midsummer, and as we wend our way along the rocky paths over the barren hills, the sun shines down with terrific force, giving us a foretaste of what is to come in the Jordan valley and along the salt-strewn shores of the Dead Sea. Half an hour's ride from Bethany we enter a deep ravine with high barren hills on either side. This runs through the wilderness where John the Baplist first announced the coming of the Messiah. Christ passed forty days in fasting and prayer in this wild and dreary country preparatory to his great life-work. At the entrance of the valley is a fountain from which continually flows a cool and crystal stream. It is called the "apostles fount." Without doubt Christ and his apostles drank from this spring during their journeyings to and fro. This is thought to be the spot where the messengers sent by Mary and Martha met our Lord and announced to Him the death of Lazarus. In a crevice of one of the ruined walls of the fountain I found a snake-skin in perfect preservation thirty-one and a half inches long. Half way down the valley we startled a covey of partridges. One of the Bedouins fired, but no bird fell. Noticing numbers of curions-looking black worms crawling about the hillsides, I dismounted to examine them and found the average length to be six inches. Skin perfectly shiny, smooth, and black as jet. Head indistinguishable from tail until one was touched when it instantly vomited and caused a most disagreeable smell. The Bedouins call them by the singular name "rod of Moses," probably in reference to the rod of Aaron, which when thrown on the ground became a serpent.

Leaving the valley of the fountain we reach a small dreary plain, in crossing which we meet two Bedouins driving a donkey laden with cucumbers. These are the first people seen since our departure from Jerusalem. Our escort salutes them and we hold in our horses while they exchange a few words. Even these apparently poor sons of the desert are armed with guns, pistols, and knives. Before resuming their journey they present each one of us with a cucumber. The usual salaams having passed, we proceed on our journey, and having crossed the plain, again enter the dreary wilderness of barren hills. On the top of one are some ruins called the inn of the good Samaritan. The ruins are probably those of a very ancient caravanserai; many such buildings were erected by charitable people in days long past. Ruins of caravanserai discovered in several eastern countries, especially in Palestine, shew that they were almost always erected in parts of the country where accomodation for man and beast would not otherwise be obtainable. The names of Haroun Alraschid, Saladin, and others were long revered by weary travellers for the comforts and advantages of out-of-the-way caravanserai built by them. Christ in His journeyings to and from Jerusalem frequently passed the than before us, and perhaps sometimes rested His weary head, neath its walls. Who can say but what He had this place in mind when relating the parable of the good Samaritan?

Desolate in the extreme is this wilderness of Judea. High barren hills and ugly deep ravines. Water courses dry. Not a green leaf, not a living thing, not a drop of moisture, not a sound, to break the oppressive monotony of desolation. All, is parched and dried up.

(*To be continued.*)

## OCCASIONAL NOTES.

**The Telelogue.**— The conveyance of messages from one part of a field of battle to another with clearness and rapidity is one of th military problems of the day. Messengers may be captured or killed; besides they wear out horseflesh. The field telegraph is after all a tembering piece of business, with all its batlteries and huge coils of wire, nor can it be safely laid in close proximity to an enemy. The aim of military telegraphists is to find some simple means of sending messages quickly and surely, over the heads of the enemy, if necessary, and without any cumbrous apparatus—In sunny climates the sunlight can be caught on mirrors and reflected in long or short flashes, so as to spell out words according to the Morse alphabet. But this is of no use in dull weather. One of the latest inventions is that of a Frenchman, Captain Gaumet, who uses large and bright figures on a black ground. It is said that the letters can be easily read in any weather, and at considerable distances, by the aid of an ordinary pair of field glasses. The instrument, which goes by the hideous name of the télélogue has been lately tried with complete success at Paris, with the assent of the Minister of War.

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A German View of Ireland.—The "Cologne Gazette" thus concludes an article on the press prosecution in Dublin:— "Happy country! where there has been only one press trial for many years, and that only in a place in which, if Prussia had ruled, a state of siege would have been declared long ago, and all journals preaching insurrection would have been suppressed. We need hardly say that confiscations by the police of newspapers and books are as much unknown in the United Kingdom as wolves and bears, and it is indeed evident to the meanest understanding that real freedom of the press, or anything that bears the most distant likeness to that noble boon, can nowhere exist side by side with the unrestricted right of confiscation. When shall we learn the truth in this matter from the country of hereditary political wistdom"?

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His Highness the ex Khedive is at Montecateni, a celebrated watering-place in Tuscany, and the strongest aperient waters in the known world. Taught a lesson by the elopement of the charming Bendisa from his palace at the Favorita at Naples, he has summoned the most precious of the ladies of his harem to bear him company, being unwilling to trust them to the guardianship which has proved so faithless. One of the ladies has written such charming spirituelle letters from Monte Catini to a friend in Paris, that they are to be printed forthwith. The description given of the place and the people, and obove all, of the composition of the harem, with still more curious details concerning its lord and master, will render the forthcoming „Lettres d'une odalisque" a most interesting literary production.

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Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria has published his Oriental travels in two volumes, dedicating them to the companions of his journey.

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PALESTINE.—The great map of Western Palestine, prepared from surveys conducted for the Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund by Lieuts. C. R. Cander and H. H. Kitchener, R. E., has been reduced from the one inch scale to three-eights of an inch and has been printed for the committee at Stanford's Geographcal Establishment. Although this map is less than half the size of the great map, it is described as a noble production.

## Latest News.

The news of the death of the Duc d'Aumale is contradicted.

Ahmet Rassit Pasha has been named Governor of Tripoli.

The *Post*, a semi-official Journal of Berlin, publishes an article in which it states that Bismarck having become discouraged, wishes to resign leaving the situation in the hands of the Clerical Conservative party.

Earl Granville has again given an assurance that the sincere understanding between England and France continues.

The Russian Ambassador at Constantinople has altered his financial pretensions. He does not oppose the demands of the foreign bond-holders.

A terrible explosion has occurred in the sulphur mines of Sicilia. 50 men have been killed.

On the 13th. inst. an important seizure of Fenian arms and documents was made at Bradford.

A telegram from New York of the 14th inst. states that the trial of Guiteau is begun. The conduct of the accused is strange, and it is supposed that he feigns insanity.

Gambetta has submitted to M. Grevy the following list of a new ministry. M. Grevy has accepted it.

Gambetta, Premier and Foreign affairs; Spuller, Interior; Campenon, War; Razonel, Public Works; Cochery, Posts and Telegraphs; Rouviere, Commerce, Colonies and Commercial Marine; Cazot, Justice; Guzard, War Marine; Devès, Agriculture; and Proust, Arts, Sciences and Industry.

A despatch from Pera of the 14th. inst. announces that Rassim Pasha left on that day for Tripoli.

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The Paris correspondent of the "Times" sends a long private letter, which has reached Paris, "written by a man at Berlin in a position to be well informed," corroborating what M. Gambetta said about the supposed interview at Varzin when lunching with the Prince of Wales. The writer says:—"As to M. Gambetta's visit, I have it from Prince Bismarck himself that he has not seen him and that this depended on M. Gambetta, the Prince being quite ready to give him a good reception. I even think that in his heart the Prince must have been surprised at his non-appearance, for M. Gambetta made a tour which took him pretty near Varzin." The Germans are quite aware, not only that France at bottom hopes for revenge, but that she regards M. Gambetta as personifying it.

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The Austrian Government has issued a Circular Note respecting the King of Italy's visit to Vienna, which "emphatically represents the meeting as only strengthening the guarantees of European peace." The Circular denies that the interview was of a nature to give the slightest ground for apprehension or inquietuted in any quarter. The German Emperor has, according to the Berlin correspondent of the "Morning Post," sent a telegram to the King of Italy congratulating him on the result of his meeting with the Emperor of Austria.

Ahmed Tewfik, the Turkish Effendi who was imprisoned and subsequently exiled by the Porte for revising Dr. Kœlle's translation of the English Prayerbook, is about to be admitted into the English Church.

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The Greek Parliament has been dissolved by Royal decree, and the elections will take place on December 20.

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## Army Contracts

Tenders will be received at the undermentioned Office, until 12 o'clok Noon, on Wednesday the 30th day of November 1881, for Cleaning Latrines, Ash-pits, Urinals & dirty water cisterns & for burying soil urinus refuse etc. during a period of twelve months, commencing 1st January 1882.

Forms of Tender, Conditions of Contract, and any further particulars, may be obtained on application at this Office, by Letter addressed to the Senior Commissariat Officer, or in Person between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clok, and no Tender will be entertained unless made upon the Form so obtained.

The Tenders must be properly filled up and signed, and no Tender will be noticed unless delivered at the undermentioned Office, under closed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside, by the day and hour above named.

*Commissariat Office*,
Limessol Cyprus
C. F. Leach,
A. C. G.
Senior Commt. Officer.
14th November 1881.

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## ΣΥΜΒΟΛΑΙΟΝ ΔΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΝ.

Προσφοραὶ γίνονται δεκταὶ ὑπὸ τοῦ Διευθυντοῦ τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου Κύπρου διὰ τὸν καθαρισμὸν τῶν Ἀποπάτων, καὶ λοιπῶν ἀκαθάρτων ὑδάτων κλπ. ἐν Λεμησσῷ καὶ τοῖς Στρατοπέδοις Πολεμιδίων καὶ Τροόδου δι' ἓν ἔτος ἀρχόμενον ἀπὸ τῆς 1ης Ἰανουαρίου 1882.

Αἱ προσφοραὶ πρέπει νὰ ὦσιν ἐν τῷ Γραφείῳ τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου Λεμησσοῦ οὐχὶ ἀργότερον τῆς μεσημβρίας 18)30ης 9βρίου 1881, ἄλλως δὲν θέλουν ληφθῆ ὑπ' ὄψιν.

Αἱ προσφοραὶ, αἱ λεπτομέρειαι τοῦ Συμβολαίου καὶ πᾶσα ἄλλη πληροφορία δίδονται ἐν τῷ γραφείῳ τοῦ Ἐπιμελητηρίου ἐν Λεμεσσῷ.

Ὁ Γενικὸς Προμηθευτὴς δὲν ὑποχρεοῦται νὰ δεχθῇ τὴν ἐλαχίστην, ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἄλλην τινὰ προσφοράν.

Λεμησσὸς 14 Νοεμβρίου 1881.

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## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS INWARDS DURING THE WEEK AT LARNACA.

November,
" 15th S. S. 'Lucifer' Austrian from Constantinople and Smyrna, a party of tourists on board.
" 'Ghul Bahar' Cypriot 44 tons from Papho cargo hemp.
" " St. George do. 36 tons do. ballast.
" " 'Guido' Italian barque 436 tons Genova, inballast.
" 16 'Chaziti' Cypriot 40 tons from Beyrout, General cargo.
" " 'Aphrodite' do. 96 do. from Alexandria General cargo.
" 17 'St. Nicolas' Greek brig 229 tons from do., ballast.
" 18th 'Erine' Cypriot schooner 39 tons from Limassol, ballast
" " S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons from Alexandria and Limassol Mails etc.
" 19 'Lisa' Italia brig 146 tons from do. ballast

Outwards.

November,
" 15th S. S. 'Roumelia' British 1884 tons for Alexandria, General cargo.
" " S. S. 'Lucifer' Austrian Yacht for Beyrout, Jaffa and Triest
" 18th 'San Nicolas' Greek brig for Famagusta, in ballast.
" " 'Aphroditi' Cypriot do, Limassol, General cargo.

15th

The names of the German tourists on board the Steam Yacht 'Lucifer' which arrived here from Constantinople and Smyrna were as follows.—H Lochnes, M. Lochnes, O. Lochnes. M. Lochnes, C. Juttner, M. Juttner, J.M. Harmam, I. Schultz, I. Beemhes, M. Erdmam, Dr. Gurlt, A. Fring.

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Passengers arrived by S. S. 'Elpitha' Miss Cobham, Miss Beaucamp, M. Dobbin, Major Patten, Mr. Haggi Pavlo and 18 deck passengers.

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THE OINTMENT will cure any Old Wound, Sore, or Ulcer, and is famous in cases of Rheumatism.

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