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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No 101

MONDAY, JULY 26th 1880.

PRICE THREE PENCE

"CYPRUS"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The charge for subscriptions is 3s. 9d. for 3 months; 7s. 6d. for 6 months; and 15s. for 12 months, postage paid throughout the Island. For all countries included in the International Postal Treaty, it is 4s. for 3 months; 8s. for 6 months, and 16s. for 12 months.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

"Cyprus" can be purchased in Nicosia, at the New Albert Hotel and in Larnaca, at the Office of the Newspaper and at the English Grocer, No. 16, Bazaar Street.

PRINTING.

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

Chief Intelligence of the Week.

(From the "Overland Mail.")

The debates on the Compensation for Disturbance in Ireland Bill have occupied the attention of the House of Commons throughout the week.

A Bill for taking the census in England in 1881 was introduced in the House of Lords by Viscount Enfield on July 12.

Lieut.-Col. T. J. Levett (C) has been returned for Lichfield by a majority of 34 over the Liberal candidate; Mr. Enoch Baldwin (L), for Bewdley, by a majority of 120; and Mr. R. B. Martin (I), for Tewkesbury, by a majority of 82.

About 10,000 troops of the Aldershot division were reviewed by the Queen in the Windsor Park on July 14.

The Cobden Club held their annual banquet at Greenwich on July 10. Earl Spencer presided.

The texts of the Collective and Identic Notes presented to the Porte are given in another column. None of the Powers seem very sanguine as to the result of their influence on the Porte.

Fighting has taken place between the Albanians and Montenegrins, the former being defeated, with slight loss.

The Amnesty Bill was passed in the French Chamber on July 10. The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies were prorogued on July 15.

The Grand National Fête of the Republic was celebrated on July 14, and passed off without any disturbance and amidst great enthusiasm. New colours were presented to the army by President Grévy.

The Wimbledon Rifle Meeting commenced on July 10. The silver medal, badge, and £60 in the first stage of the Queen's Prize has been won by Corporal Scott, 4th Cheshire, with 102 points out of a possible 105.

Harrow and Eton Schools played their fifty-sixth cricket match at Lord's on July 9 and 10, the former winning by 95 runs.

A terrible colliery explosion, resulting in the death of 119 men and boys, has occurred at Risca, near Newport, Monmouthshire.

Another gas-main explosion has occurred,

one of the streets of Bilston, near Wolverhampton, having been torn up for a distance of 100 yards. No lives were lost.

The Midland Counties have been visited by severe thunderstorms and floods, and several fatalities have occurred. London has also suffered to a less extent.

Amongst the deaths recorded during the week are:—Major-Gen. T. Raikes, C. B.; Lieut.-Col. W. C. Newhouse; Canon Miller; and Mr. Tom. Taylor, editor of "Punch."

EGYPT.

The 17th of July will be a memorable date in the history of Egypt. The Law of Liquidation will be to day presented to the Khedive for his acceptance and a dark page in Egypt's history will be closed by this final settlement of the difficulties into which the country had been plunged by the reckless ambition of its late ruler. Let us hope that we are now entering on a brighter era and that "Egypt may blossom like the rose."

The French celebrated their national "fête" on 14th inst. In Alexandria, Cairo and Port Said great rejoicings took place, the French communities in these places having made a general holiday of the day which marks an important epoch in the history of their great country.

The occupation of Assab Bay, on which the Italians so greatly prided themselves, hugging the hope that it had in the germ of a vast commercial and political future for Italy in Africa, is turning out a failure. Captain Amezza, under whose protecting auspices it was effected, is shortly going to return to Italy and M. Sapeto, the director, has been ill and is dispirited. The climate is unendurable for Europeans and no commerce is developing itself.

The occupation of the place was a violation of the Sovereignty of the Porte and an act which Italy would never have committed, had she not felt secure that Egypt was too weak to protect its rights, and that Turkey was fully occupied elsewhere. It is one, among the many proofs lately given, that the last born of the Great Powers has not yet arrived at years of discretion.

The Indian Government has at last found out that the Indian reliefs can be carried out much more economically by sending soldiers by the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamers than by using the costly and cumbersome troopships which have for years been running through the Canal. Consequently in the ensuing season all the troopships but two will be laid up.

THE IDENTIC NOTE TO THE PORTE.

The following is a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, forwarding a copy of the Identic Note addressed to the Porte on the 11th of June, 1880:—

Therapia, June 15, 1880.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a copy of the Identic note which was handed to the Porte on Saturday, the 12th inst. I also enclose, for your lordship's convenience, an English translation, by which it will appear how closely the phraseology of your lordship's circular note of the 4th inst., as modified by your lordship's further instructions, has been followed. The preamble and the conclusion were drafted by M. Tissot, and were unanimously adopted. There was little difference of opinion throughout. I have informed your lordship, by telegraph, that no difficulties occurred, and I am happy to add that very great cordiality prevails among all the representatives of the signatory Powers.

I have, &c.,
GEORGE J. GOSCHEN.

Therapia, June 11, 1880.

"M. le Ministre,—The delay which has occurred in the execution of certain of the provisions of the treaty of Berlin has led to an interchange of views between the signatory Powers. The result of this step has been the recognition on their part that it is an object of European interest that an end should be put to this delay, and the conclusion that the

union of their efforts would be the surest means of securing the objects aimed at by the Act of the 13th of July, 1878.

"Convinced of this twofold necessity, and in complete agreement with the Cabinets of Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Rome, and St. Petersburg, Her Majesty's Government have instructed me to acquaint your Excellency with the point of view from which they look it various questions raised by the non-execution of certain clauses of the Treaty of Berlin.

"As regards the rectification of the Greco-Greek boundary the Porte has for some time had before it a proposal made by the Marquis of Salisbury, which had received the assent of the other Powers, that an international commission should proceed to the frontier provinces to determine this rectification.

"Although the Government of the Sultan have pointed out the difficulty which might be encountered by such a commission in the execution of the arrangement to which they were asked to agree, they have not yet given a definite reply. The mediating Powers have consequently found themselves in the necessity of treating this silence as a refusal, and they have been obliged, as the next step, to consider the means by which the solution of the Greco-Turkish frontier question—a solution which the Powers had in vain tried to arrive at in concert with the Sublime Porte, and which the interests both of Turkey and of Greece require—might now be secured as speedily as possible.

"They have accordingly decided that their representatives at the Court of His Imperial Majesty the German Emperor should meet in conference at Berlin on the 16th inst., in order to decide by a majority of votes, and with the assistance of officers possessed of the necessary technical knowledge, the line of frontier it will be best to adopt.

"They have likewise agreed that, when a decision shall have been come to by the conference, a commission may proceed to the frontier to settle the questions of detail arising out of the general plan.

"The state of things created in another quarter by the question of the Montenegrin frontier requires, in the opinion of the Powers, more pressing attention and an immediate solution.

"The Turkish authorities have failed to carry out the engagement entered into between the Porte and Montenegro, and adhered to by the representatives of the Powers in the protocol of the 18th of April 1880. They have compromised the agreement accepted by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan by allowing the Albanians to occupy certain frontier positions assigned to the Montenegrins, and a collision may at any time occur between the Montenegrins and the Albanian forces opposed to them.

"The Powers, therefore, consider themselves absolutely bound to request the Government of His Imperial Majesty to state in the most explicit terms what their intentions are as regards the Montenegrin frontier, and to put into immediate execution the arrangement come to between the Sublime Porte and Montenegro. The Powers hold the Sublime Porte responsible in advance for the grave consequences that might be produced by a further delay in giving satisfaction to the rights acquired by the principality.

"In conclusion, the attention of the Powers has been drawn to—third point.

"By the 61st Article of the Treaty of Berlin of the 13th of July 1878, the Sublime Porte undertook to carry out, without further delay, the improvements and administrative reforms demanded by local requirements in the provinces inhabited by the Armenians, and to guarantee their security against the attacks and the violence of the Circassians and Kurds, and periodically to make known the steps taken to this effect to the Powers, who are to superintend their application.

"So far as Her Majesty's Government are aware, nothing has been done by the Sublime Porte to make known the steps which it may have taken in order to meet the stipulations of Article 61 of the Treaty of Berlin; nor have any measures been adopted by the Porte for the superintendence to be exercised by the Powers.

"All the reports furnished by the agents of the Powers show that the state of these provinces is deplorable, and Her Majesty's Government cannot admit that the clauses of the Treaty of Berlin relating to the amelioration of this state of things should remain any longer a dead letter. They are convinced that only united and incessant pressure on their part will induce the Sublime Porte to fulfil its duties in this respect. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, as one of the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin, must demand the complete and immediate execution of Article 61 of that Treaty, and call upon the Government of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to state explicitly what the steps are which they have taken in order to fulfil the provisions of this article.

"In bringing these views to the knowledge of your Excellency, I consider it my duty to call your most serious attention to the grave responsibility the Porte would incur by any fresh delay in the execution of the measures which the Powers agree in considering to be essential to the interests of the Ottoman Empire and of Europe.

"I have, &c., G. J. GOSCHEN."

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Channel Squadron left Portland on the 29th ult., for Bantry Bay, and will remain there until joined by the ships under the command of Rear-Admiral H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, which left Portland on the 5th July. The two Squadrons will then combine and be placed under the command of Rear-Admiral Hood, Senior Officer of the Channel ships, and will put to sea for an evolutionary cruise, proceeding as far as Vigo, and being back in England about the 26th July. The fleet will consist of the following ironclads, viz:—Achilles, Agincourt, Audacious, Defence, Hector, Minotaur, Northumberland, Penelope, Lord Warden, Valiant, and Warrior. On leaving Portland Roads, on the 29th June the Warrior struck against a post on the inner breakwater, causing her to heel over considerably, but divers reporting the damage as slight, she subsequently left for Plymouth.

It appears that the French squadron anchored off the Tunars, is composed of the screw frigates Flore and Armorique, the former bearing the flag of Admiral Galiber, commanding, and of the sailing frigates Resolute and Favorite. The whole of the vessels are employed for training purposes, the two steamers being for junior officers and the others for seamen. The squadron is last from Oran and bound for Brest, on arrival at which place the examination of the midshipmen under instruction will take place. The presence of this squadron at the present moment has naturally given a colouring to the rumours lately current regarding the visit of a French squadron to the coast of Morocco, but it is more than probable that this rumour arose, originally, from the fact of the squadron being expected to pass through the Straits en route to Brest, and had no foundation in fact.—("Gibraltar Chronicle.")

The P. and O. Company have contracted with the Barrow Shipbuilding Company for the construction of two steel steamers of high class. Each will be of 4,100 tons and 800 h.p. nominal, and are to attain a speed of fourteen and a-half knots per hour. They are to be fitted in order to carry a large number of passengers. This makes over 30,000 tons building for the P. and O. Company on the Clyde, at Barrow, and Belfast, all of which is of the highest character. The following is a list of the new ships building for the P. and O. Steam Navigation Company:—

Name.	Material.	Ton.	Horse-pwr.	Builders.
Rosetta	Iron	3,500	700	Harland and Wolff, Belfast.
Shannon	Steel	4,100	750	Doxford & Co., Sunderland.
Brindisi	Iron	3,600	550	Caird and Co., Greenock.
Rome	Iron	4,800	850	Dunn and Co., Dumbarton.
Carthage	Iron	4,800	850	The Barrow Ship-building Co. Barrow in Furness.
Clyde	Steel	4,100	750	
Ganges	Steel	4,300	750	
Sutlej	Steel	4,500	750	
				38,500.

The Rosetta is expected in London about the middle of next month. The Brindisi is promised for November, and the remaining orders are deliverable in from twelve to eighteen months.

The American steamer Dessong arrived at Gibraltar on the 22nd ult. from Alexandria, having on board an "obelisk," the gift of H. I. H. the Khedive of Egypt to the city of New York, and which is the companion Monolith at Alexandria to Cleopatra's Needle. The Dessong was formerly an Egyptian mail boat, and has been purchased by Lieut. Com. Goringe, U. S. Navy, who is in charge of her, for the purpose of conveying the "obelisk" from Egypt to New York. His Excellency the Governor, Lady Napier of Magdala and party paid a visit on the 25th to the ship and were conducted over the vessel to view the "obelisk." Good arrangements had been made on board in anticipation of His Excellency's visit, so that even the ladies had little difficulty in descending below, and viewing the enormous mass of stone safely stowed in the lower hold, with the means of securing its safety and immobility in a heavy sea way. After inspecting the shaft, the pedestal and portions of the bed or foundations, a move was made to the saloon, where Capt. Goringe produced his drawings, measurements, &c., and gave a most interesting account of his achievement in lowering the "Obelisk," towing it round to the harbour of Alexandria, and hoisting it into the vessel, and also exhibited some of the ancient metal work used in joining the shaft to the pedestal, which is of the finest welding and still in the best preservation after nearly 2,500 years, testifying to the extraordinary excellence of the fabrication. His Excellency and party then took leave, after cordially wishing Capt. Goringe and his brother officers a safe and pleasant passage across the Atlantic. These officers had the honour of lunching at the Convent previous to the visit, and while there had received a friendly telegram by cable, from America, with the words only "Bonne chance." The Dessong left the Bay for New York at 10 o'clock the same evening.

H. M. Ship "Torch" arrived at Athens on the 27th ult. to take up her station there.

H. M. Ship "Monarch" Capt. G. Tryon, left Malta on Sunday last for Spezzia with mails for the fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Beaulieu Seymour, K. C. B.

H. M. Ship "Falcon," Com. B. F. Clark, which was at Phalerum Bay, Athens, left on the 2nd for Constantinople.

The following is an extract from a letter dated Corfu, 6th July:—Her Majesty's ship Coquette, Com. E. G. Festing, left this place on the 30th ult., for Prevesa, to bring here Captain Sale, R. E., and the other English Members of the Albanian Boundary Commission. She returned on the following day, and unhappily lost the mail. On the 2nd the Coquette had to leave for Brindisi with Capt. Sale, who had received a telegram from England ordering him to be there without any delay. The Coquette returned to Corfu on the 4th. ("Malta Times.")

HOW TO COERCE TURKEY.

Mr. Gladstone's views on this point were so clearly expressed in the course of his Midlothian campaign that the reproduction of a passage from the speech which he delivered at Leamhead, on March 22, of this year, may probably suffice to satisfy public curiosity until the time comes for a more official exposition of the policy of the Government. Speaking of the demand for the establishment of the autonomy of Bulgaria, Bosnia, and the Herzegovina, which he contended, would have been conceded by the Turks if Europe had said "You must," Mr. Gladstone said:—"There are those who say that the Turk would have resisted, and would have raised a most bloody war. That is nonsense; that is pure nonsense. And I will tell you why I say so. Because there is not a case upon record in which united Europe, having made up its mind to tell the Sultan of Turkey what must be done, the Sultan of Turkey has not had the good sense to do it. Why, gentlemen, just see what power, what command, we had over the condition of Turkey. In the first place, Turkey was an empire dependent for—I think I may safely say—three-fourths at the very least of her soldiery upon Asia. We had only to say 'No troops, no guns, no munitions of war shall pass by sea between Asia and Europe,' in order to reduce the Turkish Government to terms—if, indeed, she had ever carried it to that length, which she never would have done. Well, you tell me, 'Oh, but the Turks had a very good fleet, and could have made resistance by sea.' Yes, she had a good fleet. But how was that fleet navigated? Who were her engineers? Who were the men that worked the machinery of her ships? They were Englishmen and Scotchmen, and the Queen had only to issue the proclamation requiring all these Englishmen and Scotchmen to quit their employment in order to bring every one of them out of the Turkish fleet, and to leave the Turkish fleet waterlogged upon the sea. Therefore, gentlemen, the fact is this: never were the means of peaceful and bloodless coercion so fully and indisputably in the hands of any Power, or collection of Powers, as were those in the hands of the European Powers applicable against Turkey, had Turkey been obstinately determined to resist." ("Pall Mall Gazette.")

THE BERLIN COLLECTIVE NOTE.

The following is the text of the Collective Note presented by the Powers to the Sultan of Turkey and to the King of Greece:—

"The undersigned Ambassadors or Ministers accredited to the Courts of His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey and of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes have the honour, in accordance with the wishes of their respective Governments, to submit to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Sultan and of the King of Greece the following Note:—The Congress of Berlin having indicated in its 13th Protocol the principal points of the frontier line which it deemed necessary to establish between Turkey and Greece, the Powers have, in the first place, called attention to the direct negotiations on this subject between the two States. At the two sittings of the Conferences at Prevesa and Constantinople, the Turkish and Greek Commissioners, after several long sittings had taken place, only succeeded in making more apparent the differences between them. In view of these unfruitful attempts at solution of the question, the Powers named by the Treaty of Berlin have considered it necessary to interpose their mediation. This mediation, in order to be effectual, it was necessary to exercise in all its fulness, and the Cabinets, in view of the reciprocal dispositions of the two interested States, have authorized their representatives assembled in conference at Berlin to fix, according to the general indications of the 13th Protocol, a line which would form a good and solid boundary between Turkey and Greece. The Plenipotentiaries, after a most searching discussion, in which they were aided by the advice of the Technical Commissioners appointed by the various Governments, have unanimously voted, according to the terms of their mandate, the following tracing of the frontier line, which resumes and closes their deliberations;—As the pourparlers between Turkey and Greece did not lead to any result, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries of the Powers appointed by the provisions of the Act of July 13, 1879, to exercise a mediation between the two countries, have assembled in Berlin, in conformity with the instructions of their Governments, and after a long and earnest deliberation inspired by the spirit of the 13th Protocol of the Treaty of Berlin, have adopted unanimously the following line of demarcation:—The frontier line will follow the valley of the Kalamas from the mouth of that river, in the Ionian Sea, to its source in the neighbourhood of Kallabaki. It will proceed to the north of the Vonitza, the Heliakon, and the Mavroneri and their tributaries, and to the south of the Kalamas, the Larta, the Aspropotamos, and the Salamyries and their tributaries, over the Olympus, the crest of which it will follow as far as its eastern extremity on the Aegean Sea. This line leaves to the south the Lake of Janina and all its affluents, and also Metzovo, which thus remains in the possession of Greece. The Governments of Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, and Russia therefore invite the Governments of the Sultan and of the King of the Hellenes to accept the frontier line as indicated in the above document. The mediating Powers thus assembled in conference have acted in strict conformity to the terms of the Treaty of Berlin and of the 13th Protocol of the Conference." Here follow the signatures.

CYPRIAN AND HOLY LAND BEES.

On Wednesday, the 21st ult., there was quite a gathering of notables of the Bee world at 115 Cannon Street, to greet Mr. D. A. Jones and his importation of queens prior to his departure on the following day for Catania. Among the visitors there were Sir John Lubbock, M. P.; Rev. Chas. F. Deane, New York; Mr. Terry, British Museum; Mr. McLeod, Secretary of the Department, South Kensington Museum; Major-General H. A. C. Hines, Mr. A. D. Burtch, Zoological Gardens; Mr. Hunter, Mr. Cashmere, Mr. Neighbour, Mr. Hooker, Mr. Roberts, Mr. J. P. Jackson, and Mr. C. N. Abbott. A letter from the Baroness Bartlett-Coates, and a telegram from Rev. H. R. Peel, were received, regretting their inability to be present.

Mr. Jones gave a lively and interesting account of his journey and experiences while in search of the bees, and exhibited numerous bottles containing specimens of bees and other insects captured on the route, the bees being intended for microscopical investigation by Professor Cook in America. Mr. Jones took with him the bulk of the queens that he brought with him from Cyprus and Palestine, but stated that arrangements had been made by which a second consignment would reach our office at Southall in about a fortnight from that time;—but up to the time of writing we have had no tidings of them.

On July 11th we had a parcel by post from Mr. Frank Bouton, of Cyprus, who is there acting for Mr. Jones, which contained a queen and about thirty workers. Mr. Bouton wrote:—

"No doubt Mr. Jones has told you that we have succeeded in securing about two hundred colonies, mostly Cyprian, and twenty Syrians. I have about three hundred young queens, a few of which mated before I had destroyed all

the Syrian deons. One of this sort I will send you by this mail as an experiment. Please tell me by return how she arrives, how much water is consumed, how much sugar, and number of dead bees &c."

General News.

Both the French Chambers brought their session to a close, nothing of importance took place on the Deputies; but in the Senate M. Leon Say made a speech on reference to the National fête, in which he echoed the words of the President as to the pacific intentions of the Government.

If a Naval demonstration on Turco-Greek waters should be found necessary, the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Germany will take part in it. An Austrian and a German ironclad will accompany the united Anglo-Italian, or Anglo-Franco-Italian fleet to the coast of Albania, Thessaly and Epirus.

The news that the Marquis T' Seng has at length left London for St. Petersburg is thought confirmatory of the intelligence that Chung How has been pardoned, and that China, alarmed at the formidable Naval display made by Russia, is inclined to come to terms. Meantime the volunteer fleet is being actively employed in an attempt to develop trade between Russia and China. The "Petersburg" reached Odessa with a cargo of the new-season's teas, forty two days from Woosung, and her consort, the Moscow, is expected shortly.

Constantinople July 13.—The diplomatists and financiers of Constantinople have been somewhat surprised by the sudden appearance of a number of German officials who have come here, recommended by the Cabinet of Berlin, to undertake a radical reform of the Turkish financial administration. The thing was secretly arranged by Count Hatzfeld, the German ambassador, without letting his colleagues know anything about it. It is important as showing that the Sultan is coming to recognize the desperate financial condition of his Empire and thanks the time has arrived for doing something towards preventing the appointment of the much dreaded International Commissioners.

SYRIA.

It is not very long up since H.M.'s S.S. Rapid and Bittern left our port in a precipitate way for Kaiffa where serious disturbances were telegraphed to have taken place. We are enabled to-day to give a faithful report of what happened there, and how matters have been exaggerated and misrepresented at the impression of the first moment. We give the summary of official investigation. Two marriage processions, one Christian and the other Turkish met each other in a narrow street of Kaiffa, the Mussulman one being that of the Cavasse of the Russian Consulate, which explains the presence of the Cavasses of all the other Consulates in their full equipment. Neither of them chose to give way, and a dispute arose in which, however, no fire arms of any kind were brought into play. The wounds inflicted were all from swords or knives drawn out on the occasion. The Christians suffered the most, seven only Mussulmans being severely wounded. The number of Mussulmans arrested including the cavasses who will shortly be put on their trial is thirty six.

The Cattle disease broke out in the east Djilli—district of Lattakieh.

Raif Effendi, Governor of Beyrout, arrived in Constantinople on the 28th June and has already had two audiences of H. I. M. the Sultan, who appears to be favorably disposed for and approves Midhat Pacha's Vuly of Syria, propositions, to have allowed him a greater liberty of action in order to enable him to introduce certain ameliorations in the administrative system of Syria.

Special Telegrams.

London, 20th July.
Turkish troops sent Dardanelles.
Hobart Pacha refuses fight Greeks.
Greece accepted decisions conference, enthusiasm Athens.

Turkey appointed German mustechar war, foreign affairs and finance Ministries.

London, 22nd, July.
Irish relief bill passed third reading.

Reported Greece mobilising Army.
French military commission goes Greece reorganise Army.

Austria insists execution Berlin treaty Turkey Russia.

London, 24th July.
Porte replying collective note demands retain Larissa, Jannina Metzovo.

England recognized Abourahman Emir; confirmed powers agreed make naval demonstration favour right Montenegro.

BIRTH.

On the 25th instant. Mrs. FREDERICK LAWSON, of a daughter.

"CYPRUS"

Monday, July 26th, 1880.

Our readers no doubt remember the melancholy accident that occurred last winter in our port, on the occasion of the landing of a number of passengers from on board two Steamers, during a heavy gale of wind, which was attended with fatal results to some persons, owing to the utter want of the necessary means for giving them succour in an open roadstead like our own.

The subject was mooted at the time in the House of Commons, and long after the occurrence referred to, the Minister questioned, informed the House that no news had been received in reference to the unfortunate affair.

We are therefore very glad to be in a position to state that according to reliable information we have received, the British Government has at last decided to construct two jetties, or piers—the one here and the other at Limasol—in order to prevent in future the recurrence of similar accidents and to facilitate as much as possible the interests of Commerce. It is also positively stated that these and others works will be commenced very shortly after the arrival of the Engineer-in-Chief of the Island.

With reference to the construction of the two jetties, we have good reason to think that they will in every respect prove a great boon to the inhabitants. And while expressing our satisfaction on this point, we cannot refrain from pointing out that closely allied to and in connection with the above named works, there are other works as urgent and necessary for the future welfare and prosperity of the Island. We allude to works of irrigation in the various parts of Cyprus where water is most absolutely required. To construct ports and facilitate means of communication by land and by sea, without trying in any way to facilitate the increase of the natural productions of the Island, is to take only half measures.

It is generally well known that there is actually to be found at the present time a large quantity of running water in the Island, which without profit to anybody, goes to waste for want of proper works, which could be easily and cheaply constructed for its utilisation. It is also well known that this water might easily be increased in volume, and from what we hear, it was in the same sense that Mr. Russell—the engineer sent out here charged with the study of the important question of irrigation—expressed himself in his report to Government.

It is therefore in this direction that Government should first turn all their undivided attention and efforts, as it is the principal, and, indeed, the only unique method, of raising and advancing the material prosperity of the country. It is a work, besides, which will amply recompense any outlay that may be expended on the undertaking, as the soil of Cyprus stands only in need of a sufficiency of water, to make it equal in fertility and richness to the richest of soils that exist on the face of the globe.

