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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No 108.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 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 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 charges for subscriptions is 2s. 6d. for 3 months 7s. 6d. for 6 months and 15s. for 12 months, postage paid throughout the Island. Foreign 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. Situations 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.

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".)

Both Houses of Parliament will be prorogued on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

In the Lords, on Aug. 30, Lord Granville made a statement on Turkey and the Eastern Question.

The Employers' Liability Bill was read a third time in the House of Lords on Aug. 31.

The House of Commons, owing to the obstructive tactics of the Irish members, had a continuous sitting of twenty-one hours on Aug. 26 and 27. The Ground Game Bill was read a third time.

The Burials Bill, after a debate of ten hours' duration, was passed through committee in the Commons on Aug. 28, the Lord's amendments being cancelled.

A discursive debate on South African affairs took place in the Commons on Aug. 31.

A Cabinet Council was held on Aug. 28. All the Ministers, Mr. Gladstone excepted, were present. Another Council will be held to-morrow.

The Ministerial Whitebait Dinner was held at Greenwich on Sept. 1. Covers were laid for forty.

The Queen and Court arrived at Balmoral on Aug. 27.

Viscount Enfield is to fill the post of Under-Secretary of State for India, which the Marquis of Lansdowne resigned.

Mr. W. P. Adam, First Commissioner of Public Works, has been appointed to the Governorship of Madras.

It is reported that Sir Bertie Frere is to have the Cross of St. Michael and St. George as a reward for his services at the Cape.

Mr. Gladstone has continued his cruise round the coasts of England and Scotland during the week under very favourable circumstances. He is expected to reach Gravesend to-morrow.

Sir R. Temple has delivered an address before the British Association at Swansea, on the road from the Indus to Candahar.

Lord Hartington receives a deputation of the Patriotic Association to-day, who present a memorial in favour of the permanent occupation of Candahar.

The naval demonstration by the Powers has been officially announced to the Porte.

The tenth anniversary of Sedan was celebrated in Germany on Sept. 2 with great rejoicings. The Emperor has issued a remarkable address to the German army.

Amongst the deaths announced this week are:—Mr. E. Wallon; Dr. Whitmore; Sergeant Armstrong; Lady Knight.

AFGHANISTAN.

Khelat-i-Ghiltai was evacuated by the British troops, who accompanied Sir F. Roberts in his march to Candahar, where he arrived on 30th ult.

Ayob Khan wished to enter into negotiations, but General Roberts declined doing so unless he delivered up all English prisoners in his hands and made his submission without conditions. Ayob Khan had taken up a strong position and was entreaching himself. General Roberts, according to the last accounts, was reconnoitring Ayob's positions. General Phayre's column is expected to arrive at Candahar to-day.

"From Viceroy, September 1, 1880.

"News from Roberts to 29th. Reports arrival of his force at Shahr-i-Safa 27th, and Robat, 29th. At former place received following account from St. John of raising of siege:—'Rumours of approach of your force relieved city from investment on night of 23rd; villages east and south were abandoned 24th. Ayob struck camp and marched to position on Argandab, about ten miles north of city. He has about 4,000 regulars, six 12-pounders and two 9-pounders rifled, four 6-pounders, S. B. batteries, one 4-pounder battery, 2,000 horse, and about twice that number Ghazis, of whom one-third have firearms. He will, I think, make northward into Khakrez.' St. John joined Roberts at Robat, and reports thence 28th. Herati troops signified intention of retreating to Khakrez, but have been dissuaded, and sworn on Koran to fight. Roberts telegraphs, 29th, intends to reach Candahar 31st, and attack Ayob next day. Ayob is reported to have entrenched his camp, and to mean fighting, being compelled by Musa Jan's party, who accompanied by Hashim Khan, have joined him. Ayob has written apologetic letter to Roberts, saying he was forced to fight; has been told he must give up prisoners and submit unconditionally. Sick rate Roberts' force continues moderate. Phare left Chaman last night for Candahar with whole force collected, as he expects opposition at Takht-i-Pul. Rear brigade of force returning from Cabul arrives Dikka to-day. Cabul reports at Peiwar Kotai say all well there. Ameer assiduous in conducting public business in person. Trade reviving, and goods arriving from Jellalabad."

"From Viceroy, September 2, 1880.

"News from Ayob's camp, reported from Quetta by Sandeman, September 1, to the effect that Ayob had been strongly advised by one party to retreat to Girishk, but that advice of those who urged him not to desert his friends prevailed. Musa Khan, Hashim Khan, with large following of Ghiltai tribesmen, are with Ayob, and pressed him not to retreat. There is a tribal gathering under some Sirdars at Takht-i-Pul. The son of Azad Khan of Kharan is with Ayob."

RUSSIA.

On the 28th ult. the "Golos" published a telegram from Krasnoyarsk, according to which the advance guard of General Soboleff's expedition had arrived at the base of its operations and was establishing its quarters and making reconnaissances. Offensive operations had been suspended.

The Chinese Government is desirous of substituting for the treaty of Kou'dja a convention whereby the territory of Ili would be ceded to Russia. Russia on the other hand insists on a rectification of frontier in order to put an end to the disorders occasioned by Chinese

taking refuge on Russian soil. The negotiations will be continued at Eekin and Mr. de Baltzow will proceed thither to represent the Russian Government.

ITALY.

The "Diritto" contradicts the news that the Italian Government had suspended the despatch of its officials to Assab Bay, in consequence of the protest of Egypt. This newspaper states that the Italian authorities will shortly establish themselves there.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Negotiations between Chili and Peru have been begun, the Western Powers having consented to mediate.

EGYPT.

(From "The Egyptian Gazette" Sept. 4)

The Commission which has been formed to advise the Government as to the changes desirable in the Mixed Tribunals has held many sittings, but as its deliberations are entirely private, we warn our readers not to place any faith in the rumours respecting their labours. For instance a "gobemouche" in the local press got hold of a story that it had been proposed to discontinue the use of Italian, as an official language in the Tribunals.

We have every reason to believe that there is no truth whatever in this statement, and nothing has even been mooted as to the use of English as an official language. The time and place for discussing that question will be the Consular Commission which will meet in the winter.

—As a preparatory measure, we understand that H. M.'s Government have requested the Consul General, Consular Judge and the English Judges of the Mixed Courts to form themselves into a Commission in order that they may prepare a report to assist the British members of the International Commission on the Tribunals of the Reform. The British representatives on the International Commission have not yet been officially named.

—The Liquidation is steadily progressing. Claims to the amount of over £3,900,000 had been settled up to the evening of 2nd inst.; this is exclusive of the claims specially settled by the Commission.

—In its issue of yesterday the "Trombeta" states that the scrip of the new issue of the Privileged Debt has not been admitted to an official quotation on the London Stock Exchange and Paris Bourse. We refer to the official announcement on this subject which appears in our columns to-day. We may further assure our esteemed contemporary that its information is again wrong and that the new Stock is now officially quoted.

—The "Courrier Egyptien" contradicts the statement that Mr. Francis Charnes is coming to Egypt as Consul and as they are likely to be better informed on a matter of interest to the French Community than the "Trombeta," we think our venerable contemporary has made another mistake.

—A general meeting of the Alexandria Rowing Club will be held at the rooms of the Honorary Secretary on Wednesday 8th inst., to receive the report of the Provisional Committee, discuss rules, and ballot for new members. Gentlemen wishing to join, should send in their names to Mr. F. J. Harding, the Hon. Secy. as early as possible.

—We are told that the weather in Cairo is delicious, except at midday it is very cool and the nights are only what nights in Cairo can be. The Nile looks well and at this time of the year one realizes that it is a majestic stream, whereas later on it looks very "mean."

—We hear from all quarters that the Buffets on the Egyptian Railways have been greatly improved of late. Mr. Monferrato, who has recently become the lessee of the refreshment rooms at some of the most important stations, has spared neither pains nor expense to meet the requirements of the travelling public. It is now possible to get a decent meal

or lighter refreshments of a good quality, at Kafr-Zayat and Zagazig and one is no longer obliged to prepare for a railway journey through Egypt, as if one were going through an uncivilized country or proceeding on a campaign.

—A duel took place between two gentlemen of our town on 1st inst.; the weapon chosen was the sword. One of the combatants was slightly wounded.

—The Cairo Opera Committee have favoured us with the following information:

M. Larose has informed the Committee that he has already engaged at Milan a great part of the corps de ballet.

Mlle. Pauline Zamperoni, who had already appeared in Cairo in 1876, has been engaged as "première danseuse".—The "seconde première danseuse" is Mlle. Zallia.

M. Angelo Venanzi who is also known at Cairo where he resided for several years, is engaged as "chef d'orchestre du ballet." M. Grassi Raphael will be "premier danseur and maître de ballet" and M. Rastagna will be "premier mime comique."

M. Larose has left Milan for Paris where he will sign the engagements with various artistes for Comedy, Vaudeville and Operetta.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

(From the "Malta Times", August 29th.)

H. M. torpedo ship Hecla, Capt. M. Singer, arrived here on the 26th from Plymouth. She will leave this evening for Suda Bay taking provisions for H. M. ship Rapid, and will be back in about 10 days, bringing H. M. ship Hellespont in tow.

H. M. troopship Junna, Capt. George Parsons left Portsmouth this day week with the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade and Military drafts. She may be expected here on Monday next on her way to Bombay.

H. M. troopship Himalaya, Capt. A. W. Brent, left Portsmouth on Sunday the 15th at noon with the following troops for India: Lieut. Col. Colquhoun, 47 officers, 807 non-commissioned officers and men of the 77th Regt. She proceeded through the Western Channel at the desire of the Queen, who witnessed her passing from Osborne. The crews of the Royal yachts Victoria and Albert and Osborne and of H.M.S. Bacchante and Hector heartily cheered the Himalaya in passing. She arrived here on Tuesday last and proceeded on the same day for her destination.

H. M. troopship Malabar, Capt. John F. G. Grant, left Portsmouth on Monday the 16th inst., with troops for India: comprising Lieut. Col. Elger, 24 officers, 890 non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Battalion 23rd (Royal Welsh) Fusiliers and 46 officers of different regiments. The battalion was presented with new colours a short time previous to embarkation by the Prince of Wales, on the Naval and Military recreation ground. The Malabar was afterwards honoured with a visit from the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Beatrice, and the Duke of Edinburgh. She arrived here on the 25th, embarking from this station 9 officers and 245 non-commissioned officers and men of the 61st Regt., and proceeded on her way to India on Thursday morning.

The double turret-ship Devastation, which has undergone an extensive refit at Portsmouth, as regards both her hull and machinery, is now ready for the pendant.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's cutter Formosa, in which the Prince himself sailed, was on the 3rd inst. the winner of the Queen's Cup in the Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta.

Vice-Admiral Sir Beauchamp Seymour, K.C.S., has entertained the Prefect of Palermo at a grand banquet on board the Alexandra. International amenities, combined with the maintenance of the honour and dignity of the British Flag and Navy, could not be better maintained than by the present Commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPACHES.

A despatch of Earl Granville shows that the system of premiums on navigation which the French Government purposes establishing is opposed to the spirit of the Anglo-French Treaty of Commerce.

In the House of Commons on 2nd instant in answer to a question, Lord Hartington stated that the chiefs of the Kurds were forming a league for some unknown object. Mr. Goschen had made representations to the Porte on the subject.

In the House of Commons on 3rd instant Lord Hartington stated that the naval demonstration was intended to shew the determination of the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin that they would not allow the decisions of the Congress to be delayed.

Sir Charles Dilke stated that Admiral Seymour would be in command of the combined squadrons, but on political questions he would consult the other Admirals. The European Concert was so perfect that he believed in the surrender of Dulcigno without recourse to coercive measures. The Naval Demonstration would also accelerate the settlement of the Greek frontier question.

Special Telegrams.

London, 8th Sept.

Parliament has been prorogued.

The Queen's speech says the Powers are pressing Turkey to adopt measures for the execution of the Berlin treaty in order to assure tranquillity in the East. It alludes to the brilliant victory of General Roberts in Afghanistan, and hopes to terminate the war promptly and honourably.

It is believed that Ayoub has fled to Herat.

The English loss is 248.

King George will visit the Emperors of Germany and Austria, also the King of Italy.

The opening of the Greek Chamber has been adjourned to 21st October.

London, 10th Sept.

According to a semi-official declaration the Russian Government opposes, for the moment, all agitation in favour of the union of Roumelia and Bulgaria.

More Turkish troops have been sent to Dulcigno.

Riza Pacha hopes to execute the cession without further delay.

The squadrons of the Great Powers have all arrived at Ragusa, with the exception of the French, which is on its way.

News from the Cape says that the English riflemen have entered Basutoland.

A colliery explosion has occurred at Seaham. 150 lives have been lost.

London, 13th Sept. 1880.

Insurrection Afghan population Herat, Governor town assassinated.

Constantinople Kadri dismissed replaced by Said. Following new Ministry; Assim foreign Affairs, Server President Council, Kiamil public instruction, Raif commerce, other ministers not changed.

News that Albanians agree cession Dulcigno territory unconfirmed. They maintain on contrary menacing attitude, and collision taken place between them and Turks at Scutari.

"CYPRUS"

Larnaca, Monday, September 13th, 1880.

Mr. Hamilton Lang is one of those rare Englishmen who inhabited Cyprus before the occupation; he has since published several articles in various newspapers on our Island and not long back he published a rather interesting work on the same subject. Though he quitted the Island many years ago, he still takes an interest in our welfare and at present we wish to briefly refer to an article which he

has lately inserted in the "Times" on the subject of the English administration in Cyprus with reference to the Blue Book and the report contained therein emanating from our administrators.

Mr. Lang states with satisfaction that the taxes are collected regularly; he also states that with the increase in their salaries, the local judges have become impartial and expeditious; he finds that Municipal institutions are taking rapid root in the country, and that the authorities do all in their power for the furtherance of same, though he cannot give more than one single instance where this was done viz. at Limassol. He however finds that this bright picture has one flaw viz. the excessive cost caused to the country by the present administration, which in the time of the Turks did not amount to more than £29,000 while now it amounts to about £70,000. He is of opinion that this system of administration is too costly and aristocratic, things that the only true and effectual method that could be adopted is that of curtailing the expenses and not that of increasing the taxes. He winds up by hoping that the question of expenses will be better examined when the administration of the Island is transferred to the Colonial Office.

We have thought proper to give our readers this brief summary in order that they may be better able to recognize the fact how easily it is to be deceived, when judging a country from a distance. We have already at various times expressed an opinion as to the necessity of introducing reforms in the present organisation of the Island, and before all in the personnel, as well in the judicial régime, which, notwithstanding all that Mr. Lang states are absolutely the same as under the Turkish rule.

As to what he states with respect to our Municipal institutions we can confidently say, without fear of being contradicted by any one, that at no time has the spirit of centralisation been so dominant among our rulers as at present. It may even be said that the new administration has sought rather to destroy the little "Self Government" that remained to the Island through her many vicissitudes and misfortunes. The proof of this is that we are at present without any recognized municipal law properly accepted by the country, and villages such as Rizocarpas and Lefcara, the largest in the Island, cannot obtain permission to form a regular municipal body.

If the new administration however, were to apply themselves to the proper amelioration of the Island which they have taken under their charge and for the guardianship of which they are responsible, we would consider the question of expense as a secondary matter, as we are convinced that Cyprus well governed, well cultivated, well explored, would be able to support all expense that circumstances may demand for the purpose of having active and capable administrators who would be able to procure for the Island the progress, that the richness of its soil, the intelligence and capabilities of the inhabitants, would certainly cause them to bring about very easily, with small efforts and in a short space of time.

ENGLISH LEGISLATION IN CYPRUS.

(Translated from M. Saripolos' pamphlet.)
(Continued from our last.)

III. THE JURISDICTION OF THE HIGH COURT.

The jurisdiction of this Supreme Tribunal is general. It comprehends all civil and commercial affairs and extends to all persons whether natural, moral or judicial who

before the promulgation of the ordinance were subject to Turkish law.

It might be supposed from this that the Turkish tribunals have ceased to exist. This is not so. The Kulis still retain their functions, whilst on the other hand the authority of the Supreme Tribunal, according to news we have received from Cyprus, now encroaches upon that which under the Mussulman régime belonged solely to the ecclesiastical courts. No one is likely to forget the scandal caused by the sentence passed by the English law-giver at Famagusta upon two Greek priests, whose beards he caused to be cut; a scandal to which attention was very properly drawn in the House of Commons. But there is another more astonishing—not to say more monstrous—way of looking at our subject. Article 14 says that the equally civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Supreme Tribunal will be enforced, as far as circumstances permit, on the basis and according to the principles which govern the administration of the laws in England. With a view to facilitate the application of this article, the said Supreme Tribunal, as well as each of its members and employés, is invested with power to re-draw up, with any modification in form which may be considered necessary, but without altering the *fond* (?) any rules or provisions having regard to its administration, in order to adapt them to particular cases which it may be called upon to decide.

It will be the same with ordinary offences. Any action which in England constitutes a breach of law will in Cyprus be considered the same; and anything which English jurisprudence does not consider a legal delinquency will not be punishable in Cyprus.

The principle that "*non obligat lex nisi promulgata*" is thus primarily thrown over.

It is taken for granted that the laws of England, vague and obscure though they are to the jurists of that country, are known and perfectly well understood by the poor Cypriot peasants. That which ages have failed to provide for England is presumed to be intuitively acquired at the mere sight of a British tent by the descendants of Evagoras; that which equity declares should bind no man is made obligatory upon the people of Cyprus.

And the arbitrary will of the judge! It would be well to restrict his powers within the limits usually imposed in Europe; but as for the Cypriots they have to bear the brunt of the *bene placitum* not only of the highest officials but of those on the lowest rung of the ladder.

Cyprus is assimilated by non-written legislation to its sovereigns the *civis anglici*. What can she ask for more? Ought she not to feel a sense of self-gratification when she hangs, uses the lash, and sees her women dragged to the market-place with a halter round their necks as is the fashion in happy Albion. If she is not accorded all the rights and privileges the people of that favoured land enjoy, it must at least be ceded that her rulers display interest and energy in the administration of punishment, of the same sort as is meted out to her masters when they infringe the laws of their country. Besides is it not said in the Bible that the Lord chasteneth him whom he regardeth? The lords of Cyprus have commenced to exhibit the most striking and extravagant proofs of their affection for its inhabitants by the infliction of pains and penalties some of which they have never been at the trouble to impose before.

Is it necessary to point out the confusion which exists between the judicial and legislative powers? To prove that evil is inevitably the result of such confusion, is it requisite to have recourse to the authorities of Plato, Aristotle, Montesquieu or all modern publicists? To do this would be to reflect upon the intelligence of our readers. We have yet a difficult task before us to pierce the crass, chaotic darkness of Sir Garnet Wolseley's ordinance, and having this in view it is undesirable to extend this chapter to a greater length.

(To be continued.)

Local Notes.

We are informed that a part of the XXXVth Regiment, now at Malta, will arrive at Limassol early in the ensuing month to replace the XXth. The Head Quarters of the Regiment will be in Cyprus.

We understand that in about one month the Head Quarters of Government will be transferred from Mount Troodos to Nicosia.

We are informed that the search of the Customs officers for contraband Tobacco, referred to in our last number, resulted in the discovery of 4½ bags of Tumbeki of which two were found under a bed in one house, one and a half under a Turkish bath in another, and one in some old premises near the Konak. Four bags illegally transhipped in the roadstead had been seized two days previously, and a further raid during the past week raised the total quantity found in Larnaca within the fortnight to 515 okes.

H. M. S. *Rapid* left Larnaca this morning for a cruise on the Syrian Coast, returning here in about 15 days.

We understand that the materials necessary for the construction of the Pier at Larnaca, of which we have already made mention will arrive here shortly by the S.S. *Arcadia*.

The 14 Maltese emigrants who, as we stated in our last number, had agreed to return to their occupation, have since changed their minds and are still staying in the Hospital.

We learn that at present Mr. Fenech has brought an action against certain of the emigrants who had written defamatory letters to Malta concerning him.

A newspaper at Athens announced some time back that Lt. Col. Haggi Joannou and Capt. Petmezias were to proceed to Cyprus in order to purchase mules for the Hellenic Government.

This news however has not been confirmed up to the present moment.

Our readers will notice in our correspondence from Kyrenia and Limassol that while the north-east wind which blew in those roadsteads caused a great number of boats to be cast ashore, in this of Larnaca nothing of the sort occurred.

Nicosia News.

September 9th, 1880.

The native Turks never before recollect having as great honours paid to their feast of Bairam, as have been paid this year at Nicosia.

The 6th, 7th and 8th of September were general holidays in our town, the Government Offices being closed the greater part of the day, and the afternoons were fully taken up by the entertaining sports offered to the public by the Cyprus Pioneer and Police forces. The crowds of people seated on the ramparts at the Kyrenia gate, which overlooks the sport ground, were really astonishing. All the Turkish Kadis, most of whom hardly ever trust themselves outside their four walls, did not fail in witnessing these Bairam festivities.

The large plain outside the Kyrenia gate was quite covered with people; three tents lent by the officers of the Pioneers were at the disposal of the Government Officials, all of whom assisted.

The programme of the sports was the same on each day. The performance commenced with the Arabic Game "Djesit" played by the mounted Zaptiehs. Jumping, Racing, Wrestling and Tug of War followed; all most entertaining games. Particular interest was however lent to the Tug of War struggle, Zaptiehs v. Pioneers, in which the latter were victorious. The wrestling of a Zaptieh with a Pioneer also caused general excitement, the Pioneer defeating his opponent by finally getting him flat down on his back.

The Pioneers have decidedly in every way left the Zaptiehs considerably in the background, as far as elasticity and swiftness is concerned. This is probably due to the excellent drill and exercise these men have undergone since the organization of the force.

The officers of the Cyprus Police and Pioneers most energetically endeavoured to entertain their men at this important feast, and we are delighted to be able to say their efforts were crowned with the greatest success.

From another correspondent:

The sports here on the 2nd and third days of Bairam were a great success all in all, though unfortunately some strong feeling was exhibited by both Pioneers and Zaptiehs on the last day which prevented the programme being carried out as far as was at first intended. The sports were begun on both days by the mounted Zaptiehs who showed off themselves and horses at the pastime of throwing the jerd which they kept up for some hours on each occasion galloping about till both men and horses were worn out. The games

were held just outside the Kyrenia gate on what is known here as the Polo ground. The old walls were covered with people, of whom a great many were Turkish women, for over half a mile, and from this elevated resting place they looked down on the field below which was crowded by many hundreds more spectators and a large number of both Pioneers and Zaptiehs. The Pioneers were particularly remarked for their clean appearance and orderly conduct. Their white trousers and white vests with red jackets had a very pleasing appearance to the eye and were a cheerful contrast to the sombre costume of the Zaptiehs. Two tents were put up at about the middle of the ground where the ladies of Nicosia were regaled with tea and the officers and gentlemen with iced drinks. Unfortunately for Nicosia there are but few ladies here now but all who are here were present.

The first day of the sports 18 men started for the 100 yards race which was won by a Pioneer.

The long jumps was won by another Pioneer and the same Pioneer who won the first 100 yards race won a second one and also putting the shot. The tug of war was the great event of the day and this was also won by Pioneers who never gave the Zaptiehs a chance though they were a fine lot of men and the betting was against the Pioneers. The 2nd day the High jump proved a great source of amusement from the clumsy efforts of some of the competitors. Some 30 odd men were entered and after a hard fight the prize was won by a young Zaptieh. The 300 yards race was won by a Pioneer a Zaptieh being second. The wrestling match caused much strong feeling and some high words but was won by a Pioneer. The feild had, however, become so strong that the sports were discontinued. Except for this the whole affair was a great success and was the means of drawing the people together and enabling them to pass the Biram pleasantly. One could not help remarking the good feeling that existed amongst the Pioneers of whom many are Greeks though the majority are Turks.

The Greeks took as much interest in the success of their Turkish comrades as the Turks did in the efforts of their Greek comrades and all differences of race and creed were sunk in the endeavour to obtain the victory for their corps.—As a proof of this when the Pioneer a Turk who won the wrestling match was carried aloft by his comrades through the crowd many of those who were foremost in helping to carry him and cheered the loudest were pointed out to me as Greeks.—I think this speaks volumes for the good understanding that evidently exists between the two races now united in arms and for the discipline of the corps which is certainly popular here from the general satisfaction expressed at the successes of the Pioneers.—In a recent issue of your paper this force has been described as "useless" and "effete" a description which would not be endorsed as accurate by any one here who took the trouble to make enquiries before making such unfounded statements.—As to utility the Pioneers at the present moment guard the City gates at Nicosia the Government buildings at the Konack the Military Prison at the Rusuk Khan the Government House buildings and the huts at Mathiati.—

They escort the prisoners employed on Public works at Nicosia and Kyrenia they guard the Public stores at Larnaca and Limassol in the latter place relieving the 20th Regt.—During the hot weather the epithet "effete" appears still more inapplicable to a young corps just springing into vigorous existence.—I should most strongly recommend the writer of that article to pay a visit to the parades of the Pioneers at the Kyrenia gate and judge for himself.—As evidence of the interest taken in the corps these parades are daily attended by crowds of the inhabitants who may be heard constantly speaking in praise of the Pioneers.—Having visited the parade and heard the remarks of the people with regard to the Pioneers the writer of that article might afterwards visit the Schools of the Corps where under the able direction of one of the interpreters the non-commissioned officers and a number of the men are learning the English language.—After these visits he might possibly discover very vigorous signs of vitality and see in the material before him the making of a well ordered well disciplined useful body of men.

BIRAM SPORTS AT NICOSIA.

1st One hundred yards flat-race prizes 1st man 3s. 2nd do. 2s.
2nd Long Jump 1st man 3s. 2nd 2s.

3rd Putting the shot	1st man 2s. 2nd 1s.
4th 300 yds. race.	1st man 3s. 2nd 2s.
5th Tug of War 15 a side	
Pioneers and Zaptiehs	Prize 15s.
6th High Jump	1st man 3s. 2nd 2s.
7th Two legged race	1st man 3s. 2nd 2s.
8th Wrestling	Prize 5s.

Limassol News.

On Saturday the 4th inst. during a strong Easterly gale and heavy surf, the Caique *Catherina* belonging to Papho, drove on shore near the Post Office. She was laden with chopped straw for Limassol, which was all lost as the vessel entirely broke up after striking the bottom several times. Several small boats came to grief during the day.

Kyrenia News.

On the evening of the 1st and the 2nd and 3rd Sept. a heavy gale of wind swept across our northern coast. Eight vessels were stranded in Kyrenia harbour, one of which is an entire wreck. Although much gear was lost, masts broken, and damage done to all the ships, the valuable cargoes of most of them have been saved. Captain Scott-Stevenson, the Commissioner, worked indefatigably from day-light till dark, and personally helped to save most of the bales of sponges, diving apparatus, &c. which were floating about. Twenty-eight of the principal merchants of Kyrenia have sent him a memorial thanking him for his endeavours in their behalf and expressing their gratitude, also stating that it is owing to his presence that the ships and merchandise were saved from greater damage.

LAW.

COMMERCIAL COURT OF CYPRUS.

(SITTING AT LARNACA)

President: M. Papadopolu.

9th September, 1880.

Zachariades v. Alliano.

Plaintiffs were represented by a barrister; defendant was assisted by a gentleman who, however, subsequently retired from the proceedings. It appears that Messrs. Zachariades have a large house in construction at Nicosia, and they entered into an agreement with Mr. Alliano, who is a contractor and joiner, to provide all the requisite internal fittings and generally to do the carpentering work necessary. The term of time in which he was to do this was limited by the contract to eighty days, commencing from 24th March last. The sum he was to receive in consideration was fixed at two hundred Napoleons, and if at the end of the time specified the work was not finished he was to pay twenty francs for each day until its completion.

Messrs. Zachariades' advocate, on behalf of his clients, asked, the ultimate result of the action not being for the moment at issue, that an expert should be named by the Court to examine into the questions: (1) whether the various clauses of the contract had been fulfilled; (2) to ascertain whether half of the work did not yet remain undone; in this latter event, to have the work in arrears properly carried out and completed under his own superintendence at the cost of, and with responsibility attaching to, defendant; the judgement to be executed notwithstanding any opposition or appeal, so far as the survey is concerned.

The gentleman appearing for Alliano informed the Court that not yet having been able to settle matters regarding the pecuniary arrangements between himself and defendant, he was compelled to ask for an adjournment until some understanding could be arrived at between himself and his presumptive client.

He sought to give further explanations with respect to his demand but the council for the Plaintiff opposed for the reason that did not hold Mr. Alliano's power of attorney; this gentleman then pretended that he simply served as interpreter to Mr. Alliano, but the Plaintiff's council asked that he should be duly sworn on oath to make faithful translation. On this the gentleman in question retired from the Court. The council for the Plaintiff then stated that the question to be settled was pressing, the construction of the house having cost £ 4000, and that it remained unfinished and untenanted in consequence of the fault committed by Mr. Alliano, who has already received the 200 Napoleons agreed upon. That for the rest the judgement required from the Court being preparatory, the survey to be named was a measure which could not in any way injure

the interests of either parties. The summons bore the date of the 3rd of September, and the defendant could easily have procured counsel during an interval of six days.

The Tribunal however strong in its wisdom thought fit to accord a further delay of 8 days.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

I beg to bring to the notice of your readers, what I conceive to be an unwarrantable interference with my personal liberty at Famagusta on Friday, Sept. 3rd, I had been instructed to appear for certain gentlemen accused of firing-off guns, and had performed my duty, when with those with me, after the case had been remanded I was stopped on attempting to leave the Konak by an armed guard of Pioneers, one of whom with his bayonet fixed prevented our egress until permission had been hollod down by the authorities from the Court. Captain Inglis, the Commissioner, was then sitting under the Ordinance, and ought to have known "that the room or place in which the Court sit to try any charge is an open and public Court" under its provisions, to say nothing of the general sentiment to that effect in England. It is the first time I have ever heard of a barrister appearing for accused persons being forcibly prevented from leaving the Court freely—and I hope that it will be the last—even in Cyprus.

I have the honour to be,
Sir, etc.

W. P. ROCHE,

(Of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law.)

Sept. 8th, 1880.

A SKETCH OF FAMAGOUSTA.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

The curious assumption of the author of the sketch of Famagusta which appeared in your last issue, that the cargo of young ladies on board the ill-fated vessel was sent "to God in one moment" reminds me of an epitaph I once saw in a churchyard in the North of England.

The epitaph ran thus:

"Things sometimes always do not please us,
So little Willie's gone to Jesus".

Underneath some wag had scrawled:

We sometimes always cannot tell,
Perhaps little Willie's gone to—blazes.

Yours faithfully,

CRITIC.

7 Sept., 1880.

Occasional Notes.

It is reported that on board H. M. ship *Alexandra* a marine quarelled with a comrade; from words they came to blows, and some time after the marine fired a rifle against his comrade who was shot dead on the spot. A court-martial was held and the murderer was condemned to be keel-hauled 15 times under the gigantic keel of H. M. ship *Alexandra*, which sentence was carried out at midnight; the unfortunate man, however succumbed at the second turn and came up a corpse.

The Prince of Wales is most anxious to induce the Horse Guards to bring home his regiment, the 10th Hussars, from India next winter, to enable it to pull itself together, after its recent sufferings in the Afghan campaign.

The death is announced of General Sir John Bloomfield, G. C. B., the last surviving officer of the Royal Artillery who fought at Waterloo. The deceased officer entered the army in 1810, fought in the Peninsula from that date to the crossing of the Pyrenees and the battle of Toulouse, subsequently taking part in the final campaign against Napoleon. He was placed on the retired list in 1867.

THE SLAVS IN GREECE.*

Considering the present position of Greeks and Slavs towards one another in the Balkan Peninsula, and the possibility, if not the probability, of future complications and political excitement arising out of it, it cannot be uninteresting to draw attention to the first volume of the "Monumenta Historica Hellenica," just published by M. Sathas, the preface to which is in French, and deals chiefly with the burning question whether the Slavs ever invaded Greece. At the beginning of this century the Slav Anselm Banduri protested, in his "Imperium Orientale," against the hypothesis of a

Slav invasion of Greece. Other authors after him, Leake included, can scarcely be said to have touched the question. But the theory of a Slav invasion of Greece was revived after the battle of Navarino by Father C. Economos, a Greek by origin, who published a work in three volumes in Russian and Greek, for the Academy of St. Petersburg, in order to prove the relationship of the Slav-Russian and Greek languages. It was, of course, published for a political reason. Professor Fallmerayer, on the other hand, in his brilliant work, written in German, on the history of the Morea in the Middle Ages, came to the conclusion that the Greeks, for whose liberation all Europe was astir, were really nothing but a mixture of Scythians, Slavs, Arnauts, Serbs, Bulgarians, Muscovites, and barbarous tribes. It was, in fact, generally believed that Slavs entered Greece in the seventh century, governed the country for a long time and finished by becoming Grecized. Light, however, as M. Sathas rightly says, can only be thrown on the question when Byzantine history is better known and the task dropped by Gibbon is again taken up. The documents bearing on this part of history are abundant, and happily there are many scholars in Greece who have allowed their passions for becoming Homers or Platos to cool down, and have undertaken instead the publication of Byzantine documents, in which they justly believe they will find a history of themselves. Lately a school of Byzantine scholars has grown up at Athens, among whom we may mention Zambélias, Pappagopoulos, Lambros, Bikelas, Sathas, and others. M. Sathas more especially may in some respects be called the founder of the school, for he has published no less than 17 huge volumes of documents, among which we may mention the "Historical Memoirs of Michel Psellus," Minister of five Emperors, whose stormy life much resembles that of Lord Bacon; the "Chronicles of Cyprus, from the time when Christianity was introduced there down to that of Catherina Cornaro," together with the Greek Assizes and the Byzantine Laws of Cyprus in the Middle Ages.

The Byzantines, as can be seen from many passages, call the invaders of the seventh century Scythians, Slavs, Avars, Hynchini, Sadulati, Arabs, and Turks. Certainly geography and ethnography were not their strong points, so that M. Rambaud is right when he says that "the Emperors did not know their Empire." One of their most celebrated geographers, Nicophorus Blennidas, who lived in the 13th century, says, for instance, that Dodona is not a town, but a province, called in ancient times Macedonia, and that Thessaly is a city of Dodona. Chroniclers contemporary with the invasion of Greece in the seventh century do not mention the Slavs as the invaders. John Nikias calls them Albanians, and in a document discovered at Mount Athos, we find them called Wallachs. It is curious to notice that the Byzantine writers spell the word which, is taken to mean Slav Σλαβῶν, the theta however, being unknown to all Slavonic dialects, ancient as well as modern. These Sthlavini are mentioned as in the Peloponnesus in documents reaching down to the 15th century, and at that time, when the geography of the Chersonese was well known, they are described by Laonicus Chalcondylas and the Archbishop Meletius as Albanians and Valachians. On the other hand, in documents extracted from the Venetian archives, where the inhabitants of the Peloponnesus are confirmed in the possession of their fiefs "jure paterno et materno," they are also called Albanians. M. Sathas concludes, therefore, that the Albano-Valachians invaded Greece in the name of the Kakan of the Avars, whose suzerainty they recognized down to 791, when Charlemagne destroyed the empire of the Avars. The historians of Charlemagne call the population of the Peloponnesus Macedonian Avars, while Chalcondylas terms them Albanian Avars, adding that the Albanians are nothing but a relic of the ancient Macedonians. Indeed, a tradition to this effect still exists among the present Albanians.

Such are the author's conclusions from the historical and ethnographical point of view. He accordingly refutes the idea put forth by Fallmerayer that in the Neo-Hellenic language the Slav element is predominant. Indeed, the best living Slavonic scholar, Professor Miklosich, reduces the number of Slavonic words in modern Greek to a hundred, and even this number may be above the mark. M. Sathas then explains with considerable ingenuity some geographical names as corruptions of old classical names, and not as corruptions from the Slav. Thus the name of the river Rufias, in Elis, is, according to him, a corruption of Alfeus, which became successively Alfias, Orfias, Rofias, and finally Rufias. Navarino, the modern name of Pylos, means merely the town of the Navars, who occupied the town, together with the Catalans, up to 1420; it is also called Spanochori, or the village of the Spaniards. Morea is, according to the author, a corruption of the ancient Margaa. The name of Morea is still preserved in the fishery of Muria, where the town was situated. Many other probable identifications of geographical names are to be found in M. Sathas's preface, which we recommend to classical scholars. If M. Sathas has not solved the question of the invasion of Greece by the Slavs, he has certainly advanced it, and we have no doubt that the publication of all the documents on Byzantine history, which he proposes to bring to light in a series of ten volumes, will finally settle the question. We may congratulate the Greek Chamber of Deputies, who, with all their financial difficulties, have taken the publication of M. Sathas's series of volumes under their auspices, and we sincerely hope that such an important work will not come to a standstill for want of material help.

* "Μνημεία Ἑλληνικῆς Ἱστορίας." Documents inédits relatifs à l'histoire de la Grèce au Moyen Age, publiés sous les auspices de la Chambre des Députés de Grèce, par C. N. Sathas. Première série. Documents tirés des Archives de Venise, (1400-1500). Tome I.

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September
6th H. M. S. "Rapid" from Sada Bay.
7th S. S. "Elpitha," British, Mails from
Beyrout, general cargo.
10th S. S. "Fortuna" British, Mails from
Alexandria, touching at Limassol, gen-
eral cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

September
7th S. S. "Elpitha" British, mails, for
Alexandria, via Limassol, general cargo
11th S. S. "Fortuna" British, for Beyrout
Mails and general cargo.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

By the S. S. "Elpitha" Sept. 7th. Aziz
Effendi, Mrs. Crooker, child and nurse and
eleven deck passengers.

LIMASSOL ARRIVALS.

September
5th "Tre Fratelli" 206 tons, Italian from
Tripoli de Barberie, ballast.
8th S. S. "Elpitha" from Larnaca, Mails
and general cargo.
10th S. S. "Fortuna" from Alexandria,
Mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

September
8th "S. S. "Elpitha" for Alexandria, Mails
and general cargo.
8th "Aios Nicolas" 132 tons, Ottom. for Tan-
geroon, caroubs.
8th "Emanuel", 115 tons, Greek for Galatz
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10th S. S. "Fortuna" for Larnaca, Mails and
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