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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No 120. MONDAY, DECEMBER 6th, 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 newconduct 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.

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

PRINTING.

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

Chief Intelligence of the Week.

(From the "Overland Mail").

The Queen and Court have returned to Windsor from the North.

A Privy Council was held at Balmoral on Nov. 20, when Parliament was further prorogued to Dec. 2. Another Council will be held to-morrow.

General Sir F. S. Roberts is at present on a visit to the Queen.

Mr. Adam leaves England to-day for India. Yesterday he went on a visit to the Queen.

Major Evelyn Baring, Financial Secretary for India, left England for India on Nov. 24.

Mr. Goschen is, it is stated, about to return to England from Constantinople.

Lord Beaconsfield's new novel, "Endymion" has been issued this week.

Mr. Tennyson's new volume of ballads and poems has also appeared.

Lord Salisbury was present at a Conservative dinner at the Cannon Street Hotel on Nov. 19, and spoke upon the Irish question and Eastern affairs.

Mr. Healy (Land Leaguer), private secretary to Mr. Parnell, has been returned without opposition for the vacancy in the borough of Wexford.

Mr. Theodore Martin has been elected Lord Rector for St. Andrew's University.

Dulcigno has been occupied by the Turks, and is at once to be handed over to the Montenegrins.

Occasional fighting still continues in Basutoland. The Leribe Residency has been relieved by Col. Wavell.

A two days' debate on the Jewish question has taken place in the Lower House of the Prussian Diet. The subject ultimately dropped without a vote being taken.

Shocks of earthquake still continue to be felt at Agram, in Croatia.

Sir Bartle Frere delivered a lecture on South Africa to the members of the Royal Geographical Society on Nov. 22.

The Boycott expedition have nearly completed the gathering of the captain's crops. Capt. Boycott will leave Lough Mask with the expedition.

The International Regatta on the Thames was concluded on Nov. 20. E. C. Laycock (Sydney) was first; W. Ross (New Brunswick), second; G. H. Hosmer (Boston), third; W. Smith (Halifax), fourth.

Amongst the deaths recorded this week are:—Lord Chief Justice Sir A. Cockburn; Field-Marshal Sir Charles Yorke; Col. C. Darby; Col. J. W. Peard; and Dr. A. Hudson.

EGYPT.

(From "The Egyptian Gazette", 27th Nov.)

Mr. Malet arrived at Alexandria by express on Thursday and will remain here for a few days. The British Auxiliary Commission is continuing to hold its meetings under Mr. Malet's presidency.

— Baron de Ring, Minister Plenipotentiary, Agent and Consul General for France, arrived by the last Messageries steamer and left for the Capital by express on Thursday.

— At a meeting of the British community, Mr. Haselden in the chair, held on 23rd inst. at Messrs. Carver and Co's offices, the Committee, appointed at the previous meeting to consider the changes that might be desirable in the existing Code and procedure of the International Tribunals, presented their report which was unanimously approved of. The report has been handed over to the British Auxiliary Commission for their consideration.

— Mr. E. D. Carver, as representing the British Mercantile Community, and Mr. C. Royle, as representing the English Bar, have been appointed by the Foreign Office, Members of the British Auxiliary Commission on Judicial Reforms in Egypt.

—Mr. C. T. Maine, Barrister-at-Law, the Secretary to the Commission, arrived at Alexandria by the Messageries steamer on the 24th inst.

— A Commission has recently been named to take the census of Egypt. We hope that advantage will be taken of the opportunity to make a distinct enumeration of the white and black slaves of each sex, as well as of the eunuchs in Egypt.

— The "Délégation Sanitaire" of Cairo has issued a notice stating that the epidemic of *dengue* fever may be considered as at end, very few cases having occurred of late.

—We understand that the contract for the erection of the new Alexandria Post Office has been signed, and that the work will shortly be proceeded with. The site selected is, as our readers are aware, the piece of ground facing the sea, and adjoining the German Church. The building is to be completed for occupation by 31st Dec., 1881.

— At a meeting of the Alexandria Rowing Club, held at Mr. Harding's rooms yesterday, Mr. M. U. Atkin in the chair, the Committee explained the arrangements they had made for a boat shed. The first two boats for the Club are expected by the S. S. *Egyptian* and in the course of next week practise will begin. Six new members were proposed and unanimously admitted.

TURKEY.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, says:—Great dissatisfaction is felt among the Turkish employés at the non-distribution of the complete month's pay at the Bairam Festival. Few civil departments received half the amount due, as was also the case with the military; but the navy received none, the short loan effected being insufficient after the palace expenditure had been provided for. A great scene of excitement occurred at the Admiralty on Saturday last through the disappointment of the Turkish women, the wives and mothers of the naval officers, who waited from early morn till ten at night.—The correspondent of the *Standard*, telegraphing on Tuesday, 23rd ult. says:—

"The state of things, even in the capital, is alarming, and the accounts from the provinces are dreadful. In the Grande Rue, Pera, opposite the Commercial Club, on Sunday evening, six or eight individuals hustled a sedan chair in which was Lady Thomas. Sir George Thomas, hurrying up, was attacked with sticks. The club servants who rushed out were badly hurt, as was also a watchman, who, however, prevented Sir George Thomas from receiving any serious injury. The assailants, all of whom escaped, were Europeans. Not a policeman appeared. It is announced from Varna that the Mussulman emigration has been renewed with increased activity. The cause is partly ill-treatment and partly a fear of the conscription, since the badge of the cross worn by the soldiers and the arrangements for messing must be bitterly distasteful to Moslems. The refugees sacrifice everything to make their escape. In its desperate straits, the Government again proposes to resume the indirect taxes which were pledged to the Galata bankers twelve months ago, and which from the state of the deficit, have been raised to a surplus of two hundred thousand pounds, after providing the annual instalment due to the bankers. This success may well tempt needy financiers. At first the taxes will be resumed for three months pending arrangements on the whole question, which the Porte fondly expects from the Delegates, for whom it anxiously looks; but as they will certainly not come to an understanding in three months, if they come to one at all, the resumption will virtually be indefinite. This projected action shows a financial despair, since the bankers with whom the Porte threatens to break faith were the only friends from whom it could hope for assistance."

CYPRUS.

THE PEOPLE OF CYPRUS.

No good census of the whole island has yet been completed. The clerks of the Land Registry Offices of Cyprus, who go round at the commencement of the year to note new properties and improvements, record at the same time the births and deaths of males during the previous twelve months, in order to establish the numbers between eighteen and sixty years of age who should pay half-a-crown a year as the military-exemption tax. Concealments are common, in order to cheat the tax-gatherer, and one of the strongest arguments against this impost is that it encourages falsification in the very basis of the statistical information of the island. The Mussulmans also dislike any prying into the harem portion of their households, and an indiscretion on the part of a clerk in taking such a census in one of the Turkish provinces not long since was the cause of his murder. This year an endeavour is being made to obtain more accurate information; but some of the returns showed clearly that they were quite untrustworthy. In some districts in previous years attempts have been made to get at rough and approximative figures, and the results were that in Limassol in November, 1878 there was returned a total population of 23,600 living in 10,600 houses; in Larnaca 16,700 persons inhabited 8,100 houses; and in Kyrenia 11,600 inhabitants and 3,100 houses were returned. This gives for Kyrenia nearly four persons to each house, and for Limassol and Larnaca only a little over two persons, which is an absurdly small proportion and at once shows the statistics to be erroneous. In Famagusta district, the Commissioner estimates, the females are equal in number to the males. In Limassol district only 11,400 females are tabulated, as against 12,200 males. In the town of Limassol we are asked to believe that there are only 511 Moslem females to 556 males; while 1,419 Christian females are returned in the same town out of a total population of 2,828.

As to the proportion of Moslems, Kyrenia district gives 20 per cent, Larnaca town 23 per cent, Limassol town 28 per cent, and Larnaca and Papho district 32 per cent each: which instances are sufficient to show that nearly three-fourths of the native population is Christian. Thirteen villages in Larnaca and twenty-two in Kyrenia are purely Christian, while four in Larnaca and eight in Kyrenia are entirely Moslem; but in the majority of villages the population is mixed, and lives amicably and harmoniously. In these mixed villages there is generally both a Christian and a Moslem muktar or headman, and a recent ordinance for the election of councils in the towns gives proportionate representation to both creeds. In the village of Kalebournou, in Karpas, which is entirely Moslem, the villagers are said to speak nothing but Greek.

The Greek men almost everywhere in the island, but especially in higher Karpas, are fine, straight well-built follows while in their prime; it is quite a sight to see when the idle youngsters from the far villages swagger in their fine clothes through the Friday bazaar of Nicosia, the chief market of the week. They move about on the roads and tracks generally upon donkeys, without stirrups, urging the animal by constantly swinging their pendant legs to and fro. Distressed by the bad harvest of last year, hundreds, both of men and women, took to work on the Government roads, and, though disposed to laziness, proved, under energetic superintendence, to be hardy, docile, and enduring. When they got used to English picks and shovels they did a good day's work of nine hours; living on nothing but black bread, onions, olives, melons, and other fruit, and drinking water. The contrast between the men and the women, who are generally squat and dowdy figures, is so remarkable that they do not seem to belong to the same race. The old women who sit in the weekly bazaar to sell their home-woven stuffs are hideous in a degree and variety which must be seen to be believed. The inferiority of the female type is ascribed by some medical theorists to poor food, early child-bearing and long nursing of children, house-dradgery, and field-work; but these causes do not operate in Cyprus alone, and although they may explain a large number of cases, they cannot be considered to account for all that we see amongst the Cypriots. The people are conscious of the fact; and when a remark was made to a wealthy native about the dearth of pretty faces, he said as a sort of excuse that the Turks "about twenty years ago" had taken away all the handsomest girls to Constantinople! Occasionally—very occasionally—one sees a maiden graceful, tall, and lithe, whose purely Grecian head is adorned with a pair of Eastern eyes. The children of both sexes are, when healthy, charmingly pretty from the age of four or five to eight or ten; but the vast majority are puny, pale, and unhealthy. They are nursed too long by their mothers, and are then crammed with all sorts of unfit food, such as olives, cheese, beans, etc., never getting milk or a farinaceous diet. They suffer more than adults from malarious fever, and almost all are afflicted more or less with disease of the spleen. It is difficult to understand how boys so weakly grow up to be such fine men; but no doubt the less fit do not survive. They have no idea of personal cleanliness, so much that doctors find their patients so extremely dirty that they are obliged to make it a rule to give them no advice until they are washed. The mode of life of the people is eminently conducive to fever and ague. They live mostly on the ground; the children sit, lie, and play on it; the women squat to their work or open-air cooking with the dog, cat, fowls, and donkey, on the court or enclosure which adjoins the house and serves as garden also. The earthen floor of the house is shared by the animals and insects, and is merely a portion of the enclosure in which it stands; at the same time the ground is saturated with all the water that can be got from well or acqueduct, brought in by gutters which wind through the lane before the door. It is difficult to imagine anything more drearily comfortless than this kind of existence; and the best that can be said is that in the torrid heat in which he passes most of the year the Cypriot craves for the shade and fruit of his few trees, and finds the damp ground grateful and cool. Thus he has a green garden and ague with a rickety and fever-stricken progeny. When wet and winter come, chattering and shivering with cold, he hides in the house or cowers over a brazier. On one of those bitter days when the whistling, snow-laden Bora tears across from the Black Range of Karaman, the bazaar shuts up and all the shopkeepers go to bed.

The Cypriot "hath no music in his soul." All his little remaining desire for rhythm seems to have settled into his feet, and he dances furiously until exhausted a sort of jig to the endless repetition of a few nondescript monotonous bars of rapid notes. He takes this recreation in companies, and as he jumps gives short excited yells of satisfaction. He will dance and drink wine or mastic all night, and go away making the morn hideous with his howlings. The noise of music to which he jumps is chiefly produced by scraping one—the treble—string of a little fiddle with great rapidity, and has to all appearances been learned from the mosquito, which it mimics with considerable accuracy. The fiddle is generally accompanied by the "bourdon" of a zither, which copies well the wearing screech of the cicala. When the native Greek breaks into song, he produces a brief nasal drone, whose melancholy sound is often repeated. The boys never whistle; but the children, chiefly the girls, from time to time, with a voice from the head and nose produce a short tune which never exceeds two or three bars. With all this they have wondrous lungs. The men will send their clear voices ringing through the pure, dry air, across a country-side; in the streets and on the roads they converse, preferably it would almost seem, from a distance in loud tones. When on fine evenings—and all evenings are fine in Cyprus for months together—whole families sit in the lanes outside their doors; they do not take the trouble to move in order to visit their neighbours, but shout to them with shrill distinctness as they sit. The result is a babel of noise, for all shout together. Four or five women meeting in the street all talk to each other at the top of their voices at the same time; the parties to a case in court, no matter how many they are, all talk together, and it is impossible to silence them. But perhaps the worst plague is a quiet street with two or three parties of boys playing games in the dust; they every one yell continuously at the full pitch of their lungs until the brain wanders and deafness would be a welcomed relief.

The conduct and habits of the Turkish portion of the population are different in almost every respect. Even about the youngest Turkish boys

there is an air of gravity as they play in the streets; and when, about the age of ten, they quit the harem and assume the tarbush or fez, they become even more staid. The closely shut aspect of the Turkish houses makes their quarter of a town more secluded and quiet than the Greek. The house-door gently opens, and a grave Turk beads in hand, comes forth with measured steps to prayers at the mosque, or a small bevy of Turkish women, wrapped in the white sheets which give them the appearance of ghosts, glide in to pay visits. Apart from these disturbances there is scarcely anything to break the repose, unless it be a beggar who loudly repeats at the gate some verses of the Koran until he gets his alms of food. The Turks are always well, if not richly, dressed, and their type and gait are dignified and stately compared to the more rapid Greeks; and besides they are clean, and in this contrast even more strikingly with them.

(From the "St. James's Gazette").

GRAIN CROPS IN CYPRUS.

Cereals including wheat, barley, oats, maize, and sesame, are grown all over the Island. The best wheat comes from Kouklia and Aschellia, in Paphos. The amount of barley sown is about double that of wheat; there is but little oats or maize, and a good deal of sesame. We have not as yet had any experience of the marvellous good years in Cyprus when the Messaorian plain is described by the enthusiastic Greek as a smaller Egypt, fertilised by the deposits from the overflowing of the (for us) generally dry and stony Pidias. We are thus driven to content ourselves with the statistics of 1878 and 1879, and for half the former year we must take the Turkish returns which are not perfectly trustworthy. We find, then, that last year the imports of breadstuffs, peas, vetches, hay, and straw, etc., exceeded the exports by £ 90,700, while the net exports in the preceding year were only £ 16,400. It is true the harvest of 1879 was a very bad one, because of the dry winter and spring which preceded it; but the tithes of the cereals indicated a crop of the value of about £ 200,000. In the early part of the year Sir Garnet Wolseley was recommended to encourage the introduction of breadstuffs and cattle-food, and he at once freed them from the import duty. This cost the Government about £ 8,000; but if that course had not been adopted there would have been something approaching a famine. One great advantage of this measure has been that flour is largely imported, and of a much better quality than can be made in the island. This has improved and cheapened the bread, which was before detestable, and is a great boon to Englishmen and foreigners, as well as to the natives. In a mosque at Paphos prayers were offered up for a leading Greek merchant of the place, on account of the blessing he has caused to the town, and especially to the poor, by introducing foreign flour: which, of course, he had done in the ordinary pursuit of his business, because when the Government removed the duty he found he could make it pay.

Another result of the bad harvest of last year was that the Government had to spend over £ 6,000 in lending seed-corn to the people. It was a custom to the Turkish Government to lend corn out of their tithe-barns; taking repayment in kind in the ensuing harvest. Last year, however, we took the tithes in money, and thus were obliged to buy grain for seed. The custom of thus lending corn has been condemned, and there is much to be said against it from a theoretical point of view. The loans are in some cases abused, the grain being ground and eaten or even sold; but the practical and stubborn facts remain, that the people had been accustomed to get seed-corn in bad years, they could not be broken of the habit at once, that they looked for and counted on it last year, and that, had it not been given, no land at all would have been sown in some of the poorer districts. The whole population, however, has been distinctly warned that they must not expect such loans again; they have only been made to the poorest villages, and the borrowers were obliged to give bonds to repay in money, and not in kind, this harvest. The purchase, transports, and distribution of the grain, which had to be carried out as rapidly as possible caused much extra work to the Finance Department and the district commissioners, and it is satisfactory to find that no hitch occurred and no complaint has been made by the inhabitants; while the Government thus managed to get into the ground £ 6,000 worth of seed of a superior quality, at a much cheaper rate than that which was being sold in the island. All this will be repaid after the harvest, which is expected to be moderately good, and the investment ought to give besides £ 12,000 to £ 25,000 in tithes. Many of the native merchants speculate by lending corn to the peasants from year to year, taking an immense profit if the season proves good (as much as 74 per cent. per annum in Famagousta); but they will not lend until they see the rain, and the sowings of the last winter, except with the farmers' own or Government grain, were a month late in consequence.

(To be continued)

THE NAVIES OF GREECE AND TURKEY.

The efforts made by Greece to increase the strength of her land forces have enabled her to count upon the services of an army which is numerically, very considerable, and which in organization and equipment is, in all probability, highly efficient. The number of men which she can put in the field is surprisingly large, considering the smallness of her peace establishment and the scantiness of her population. Her navy, on the other hand, is the smallest in Europe, still smaller even than that of Portugal, though the Greeks have two armour-clads whilst the Portuguese have only one. The names of Kanaris and Miaulis are of themselves sufficient to recall what Greek seamen are capable of in war; and the physical features even of continental Greece and the neighbouring country, together with the lack of inland communications, are likely to render an efficient navy of the highest importance in any contest that the nation may be engaged in. The Greek fleet possesses two armour-clads of moderate size. One, the Olga, was built at Trieste and was launched in 1869. Her displacement is 2,060 tons. She is of the broadside type and is armed with two 9-inch 12-ton and six 7 inch 6½-ton Armstrong guns. The armour on her side is six inches at the thickest, and tapers to not more than two-thirds of that thickness at the extremities. The power of her engines is not considerable, even if her boilers are in good condition, and her speed is only ten knots. Being built of wood, her claims to be considered thoroughly efficient at this date, eleven years after her launch, must be held to be doubtful. The King George is a somewhat smaller vessel, and has an iron hull, so that, as far as structure goes, she is likely to be quite fit for service. She carries two 12-ton Armstrong guns in an hexagonal central battery on the upper deck. This battery and a belt round the water-line are armoured, the former with 6 inch the latter with 7 inch armour, diminished at the ends of the ship to 4½ inches. She was launched about twelve years ago. Her engines indicate 2,4000 horse-power, and her speed is thirteen knots. If her boilers are in good preservation she ought to prove a handy and useful seagoing armour-clad. The unarmoured fleet of Greece comprises two screw-corvettes, six screw-gun vessels, and four other steamers, besides a few sailing vessels. Of the corvettes, one recently launched in France is a formidable vessel. She is of 18,000 tons displacement, steams over fifteen knots an hour, and carries five Krupp guns, which species of ordnance the Greek, like nearly every other European navy, except the English and Italian, is putting in place of that previously carried by its ships. Some of the other vessels are of a kind likely to prove of use in active service. It is not, however, to the number of ships borne on the list of her fleet that Greece must look for her real naval strength, but in the skill and daring of her seamen, the number of which is very respectable. Her seafaring population—in quality second to none in the South of Europe—is upwards of 3,000, nearly six times that of Turkey. That they are still bold and full of resource the story of the blockade-runner Enosis during the Cretan insurrection showed very plainly.

Judged by its matériel alone the Turkish fleet is yet one of the foremost in Europe. After making deduction of three ships bought by our own Government, and one or two captured and destroyed during the late war, the Turks still have fifteen well-designed sea-going armour-clads. Of this number no fewer than seven are handy cruising ships between 2,000 and 2,700 tons displacement, armed with 12-ton Armstrong guns, and plated with armour of five or six inches' thickness. The speed of all these vessels is over eleven knots. Four armoured frigates have a displacement, of about 6,400 tons, carry 12-ton guns, 4½ inch armour-plating, and steam twelve knots. There is one central-battery ship of 5,000 tons. The most powerful ships in the Turkish navy are the Messudijé and the Nussratijé. The former is a sister-ship of our Superb which has just sailed for the Mediterranean on her first cruise. She is 8,000 tons displacement, and carries sixteen heavy guns. She has 12-inch armour on the water-line and 9 inch on the sides of the battery. Her engines work up to a power of 7,430 horses, and her speed is nearly fourteen knots. The Nussratijé closely resembles her in design, but is somes even or eight hundred tons smaller. There are besides these one river monitor with a revolving turret, and one or two armoured gunboats, and also a partially finished armour-clad on the stocks at Constantinople. The unarmoured Turkish fleet also presents a goodly list of vessels, thirty seven in all. But few of the larger ships—the frigates and corvettes—are of the new type now alone thought suitable for cruising purposes in war. But of the smaller, many are of recent design. In the present state of disorganization of the Turkish Government, when the wives and children of naval officers come to besiege the Admiralty for a small instalment of the pay long due to their husbands or parents, it is probable that the personnel of the fleet is far from efficient. Before the collapse the seamen were well trained, and the ships in good order. The number of men—formerly about 20,000—now stands at 12,000: several times as large as the highest figure at which the strength of the Greek navy is put. Though docile and making good gunners, Turks do not make good seamen; and the smallness of their mercantile marine affords but a restricted recruiting ground from which to draw reinforcements of skilled sailors for the ships of war. A few years ago few more striking sights could be seen than the great armour-clad squadron lying in two long rows on the waters of the Bosphorus, beneath the windows of Dolmabatché. But that navy has not escaped the decay which has attacked the other institutions of the empire, and the Turkish fleet is formidable now chiefly on paper.

Special Telegrams.

London, 1st Dec.

The Captain and six men of the Schooner "Sandfly" have been killed on the Salomon Islands of the Pacific Ocean.

The Porte intends asking the mediation of the Powers in the Greek question.

The Greek Government rejects the friendly counsels of the Powers to suspend armaments.

Mr. Goschen leaves Constantinople for a few days, but returns in January.

The British Government have made representations to Russia concerning her attitude as regards the Kurdish rebellion.

At Kildysart (Ireland) a thousand new members have joined the Land League.

London, 3rd Dec.

In the French Chamber of Deputies the Foreign Minister has declared that France follows a policy of peace, and in concert with Europe will endeavour to persuade Greece not to act against Turkey. A vote of confidence was passed by a large majority. The British Government has proposed that the combined fleet should not separate until the rest of the Berlin treaty is executed. Russia accepts, Austria refuses.

Atrocities are increasing in the West of Ireland. Parnell demands that, having regard to the opening of Parliament process against the traversers be deferred. He proposes to bring American lawyers to Dublin.

London, 6th Dec.

The combined fleet has dispersed the English to Malta the Russian to Piræus.

A grand meeting has been held at Waterford. Parnell was received enthusiastically. He accused government of conspiring against the rights of Ireland and demanded that government should defer the trial of the traversers. He refuted agitation.

In north Afghanistan the Turkomans are pilaging the villages and caravans in the vicinity of Merv. The Scheik Abdullah has defeated the Persian troops. Great loss. He captured cannons and menaces Ouronmiah.

The Governmental Commission at Constantinople concert vigorous measures against the Kurds.

Six thousands Russian troops have been sent to Naktchivan a Russian town on the frontier of Persia.

"CYPRUS"

Larnaca, Monday, December 6th, 1880.

One of the main difficulties with which England has lately had to contend has been finally disposed of. Dulcigno, as is now known, has been surrendered. The "Times" referring to the fact says:

"The cession of Dulcigno has recalled public attention to Eastern affairs, in spite of absorbing domestic topics, and the moment is therefore opportune for an authoritative declaration of the policy and views of the Government. It is quite impossible for any Government in this country to withdraw its attention from the affairs of the East. England, as an Oriental Power, as a great maritime and commercial state, has paramount interest in that direction which cannot be set aside or overlooked."

In another article on the subject the same journal speaks in the following terms:

"The Porte may defy the will of Europe, but it cannot withstand the march of events. England desires nothing better than to act in concert with Europe. But she is not accustomed to surbodinate her policy entirely to that of other Powers, nor is she at all likely to allow herself to be flouted by the Porte. The European concert has now secured one of its ends. Even if it should shrink from pursuing others or fail to accomplish them, England will not abandon the object she has set before herself of securing the welfare and good government of the East."

We are perfectly in accord with the "Times" in regard to its opinion that England has vital interests to protect in the East. And it may be added that the maintenance of these interests are materially connected with the advancement of civilisation. These views induced the late Government to occupy the Island. Mr. Gladstone's Ministry does not appear to attach the same importance to Cyprus as did his predecessor. He does not seem to regard the occupation of Cyprus as likely to influence the course of events in the East. An uncertainty as to tenure therefore arises. In respect of this matter—which, it is not necessary to say,—is of the greatest consequence to the inhabitants, the declaration lately made by the High Commissioner set at rest the disturbed minds of persons here. Abroad, however, it seems that the same extent of confidence does not exist. And we find the existent feeling on the subject expressed in the issue of Nov. 20th of the "Broad Arrow:"

"Cyprus can now with difficulty keep itself before the public. Still we may congratulate the High Commissioner on his announcement that the natives are unanimous in their expressions af loyalty to the British Crown, that trade had greatly improved, and that a "vast number of locusts' eggs had been destroyed." We should like to know, however, in what "bona fide" relative position our so-called High Commissioner stands to the Turkish Suzerain, for it is not denied that England does not possess the fee simple of the Syrian goddess's blissful isle."

It is quite true that England does not hold Cyprus as an absolute possession. But as the "Broad Arrow" remarks in another place in the same number "Cypriots may make themselves quite easy as to any restoration of Turkish rule." This we have always believed. No one can doubt that the English Government is fully alive to the responsibility it has undertaken, and that it recognizes that its honour would be impaired if ever Cyprus were given back to the Turks. It may be taken for granted, beyond all doubt, that Turkish misrule will never again have sway in Cyprus; and all the forecasts of its future which can be taken may be said, at the present, to be highly favourable. As our esteemed contributor "Observer" remarks, "Cyprus was once said to be the pearl of the Mediterranean, and it must be the aim of all alike to recover for her this proud

pre-eminence. Her soil is very varied and of extreme fertility and there can exist no reason why the future should not emulate the past."

According to the "Broad Arrow", too, there are many Englishmen who admit that Cyprus will "sooner or later" be given to Greece. Such a contingency, even realized, need in no way deter capitalists from engaging in productive works here, as foreign and English money has before this been employed to advantage and with all security on Hellenic territory.

The real reason, we firmly believe of the lack of speculative enterprise in Cyprus to-day is that the Home Government has not yet seen its way to explain explicitly its future policy in regard to our Island.

We hope some statement will now be made, as to the intentions of the Government with regard to Cyprus, which will remove the uncertainty that exists as to its tenure, and give to capitalists that assurance which alone is needed to induce them to embark in enterprises that would prove beneficial alike to themselves and to the country.

In the interests of the people it is highly desirable that such declaration should be made as early as possible.

Local Notes.

It is with pleasure we observe the official announcement in the London Gazette that the Queen has been pleased to approve Mr. Charles Watkins as Consul for Cyprus, to reside at Larnaka, for his Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway. We may remind our foreign readers that Mr. Watkins was English vice Consul here up to the time of the occupation. He will bring to the performance of his new duties both experience and ability.

The subscriptions to the race meeting now amounts to upwards of £75 and considerable additional subscriptions are promised from Nicosia and other districts. The new course has been made and the grand stand erected. It is requested that persons will not exercise their horses on the track, as it will make further expenditure necessary to repair the damage thus done.

We congratulate Jerusalem. Our neighbour the Holy City is, according to the "Christian World," soon to be lighted with gas, and a horse railroad is to be run to the top of the mount of Olives. Would that we could induce Mr. Cook to bring his excursionists to "do" the relics of decayed splendour at Famagusta, or to trace, as pilgrims, the course which the Apostle Paul followed in his evangilizing tour on the Island!

We are glad to welcome the Rev. Mr. Spencer back again to Cyprus. The reverend gentleman this time is accompanied by his wife and family. As we were enabled to state some weeks ago Mr. Spencer holds an official appointment in respect of the important matter of education in our Island.

We hear that His Excellency is expected here on Wednesday next.

Colonel Gordon and Major Bowlby will arrive in Larnaca this evening on a tour of inspection, having in view the amalgamation of the Zaptieh and Pioneer forces.

We have reason to believe that the projected public works here will shortly be commenced.

NICOSIA HARRIERS.

Meets for December, 1880.

Wednesday...8th...Greaves' Jheel. 2 30 p.m.
Friday .....10th...Trahona ..... 7 a. m.
Wednesday 15th...Oyster Beds (Dali Road) ... 2 30 p.m
Friday .....17th...Lacatamia..... 7 a. m.
Wednesday 22nd...Miamillia..... 2 30 p.m.
Saturday ...25th...Agirda Wood... 11 a. m.
Wednesday 29th...Greaves' Jheel. 2 30 p.m.

Limassol News.

2nd Dec., 1880.

H. M. S. *Rapid* arrived last Monday morning from Larnaca and sailed the same day for Malta.

— The weather was very rainy last week and a good crop is expected this year.

— No date has as yet been definitely fixed for the Limassol Races, but it is thought probable the meeting will be held about Feb. 20th.

— Building at Limassol is making great progress and besides a great many private houses of two and three storeys which have been erected since the occupation, there has lately been constructed a Coffee House facing the sea. It was opened to the public about 20 days ago under the loyal and auspicious name of the "Victoria Café". The service, drinks etc. leave nothing to be desired, and a fair band has been engaged which adds to the other attractions of the place. The Café is large with pleasant verandahs round and is in no wise inferior to the best resorts of a like nature in Alexandria or other large Oriental towns. I do not doubt but that the *entrepreneur* will meet with support both from the native and other elements of our society.

— Yesterday (Wednesday morning) a considerable storm swept over Limassol, and the bridge (?) in front of the Konak was carried away. The sea was so rough that nothing could be landed or embarked here and the post had to be brought od shore at a distance of some four miles from the port.

— Arrivals per S.S. *Fortuna* from Alexandria include Capt. and Mrs. Ireland and child, Dr. and Mrs. Barry and Mr. Sutherland.

From another correspondent.

3rd Dec., 1880.

A severe storm accompanied by rain, thunder and lightning set in here on Monday and did not cease until Wednesday. The pier here was almost completely destroyed.

— There is as yet no clue as to the murderer of Interpreter Russo. Three arrests have been made but the parties have been liberated on bail. The amount of the reward offered by Government (£20) is generally considered as much too small, and it is hoped that it will be increased.

LIMASSOL SPRING MEETING.

On Saturday the 27th ult. a meeting was held in the Committee Room of the United Service Club, to consider whether a Race Meeting should be held, and if so, to elect a Committee and appoint Stewards, &c. for the general management of the meeting.

The decisions taken were: To ask the following gentlemen to act as Stewards:— R. L. N. Michell Esq. Commissioner, Col. Hackett 35th Regt., Col. Dumaresq R. E., C. Leach Esq. A.C.G., C. Caridi Esq. President of the Municipality, G. Cacathimi Esq., F. Acamas, Esq., Capt. Patten R. E., Capt. Chapman 35th Regt., Capt. Ireland A.P.D., A.W. Bridgman Esq. D.A.C.G., J. Rees Esq.

The working committee was elected from the above and consisted of C. Caridi Esq., Capt. Patten, Capt. Chapman, Capt. Ireland, Mr. Bridgman and Mr. Rees.

On the termination of the proceedings a subscription list was opened, and the following sums were subscribed:

R. L. N. Michell Esq....	...	£	5 – –
Col. Dumaresq, R. E. ...	...	,,	5 – –
Capt. Patten, R. E. ...	...	,,	5 – –
Capt. Ireland A.P.D. ...	...	,,	5 – –
M. King, Esq. ...	...	,,	5 – –
C. Christian Esq. ...	...	,,	5 – –
A. W. Bridgman Esq. ...	...	,,	5 – –
J. W. Williamson Esq....	...	,,	5 – –
J. L. Rees Esq. ...	...	,,	5 – –
H. Van Dyck Esq....	...	,,	5 – –
C. Caridi Esq. ...	...	,,	5 – –
Dr. Mac Namara ...	...	,,	2 – –
C. Leach Esq. ...	...	,,	1 – –
A. Bistachi, Esq. ...	...	,,	2 – –
G. Cacathimi Esq....	...	,,	3 – –
G. Laniti Esq. ...	...	,,	2 – –
F. Acamas Esq. ...	...	,,	2 – –
Dr. Carageorgiades Esq...	...	,,	1 – –
H. Sinclair Esq. ...	...	,,	1 – –
Total...	...	£	69 – –

Nicosia 2nd Dec., 1880.

Some excitement was caused here this morning by the news that thirteen prisoners managed to effect an escape from Kyrenia prison yesterday evening while the men who had them in charge were asleep. One who sustained hurt from a fall, not being able to get away, gave the alarm so soon as he was able to reach the prison door. An active pursuit was speedily organized, and as the escaped convicts were shackled there is very little doubt but that they will soon be captured. A severe inquiry will be instituted in order to discover and punish the accomplices.

NOTES ON CYPRUS.

By an Observer.

(*Continued from our last*).

The annual production of flax in Belgium, which has long been celebrated for the growth of its flax and the quality of its fibre, is supposed to be not less than 50,000,000 pounds, and that grown in and around Courtrai is universally allowed to be of the finest quality and is principally employed in the manufacture of the finest class of fabrics. The large quantity obtained from the soil of Belgium is due not only to the industry of all those engaged in the occupation, but to the care with which all agricultural pursuits are carried on. In Flanders farming partakes more of the character of gardening, as nothing is wasted, and every corner is filled up with a crop of some kind; while especial attention is paid to the *destruction of weeds*. To give a glance, then, at some of the rules adopted there may not be altogether out of place. It is not considered desirable that more than one tenth of the land on any farm should be laid down in flax. A good crop may be secured on old pasture or after potatoes, but the finest and strongest flax may be expected from loamy land which should be ploughed shallow. All weeds should be pulled up,—if after rain, the better,—previous to harrowing, and if the ground be flat, the harrowing may be crossed as flax likes a firm bed and it is a great matter to have it of as uniform length as possible. House sewage is all preserved in the towns, taken into the country and stored in tanks built of brick, till it is wanted to be applied to the land, in quantities varying according to the condition of the soil. As soon as the flax appears above ground and weeds begin to spring up, weeding must begin and be continued till the plant is about six inches high. The weeders should wear no shoes and must be careful to tread as flatly as is possible without twisting the foot, and the crop will soon recover the effects of careful weeding. Infact, if the ground is not damp, it is far better to allow the crop to remain unweeded. Great judgment is required in pulling. The stalk next the ground will become of a pale yellow, the leaves will fall off 8 to 10 inches from the ground and the top or seed bolls will be of a slightly brownish colour. If taken too young, the fibre will be tender and occasion loss in scutching; if allowed to be too ripe, it will make a coarse dry flax. When pulled, it must be laid down in handfuls of a size that can be easily grasped, and crossed so as not to tangle, the root ends being left as even as possible. An instrument called a breaker is sometimes used to separate the seed, or if the rippling comb is preferred for the same purpose, it ought to have *round* teeth rather than square, as the latter are more liable to tear the flax. The next operation, and by far the most important and delicate that the crop undergoes, is what is called "retting" or watering. Every day's pulling must be placed in the dam the same evening if possible, but one must never mix the pulling of two days together. Layer on layer is to be put into the dam till is is full. If the weather is warm, fermentation will begin immediately, and after a few days the stalk must be examined to ascertain if it has been watered enough. The Dutch test is to take a reed or stalk and twist it with each hand in the reverse direction; and if the fibre separates freely from the core or woody part, it may be considered as watered. Then comes the operation of grassing or laying it out on a stunted pasture in order to dry. It should be laid out evenly in rows, the top of one row overlapping the root end of the preceeding one by about two inches. When after two or three days a slight rubbing causes the woody fibre to break and it leaves the fibre entirely it is ready to lift, which should never be done but on a dry day. Where large quantities of flax are required, the operations of breaking the fibre and scutching or cleansing by removing the woody portions are performed by mills, but the finer qualities are invariably done by hand, as the loss is materially less.

(*To be continued.*)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

None of the tobacco referred to in the letter of "Observer" in your number of 29th inst. need have been abandoned if it did not happen to be so worthless, owing, I believe, to defective preparation, that no tobacco merchant could be found to accept it as a present on the mere condition that he would pay the ordinary duty, which, in addition to first cost, freight, and other charges, he is obliged to pay on the imported article. Under these circumstances I presume the peasants gave up the tobacco to avoid the penalty imposed by law on irregular manufacture and consumption of it in their own villages.

Observer No. Two.

3rd Dec., 1880.

Limassol, 30th Nov., 1880.

Dear Sir,

I was much surprised to see in No. 117 of your paper, an article stating that Col. Hackett had made some objections to allow the Regimental Band to come and play in the square at Limassol.

As, quite the contrary, on my having requested him to allow the band to play in the town, he was most kind in immediately consenting thereto, I would be much obliged if you would find a place for these lines in the next issue of *Cyprus*.

I have only to add on my own behalf, as well as on that of my fellow townsmen, our sense of Col. Hackett's kindness in acceeding to our request.

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours truly,
Ch. Caridi,
Mayor of Limassol.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Vessels inwards during the Week at Larnaca.

November
30th S. S. 'Elpitha' 462 tons, British, mails from Beyrout, general cargo.
30 "Abdy" 84 tons, from Beyrout with barley.
December
3rd S. S. 'Fortuna' 433 tons, British, Mails from Alexandria, touching at Limassol, Mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

November
30th S. S. 'Elpitha' British, for Alexandria viâ Limassol, general cargo.
December
1st 'Buon Padre' 334 tons, for England via Carrubiere, terra umbra and carouba.
4th S. S. 'Fortuna' British, for Beyrout,

LIMASSOL ARRIVALS.

November
29th 'Aphrodite' 96 tons, Cypriot brig from Alexandria general cargo.
29th H. M. S. 'Rapid' from Larnaca.
December
1st S. S. 'Elpitha' 462 tons, British, from Larnaca, mails and general cargo.
3rd S. S. 'Fortuna' British, 433 tons, from Alexandria, mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

November
29th H. M. S. 'Rapid' for Malta, with three Royal Engineers and two officers.
December
1st S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons, for Alexandria, mails and general cargo.
3rd S. S. 'Fortuna' British, 433 tons, for Larnaca, mails and general cargo.

Passengers Arrived.

By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Beyrout and Larnaca—Abdala Malaki and 11 deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Fortuna' from Alenandria Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer and family, Rev. Mr. Justo, Mrs. Calomira and one boy, and three deck passengers.

The above passengers came on to Larnaca.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

M. CHRISTOPHIDES has the honour to inform the Public in general and his customers that he has just received a considerable supply of tinned goods and liquors from the leading English and French houses. They are of the best quality and are offered at quite moderate prices.

Kyko Street,
Nicosia, November 21st 1880.

THE COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY.

MARINE AND FIRE INSURANCE
CYPRUS AGENCY.
THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

BELL'S ASIA MINOR
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DEPARTURES:

From Alexandria on the arrival of the Brindisi Steamer (every Thursday) for Larnaca, calling at Limassol.
,, Larnaca for Beyrout every Saturday, at 4 p. m.
,, Beyrout for Alexandria via Larnaca and Limassol, every Monday at 5 p. m.
,, Larnaca every Tuesday at 9 p.m.
,, Limassol every Wednesday at 9 a.m.

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

For particulars apply to

NANI AND MANTOVANI,
Agents, in
Larnaca and Limassol.

A FORTUNE.

In the event of a stroke of good fortune you can win 400,000 marks.	The WINNINGS are GUARANTEED by the STATE.

You are invited to participate in the
chances of winning
in the grand drawings of prizes guaranteed by the State of Hamburg in which more than
8 millions 600,000 marks
have to be drawn.

In the course of these advantageous drawings, which contain according to the prospectus only 90,500 tickets, the following prizes will be forthcoming, viz:

The highest prize will be ev. 400,000 Marks.

Premium of	250,000	Marks
1 Prize of	150,000	Marks
1 Prize of	100,000	Marks
1 Prize of	60,000	Marks
1 Prize of	50,000	Marks
2 Prizes of	40,000	Marks
2 Prizes of	30,000	Marks
5 Prizes of	25,000	Marks
2 Prizes of	20,000	Marks
12 Prizes of	15,000	Marks
1 Prize of	12,000	Marks
24 Prizes of	10,000	Marks
4 Prizes of	8,000	Marks
3 Prizes of	6,000	Marks
52 Prizes of	5,000	Marks
6 Prizes of	4,000	Marks
108 Prizes of	3,000	Marks
214 Prizes of	2,000	Marks
10 Prizes of	1,500	Marks
2 Prizes of	1,200	Marks
533 Prizes of	1,000	Marks
676 Prizes of	500	Marks
950 Prizes of	300	Marks
65 Prizes of	200	Marks
100 Prizes of	150	Marks
26,345 Prizes of	138	Marks
2300 Prizes of	124	Marks
70 Prizes of	100	Marks
7300 Prizes of 94 and 67		Marks
7850 Prizes of 40 and 20		Marks

which will be sure drawn in 7 drawings within the space of a few months.

The first prize-drawing is officially fixed for the
15 and 16 December of the present year
and the price of
a whole original ticket is only shill. 6—or 6 Marks;
a half original ticket is only shill. 3—or 3 Marks,
a quarter original ticket is only shill. 1. 6d. —or 1½ Marks,

and I will forwarded **these original tickets guaranteed by the State** (not prohibited promissory notes) even to the most distant countries in return for the amount forwarded prepaid. Every ticket holder will receive from me gratis along with the **original ticket** the **original prospectus** provided **with the arms of the State** and immediately after the **drawing**, the **official list** without any charge.

The payment and forwarding of the sums won to those concerned will have my special and prompt attention, and with the most absolute secrecy.

☞ All orders can be sent by the medium of a Post Office Order.

☞ Please address the orders in atl confidence to

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For particulars, apply to the Bank,
WOLSELEY STREET,
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NEW LOTTERY.
UNDER GUARANTEE OF GOVERNMENT
DRAWING TO TAKE PLACE ON
15th December prox.
(new style).

This new monetary lottery will number 46,640 prizes to be drawn in 7 divisions. The prize at prime cost of the lottery tickets is fixed officially, and is for all the drawings of the first two divisions:

Francs 22. 50 for whole Tickets
Francs 11. 25. for half Tickets

The largest sum possible to be gained under the most favourable circumstances in the new lottery amount to

500,000 Francs

This lottery offers the following prizes:—

	Francs	Francs
1 at	312,500	312,500
1 at	187,500	187,500
1 at	125,000	125,000
1 at	75,000	75,000
1 at	62,500	62,500
2 at	50,000	100,005
2 at	37,500	75,040
5 at	31,250	156,250
2 at	25,000	50,000
12 at	18,750	225,000
1 at	15,000	15,000
24 at	12,500	300,000
4 at	10,000	40,000
3 at	7,500	22,500
52 at	6,250	325,000
6 at	5,000	30,000
108 at	3,750	405,000
214 at	2,500	535,000
	etc.	etc.

For remittance of this sum from such countries as are in treaty with Germany Bank Notes are not necessary. On receipt of the value in postage-stamps from any country whatsoever, France, Austria, England, etc. etc. we will forward at once the original tickets ordered, to which are affixed the Arms of the State in a sealed letter, by post to each purchaser in good time, and valid for all the drawings of the two first Divisions.

At the same time that we forward the tickets we will also send together with them, the official programme of the drawing, and immediately after the drawing all holders of tickets will receive the official list of its results. The payment of the prizes will take place immediately by our remittances under the control of the Government in hard cash, if desired, to the residence of the prize-holder.

Application for Tickets should at once be made to the

Principal Office of the Lottery
ISENTHAL & Co.
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We carry on correspondence in all the European languages. The transmission of letters between the East and Hamburg takes 180 hours.

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Larnaca. Limassol. Nicosia.

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PILLS & OINTMENT.

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

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

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

The Pills and Ointment are sold at Professor Holloway's Establishment, 533. Oxford Street, London, and by nearly all Medicine Vendors throughout the civilized world, in Boxes and Pots, each with directions for use in almost every language. They may be procured in LARNACA at the

ESCULAPIUS PHARMACY
11, WATKINS STREET.
and of every Chemist in the Island.

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Mr. Max. Ohnefalsch-Richter begs to inform the public that he is now prepared to execute photographs in every style: Portraits, Landscapes, Views, Costumes, etc., and that in order to comply with the general request, and having received a large supply of new and cheap chemicals from Europe, he is able to make the following reduction in his prices for photographs executed at the Studio:

Cartes-de-Visite 5s. the half-dozen.
» » » 8s. » dozen.
Cabinet size 10s. » half-dozen.
» » 14s » dozen.

Larnaca, July 6th 1880.

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NICOSIA.
Proprietor:
Mr. JOHN SOLOMIDES.

THIS Establishment is now under entirely new management and has just been re-decorated at great expense. Tourists and travellers will find every accomodation.

Table d'hôte daily at 12. 30 and 7. 30 p. m.

Charges extremely moderate. Guides horses and mules supplied for the conveyance of travellers.

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Quite New. Full size, walnut cottage. Truss legs, Trichord Treble, Patent check action, and all the latest improvements.

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