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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No. 172.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 1881.

PRICE THREE PENCE.

"CYPRUS"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

The scale of charges for advertisements is low, and may be had on application at the office.

Subscriptions and Advertisements are in all cases payable in advance.

PRINTING.

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

"Cyprus" can be purchased in Nicosia, at the Stores of Mr. Constantinides, and also of Mr. Michel Christides in Limassol, at the Office of Mr. Pothybut, and in Larnaca at the Office of the Newspaper.

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

CYPRUS.

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

(Continued from our last.)

Troodos, July 7th, 1881.

10. The Imperial Trade of March 1880 at the same time reduced the value of the silver medjidie from 20 to 19 piastres. I therefore seized the occasion to prohibit their receipt into the Government Treasuries after a certain date, and the last Turkish token coin thus disappeared from the public coffers. The importation of gold has steadily continued during the whole year, whilst at the same time silver has been as continuously exported. The result shows a net importation of gold of 22,107 l. and a net exportation of silver of 10,079 l. Of the silver exported, 3,000 l. was English silver, thus reducing the English silver in circulation in Cyprus to 42,000 l. The remainder was chiefly in medjidiés with a few rupees and francs.

11. Agio on gold has almost entirely disappeared, especially since the Imperial Ottoman Bank at my request, ceased to receive deposits of gold and silver at different rates. A public notice was issued at the same time that the bank and its branches would exchange English gold against silver, and silver against copper, or vice versa, without limit to any person who required it. The result has been somewhat remarkable. Ever since that time there has been more gold tendered for exchange, against token coins, than silver and copper against gold; the silver balance of the Government has decreased, and the copper reserve has been completely exhausted, so that additional coinage of bronze piastres has been found necessary. The amount of gold in Cyprus is remarkable, and its remaining in the Island is contrary to the experience of most of the countries of the Levant.

Revenue.

12. The revenue returns have been prepared for the year 1880 in accordance with the required form; but, as our financial year does not end till 31st March, the statement is not a

useful one for statistical purposes. I will merely here observe that our tithe system has been simplified by the abolition of the tithe on a vast number of minor products, including upwards of 40 kinds of fruits and vegetables. A few articles have been added to our free import list, and a simplification of the Customs tariff is much to be desired; but this is a matter that can only be dealt with on the expiration of the present Customs Conventions with foreign countries.

13. The revenue collection during 1880 was not very good, but the main cause of the arrears was the great expenditure of the cultivators in seed corn, and the commissioners in many cases did not press for the taxes on the understanding that arrears would be paid up on the threshing floors this year.

Cattle Disease.

14. During the last days of the year 1879 an outbreak of bovine typhus occurred at Larnaca which extended to some other places before its existence had been reported to the Government. Stringent measures were at once adopted, and an ordinance was passed to give powers to the Executive for dealing with this disease. Through the carelessness of some individuals, and the cupidity of others, the disease was carried to many villages in the districts of Famagusta, Nicosia, and Kyrenia, and even across the mountains to Limassol and Paphos. Its appearance in this last-named district, where extensive breeding of cattle is carried on, was a most serious occurrence, but it was met by the Commissioner with great decision and promptitude. Proceeding with a body of police to the infected villages, he placed a cordon round them and remained himself on the spot till a body of the pioneer troops under an English officer had arrived from Nicosia, and, the same stringent isolation being carried out, and all infected beasts slaughtered, the disease was stayed and made no further progress in the district. This is an excellent example of the good results to be obtained by prompt and intelligent action. Unfortunately it was not possible to adopt such effectual measures in every place. Nevertheless, on the 24th December 1880, the island was declared free of infection, the last death having occurred on the 13th November. The disease still continues its ravages in Syria and Egypt, and we have every reason to be thankful that it disappeared from Cyprus in so short a time.

15. The details of the outbreak and spread of the disease have been already laid before your Lordship in the report of Dr. Heidenstam, whose well directed activity and energy in the office of Chief Inspector of Cattle Disease have earned the thanks of this Government. During the progress of the disease all the cattle in the island were registered, showing a total of 79,860, of which 2,540 died, but, as all export of cattle ceased during the outbreak, the total loss of stock in the island has been trifling.

16. As regards the measures taken by the Government, it is satisfactory to find not only that they have been successful, but that they have been followed verbatim by the Government of Egypt during the existing outbreak in that country.

Administrative Changes.

17. The general system of administration was reported on in my last Annual Report, and I will now briefly remark on the changes that have since occurred.

Survey.

18. Your Lordship is aware that the survey which had been commenced in 1878 was stopped in the Spring of 1879 for financial reasons; but the matter appeared to be of such importance that I obtained the Marquis of Salisbury's consent, at the end of 1879, to re-establish it. Major Lloyd, an officer of experience in the Indian Survey Department, came out here for a short time, until he was relieved by Lieut. Kitchener, R. E., who had been in charge of

the original survey; and, the surveyors having arrived during the month of June, no time was lost in recommencing their work. During the remaining six months of the year the main triangulation was continued, and 250 square miles were surveyed, making a completed total of 1,058 square miles, including the lands of 197 villages, 19 monasteries, and 16 chifliks (farms.) At the same time I placed under the Director of Survey the Defter Hâkâné, or Office for the Registry of Sales of Land, and I have since amalgamated with it the Tahzir Emlak, or Office for the Registration and Assessment of Land. The work of these two offices naturally combine and work in with the revenue survey, which when completed, will place the registration of land on a sound basis.

Medical Department.

19. The Medical Department has been organized and placed under Dr. Barry, who is styled Sanitary Commissioner. A civil medical officer has been appointed in each district, and a chemical laboratory established at Nicosia for sanitary and forensic purposes.

20. Dr. Barry's Report, which I enclose, contains a variety of interesting and useful information, and it is with much pleasure that I am again able to report on the salubrious state of the island. The year 1880 has been not less healthy than 1879. The 20th Regiment, which landed in Cyprus in December 1878, left Cyprus in October 1880, during which time only one man died, and that not from climatic disease. The 35th Regiment, which relieved the 20th, and the detachment of Royal Engineers which came from England in December 1879, have been equally healthy, and the death-rata has been, consequently, far less than in England.

21. It is to be regretted that the small Maltese colony which arrived early in 1880 should have suffered so much from malarious fever. This was mainly due to their settling in a marshy, unhealthy spot, quite unfit for the purpose; no care was taken; and they were also neglected by the person who had engaged them.

22. The health of the English officials has been excellent, and only good hotels are wanting to cause this island to become a resort for those in search of health during the winter and spring, at which seasons the climate on coast is most delightful.

Engineer Department.

23. The Engineer Department was at first carried on by officers of the Royal Engineers, under the superintendence of the Commanding Royal Engineer, but, the Secretary of State for War having decided on withdrawing several of the officers, it was found necessary to establish a separate department, at the head of which has been placed a civil engineer of great experience, who had just completed the Alexandria harbour works. Mr. Brown's Report on the works executed in 1880 is herewith transmitted, and it is not necessary for me to recapitulate them; but I must observe that, although it has not been possible to metal all the roads that have been laid out, on account of the great expense that would be involved thereby, yet these roads are practicable for carriages at all times, except after heavy rain, which is, unfortunately, a sufficiently rare occurrence. In fact, besides the permanent road between Larnaca and the capital, English ladies have driven with ease between Nicosia and Famagusta, Larnaca and Famagusta, Famagusta and Rhizo-Carpas, and Nicosia and Kyrenia. This is no inconsiderable improvement when the original state of the country is considered, a state which can be judged of by the so-called roads which yet remain between the various towns—rough, rocky tracks, which can, in many parts, only be traversed on horseback slowly and with difficulty. The people fully appreciate the advantage of the new roads, and many requests have been made for their extension. In some cases

they have voluntarily aided, as in the instance of the villagers of Caravas and Lapithos mentioned by the Commissioner of Kyrenia in his Report. In another case the inhabitants of a village in the Carpas, named Yaloosa, made a road for about three miles through the hills, to connect their village with some outlying lands, from which a track runs to the new road. In making this road they have carefully imitated the construction of the road made by the Engineer Department through the Carpas. It will be observed that the chief part of the road-making has been in the Central and Eastern parts of the island. The cause of this has been the cheapness of labour in those parts, caused by the indifferent harvests of 1879 and 1880. These roads have, therefore, been not only constructed with economy, but have also afforded labour to that part of the population which stood most in need of it.

24. But if these portions of Cyprus have benefited most in this way, the Public Works Department has not overlooked the other districts. Very considerable works have been designed, both for Larnaca and Limassol, comprising in each case the construction of a new Custom House, pier, and public offices. It had been intended to have first carried out these works at Larnaca, but a difficulty having arisen with regard to the ownership of the site that had been proposed, it was found expedient not to delay the works at Limassol, which are now making rapid progress, and it is hoped that the difficulties connected with the site at Larnaca will be surmounted by the time that the engineering staff have finished their work at Limassol.

Forests.

25. The condition of the forests has engaged the constant attention of the Government. During 1879 all that could be done was to place two English superintendents in charge of the native Forest Guards, and to make some effort to check the wanton destruction of timber. Neither of these superintendents, however, had had any training in forest work, and it was not till April 1880 that we obtained the services of a competent officer. Mr. Madon, an officer of the French Forest Department, whose services have been lent to this Government for two years, has since then been engaged in devising measures not only for the protection of the remaining forests, but also for the re-planting of some parts of the island. His reports on these subjects have been laid before your Lordship. He has laboured under great difficulties from the want of skilled assistants.

26. There can be no doubt that the destruction of the forests has very seriously affected the agriculture of the island, and this not merely from its relation to the rainfall, but from the fact that the surface-soil of the mountains, no longer retained by trees, has been washed down to the plains, thereby denuding the hills and at the same time choking up the river courses.

Police.

27. During 1879 it was determined by Her Majesty's Government to raise a corps of police in Cyprus, whose services were to be held available in augmentation of the Cyprus police, and who were also to be employed in works of public utility. Their expenses were defrayed from a Parliamentary Vote. The raising of this corps was begun in December 1879, and in a short time it was able to take many of the semimilitary duties of the police, including guards and escorts, prison duties, &c. This enabled me to effect a considerable reduction in the Cyprus police, and so relieve the Budget of 1880-1, whilst at the same time the old corps was relegated to police duties. The services of the Police and Pioneer Corps, as they were termed, were at a very early date called into requisition as guards for villages infected with cattle disease, and during the autumn they furnished working parties for road-making. When the disastrous floods occurred at Limassol on 24th December 1880 a strong wor-

king party was despatched from Nicosia, and it is not too much to say that, owing to the impossibility of getting the ordinary labourers to work, they saved the town of Limassol from a further disaster which threatened it a few days later. They carried on their labours for two months and a half, and executed a most valuable public work, which, it is hoped, will obviate a similar disaster in future.

28. In the course of the year 1880, however, it was decided by Her Majesty's Government that this corps should cease to exist as a separate corps, and that the strength of the amalgamated police should be regulated by the ordinary police duties required of them. The amalgamation was carried out on 1st December 1880, and by the end of the financial year the combined corps was reduced to the standard of the new establishment.

29. The building of a good barrack had been begun early in 1880, and the main building is now nearly completed. Although no longer required for its original purpose, it will be utilized for the public service, and a corresponding saving will be effected to the revenues of Cyprus.

(To be continued.)

TURKEY.

THE TROUBLES OF A TURKISH MINISTER.
Constantinople, November 2.

This is the eve of the Courban Bairam, the great Festival of Sacrifice. Far away near Mecca on the Holy Mount of Arafat the closing ceremony of pilgrimage is being at this moment performed by thousands and tens of thousands of Moslems gathered from all parts of the world; and to-morrow, ere they break up their encampment to return to their distant homes, they will gird for the last time about their loins the white cloth of unsullied linen which is, as it were, the uniform of the Hadjeh, and slay each mad his sheep or camel foal in memory of the ram which God was pleased to accept as a sacrifice at the hands of His Prophet Abraham, in the place of Ishmael, whom the Almighty spared in His mercy that Mahommed might be born of his seed unto the salvation of all believers. Not, however, only in Arabia, but throughout the land of Islam, its children are bound to commemorate the day by a similar sacrifice, and the poorest family hoards up its paras for weeks and months beforehand to purchase the sacrificial sheep with gilded horns; and thus become partakers in the blessings of the great festival. Woe to the debtor who is unable to pay his creditors the few piastres for lack of which the latter may be unable properly to honour the traditions of the day, for his debt shall be entered tenfold against him in the registers of heaven. Woe, and trebly woe, to the Government, the greatest of all debtors, if it fails to find for its army of dependants, pensioners, petty employes, some small fraction at least of their arrears wherewith to conform to the ancient and hallowed custom, which is better than a thousand prayers. An awkward custom, indeed, in the present times of Government impecuniousness—an awkward obligation, which costs the unlucky Minister of Finance many a sleepless night and many a trouble day. He has been working hard for the past week to squeeze a loan out of the Galata bankers, but the hearts of the Giaours are hardened, and though he is lavish of promises and guarantees, the sum which he has hitherto scraped together is far from sufficient to meet the calls upon his empty coffers.

Every day since Saturday the crowd of applicants has been growing, and to-day, as he alighted from his carriage, a passage had to be forced for him by the police through the serried ranks of some five thousand women, who greeted him as he passed in with a chorus of epithets more forcible than flattering. At last he safely reaches his sanctuary and fancies himself secure. Squatting down cross-legged on the ministerial arm-chair, he rapidly opens letter after letter, sends for one official after another and gathers from all the same monotonous response: "Para yok! there is not a farthing!" He casts a despondent glance out of the broad bay window in which he sits, looking vaguely, as if for succour, which cometh not. The autumn sun, which sheds its merciless rays upon the shabby furniture of his once sumptuous apartment, shines merrily enough outside on the large square in front of the Mallah, and over the gardens and domes and minarets of Stamboul; but all that the Minister lieth on the hurrying groups of petitioners who converge from every road upon the Treasury. The shrill vociferations of the women in the passages and courtyards below grow louder and more vehement. An office messenger comes in: "Aman! aman! mercy,

mercy! the hanoums insist upon seeing your Excellency." But I cannot see them. I will not see them. Ahmet Effendi must go to them and tell them to come back to-morrow. To-morrow they shall be paid." But the women are sick with hope deferred; they know full well what to-morrow means. Moreover, to-morrow the festival begins, and it will be too late. They have brought their beds and their food and have lived for the last four days waiting about in the passages of the Ministry. They are not going to wait any longer. Their clamour sounds harsher and nearer than ever. They are already on the stairs. The guards, who in their hearts sympathize with them, and who, moreover, have no power forcibly to oppose their advance (for woman is a thing sacred and forbidden—harem—and no man may lay his hands upon her), give way before them.

Again the heavy curtain which hangs over the door of the Minister's room is lifted aside, and the messenger rushes in, a bearer of evil tidings; "The women are on the stairs; in a minute they will be here." His Excellency draws his hand wearily over his puckered brow. It is a kindly face enough, and bears an expression rather of sadness than of indignation. For the Minister knows too well that most of these clamorous petitioners are the widows and orphans of brave men who have fought and bled for their country, and that they themselves have borne hunger and distress with patient resignation, perhaps from the last Bairam until this. But there is no help for it. It is time to escape. He gives a hurried order: "Tell them in two minutes I will receive them;" and quickly he thrusts his papers into his official sack, and slips out through a back door into a very private apartment, whence a small corkscrew staircase leads down into the court below. Meanwhile the women burst open the door of his official room and rush in, each waving her *teskereh*, or order upon the Treasury, tied on to the end of a little stick. But it is too late. The ministerial arm-chair is empty; they have been befooled. What a chorus of imprecations is then poured forth!—not only upon the unfortunate Minister, but upon the whole Government, the Porte, the Palace, the Padishah himself, and shrieking, cursing, crying, sobbing, tearing their hair, and rending their tattered garments, they rush forth again, down the passage, down the stairs, hoping still to intercept the truant Minister. But he is already safely ensconced in his carriage, rolling away towards the Porte, where he takes refuge in the Prime Minister's office.

And this is a true and faithful account of what was witnessed at the Treasury of the Ottoman Empire on this ninth day of the month of Zihidjeh, in the year of the Hegira one thousand two hundred and ninety-eight.

(From the Pall Mall Gazette.)

CYPRUS.

Saturday 3rd Decem. 1881.

The *Cyprus Gazette* No. 79 in the supplement of its issue contains a draft ordinance proposed to be laid before the Legislative Council to amend the law relating to the election of municipal councils, and to make better provision as to the assessment and levying of municipal rates and for the auditing of municipal accounts. Our readers will remember that an ordinance for similar purposes was enacted in the June of last year, and we remember it contained no more than 29 articles and the present contains no less than 109. The Ordinance of 1880 was never enforced. It was found after being made that it did not fulfil its purposes; and there has been elaborated a new one which appeals to general favour. What is especially noteworthy in respect of the new draft ordinance is the speciality it gives to the subjects of the local levying of taxes and to the auditing of municipal accounts. We fail to perceive anything in regard of the powers of our future municipalities, the clearly-cut definitions of the rights of which are plainly defined in the English law on the matter, as well as in the Turkish municipal law of 1877. We take it that in the opinion of the governing class Cypriots are very well conversant with the payment of all sorts of taxes, but that in local administration they

are not worthy of having a voice. And that the management of their civic affairs will still be conducted through the medium of the omnipotent power of orders and ordinances, directed by the crushing intervention of commissioners. It must be remembered—and we say it, we hope with grace—that the Cypriots have looked to an English administration as a tutor. They have hoped for education in local self-government. Instead of this they find the authorities apparently anxious to centralize all power—even municipal—in their own hands. For it can only be for this purpose that Cypriots enjoying the benefits of a foreign nationalization under Turkish rule are suddenly excluded by the new enactment from all participation in the direction of the affairs of the locality in which they and their ancestors have long time past been resident. The taxes will not change in respect of them; but it is found fair and political to deprive them of a privilege enjoyed under the Turks. And as the people so excluded comprise many thousands of Cypriots of whom the greater proportion are the most educated on the Island, they are therefore to be deprived of sympathy with home, of the interest felt by every man in the affairs of his native place. It may be said that a like prohibition obtains in other civilized countries; but there the foreigner may partake of the benefits of naturalization, and as foreigners do not ordinarily elect to become Turks, the exclusion can hardly be termed otherwise than altogether unjust. By this provision the class of persons affected will be rendered inimicable to the new order of things, and a considerable influence will come into being animated by hostile sentiment. They may be kept from legally participating in their own affairs but their action must be manifest.

THE CYPRUS GAZETTE.

The following are the principal items contained in No. 79 of the *Gazette* published under date of the 26th Nov:—

Mr. Charles Robert Tyser, Barr-at-Law, resigns his appointment as one of the Queen's Deputy Commissioners for Cyprus. Dated 14th September, 1881.

The following gentlemen having complied with the provisions contained in Gazette No. 55 have been duly entered in the Medical Register as entitled to practise Medicine in the Island of Cyprus.

Licensed to Practise as	Name	Residence	Qualifications Derived From
Medical men of the first class	Taylor, Herbert Price	Famagusta	London
	Malliotis, Elias	Papho	Athens

NOTICE.

Under sections 1 and 2 respectively of Ordinance IX of 1881 His Excellency the High Commissioner is pleased to notify that on and after the 15th proximo there shall be charged in lieu of the present Stamp duties the duties specified in Schedules A. and B. of that Ordinance as published in Gazette No. 74, of 29th June last, and that on and after the 15th proximo every cheque of whatsoever value and every receipt for any sum of £1 and upwards shall be chargeable with a stamp of 1 piastre.

New stamps can be obtained at the Office of the Treasurer of each District from the 15th proximo up to and including the 15th January, 1882, in exchange for stamps or stamped paper of the same nominal value of the pattern now in use.

Local Notes.

H. M. S. 'Superb' which has left this for Ays Bay will return to Larnaca on the 19th inst. and leave on the following day for Malta.

Mr Fairfield, accompanied by the Chief Secretary, has arrived in Larnaca on Tuesday. They left next morning by the "Superb" for Famagusta. Col. Dumaresq Commanding R. E. arrived by the "Superb" from Limassol and also proceeded to Famagusta.

A curious legal circumstance is to be heard, to-day, by the Commercial Court of Larnaca. Mr. Freige, from the opposite coast, obtained a passenger ticket at Limassol, for Peyrou from the agency of the Austrian Lloyd's. The steamer not having touched the port, the exodus was not made. Mr. Freige has entered a claim for £25 per day for the 15 days during which he was detained here before the arrival of a fresh steamer.

"A Churchman," writing to the *Times*, says:—"By the sudden death of Bishop Barclay, the Jerusalem bishopric has once more become vacant, and this time the appointment rests with the King of Prussia. It is not likely that he will appoint and continue to pay an Anglican Bishop, and we may expect that the official connexion between the two Churches of England and Prussia will be shortly dissolved. I pointed out in my former letter that the real episcopal work in this missionary diocese is not sufficient to occupy more than a very small part of the year, and proposed that the Bishop of Gibraltar, who comes as far as Cyprus might very well undertake the additional work hitherto done by the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem."

We regret to mention the departure from Cyprus of Mr. C. Goussios, late manager of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank here. Mr. Goussios has received an appointment as manager of the Alexandria branch. He has been amongst us for some time past and in all classes of society has gained esteem and popularity. Mrs. Goussios, also will not be forgotten with us. She has been active in works of beneficence and her soirées have always been recognised as a centre of the best society.

On Tuesday last Nicolacki Michail a Muleteer was fined ten Shillings by the Daavi Court of Larnaca for having conveyed a letter, not exempted from the exclusive privilege of the Island Postmaster, between Nicosia and Larnaca.

NICOSIA HARRIERS.

MEETS FOR DECEMBER, 1881.

2nd Friday	Larnaca Road (4th Milestone)	2.30 p.m.
7th Wednesday	Nicosia Race-Course	7 a.m.
9th Friday	Wooden Bridge Famagusta Road	2.30 p.m.
14th Wednesday	The Kermela	7 a.m.
16th Friday	Laskia	2.30 p.m.
21st Wednesday	Staff Hut	7 a.m.
23rd Friday	Husseini Eff's Chiflik	2.30 p.m.
28th Wednesday	Larnaca Gate	7 a.m.
30th Friday	Thalassa Chiflik	2.30 p.m.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
LARNACA DIVISION,

BEFORE MR. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER COLLYER.

Georgiades v. Philipson.

This case came before the court on Monday morning, the bench being occupied by Mr. Justice Collyer, who arrived in Larnaca by last week's mail. We were gratified to see for the first time Justice invested in its robes of office; and the course of the hearing showed that the new judge was capable of sustaining the respect his office must inspire. The parties presented themselves assisted by their counsel. The complaint having been set forth the counsel for Mr. Georgiades asked if he should enter into a more detailed account of the case, or whether the particulars should be obtained from the depositions of the witnesses. The court left this to the option of counsel, and it was then requested that a declaration from the defendant should be made as to whether he intended to plead guilty or not guilty. The defendant answered that he pleaded guilty but not without cause. The counsel for the prosecution then stated that if the defendant declared that he pleaded guilty without restriction and apologized to the plaintiff, he had advised his client to withdraw from the case, as it was desirable that it should be understood that no animosity on the part of the prosecution existed. The Court stated that there being question only of a personal nature, law would allow of the withdrawal of the action and that without prejudice of the question as to whether there was also any wrong done by the plaintiff, the judge could only add that in a civilized society, nobody was permitted to strike another, and that he thought the defendant might conveniently follow the course

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Constantinople, November 2.

This is the eve of the Courban Bairam, the great Festival of Sacrifice. Far away near Mecca on the Holy Mount of Arafat the closing ceremony of pilgrimage is being at this moment performed by thousands and tens of thousands of Moslems gathered from all parts of the world; and to-morrow, ere they break up their encampment to return to their distant homes, they will gird for the last time about their loins the white cloth of unsullied linen which is, as it were, the uniform of the Hadjeh, and slay each mad his sheep or camel foal in memory of the ram which God was pleased to accept as a sacrifice at the hands of His Prophet Abraham, in the place of Ishmael, whom the Almighty spared in His mercy that Mahommed might be born of his seed unto the salvation of all believers. Not, however, only in Arabia, but throughout the land of Islam, its children are bound to commemorate the day by a similar sacrifice, and the poorest family hoards up its paras for weeks and months beforehand to purchase the sacrificial sheep with gilded horns; and thus become partakers in the blessings of the great festival. Woe to the debtor who is unable to pay his creditors the few piastres for lack of which the latter may be unable properly to honour the traditions of the day, for his debt shall be entered tenfold against him in the registers of heaven. Woe, and trebly woe, to the Government, the greatest of all debtors, if it fails to find for its army of dependants, pensioners, petty employes, some small fraction at least of their arrears wherewith to conform to the ancient and hallowed custom, which is better than a thousand prayers. An awkward custom, indeed, in the present times of Government impecuniousness—an awkward obligation, which costs the unlucky Minister of Finance many a sleepless night and many a trouble day. He has been working hard for the past week to squeeze a loan out of the Galata bankers, but the hearts of the Giaours are hardened, and though he is lavish of promises and guarantees, the sum which he has hitherto scraped together is far from sufficient to meet the calls upon his empty coffers.

Every day since Saturday the crowd of applicants has been growing, and to-day, as he alighted from his carriage, a passage had to be forced for him by the police through the serried ranks of some five thousand women, who greeted him as he passed in with a chorus of epithets more forcible than flattering. At last he safely reaches his sanctuary and fancies himself secure. Squatting down cross-legged on the ministerial arm-chair, he rapidly opens letter after letter, sends for one official after another and gathers from all the same monotonous response: "Para yok! there is not a farthing!" He casts a despondent glance out of the broad bay window in which he sits, looking vaguely, as if for succour, which cometh not. The autumn sun, which sheds its merciless rays upon the shabby furniture of his once sumptuous apartment, shines merrily enough outside on the large square in front of the Mallah, and over the gardens and domes and minarets of Stamboul; but all that the Minister lieth on the hurrying groups of petitioners who converge from every road upon the Treasury. The shrill vociferations of the women in the passages and courtyards below grow louder and more vehement. An office messenger comes in: "Amani! amani! mercy, mercy! the hanoums insist upon seeing your Excellency." But I cannot see them. I will not see them. Ahmet Effendi must go to them and tell them to come back to-morrow. To-morrow they shall be paid." But the women are sick with hope deferred; they know full well what to-morrow means. Moreover, to-morrow the festival begins, and it will be too late. They have brought their beds and their food and have lived for the last four days waiting about in the passages of the Ministry. They are not going to wait any longer. Their clamour sounds harsher and nearer than ever. They are already on the stairs. The guards, who in their hearts sympathize with them, and who, moreover, have no power forcibly to oppose their advance (for woman is a thing sacred and forbidden—harem—and no man may lay his hands upon her), give way before them.

Again the heavy curtain which hangs over the door of the Minister's room is lifted aside, and the messenger rushes in, a bearer of evil tidings; "The women are on the stairs; in a minute they will be here." His Excellency draws his hand wearily over his puckered brow. It is a kindly face enough, and bears an expression rather of sadness than of indignation. For the Minister knows too well that most of these clamorous petitioners are the widows and orphans of brave men who have fought and bled for their country, and that they themselves have borne hunger and distress with patient resignation, perhaps from the last Bairam until this. But there is no help for it. It is time to escape. He gives a hurried order: "Tell them in two minutes I will receive them;" and quickly he thrusts his papers into his official sack, and slips out through a back door into a very private apartment, whence a small corkscrew staircase leads down into the court below. Meanwhile the women burst open the door of his official room and rush in, each waving her *teskereh*, or order upon the Treasury, tied on to the end of a little stick. But it is too late. The ministerial arm-chair is empty; they have been befooled. What a chorus of imprecations is then poured forth!—not only upon the unfortunate Minister, but upon the whole Government, the Porte, the Palace, the Padishah himself, and shrieking, cursing, crying, sobbing, tearing their hair, and rending their tattered garments, they rush forth again, down the passage, down the stairs, hoping still to intercept the truant Minister. But he is already safely ensconced in his carriage, rolling away towards the Porte, where he takes refuge in the Prime Minister's office.

And this is a true and faithful account of what was witnessed at the Treasury of the Ottoman Empire on this ninth day of the month of Zihidjeh, in the year of the Hegira one thousand two hundred and ninety-eight. (From the Pall Mall Gazette.)

CYPRUS.

Saturday 3rd Decem. 1881.

The *Cyprus Gazette* No. 79 in the supplement of its issue contains a draft ordinance proposed to be laid before the Legislative Council to amend the law relating to the election of municipal councils, and to make better provision as to the assessment and levying of municipal rates and for the auditing of municipal accounts. Our readers will remember that an ordinance for similar purposes was enacted in the June of last year, and we remember it contained no more than 29 articles and the present contains no less than 109. The Ordinance of 1880 was never enforced. It was found after being made that it did not fulfil its purposes; and there has been elaborated a new one which appeals to general favour. What is especially noteworthy in respect of the new draft ordinance is the speciality it gives to the subjects of the local levying of taxes and to the auditing of municipal accounts. We fail to perceive anything in regard of the powers of our future municipalities, the clearly-cut definitions of the rights of which are plainly defined in the English law on the matter, as well as in the Turkish municipal law of 1877. We take it that in the opinion of the governing class Cypriots are very well conversant with the payment of all sorts of taxes, but that in local administration they

are not worthy of having a voice. And that the management of their civic affairs will still be conducted through the medium of the omnipotent power of orders and ordinances, directed by the crushing intervention of commissioners. It must be remembered—and we say it, we hope with grace—that the Cypriots have looked to an English administration as a tutor. They have hoped for education in local self-government. Instead of this they find the authorities apparently anxious to centralize all power—even municipal—in their own hands. For it can only be for this purpose that Cypriots enjoying the benefits of a foreign nationalization under Turkish rule are suddenly excluded by the new enactment from all participation in the direction of the affairs of the locality in which they and their ancestors have long time past been resident. The taxes will not change in respect of them; but it is found fair and political to deprive them of a privilege enjoyed under the Turks. And as the people so excluded comprise many thousands of Cypriots of whom the greater proportion are the most educated on the Island, they are therefore to be deprived of sympathy with home, of the interest felt by every man in the affairs of his native place. It may be said that a like prohibition obtains in other civilized countries; but there the foreigner may partake of the benefits of naturalization, and as foreigners do not ordinarily elect to become Turks, the exclusion can hardly be termed otherwise than altogether unjust. By this provision the class of persons affected will be rendered inimicable to the new order of things, and a considerable influence will come into being animated by hostile sentiment. They may be kept from legally participating in their own affairs but their action must be manifest.

THE CYPRUS GAZETTE.

The following are the principal items contained in No. 79 of the *Gazette* published under date of the 26th Nov:—

Mr. Charles Robert Tyser, Barr-at-Law, resigns his appointment as one of the Queen's Deputy Commissioners for Cyprus. Dated 14th September, 1881.

The following gentlemen having complied with the provisions contained in Gazette No. 55 have been duly entered in the Medical Register as entitled to practise Medicine in the Island of Cyprus.

Licensed to Practise as	Name	Residence	Qualifications Derived From
Medical men of the first class	Taylor, Herbert Price	Famagusta	London
	Malliotis, Elias	Papho	Athens

NOTICE.

Under sections 1 and 2 respectively of Ordinance IX of 1881 His Excellency the High Commissioner is pleased to notify that on and after the 15th proximo there shall be charged in lieu of the present Stamp duties the duties specified in Schedules A. and B. of that Ordinance as published in Gazette No. 74, of 29th June last, and that on and after the 15th proximo every cheque of whatsoever value and every receipt for any sum of £1 and upwards shall be chargeable with a stamp of 1 piastre.

New stamps can be obtained at the Office of the Treasurer of each District from the 15th proximo up to and including the 15th January, 1882, in exchange for stamps or stamped paper of the same nominal value of the pattern now in use.

Local Notes.

H. M. S. 'Superb' which has left this for Ays Bay will return to Larnaca on the 19th inst. and leave on the following day for Malta.

Mr Fairfield, accompanied by the Chief Secretary, has arrived in Larnaca on Tuesday. They left next morning by the "Superb" for Famagusta. Col. Dumaresq Commanding R. E. arrived by the "Superb" from Limassol and also proceeded to Famagusta.

A curious legal circumstance is to be heard, to-day, by the Commercial Court of Larnaca. Mr. Freige, from the opposite coast, obtained a passenger ticket at Limassol, for Peyrou from the agency of the Austrian Lloyd's. The steamer not having touched the port, the exodus was not made. Mr. Freige has entered a claim for £25 per day for the 15 days during which he was detained here before the arrival of a fresh steamer.

"A Churchman," writing to the *Times*, says:—"By the sudden death of Bishop Barclay, the Jerusalem bishopric has once more become vacant, and this time the appointment rests with the King of Prussia. It is not likely that he will appoint and continue to pay an Anglican Bishop, and we may expect that the official connexion between the two Churches of England and Prussia will be shortly dissolved. I pointed out in my former letter that the real episcopal work in this missionary diocese is not sufficient to occupy more than a very small part of the year, and proposed that the Bishop of Gibraltar, who comes as far as Cyprus might very well undertake the additional work hitherto done by the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem."

We regret to mention the departure from Cyprus of Mr. C. Goussios, late manager of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank here. Mr. Goussios has received an appointment as manager of the Alexandria branch. He has been amongst us for some time past and in all classes of society has gained esteem and popularity. Mrs. Goussios, also will not be forgotten with us. She has been active in works of beneficence and her soirées have always been recognised as a centre of the best society.

On Tuesday last Nicolacki Michail a Muleteer was fined ten Shillings by the Daavi Court of Larnaca for having conveyed a letter, not exempted from the exclusive privilege of the Island Postmaster, between Nicosia and Larnaca.

NICOSIA HARRIERS.

MEETS FOR DECEMBER, 1881.

2nd Friday	Larnaca Road (4th Milestone)	2.30 p.m.
7th Wednesday	Nicosia Race-Course	7 a.m.
9th Friday	Wooden Bridge Famagusta Road	2.30 p.m.
14th Wednesday	The Kermela	7 a.m.
16th Friday	Laskia	2.30 p.m.
21st Wednesday	Staff Hut	7 a.m.
23rd Friday	Husseini Eff's Chiftlik	2.30 p.m.
28th Wednesday	Larnaca Gate	7 a.m.
30th Friday	Thalassa Chiftlik	2.30 p.m.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
LARNACA DIVISION,

BEFORE MR. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER COLLYER.

Georgiades v. Philipson.

This case came before the court on Monday morning, the bench being occupied by Mr. Justice Collyer, who arrived in Larnaca by last week's mail. We were gratified to see for the first time Justice invested in its robes of office; and the course of the hearing showed that the new judge was capable of sustaining the respect his office must inspire. The parties presented themselves assisted by their counsel. The complaint having been set forth the counsel for Mr. Georgiades asked if he should enter into a more detailed account of the case, or whether the particulars should be obtained from the depositions of the witnesses. The court left this to the option of counsel, and it was then requested that a declaration from the defendant should be made as to whether he intended to plead guilty or not guilty. The defendant answered that he pleaded guilty but not without cause. The counsel for the prosecution then stated that if the defendant declared that he pleaded guilty without restriction and apologized to the plaintiff, he had advised his client to withdraw from the case, as it was desirable that it should be understood that no animosity on the part of the prosecution existed. The Court stated that there being question only of a personal nature, law would allow of the withdrawal of the action and that without prejudice of the question as to whether there was also any wrong done by the plaintiff, the judge could only add that in a civilized society, nobody was permitted to strike another, and that he thought the defendant might conveniently follow the course

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in Ireland, and frequently sent to Mr. Holloway for a
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