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# CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No. 160.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th, 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 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. 6d. 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.

"Cyprus" can be purchased in Nicosia, at the Stores of Mr. Constantinides, and also of Mr. Michel Christodoulos; in Limassol at the office of Mr. Euthyphile, 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.

## Latest News.

The rumour is confirmed that the object of Mr. Malet's mission to Constantinople was to induce the Sultan to send troops and ships of war to Egypt in the event of a military mutiny.

The London newspapers published on 1st instant a Reuter's telegram, stating, on the authority of the Khedive, that the news published by the *Standard* respecting an alleged demand on the part of Mr. de Blignières for the dismissal of the Ministry is absolutely void of all foundation.

The telegram also states that there will be no change in the Ministry.

The relations between Germany and the Vatican are improving. The formal sanction to the appointment of the new Bishop of Trèves has been given by the Government.

Negotiations between Germany and the Vatican have been resumed.

The rumour that it is intended to make further expulsions of Jews from Russia is contradicted.

The Minister of the Interior in Germany has given orders for the vigorous suppression of the anti-semitic agitation.

The Mutessarif of Bayazid has been dismissed by order of the Sultan for gross corruption.

The rebellion in Albania is recommencing. Derwish Pasha has applied urgently to Constantinople for reinforcements.

Mr. Roustan has left for France to confer with Mr. Barthélemy St. Hilaire.

In the engagement near Hamamat, the French were at first defeated, but afterwards they repulsed two attacks of the natives, who lost two thousand men. The French subsequently occupied Hamamat without further resistance.

Considerable reinforcements are being embarked at Toulon and Marseilles.

The Union Steamship Coy's S.S. 'Teuton' has been wrecked in Algoa Bay. Only twenty-seven persons have

been saved out of two hundred who were on board.

An important strike has taken place at New Orleans which prevents the movement of cotton.

President Garfield's medical attendants are discussing the advisability of his removal to his home.

The result of the enquiry into the loss of H.M.S. 'Dotrel' shows that the primary cause of the disaster was an explosion of gas in the coal bunkers of the vessel.

A serious riot has taken place at Limerick. The police fired and fifteen persons were wounded.

It is stated that the Emperors of Germany and Russia will meet on Friday at Danzig.

The 'Times' states that Ayoub Khan has proclaimed a holy war against the British.

Mr. Malet arrived at Constantinople on 3rd instant.

The Indians in the territory of Arizona have killed Lieut Carr and 17 officers and men.

A detachment of Indian scouts has mutinied. A general rising of the Indians is feared.

According to the 'Morning Post' Mr. Roustan has informed the French Government that the Bey, in pursuance of orders received from the Sultan, supports and excites the Arab rebels. Mr. Roustan considers the deposition of the Bey and the occupation of Tunis absolutely necessary.

This news has since been semi-officially contradicted.

A railway collision has taken place at Charenton. Twenty persons were wounded and seventeen killed.

Sir Charles Dilke has arrived at Paris and conferred with Mr. Tirard. It is believed that the interview had reference to the Treaty of Commerce.

General Garfield has been safely removed to his home at Longbranch.

## EGYPT.

(From the 'Egyptian Gazette')

The following declaration, signed by officers of the Egyptian army has been published in the *Moniteur Egyptien*.

The general officers and superior officers of the army, forming the Supreme Military Commission, have read with grief several articles in the newspapers which calumniate the Egyptian army in declaring it to be in a certain condition of indiscipline, and especially an article published in the *Phare d'Alexandrie* of the 26-27 August 1881, No 197, which, under the form of correspondence from Cairo, states that the officers and soldiers had refused to march in a case where the Council of Ministers is alleged to have ordered the movement of certain troops for the protection of the country.

The army cannot remain indifferent to such a calumny, which is void of foundation, and cannot consent to be the toy of interested persons who are badly disposed towards Egypt.

The *Phare d'Alexandrie* has received a last warning from the Press Bureau for having published the news referred to in the foregoing protest.

Two Austro-Hungarian men-of-war entered our harbour yesterday and exchanged the customary salutes with the forts and the Egyptian flag-ship 'Mohamed Ali'.

Mr. Larose has completed his arrangement for the ensuing theatrical season at Cairo and we understand his company is composed of artistes of merit and is in every way superior to the company which appeared at the Cairo Theatre last season.

On the 1st instant the Nile had reached the level of 19 pics - 20 kirats against 18 pics 20 kirats at which it stood on the same day last year.

H. H. the Khedive left Alexandria for Cairo by special train on Sunday last the 4th inst. The Ministers, the French Controller General, the Private Secretary of the Controllers, all the heads of Departments and a large number of the most prominent residents of Cairo were in waiting at the station to receive His Highness, who held a reception at the Abdeen Palace immediately after his arrival.

It may interest our readers to learn that Sir George Elliot, Bart. has been elected member of Parliament for North Durham.

## A SECOND SUEZ CANAL.

Amongst other Egyptian projects which financiers have lately had under their notice, has been that of forming a second canal uniting the Mediterranean to the Red Sea.

Startling as the idea may at first sight seem, it will appear less so on further examination and it is by no means clear that such an enterprise would not be as profitable to the promoters as it would be beneficial to the commerce of the world.

At all events, the project is worthy of consideration, and if found feasible, the present moment when money is plentiful, and the shares of the existing Canal Company are at a premium of nearly four hundred per cent., would strike one as opportune for launching such a scheme.

Its promoters would have many advantages over those who, twenty-three years ago, joined with M. de Lesseps in his great, and as it then appeared, financially speaking hazardous undertaking. They would, in the first place, have no political obstacles thrown in their way. They would, in the next, be able to obtain their capital on far easier terms than their predecessors, of whose experience they would reap all the benefit and advantage. Added to these favourable circumstances, they would turn to account all the improvements of modern machinery. In this way an enormous saving both in time and money might be effected.

The advantage to commerce of a second canal can hardly be disputed. The delays and stoppages in the existing canal are a serious obstacle and source of trouble, even with the present amount of traffic. In another seven years (by which time the new canal might be completed), it will be incalculably worse. The tonnage using the canal in 1830 was double that in 1873, and, should the increase continue in the same ratio, in 1883 it will amount to 4,052 ships and 3,682,033 tons for the year. There have been as many as thirty vessels making the transit in a single day. The time occupied at present is on the average twenty-two hours. This, too, in traversing a distance of only eighty-six nautical miles. By having two canals, the time occupied might be reduced by at least a third. Much of the delay arises from the fact of vessels going different ways, and having in consequence to be shunted in order to pass one another. Probably, the first result of the opening of a second canal would be the adoption of an arrangement by which outward bound vessels would use one canal exclusively and homeward bound vessels the other. By this means the traffic would flow on without impediment, and the only stoppages which could occur would arise from such accidental causes as grounding and collision. Even these would be much reduced in number, as it is notorious that a large number of the

casualties now occurring arise from the necessity of passing other vessels at the sidings.

The physical difficulties in the way of making the new canal would be hardly worth considering, minimised as they would be by the experience of the past.

## THE LEBANON.

A recent issue of the "Homeward Mail" contains an interesting contribution on the subject of the Lebanon. Our space not permitting us to quote the whole of the article, we have to content ourselves with a summary. The writer commences by stating that politically and in its administration the Lebanon is as distinct from the rest of Syria as if it were an European province. Prior to 1860 the district is stated to have been a source of trouble to the Imperial Government and to other countries alike. The numerous sects were continually quarrelling one with another; and such was the state of things that in the year we have mentioned interference was deemed necessary by the Powers. These framed a constitution and nominated a Governor which official holds his position for 10 years under guarantee, and is not liable to dismissal by the Porte. Rustem Pasha, the present administrator, is by birth an Italian, and by religion a Christian. His rule, the writer says, has so far been satisfactory, but it is remarked further on that "the man is good, but the post is better." That is to say Rustem Pasha enjoys advantages which are not participated in by other Governors, in his fixed tenure of office, his responsibility to political machinations, and in other respects.

The journal from which we take our information goes on to point out that the Lebanon is divided into eight districts over each of which a kaimakan who is liable to instant dismissal is appointed. Appeal is permitted to a High Court at Hadeth presided over by Rustem Pasha in person. Its decision is final. The appointments to these Kaimakamates are made according to the predominating party in the community. For instance where the Maronite sect predominate (and they ordinarily do predominate) there will be found a Maronite Kaimakan. And so on. This plan, it is said, has been found practically to work better than having the officials throughout the districts taken from one sect. The principle is, however, beginning to assert its effect in that the weaker sects—the Druses and Moslems—are being gradually pushed out of existence by the more active and intelligent Christian. "Finding themselves supported, the Lebanon Christians are a far finer race than those of towns. No longer cringing before the Moslems, they have ceased from their old habits of submission, and instead of working out their salvation with fear and trembling, they are ready with the knife and the staff."

It is further shown that in proportion as Maronite influence increases in this country so must that of France increase and that of England decrease. The reason of this is plain. Rustem Pasha is a man who has for motto "Lebanon for the Lebanese." He is by no means fond of interference with his administration, his theory being "that his subjects are as sure of obtaining their rights under his supervision as under that of their Consuls. But there is the priesthood to be combated. In villages their power is almost despotic. "And it is probably by her priests" says the writer, no doubt correctly, "that France is feeling her way for anything she may wish to do in the far future in Syria." Of any such wish except a desire to be first in the place there is, however, at present no trace, and desire for annexation there seems none.

The Lebanon is still said to be in a condition far from satisfactory. This arises from "the poverty of the land, the over-population of cultivable districts and the uncertainty of the harvests. The chief industry is the rearing of the silk-worm, always a precarious under-

taking. Many tracts grow no corn at all and the cost of transport is excessive. Even in good years very little profit accrues to the grower unless the outside market is good, they being unable to buy up silk and grain in store but compelled to sell it at once for what price it will command." The same system which obtains among the peasants here of borrowing from the few rich individuals also prevails in the Lebanon, and it is said that many of the old, the princely families are reduced to begging on the lands which once belonged to them.

The subject on which the Governor is concentrating his attention at present is the construction of roads. It is even thought that he attaches too much importance to this branch of the public works, to the neglect of the existing evils which we have mentioned. However, good roadways will make corn cheaper and will open up the country to the east of Damascus; and his roads and bridges will remain a creditable mark of Rustem Pasha's administration. He has, also, among other things, organized a Militia, described as very serviceable and as possessing a well trained musical band second to few outside Europe and India. So skilled are the executants that they perform the latest German waltzes, a fact of which the Pasha and his people are immensely proud.

Slowly, but surely, civilization is gaining ground in the Lebanon. In Rustem Pasha the country has a fairly enlightened and certainly energetic governor who seems to be doing his best for the district over which he rules. His administration is by no means unattended with difficulties. The numerous sects all at enmity among themselves and the corruption and jealousy which surround him on all sides render his task peculiarly arduous. It is with pleasure we see a Turkish province showing signs of progress and advancement towards material prosperity.

"CYPRUS"

Larnaca, Saturday, September, 10th 1881

The 'St. James's Gazette' has an article entitled "The Condition and Prospects of Cyprus" which while warmly eulogistic of the work done by the present government of Cyprus makes a veiled attack upon the policy of the Colonial Office in regard to us. The writer must be a person interested in the preservation of the *status quo* here; and he is apparently of opinion that he scores a point by continually quoting, with what he intends for derision, a phrase used by Lord Kimberley "colonial regulations and practice." We are, however, under a Liberal and not a Conservative dispensation, and however fond the writer may be of military administrations, we, here in Cyprus, do not forget what Mr. Gladstone said in the House last year that there were many things existing here then which would not live in the atmosphere of the Colonial office. We already begin to benefit by the wise action of Lord Kimberley, the ideas conveyed in whose despatches have impressed the Cypriots with admiration and led them to recognize the true wisdom of the English Liberal administration of to-day. Cypriots welcome the announcement that a person conversant with Colonial administration will be sent out from England to study this subject, as it affects Cyprus, on the spot. We venture to think that the opinion of the expert will be directly contrary to that of the *St. James's Gazette* that "the present position and condition of Cyprus render it radically different from a colony both in essence and detail." We cannot see how it can be so when the Queen has plenary powers of jurisdiction as regards the internal administration of the island; and if the interests of the inhabitants, as well native as foreign, are to be considered, radical changes must be effected even if those few officials who benefit by the present state of things are made to suffer. That such reforms are imperatively needed the native population as well as the disinterested Englishmen on the island

earnestly recognize. As things are, all affairs are paralyzed, no confidence exists in the judicial or executive powers, and the statement, falsely disseminated, that the Cypriots are prosperous is directly contradicted by the fact that emigration is constantly going on to the opposite coast of Caramania, to Alexandria, Smyrna, Greece, etc.; while of immigration there is none; on the contrary the few foreigners remaining here of those who arrived here at the time of the occupation are liquidating their affairs and leaving us one after the other. It is fully time the truth about the real state of Cyprus should be made known to the Home Government; and that the Colonial office should not rest content with official despatches, and panegyrics like that of the *St. James's Gazette*.

In one of our recent numbers we advocated the institution of a Board or Council to decide upon the subjects connected with the work of the Director of Education. We have been glad to learn from the recently-published despatches of Earl Kimberley to the High Commissioner that the views of the Colonial Secretary coincide with our own on this point. Despite, however, the recommendation of the noble earl nothing has been done. A Council or Board of Education forms a State department in every country where public teaching is taken up seriously; and we feel an interest in knowing what are the reasons that have delayed or impeded the institution of one in Cyprus. It would seem that the Greek language appearing to Lord Kimberley the proper vehicle by which to convey instruction, there would necessarily be on such a Council or Board highly-educated representatives of the Greek community. Is this the obstacle? We hope not; but if we were to judge from the now well-known sentiments entertained by the highest authority in regard to participation by the Cypriots in the conduct of their own affairs it would not be difficult to believe in some such existing reason.

We are still of opinion that such a Council or Board would render invaluable services to Cyprus. It should be constituted, not capriciously or arbitrarily, but of persons of recognized learning who have themselves received their education at such places as will serve to them as a model for imitation here. There are, without any doubt, many such persons in Cyprus who would willingly give their services in aid of such a noble work. The first undertaking of such Council or Board would be to furnish correct information as to the general state of Instruction in the Island; for we observe from the despatches of the authorities and those of the Colonial Secretary that there exists a great deal of confusion as to this. We hardly fail to perceive how it could be otherwise, seeing that the Cypriots have always shown a great dislike to what they consider, rightly or wrongly, the interference of the Government Educational department as it at present exists without Board or Council. Without, then, the formation of such a body as we advocate to inspire confidence in the parents of the scholars all attempts to promote Public Instruction will show insignificant results and the objects for which money is expended will not be attained.

THE REPORT OF THE BRITISH POSTMASTER GENERAL.

It is universally admitted that the department of State of which Mr. Fawcett is at present the head is very admirably administered. The various services it comprises of the Post, the Telegraphs, and the Savings Banks are regarded with just pride for the

perfection to which their working system has been brought, and in the case of the Savings Banks for the peculiar benefit they confer upon the public. The annual report of the Postmaster-General has recently been published and is described as a document well worth reading. We have only seen a summary of the contents, but the original would appear to be written in the style of Professor Darwin's work on Evolution—prodigious statements set forth in a manner light, cheerful and sometimes amusing. It is easy to write down but more difficult to realize the facts that "eleven hundred millions of letters were sent and delivered during the year; of post-cards a hundred and twenty-two millions; of newspapers somewhat more; of book-packets and circulars, two hundred and forty-eight millions." "These are figures" says the *Times* "which at least imply that the Post-office has become the most widely felt and the most truly national of all our public institutions." At Christmas time, says Mr. Fawcett, so general has become the pleasant practice of sending Xmas cards and the like that "more than eleven and a half millions of letters and packets, over and above the ordinary correspondence, and four tons of registered letters, representing a total postage of £58,000, passed through the central office." The authorities are able to meet a large demand on their resources like this because it is foreseen; but they also have to be prepared for sudden calls which if the organization were not as perfect as it is would inevitably tax their capacities to the utmost. For instance "at Hull an incident occurred proving the elasticity of the postal organization under heavy pressure. The distribution of nearly 300,000 circulars, weighing 20 tons, issued by a single company and representing £2,350 worth of postage, was effected without confusion or delay in 48 hours. The despatch necessitated the employment of seven extra railway vans, and it is believed that all the documents duly reached their destination."

The dead-letter office claims many victims—not less than ten millions of letters and packets annually; and the contents of some of these when opened are startling. One of them last year contained a bank-note for £100 which had not been claimed when the report was issued, though it may confidently be assumed that it has found more than one claimant since. The story of another letter is sensational enough. It contained a cheque for £1,000, and should have been posted at the Lombard street office during the heavy snowstorm which fell in London on Jan. 18th. It, however, "was found on the 24th in the Thames, near Deptford, among some snow drift, which had evidently been carted from the City and thrown into the river."

The public have to some extent forestalled for themselves the establishment of a Parcels Post, which will, however, we believe soon be *un fait accompli*. In the meanwhile Mr. Fawcett deprecates the posting of "animal and perishable matter, such as fish, sausages, birds to be stuffed, clotted cream, fruit, yeast, salads, jellies, live kittens, and dead rats."

The telegraphic branch of the Post office has made even greater strides of advance this year than the purely postal department. The number of messages received has been twelve per cent. in excess of last year's, while the excess in the number of letters posted was only four per cent. It is only now that the telegraphs are beginning to prove a remunerative speculation. It has never hitherto been found possible to meet fully the interest on the ten millions originally spent in paying for the wires and good-will of the various companies at the time the Government took the telegraphs over; and indeed the deficit on this account amounts to as large a sum as £1,216,000. The receipts this year, however, have been £328,878, which is sufficient to defray the interest for the year, the expenses of the service, and leave a small balance in hand. The public have not yet had a six-penny rate given them, but we may expect one to be instituted, or at least the experiment tried, before Mr. Fawcett's able tenure of office terminates. The Post office has also established inter-communication by telephone in about a dozen of the great towns, "and is receiving applications from many quarters."

There is a particular beneficence about the work of the Savings Bank Department of the Post office, and, to quote the *Times*, the figures by which Mr. Fawcett exhibits forth this "enormous and growing work" "ought to be carefully studied, for they are the record of an extremely important step in social economy." Savings Banks are no new institution in England, but the fact is certain that they have never been availed of

by the class for whom they were more particularly intended: Now, however, that the people have afforded them the opportunity of depositing their monies with the State they have shown themselves very willing to avail themselves of the advantages proffered them. "There are now more than two millions of depositors; nearly three hundred new Post-office Savings Banks have been opened during the year; and the total amount of deposits has reached almost thirty-four millions sterling." The recently introduced plan of stamp-slips has been found to answer admirably; as has also the establishment of a Post-office business in Consols. "In the first four months £382,137 had been invested in Consols by 6,300 persons"; and the report adds that the sales did not exceed £7,500. "In a similar space of time more than half a million of shilling slips had been received, and more than two hundred thousand of the owners of them were new depositors, a great proportion being children from the elementary schools."

We are indebted for our information to the medium of the *Times*.

Birth. At Mount Troodos, the wife of Capt. Baker, XX Regt., of a son.

Local Notes.

H. E. the High Commissioner, Sir Robert Biddulph arrived at Limassol by S. S. *Elpitha* yesterday evening. His Excellency subsequently dined at the Club of which Messrs. Rees and Williamson, the announced editors of the forthcoming *Cyprus Herald*, are the proprietors. We are informed that, on landing, the High Commissioner was received by the Mayor and English residents of the town. It was arranged that he should proceed to Troodos to-day.

Chief Secretary's Office.

Mount Troodos, 6th September 1881.

Sirs,

I am desired by His Excellency the officer Administering the Government to inform you that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has directed that you be informed of the receipt by his Lordship of the telegram forwarded by you on the 24th ultimo, and in reply thereto, I have it in command to inform you that Lord Kimberley is unable to gather from your message the precise ground of the complaint which is made therein and which may, perhaps, his Lordship considers be due to some misapprehension.

I have it further in command to inform you that Lord Kimberley is satisfied that His Excellency the High Commissioner earnestly desires to promote to the utmost of his power the interest and welfare of the people of Cyprus.

I have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

FALK WARREN,

Chief Secretary to Government.

To Messrs.

- Valsamaki;
- Cristophides;
- Carémphyllaki;
- Pierides;
- Themistocles.

LARNACA.

The operations preparatory to the commencement of the public works here are being rapidly pushed forward under the superintendence of Mr. Phillipson. The Quarantine yard and the yard which, with the magazines attached, is to be used for the warehousing of the Island Civil Engineer's stores have been substantially walled in on their open sides. The store-houses themselves are being fitted up with shelves so that when all is arranged it will be possible to put hands readily on anything from a blast-furnace to a tempenny nail.

In regard of public works the construction of the bridges between Larnaca and Limassol is to be commenced on Monday. The road has been completed as far as Zii.

On Tuesday last the Austrian Lloyd's steamer from Smyrna called at Limassol, the merchants of that port promising sufficient freight to make it worth her while. We understand that in future the steamers of this company will always call at Limassol when the Rhodes agency is telegraphically advised by the office here that freight awaits them there.

According to a notice issued by Mr. G. Izzo, Acting Postmaster, the mails for Syria

usually despatched hence every Saturday by Bell's Asia Minor Co's steamers will be discontinued, and correspondence for Syria will henceforth be forwarded every alternate Tuesday by Austrian Lloyd's steamers direct, and every alternate Sunday by British Contract Packets via Alexandria.

#### LAWN TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

This tournament was continued on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The remainder of the first round calls for little remark except that a fine display on the part of Mr. Lake enabled him and his partner Lieut. Sinclair R. E. to beat the fancied pair, but they in their turn met defeat in the second round from Lieuts. Thornton and Le Marchant.

The final match in which the Royal Sussex were pitted against the A. M. D. was assuredly the one in which the greatest interest was exhibited. At 4.0 p.m. on Thursday, the hour fixed for the commencement of the match, his Excellency Col. Hackett, the Acting Governor, and most of the residents on Troödos were present, and throughout paid the greatest attention to the game. The Royal Sussex commenced by winning the first game of the set, but the A. M. D. quickly followed suit, —one game all. The former then secured four consecutive games and the A. M. D. next got three; but the Royal Sussex obtaining the tenth game were returned the winners of the first set. The second set fell to the share of the A. M. D. by 6 games to 4. In the third and last set of the match, when the A. M. D. had obtained 5 games to 2, the result seemed to everyone a foregone conclusion, for with such close play on both sides it seemed impossible for the R. S. to score four consecutive games. This improbable feat, however, they successfully accomplished, and even to the very end the interest was kept up, for amidst a breathless silence the game was called deuce all, advantage to the A. M. D., advantage to the R. S., and finally Lieut. Le Marchant by a brilliant and well calculated stroke, obtained the verdict game and set, thus securing for his side the coveted victory. A finer display of Lawn Tennis has, we venture to say, rarely if ever been seen in Cyprus, and where both sides were so evenly matched it is impossible to pick out one player for special praise. For the A. M. D. Surg. Maj. Craig's service was at times excellent, and Surg. Maj. Falwasser was wonderfully successful in "killing" the ball. The "boys" on their side played well together, and their returns were in some cases wonderful, the ball, apparently out of reach, being swiftly sent back over the net into their adversaries' domain, generally securing an ace; and by their excellent play towards the end of the match when all seemed lost, they well deserved the prize they won.

#### FIRST ROUND.

Lieut. Thornton and Lieut. Le Marchant, Royal Sussex Regt. beat A. C. G. Leach and D. A. C. G. Bridgman.

Surg. Maj. Craig and Surg. Maj. Falwasser A.M.D. beat Capt. Grove and Lieut. Young, R. S. Regt.

Lieut. Sinclair R.E. and Mr. Lake beat Lieut. and Adj. Saps and Lieut. Whately, R.S. Regt.

Maj. Patten and Lieut. Lawson R. E. beat Capt. Ireland and Capt. Baker A.P.D.

#### SECOND ROUND.

Lieut. Thornton and Lieut. Le Marchant beat Lieut. Sinclair and Mr. Lake.

Surg. Maj. Falwasser and Surg. Maj. Craig beat Major Patten and Lieut. Lawson

#### FINAL ROUND.

Lieut. Thornton and Lieut. Le Marchant beat Surg. Maj. Craig and Surg. Maj. Falwasser.

#### A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND.

(Continued from our last.)

#### VIII.

The "dome of judgment" is a kiosk built on the temple platform stated to stand on the spot where of old stood the "judgment seat of King David." The roof of the kiosk is supported by seventeen columns of various coloured marbles, each column surmounted by an elaborately carved Jewish capital. These columns must have belonged to the temple. Not far from the "dome of judgment" rises a cupola of Saracenic architecture called by Arabs "Kubet-en-Neby," dome of the prophet.

This marks the place where Mohammed was met by an angel, just before his ascension to heaven, and received all necessary instructions for his journey. Thirty yards distant is an elaborate monument covering the mortal remains of Abu Naboud a Mohammedan philanthropist.

El-Aksa was built during the time of the crusaders and dedicated to St. Justinian. At the taking of Jerusalem by Selim in 1519 this church, together with the remains of the temple, fell into the hands of the Mohammedans, and has been used as a mosque ever since. A corridor supported by massive marble pillars shades the grand entrance. Cemented into the front wall under the corridor is a small square of semi-transparent glass, in connection with which our Moslem guide relates a curious superstition, in a most serious manner, evidently believing it to be implicitly true. Any one starting from the pillar directly opposite, walking across the corridor blind-folded, and touching the glass with the fourth finger, may rest assured of going to Paradise at death, whatever betide. Failure in the ordeal signifies the individuals melancholy portion will be the reverse of Paradise for ever and ever. Much to the apparent satisfaction of our friend the sheik all our little party succeeded. On entering the mosque, according to Moslem custom we leave our boots at the door, and are provided by the sheik with slippers, something like snow-shoes. Mr. Sheik solemnly informs us that El-Aksa covers the ashes of the children of Aaron! We listen gravely to all his relations and somehow manage not to shew, by outward sign, the inward struggle to keep demure. Immediately within the door, on the right hand side, is a deep well. This would seem a strange addenda to an English house of prayer; yet every mosque has its well, whereat the faithful perform their ablutions before prayers. This well however is most likely one formerly used for the temple, for in their religious services the Jews had many washings and cleansings, and several deep wells have been discovered in different parts of the temple area. I must preface my remarks about the well of El-Aksa by informing the reader that upon a certain occasion Mohamed is said to have intimated that one of his followers would enter Paradise walking, while yet in the flesh.

In the days of the good and holy Omar a man was drawing water from the well, when suddenly the rope broke and the bucket fell to the bottom. The man descended to regain it, but when about half way to the bottom he discovered a door. Upon opening it he found it led into a magnificent garden. He was both astonished and delighted at so unlooked-for a discovery, and while wondering and wondering, as in a dream, along avenues of trees of unspeakable beauty, he met a white-haired old man who informed him that he was actually walking in the garden of Paradise. While thankful to the great Allah for discovering to him so easy a way to the happy land every living soul is anxious to reach, he was unselfish enough to think of the friends he had left behind, and decided to return and inform them of the newly discovered route to Paradise by which the gloomy valley of the shadow of death might be avoided. With this intent he plucked a leaf from one of the trees, and placing it behind his ear, returned by the door and well to this world of ours. Having sought and gained audience with the governor of Jerusalem he related what had happened and produced the leaf in proof of the truth of the story. The governor at once despatched a few faithful attendants to examine the well and ascertain if this wonderful subterranean garden really existed. Preceded by the discoverer they descended the well but no door was now to be found. Upon this being reported to the governor he sent full particulars of the strange occurrence to Omar who replied that without doubt this was the fulfilment of Mohamed's prophecy that a follower of his would enter Paradise without first paying the penalty of all flesh. The leaf was to be kept for a month, and if at the end of that time it still retained its original freshness, the prophecy must be considered as having been fulfilled. The leaf is said to always have retained its freshness. Hence to this day the well in El-Aksa is called the "well of the leaf" or "well of the gate of Paradise." After reciting this tradition the sheik lowered the bucket and drew some water of which we all partook. Passing down the nave of the church we pause now and again to look at numbers of beautiful marble columns with delicately carved Hebrew capitals. They are all of costly marbles. Whether to preserve them or to save the trouble of polishing (most pro-

\* Note. All eastern wells have small ledges at regular distances on either side to enable people to get up and down.

bably the latter) each column has received a coat of varnish. A few years ago two handsomely carved columns were excavated from under the pavement of El-Aksa. Each column with its capital was cut from one piece of white alabaster. The columns are still kept in the mosque but minus their capitals which were purposely destroyed because they were carved representations of human heads, and therefore to attach them to any part of the mosque would be to break the first commandment!

Being Christians the sheik seems pleased to lead us into a small chapel named after Christ, and tells us that all Mohammedans reverence the Founder of our faith as a great prophet, the fore-runner of Mohammed. They do not believe Christ was crucified but maintain that he ascended to heaven in the same way as Mohammed did after him; and we are shewn by the sheik a stone with the impress of a human foot upon it which we are assured is the footprint of Christ, this being the last spot on earth upon which He stood before His ascension to heaven.

(To be continued.)

#### Occasional Notes.

Dr. Tanner, the enterprising American physician, who is, or was, making a good living by eating nothing, has just undergone a strange process of journalistic resurrection in his native land. Not long ago there was a circumstantial account of his having met his death at Amsterdam by falling down a stair and cracking his skull—in a new place—in his haste to meet and convince a Dutch doctor who had doubted his powers of living upon air. His weight and the refusal of his body to a local hospital for dissection and other items were all duly recorded. Yet here are the American papers maintaining that he is now at home, busily getting himself up on albumen, phosphorus, and what not, for a champion fast of eighty or ninety days. The Arcthusa-like property ascribed to Dr. Tanner, of disappearing in the Netherlands and coming to the surface in Illinois, is, at all events, a newspaper phenomenon demanding early explanation.

Telegrams from Vienna describe a perilous balloon adventure in the suburbs of that city on Sunday evening the 21st Aug. M. Eugène Godard, the French aeronaut, who has made upwards of two thousand ascents, went up, accompanied by three journalists, in his great balloon, from a large pleasure garden in the neighbourhood of Schönbrunn, at a quarter-past seven. About an hour later a thunderstorm of terrible violence broke out. The following is a short account of what occurred:—

The balloon was caught in the midst of the thunder-clouds, and thrice the lightning flashed within a few yards of its terror-stricken crew. M. Godard, however, kept his presence of mind, and after vainly endeavouring, by emptying the sandbags, to steer clear of the storm, he decided to come down as quickly as possible. The balloon was then some 3,000 ft. high, and moving at the rate of thirty-four feet per second. The gas pipe was opened, and the balloon began to descend with fearful rapidity. Suddenly M. Godard exclaimed, "We shall fall into the Danube!" A fruitless attempt was made to use the anchor, but the trees were too far below and the speed too great. At any moment it appeared that they might be engulfed in the stream, whence, owing to the storm, all escape would be impossible. M. Godard hereupon cried out, "Gentlemen, we are one too many!" But as none of his companions appeared disposed to withdraw he threw overboard twenty-five kilograms of rope, and with the anchor attached to the remainder, endeavoured to catch the brushwood on the river edge. This, fortunately, succeeded, and the car was secured within a few feet of the water. "Thank God, we are saved!" shouted M. Godard, just as a tremendous shock imparted the welcome fact to his fellow-travellers. Assistance was at hand, and an hour later the whole party were recovering their composure in a neighbouring village inn. The descent was accomplished at nine o'clock near Klosterneuburg.

Mr. Gladstone has presented to the Nottingham Free Library copies of the only books of his which are not out of print—namely, "Juventus Mundi; Gods and Men of the Heroic Age in Greece," "Homeric Synchronism," "Homer," and "Gleanings of Past Years." In an

accompanying letter to the librarian Mr. Gladstone expresses his hope that the books "may serve as a token, however small, of his respect for the signal public spirit of the town of Nottingham."

#### SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS INWARDS DURING THE WEEK

AT LARNACA.

September

3rd 'Hudaverdi' Ottoman schooner 60 tons from Gaza, cargo of barley.

4th S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons from Tripoli and Beyrout, mails and general cargo.

5th 'Neolojo' Ottoman 50 tons from Damiat, in ballast.

" 'Constantinos' Greek brig 247 tons from Alexandria, in ballast.

7th 'Aphrodite' Cypriot brig, 96 tons from Alexandria and Limassol, general cargo.

" 'Despina' Greek schooner 50 tons from Mersina, in ballast.

9th S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons from Alexandria, and Limassol, mails and general cargo.

10th S. S. 'Ararat' British 1305 tons from Alexandria and Beyrout, general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

August

28th S. S. 'Simiote' British 298 tons for Limassol and Alexandria, mails etc.

29th 'Carracouchi' Cypriot 29 tons for Famagusta, stones.

30th S. S. 'Vesta' Austrian 1316 tons for Constantinople mails and general cargo.

" S. S. 'Espero' Austrian 1315 tons for Beyrout, Mails etc.

31st 'Anagnosis' Greek brig 240 tons for Tan-garog via Caravostasi, to load caroubs.

September,

1st 'Ecatherini' Greek 33 tons for Parca, cargo-wheat.

" 'Constantinos' Greek brig 288 tons for Malta via Carpas, to load wheat.

2nd 'Prodrornos' 41 tons Greek for Mersina, general cargo.

" 'Smirlic' 25 tons Ottoman for Latakiah, in ballast.

3rd S. S. 'Simiote' British for Beyrout, mails and general cargo.

4th S. S. 'Elpitha' British for Limassol and Alexandria, Mails and general cargo.

5th 'Hudaverdi' Ottoman for Candia, in barley

6th 'Neolojo' Ottoman for Constantinople, in ballast.

7th 'Eleni' Greek barque 280 tons for Carpas to finish loading barley for Gibraltar.

8th S. S. 'Aghia Sofia' British 1695 tons for Katakolo and Patras, cargo of barley.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

By the S. S. 'Simiote' from Beyrout, four-deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Vesta' from Beyrout ten deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Espero' from Constantinople and Limassol, Mr. Costomani, Barbichan, Ayinosti and 3 deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Aghia Sofia', Miss B. Shornton, Mr. Stratoulis, J. Irvit, Mr. H. Louta Herbat Lessu, J. Schillizzi, M. Zierco.

By the S. S. 'Simiote' from Alexandria and Limassol, Mr. Bor, Mr. Collier, Mr. Turner, Chetwynd, Miss Goussio and five deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Beyrout, Mr. Dray and 13 deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Elpitha', Lord John Kennedy Col. Gordon, A. S. Malteas, Mr. Demetrio, Reuci, and 13 deck passengers.

**NOTICE.**

Mr. Dray, Dental Surgeon, from Beirut desires to announce that he purposes making a short professional visit to Cyprus, leaving Beirut Sept. 3rd and visiting Limassol, M. Troodos, Nicosia and Larnaca in the order named.

**CHARLES SAMMUT-SMITH**  
No. 214, Saint George Street  
LIMASSOL.  
DEPOT OF  
**GENERAL ENGLISH GROCERY**  
Spirits, Woodhouse's Best Malt Wine,  
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**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.**  
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A Sale of Horses will take place every  
Friday at (12 o'clock) noon—at the Stables.  
A night Groom kept.  
The Proprietor will take parties round the  
Island which he knows well.  
Stables will open for business on or about  
8th August 1881.  
Proprietor Mr. COMMELINE,  
Late Pony Express.

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THIS Establishment is now under  
entirely new management and has  
just been re-decorated at great ex-  
pense. Tourists and travellers will  
find every accommodation.  
Table d'hôte daily at 12. 30 and  
7. 30 p. m.  
Charges extremely moderate. Guides  
horses and mules supplied for the con-  
voyance of travellers.

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STRAND, LARNACA.

The above has just imported a use-  
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ment of CROCKERY and EARTHENWARE;  
a large supply of the best PERSIAN TUM-  
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versal Hotel, Latroun, valley of Ajalon, (half-way  
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single broad sheet, of which the two external pages  
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neral newspaper, and is intended for readers in the  
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THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget may be or-  
dered of any bookseller or News Agent in the United  
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