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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No. 152.

SATURDAY, JULY 16th, 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.

"Cyprus" can be purchased in Nicosia, at the Stores of Mr. Constantides, and also of Mr. Michel Christofides; in Limassol at the office of Mr. Euthybulis, and in Larouca, 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.

Mr. Forster has announced in the House of Commons that the Government will propose to lend to tenants, whose rents do not exceed £30, half of the arrears of rents due for 1879 and 1880 provided the landlords give their consent (?).

The debate on the Land Bill is making rapid progress, clauses thirteen to twenty four having been passed. The discussion on the twelfth clause has been adjourned.

In the French Chamber of Deputies Mr. Delafosse criticised the action of the Government in having recalled Baron de Ring, he also animadverted on the policy of Mr. De Bagnères which he considered favoured British interests to the detriment of French interests. Mr. Barthélemy St. Hilaire stated that Baron de Ring had gone beyond his duties in his interference in the military revolt which threatened the authority of the Khedive. He added that French interests in Egypt were always an object of solicitude to the Government. The amendment of Mr. Delafosse proposing the suppression of the post of Consul General in Egypt was rejected.

A debate also took place on the subject of the treaty of commerce with England. Mr. Tirard, Minister of Commerce, said that France would insist on specific duties being stated.

A great fire has taken place at Minsk (Russia), five hundred houses were burnt down.

The Greek troops occupy Arta and Punta. Public rejoicings have taken place at Athens.

The sentence of death passed on Midhat Pasha has been commuted into exile to Arabia.

The Council has rejected the appeal lodged by Midhat Pasha against his sentence.

Telegraphic communication with Sfax is interrupted. The town was bombarded for two days and it is stated that the forts, the great mosque and part of the native quarter have been

destroyed. The population continues to make an obstinate resistance.

At the last meeting of the monetary Conference, the French and American delegates proposed that the Powers represented in the Conference should enter into diplomatic negotiations for the purpose of arriving at an understanding on the subject of a metallic standard. The Conference would then meet again on the 12th of April 1882 to arrange the monetary convention which it might be hoped, would be the outcome of the negotiations. The proposal was carried unanimously and the Conference broke up.

Mr. Shaw, Home Ruler, has refused to take office on the Land Commission. The President of the United States has feverish symptoms, otherwise his health is progressing favourably.

The latest bulletin from Washington states that the feverish symptoms have disappeared.

The Porte having given explanations respecting the despatch of troops to Tripoli, all misunderstanding between France and Turkey is avoided.

The statement made in the *Standard* accusing Saddyk Pasha of having misappropriated funds destined for the relief of the inhabitants of Scio is denied. The Scio committee assert it to be a horrible calumny.

An insurrection has taken place in the neighbourhood of Mecca. Two battalions of Ottoman troops have been defeated.

The subscription for the new Italian Loan will be opened to-day and tomorrow in London. The contractors are Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., and Messrs. C. J. Hambro & Son. According to the latest telegrams £14,600,000 is the amount that is now offered to the public, the other half will not be issued till next year. The price of issue is 90 and the interest is three per cent with *jouissance* from the 1st of July.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* contradicts the rumour that negotiations have been entered into with the Merv chiefs. It states that Russia does not desire any extension of territory. It only wishes to have secure frontiers. It is with this object that the Government has opened negotiations with Persia.

A French squadron has been despatched to Sfax, where the insurgents are stated to number fifteen thousand.

The Tunisian troops refused to fight against the insurgents and had to be sent back to Tunis.

The occupation of Sfax, Gabes and Djerba has been decided upon. On 7th inst. the gun vessel "Chacal" shelled a battery at Sfax and on the 8th instant the ironclad ships of war shelled Casbah, but reinforcements are awaited before a landing is attempted.

It is stated that tribes from Tripoli are marching to the relief of Sfax which is still being bombarded.

The insurgents attacked the French near Kreider, the former were repulsed and lost 250 men killed.

EGYPT.

(From the "Egyptian Gazette")

Telegraphic advices from the Governor General of the Soudan announce that heavy rains have fallen in his province this week, so that there is every prospect of a "good Nile."

The latest news respecting the plague is very reassuring. A telegram from Bagdad dated 24th inst. at 12.35 p.m. has been communicated to the International Sanitary Council stating that there were only ten deaths from plague within the sanitary cordon during the previous ten days, and that the disease might be considered at an end.

The Alexandria Amateur Aquatic Sports will take place about the middle of next month.

H. E. Major General Sir Robert Biddulph K.C.M.G., C.B., R.A., High Commissioner and Commander in Chief at Cyprus, arrived at Alexandria yesterday by the S.S. *Elphitha* and leaves to-day 13th inst. for Europe by the P. and O. S.S. *Tanjore*. His Excellency is accompanied by Major Biddulph, Lieut. Kitchener R.E., and his aide-de-camp, Lieut. Wisely R.E.

Monsieur Siemkiewicz, the recently appointed French Agent and Consul General, did not arrive by French mail steamer to-day 13th inst., as was expected.

M. de Martino Italian Agent and Consul General, leaves by French mail steamer on leave of absence. Mr. Machiavelli, Italian Consul at Alexandria, will be Acting Agent and Consul General during Mr. de Martino's absence.

To-morrow 14th inst. is the French Fête Nationale and we learn that the French communities in Alexandria, Cairo, Mansurah and Port Said have made every effort to celebrate the day in a manner worthy of the occasion.

[[In our last issue we gave an extract of Mr. Gladstone's concluding remarks on the Anglo-Turkish convention debate. We think it interesting to our readers to reproduce the two following long extracts from the same debate:

Sir C. DIXON. ... He thought that those who read that Convention would agree with him that it was so hurriedly drawn up as to leave it doubtful what actual obligation the country had incurred. Indeed, the language of certain portions of the Convention was of an unusually different kind. For his own part, he had never concealed his opinion as to the impolicy of such a convention. (Hear, hear.) But it was one thing to deny its expediency and another to reverse it. (Hear.) Everyone would, at least, admit that it was open to grave objections. The mode in which we acquired Cyprus was undoubtedly calculated to destroy the belief that had been prevalent throughout Europe that England did not desire territorial extension at the expense of Turkey; and the example then set had been an evil example in other parts of the world. (Hear, hear.) The Anglo-Turkish Convention was an isolated arrangement between Great Britain and Turkey alone, concluded without the sanction, and even without the knowledge, of the other Powers of Europe, and it remained without any explicit sanction on the part of the other Powers, who accepted it as a fact, but did not regard it as affecting their treaty rights. Our tenure of Cyprus itself was anomalous, and created difficulties for ourselves, for Turkey, and for the other Powers, which would be insoluble but for the willingness of the rest of Europe to keep silence regarding them. These were grave objections to the Convention, and were shared, he was certain, by a majority of that House. (Hear, hear.) But to ask the Government (hearty) to put an end to it by an isolated act on their part might have serious results on the peace of the East (hear, hear) and without expressing any opinion as to the final fate of the Convention, he would beg the House not to ask Her Majesty's Government violently to put an end to it. (Hear, hear.) The

hon. member for Burnley said that Cyprus was a bad bargain, and quoted the story of the gross of green spectacles, but Cyprus was a worse bargain, because the gross spectacles cost nothing to keep, whereas Cyprus did involve us in very considerable expense. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) But his hon. friend did not face the question what we are to do with Cyprus. He agreed with the hon. member for Portsmouth that having once taken it, we could not hand it back to Turkish rule. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend said that it would be unjust to continue the occupation of Cyprus, with the obligations attaching to it. He supposed his hon. friend meant that we ought to purchase Cyprus out and out. It was not for him in the position he held to offer an opinion on that subject; that was a matter for those who were members of the Cabinet, and directly responsible for the administration of the country. There might be a considerable difference of opinion in that House with regard to the policy of paying a very large sum of money for the purchase of the Island, and that was a proceeding against which his hon. friend as an economist might feel bound to protest. (A laugh.) The hon. member for Portsmouth, with that ability for which he was distinguished, drew a certain analogy between the case of Tunis and that of Cyprus. He could not agree with the hon. member that the cases were the same. There were not only the differences which the hon. member himself pointed out, but there was also one clearly recognized by Lord Salisbury—namely—that France as the immediate neighbour of Tunis was more interested in that country than we were in Cyprus (Hear, hear.) He agreed with the hon. member for Burnley that the isolated mode of action adopted by this country as regarded our dealings with Cyprus did set an example which had been somewhat followed by France. (Hear, hear.) He understood his hon. friend to argue that by that action we had raised up international difficulties such as France had excited for herself. That such was the case was shown by the fact that the questions put to his predecessor in his present office with regard to Cyprus were of a very similar nature to those which were daily put to himself with respect to our international position towards Tunis. (Hear, hear.) In fact, the isolated action of any Power in such a matter, without the general consent of Europe, was certain to lead to international difficulties if foreign powers chose to insist upon the very letter of former engagements. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GLADSTONE. ... With regard to what has been truly said to be the main question of discussion to-night, the Anglo-Turkish Convention I wish to observe upon the total contradiction between the argument of my hon. friend who has just sat down and the argument of the right hon. gentleman the late Under-Secretary. My hon. friend, while he fully acknowledges that no reforms have been effected under the Convention, tells us to wait, till Russia is on her way to Asia Minor, and then you will have an irresistible leverage with which to force Turkey to adopt reforms. (Laughter.) He evidently had not heard the diametrically opposite view of the right hon. gentleman, who, so far from founding the policy and duty of England to support Turkey against Russia in her Asiatic dominions on the prior execution of these reforms, founded it upon a splendid imposing commercial theory. He said it was the duty and policy of England to go 3,000 miles from her base of operations single-handed against Russia upon her continuous territory for the purpose of preventing the tremendous, ruinous consequences to the commerce of this country that would follow from Russia obtaining territory in Asia Minor where to establish protective duties. If it is our duty to prevent Russia enforcing protective duties, what becomes of our leverage upon Turkey to induce her to effect reforms? You tell her it is not her interest to do it. The right hon. gentleman says our Empire in the East is at stake in keeping Russia out of Asia Minor. But if so, what leverage have you upon Turkey? Will not the Turks read the speech of the right hon. gentleman and learn from it that your own interest in your

View will compel and constrain you to defend her upon her frontier whether she effects reforms or not? I confess I was surprised at my right hon. friend, who is a man of ability, and may look to obtain farther distinction in the councils of the Empire, that his long experience of the world has not taught him how much wickedness there is in it and the craft with which this wickedness is conducted. Depend upon it there is intellect enough in the stupidest Pasha in Constantinople to put together the two ideas that if we are told by the organs of the late Government that the Convention was founded upon the supreme policy of British interests then it is perfectly clear it is not founded upon the prior necessity of introducing reforms. Now, sir, with regard to the convention, the right hon. gentleman laid down another proposition of great importance. He boasts on the part of the late Government that they were glad to depart from the concert of Europe when in their view the interests of England required that course to be adopted. Well, I want to know whether that doctrine, if it be good for us, is not good for others also. (Hear, hear.) Can we be surprised that France has adopted that doctrine, and has in Tunis been taken measures as to which it has been certainly mildly said that Europe is not unanimous? (Hear, hear.) But if France is blessed with Under-Secretaries who are imbued with the doctrines of the right hon. gentleman she has no difficulty in finding authority for her proceeding, for she has only to boast in the face of the world that she is ready and desirous and forward to act with the concert of Europe until French interests are at stake. I am not here to pronounce an opinion—upon the measures recently taken by France in Tunis; but I am here to say that if those measures had been in their nature dangerous to the public tranquillity—say, even if they had involved a breach of the public law,—the power of England, which 20, 30, 40, 50 years ago could have manfully protested against any such proceeding, has been crippled and impaired by what was well called by my hon. friend the member for Burnley the evil example set by Anglo-Turkish Convention. (Hear, hear.) That convention to begin with was a departure from the European concert. Well, Sir, we have always said that the European concert was to be maintained, because it gave the highest authority to its own conclusions, which were capable of being brought to bear in the present condition of international law on the settlement of great affairs. But we have also said that it had a great virtue in suppressing the selfishness of an individual Power. I must say I was astonished at the reproach of the right hon. gentleman in reference to the course we took as to the proceedings of France in Tunis, following so closely as they did upon the Treaty of Berlin and upon the principle laid down by the late administration, particularly in the case of the Anglo-Turkish Convention. I would ask the House to go back a quarter of a century to the time of the Crimean War, and the Treaty of Paris. That war having come to a conclusion, the Treaty of Paris was entered into, the parties to it engaging that not one of them should directly derive advantage under it. And what followed? It secured to Turkey, 20 years of peace and the only apparent departure from the Treaty of Paris during those twenty years was the union of the Danubian Principalities—a movement in favour of liberty, justice, peace, and the stability and settlement of Europe. (Hear, hear.) That was what followed the Treaty of Paris as compared with what followed the Treaty of Berlin. Sir, we adhered to the European concert; but what we had to do was to build up a ruin which had been trampled under foot, which had become almost a by-word in the mouths of those who endeavoured to repair it. And repairing is a very different thing from upholding; proceeding upon a convention is a very different thing from entering into it. The late Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs boasts of the readiness of the late Government to disregard the principle of concert when supposed British interests were in question. But the principle of concert was the principle on which the whole policy of this country in the East had been founded for 50 years. From the time when Mr. Canning succeeded in combining three of the greatest Powers of Europe for the purpose of constituting the Kingdom of Greece—from that time onwards it was the established rule of Europe. My hon. friend says, that concert has always failed. But is not the existence of the Kingdom of Greece a direct contradiction of the doctrine he has so laid down? Concert may fail, but if it does, rely upon it that which is weaker than concert is absolutely sure to fail. Do you want a more recent instance? Did concert fail in the Lebanon? Are you not there in the heart of Asia? Working entirely by European concert, you established 20 years ago through the able services of Lord Dufferin, that political system in the Lebanon which has made it comparatively almost a model for Asiatic

Turkey, and which has subsisted there through all chances and changes down to the present time. Well, that was the principle on which Europe based its policy in the East for 50 years. England had one proud distinction, even among European Powers, whatever might be said of its ambition elsewhere.—It was, freely confessed that she had no selfish interests to pursue, and the consequence of this was to give her enormous weight in guiding the councils of united Christendom. That was the position which England held down to the year 1878. Men finally attached to British fame and British power did not scruple to act upon the principle of concert. Lord Palmerston and Lord Russell, two statesmen whose names are almost proverbial for regard to the splendour and fame of their country, did not scruple to give over to Greece the Ionian islands, and that act, which I believe to have been most wise from every point of view, did much to corroborate the idea which rested upon the precedents of a very long period of time—the idea of the justice, sincerity, and impartiality of this country at least in European questions. (Hear, hear.) Sir, that position it will be the labour of the future to regain. Possibly it will be a slow process, but while we are in our present places, and while I hold the office which I now have the honour to hold, we will labour steadily for that purpose, and will endeavour again to found the influence and fame of England upon a strict regard to international right and upon the cordial recognition of the title of others to be treated upon a footing of equality with ourselves. (Hear, hear.)

The observations of Ministers concerning the Anglo-Turkish Convention are more open to criticism. In relation to that extraordinary monument of the folly of the late Administration the Government is in a false position. They would gladly be rid of it, but their hands are tied. If, as Sir Stafford Northcote somewhat ingeniously endeavoured to suggest, the Anglo-Turkish Convention had stood on all fours with the Tripartite Treaty concluded between France, Austria, and England at the close of the Crimean War, there can be little doubt that Ministers would long since have freed themselves from any complicity in a transaction which would have been "insane" if it had not been a mere juggle. But the difference between the Tripartite Treaty and the Anglo-Turkish Convention which Sir Stafford Northcote somewhat disingenuously ignored was that the latter was sealed by our occupation of a territory where our presence is a breach of international law, while the former was merely a promise on parchment between three Powers to act together in case of a certain specified contingency. This difference, which constitutes one of the chief objections to the Convention, is at present the chief, if not the only obstacle to the annulling of the agreement which Sir Henry Layard extorted in secret from the Sultan when his capital lay helpless between a Russian army and an English fleet. What can we do with Cyprus? Sir H. D. Wolff declares that Turkey, which the Convention was to have reformed, is still in so deplorably unimproved a condition that it could not possibly be given back to Turkish rulers. Sir Charles Dilke agrees with him, and for the moment it seems as if we were to go on for an indefinite period spending twenty or forty thousand pounds a year upon the precious gross of green spectacles which constitutes all that we have to show for the spirited foreign policy of the late Government. Nothing could be more explicit than the ministerial recognition of the impolicy—to use no stronger word—of the acquisition of Cyprus. Mr. Gladstone said that in every respect its occupation was an error. It was a breach of the law of Europe, a reversal of the principle of English policy in the East, a defiance of the European concert, and it had not been justified by any practical results. The only redeeming point which Mr. Gladstone could adduce was the fact that no protest having been made by any European Power our conduct may be said to have been condoned by Europe. Unfortunately our action has only been condoned because it can be initiated. This is palpable enough in Tunis already, and Tunis is not likely to stand alone.

Sir Charles Dilke did not say that the Government had no thought of abandoning the Convention. All that he said was that, "without expressing any opinion as to the final fate of the Convention, he would beg the House not to ask her Majesty's Government violently to put an end to it." The Government can choose their own time and their own method. But we may be justified also in expressing a hope that it may be done sooner rather than later. The present administration has already had one disagreeable experience of the consequences of being too late in extricating themselves from a false position. From every point of view, it is advisable that we should rid ourselves of this "damnable hereditary" of the late Government; but especially from the point of view of the Jingoists themselves. Objectionable as was the occupation of Cyprus from the standpoint

of Liberal policy, it was less mischievous than it was to those who are afflicted with the dread of Russian aggression which dominates the policy of the Conservatives. Against that aggression Europe erected after the Crimean War the barrier of the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, and to safeguard that barrier, while the Sultan was allowed, indeed, to keep the key of his own house, each of the Powers was also allowed to affix its own lock, and without the consent of all no entry was to be made by any. The Cyprus Convention destroyed at a blow the sixfold safeguard of the European concert, and restored to the corrupt and helpless Government of Constantinople the right of admitting foreign governors, supported by foreign garrisons, to occupy and administer any part of its dominions. We could not maintain against a Russian occupation of Mitylene or even of the Dardanelles the theory that such a Convention, wrung from the fears or the hopes of a ring of corrupt pashas at Stamboul, was a violation of international law. Such a contingency is by no means impossible, and unless we are prepared to acquiesce in such an occupation, as we have been compelled to acquiesce in the invasion of Tunis, we shall have to rid ourselves of Cyprus. The difficulty of disposing of it is not insuperable. It might be restored to the Sultan, to facilitate the execution of the outstanding clauses of the Treaty of Berlin, under stringent guarantees that it should be governed on the same method as Eastern Roumelia and the Lebanon.

(From "The Pall Mall Gazette".)

"CYPRUS"

Larnaca, Saturday, July 16th, 1881.

THE WAR NAVIES OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

If we are to believe the croakings of certain of our continental critics, England as regards her fighting capacities both by land and sea, must be in a very bad way indeed. A few months ago an Austrian officer attempted to demonstrate in one of our leading magazines that nothing could be easier in the way of warfare than the invasion and subsequent reduction to submission of Great Britain. He dealt principally with what he chose to consider the inability of our land forces to withstand attack; now it is the strength of Her Majesty's navy which is being called in question. The subject was introduced to the public some months ago by "Captain Kirchhammer" in the columns of the "Nineteenth Century," and is now taken up by a French military journal on the basis plainly of the opinions of the contributor to Messrs. Kegan Paul's excellent review. What more immediately gave rise to the publication of the article in the French paper was the recent debate in the French Chamber on the naval estimates. It is not proposed by the Minister of Marine to make expensive additions to the existing fleet in this period of transition, and even Mr. Dreo confined his criticisms to condemning excessive repairs and to advocating the construction of additional swift cruisers and an increase in the number of transports. It is the question of the swift cruisers which is just now attracting attention both in England and France. M. Dreo maintained that in the possible contingency of France having to withstand a first-class naval power, this could best be done by means of such vessels as those of which he advocated the construction. Some of the statements made by the French disher-up of Captain Kirchhammer's notions derive a questionable merit from a startling looseness and a gay contempt for conventional beliefs. For instance it is attempted to delude "la grande nation" with the ostensible flattery that between the years 1858 and 1868 it was the first naval power; and "that it was only after the Franco-German war that she was obliged to content herself with the second place." Again it is notified for our information that "the maritime position of the United States is incontestably superior now to what it was in 1812 and 1814." This, at first sight, would appear to be a tolerably safe statement; yet the fact remains that it is directly the reverse of the opinion of American officers qualified to give an opinion on the subject. With, we hope, no undue assumption we confidently assert that our Mediterranean fleet alone could knock the whole of the American navy into smithereens. And may the day never be arrived at on which they shall try issues!

The writer graciously concedes to us that our navy is the most powerful in the world; and is indeed rated at one-third more so than

that of France, an admission on the part of the author which must have cost him a groan. But if there are weak points in the emanation of our French contemporary, it can also boast of the enunciation of ideas well worthy of consideration. It is held that our naval strength—great though it may be—is not strong enough for the demands which may, possibly, be made upon it; and that our strategic position is far from being a desirable or even reasonably cautious one in the event of an arrangement of affairs by such arbiters as the most recently improved torpedo or the 100 ton guns. We have points to protect throughout the world. Our mercantile marine is so wide spread that a few isolated "Thunderers" or "Polyphemus" are in the view of our critic unable to protect it.

Our interests are widespread, and protection for them should be almost omnipresent. Our worst enemies in this case are apparently those of our own household. As even to the deepest purse there must nevertheless be a bottom, which will be reached sooner or later, the constructors who concentrate their energies of evolving "triumphs of naval architecture," having displacements in five figures, and costing nearly the whole of a year's vote for ship-building, evidently aggravate the difficulties of a position which no one believes to be an easy one. No doubt a mistaken policy in building will weaken a maritime position which, if wisely dealt with, may be made an almost impregnable one. The view expressed of our strategic circumstances in general is not favourable, but is, we venture to believe, founded on incorrect assumptions. The author considers the fact that Egypt is not part of our territory an evidence of the dangers to which our trade route to the East is liable. We think otherwise. The neutrality of Egypt should ensure the freedom of the Suez Canal to our mercantile fleets in war, during which we should not be called on to protect it. The highway from England to Port Said may be patrolled by one division of our navy, and that from Suez to Hong Kong by another, neither of which need enter neutral waters. In Egypt probably the avidity of nations will come to our help in time of war. Who can say that there will not be a struggle for anything that we may be forced to let go? And 80 per cent of the canal traffic is ours now. In the case of Tunis we have already benefited by this, as shown by this very writer, who threatened us with the advance of Italy into that territory. It is almost comical to read to-day in a French newspaper, although it be in a translation, that the well-known desire of Italy to seize Tunis comprises a danger to the maritime power of England. Probably, if we counted a little more than we do on the jealousies that lurk in the ostensibly friendly relations between other Powers, as the Tunis affair has plainly disclosed to be the case, we should feel less nervous about our maritime strength, and should study such essays as the one under notice without the apprehensions which alarmists are usually only too well pleased to excite.

IN CHURCH IN CYPRUS.

V.—WITH THE MARONITES.

There must, I suppose, be something of poetry about bells. They have served to inspire alike the Poet Laureate and the humble bard who indites comic songs for the barely remunerative pittance of a sovereign a-piece. Of course these campanological utilities differ very much. For instance, there is a considerable range between the bells that "go ringing for Sa-rah" at a Margate lodging house and

The bells of Shandon.

That sound so grand on

The quiet waters of the river Lee.

or the bells which Mr. Tennyson requested to show out the "old" and usher in the "new." I am willing to believe, there is rare beauty and originality and the ring of true poetic feeling in the desire of the illustrious author of "I stood in a tower in the wet," and the only regret which tinges my feelings is that the excessive metallic clangings and bangings to which we are daily subjected in Cyprus have as yet declined to accede to the poet's wish, and up to the present have done little for the common good and towards the substitution, in this country, of the true for the false.

Among the most aggressive of the Larnaka bells which on Sunday mornings disturb the extra repose which all cleanly persons who live earnest lives apparently consider essential to the right observance of the

day is that of the little Maronite church at the top of White street.

It is eight o'clock of a Sunday morning and I make my way thither. There is nothing to describe in the little building. It is simply an ordinary dwelling-house without an upper story. I do not enter the church proper at all, but with the rest of the male portion of the congregation satisfy myself with assisting at the service in the courtyard, from which the celebration is plainly visible. As I look around me, I notice that the majority of the worshippers are manifestly poor persons. Three fourths of them belong to the weaker sex—come hither, doubtless, for reinforcements of spiritual strength: The father who conducts the celebration of the Holy Mass has a particularly weak voice and his monotonous intonation, soon induces in me a strain of somnolent reflection. I begin to think that the short course of religious-dissipation I have run, has materially widened my sympathies. I cannot be blind to the fact that these Maronites must, as those journals which happily manage to blend direputable quack advertisements with spiritual unction and contemptible and unchristian sectarianism would say, be "doing a good work." In this little army they at least do not find it necessary to descend to the adoption of the modern Whitechapel plan of salvation and to besprinkle broadcast upon men of strong sentiment but weak reason such Peace upon Earth and Goodwill towards men sounding titles as "General" and "Captain". Ye is this branch of the Roman faith able to bring within its fold those with whom the Dives of many a pharisaical church and chapel of my acquaintance would scorn to jostle. Here are the drawers of water—the deterrent influence of a legal penalty probably accounting for the absence of the hewers of wood. The poor Arab girls whom one is accustomed to meet in the street have assembled. It is evident that they are earnest in their devotions. They look neither to the right nor left of them but, having crossed themselves, they with their long-suffering faces, betake themselves to a seat apart—on the stone floor at the door-way of a minor-entrance. And now a word for these Arabs. The depths of degradation to which these poor creatures are reduced in a so-called Christian community is fearful to contemplate.

(To be continued)

Local Notes.

On the 14th inst. the French colony in Larnaca celebrated the anniversary of the National fête in a most brilliant manner. At 10 o'clock on the morning there was a reception held at the residence of M. de Castillon St. Victor, the French Consul for Cyprus, and at 7 o'clock on the evening a dinner was served up to the members invited for the occasion. M. de Castillon proposed a toast to the health of M. Grévy the President of the French Republic and to the nation at large, which toast was received enthusiastically and responded to by several others on the part of the guests present, amongst which we may mention those to the French army, and to M. de Castillon, who so ably represents France here. The Consular residence was brilliantly illuminated and tastefully decorated, and a large crowd of sightseers assembled outside the doors to enjoy the spectacle. Throughout the evening Mme. la Vicomtesse de Castillon made the honours of the soirée in the most becoming and affable manner.

At the end of the fête the following telegram was forwarded to the Minister of Foreign affairs:

Son Excellence

Mr. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères

Paris.

Les Français réunis au Consulat pour célébrer la fête nationale portent un toast au Président de la République et prient Votre Excellence de lui faire agréer leurs sentiments de dévouement à la France.

To which the following reply was received:

Mr. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères

Mr. le Vte. de Castillon Consul de France Larnaca.

J'ai transmis au Président de la République les vœux patriotiques de la Colonie française à Larnaca. Je vous prie de remercier nos compatriotes au nom du Gouvernement de leur toast et des vœux qu'ils ont exprimés.

We publish in another column a letter from Dr. Cullen of Nicosia which, we trust, will be perused with interest; we are authorised by Dr. Cullen to state that he is ready to furnish anyone with the seeds mentioned, on condition that the person obtaining the seed advises him of the result of his experiences.

Bell's Asia Minor Co.'s Steamer from Alexandria via Beyrout, arrived to-day and will in future continue to arrive on the Saturday morning instead of Sunday as heretofore, so that the two steamers will meet here. We may state that from information received the French Messageries Company have not tendered for carrying the Cyprus mails.

The eighteenth ordinary general meeting of the Eastern Telegraph Company was to be held on the 14th inst. at the cannon-street Hotel, to receive the report of the directors for the six months ended the 31st March, 1881. The company's revenue for this period amounted to £302,153, which, after deducting ordinary and other expenses, and adding the sum of £28,430 brought forward from the preceding half year, leaves a balance of £229,613. The sum of £70,000 has been placed to the reserve fund, and the total amount of reserves now stands at £392,060. An interim dividend of 1½ per cent. has been paid on ordinary shares, and a final dividend is recommended for the year ended 31st March of 2s. 6d., and a bonus of 1s. per share, payable on the 15th inst., making with the previous payments on account a total dividend for the year of 5½ per cent on the ordinary shares.

In the House of Commons on the 4th inst. Sir H. Wolff asked whether her Majesty's Government would take the initiative in promoting the convocation of a Conference of the Great Powers at which the points at issue in regard to Tunis may be submitted to the deliberation and decision of the European Concert. Also whether the circumstances connected with the acquisition of Cyprus were not made public during the sitting of the Berlin Congress in sufficient time to allow of the question being raised by the Plenipotentiaries at that Congress.

Mr. Labouchere asked whether her Majesty's Government contemplated submitting the points at issue relative to the acquisition of Cyprus to the deliberation and decision of the European Concert, before appealing to that Concert in regard to any action of the French in Tunis.

Mr. Gladstone.—My answer to the hon. member for Portsmouth is to the effect that we have no intention of doing that which he suggests—namely, promoting the convocation of a Conference of the Great Powers of Europe for the purpose indicated in his question, as we do not think that benefit would be likely to arise from such a course and we would rather that events should be allowed to develop themselves, at any rate somewhat further. With regard to the question of the hon. member for Northampton, I have to make a similar reply. With respect to the difference between the two cases mentioned in the questions of the hon. members, the facts are these. The Anglo-Turkish Convention had been signed and ratified by the Porte; it was made known confidentially, but only as a secret convention, on the 7th of July, to Prince Bismark and to the representatives of France at Berlin. On the 8th of July it was announced publicly in this House by the right hon. gentleman opposite (the late Secretary of State for the Home Department), and the Treaty of Berlin was not signed until the 13th of July. It is also a fact that there were meetings of the Congress on the 8th and before the 13th. On the other hand, no communication of the Anglo-Turkish Convention was ever made officially to the Powers, so far as I know, except the secret and confidential communication to the representatives of Germany and France which I have mentioned. I ought to state that I believe the letter making that communication now appears in the papers without anything to indicate that at the time it was confidential; but I believe it was originally a secret despatch, and that it was subsequently treated as official.

Kyrenia News.

July 11th, 1881.

Major Gordon, Commissioner of Nicosia, and Mr. Tasidjian, Chief of the Deftor Hakkani (Land Registration) Department, visited Kyrenia. The Commissioner of Nicosia was entertained by Capt. Stevenson during his short stay.

We hear that a christian girl of the village of Vassilia in this district has embraced the Mussulman faith. On her having sent in an application in the matter, she was brought before the Medjliss Idaré (Administrative Council). The Court after enquiring into the facts of the case, and it having been ascertained that the girl is not a minor, she was informed that she is at liberty to act at her discretion. We hear that the cause of her wishing to become a Moslem is attributed to the fact that she fell in love with a Mahomedan of the village in question. A

similar case took place last year with a Maronite girl of the village of Cambilli.

It is indescribable to state the pleasure and satisfaction the villages of Lapiestas and Caravas have conceived in His Excellency having appointed a teacher for the boys' and a mistress for the girls' schools in the villages above referred to. When the High Commissioner lately visited these two villages an address was delivered in which the inhabitants fervently prayed His Excellency to introduce the English language into their village. The villagers will always feel grateful to H. B. M's Government for the prompt measures which have been adopted in the matter.

We are informed that the villagers of Lapithes have petitioned asking for the establishment of a Municipality in their village. We hope that the Government will give a favourable reply in the matter. A Municipality will cause many ameliorations to be made as the streets of the village are rocky and even precipitous.

In consequence of certain repairs being made to the Kyrenia Konak, the Assistant Commissioner and the officials of the Judicial Department have removed to the Custom House where suitable rooms are afforded them.

Mr. Calonas, the teacher of the Greek school, has been transferred in the same capacity to Papho, and we are informed that Mr. Eftimiades will be appointed in his place. We believe that the new schoolmaster is an accomplished linguist.

Mr. D. Dimitriades, the son of Mr. G. Dimitriades, agent of the Imperial Ottoman Bank, and ex-member of the Daavi Court at Kyrenia, returned from Smyrna last week. Mr. Dimitriades has been studying English for several years in Smyrna, and the inhabitants of this town are glad to possess a countryman who is conversant with the English language.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Nicosia, 15th July, 1881.

Sir
I have just received from my friend Dr. Perez of Tenerife a small packet of seeds of "Tagasaste"—(Cytisus proflorus; together with a small pamphlet, from which I give a translation of what is most interesting, describing its properties, mode of cultivation and great value as a forage plant. I think I cannot do better than beg you to make known in your columns what seems likely to be of such importance to the agriculturists of Cyprus. Dr. Perez drew attention to it some years ago in the local papers. He says that it is indigenous to the Isle of Palma, one of the group of the Canaries, and that it had been cultivated for a long time, especially in the village of Paso, for the use of cattle. It seems to prefer a loose sandy stoney soil more than a stiff clayey one and that cattle do not eat so readily that which is grown on the latter. Though it will live near the sea-shore he does not consider its cultivation as profitable, unless it is planted at 500 metres above sea level and where the mean temperature does not exceed 18 centigrade. Its cultivation is one of the means of covering the tops and sides of hills with a fresh vegetable earth, which were formerly clothed with magnificent species of Pine, Hex, and Laurel which a lamentable and ignorant covetousness has destroyed (there as well as here) and thus reduced them to sterility. The most suitable time for sowing is in the summer, in the months of July and August. The envelope of the seeds being very hard and leathery, they require a long time before germination begins, and Dr. Perez recommends that a small incision be made in the coat of each seed or that they be macerated in water for a couple of days of a temperature of 40 to 50 C. before sowing. Transplanting ought to be made in rainy weather and be assisted by irrigation, and the plants ought to be at least six feet apart from each other. Looking then at the conditions under which it is found naturally, we cannot doubt that it will succeed well in any place where the thermometer does not fall below zero. It has been grown in the Eastern Pyrenees and Central Italy, and as soil and climate are so analogous in Cyprus, its acclimatization would seem to be a mere question of time. And it does not appear extravagant to say that the number of cattle to be reared and fattened upon it could be increased ten-fold by its use. An analysis of its chemical constituents prove that Tagasaste contains 1 ½ per cent Azote, while other species of the same family contain only 1.023 and the best hays of Europe yield barely one per cent, thus demonstrating most clearly its great nutritive properties.

I am, Sir, etc,
W. Hy. CULLEN.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS INWARDS DURING THE WEEK AT LARNACA.

- July
- 10th S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons from Beyrout Mails and general cargo.
- 10th 'Gul Bahri' Cypriot schooner 44 tons from Mersine with hay.
- 11th 'Eletteria' Greek brig 220 tons from Alexandria in ballast.

- 11th S. S. 'Roumelia' British 1385 tons from Beyrout and Limassol general cargo.
- 13th 'Chazili' Cypriot schooner 40 tons from Limassol in ballast.
- 14th 'Stratigoussena' Ottoman schooner 55 tons from Jaffa in ballast.
- 14 'Eda Uarde' Ottoman schooner 47 tons from Damiat with rice.
- 15th S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons from Alexandria, and Limassol. Mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

- July
- 9th S. S. 'Simiote' British 296 tons for Beyrout. Mails and General cargo.
- 10th S. S. 'Elpitha' British for Limassol and Alexandria mails and general cargo.
- 11th S. S. 'Roumelia' British 1385 tons for Alexandretta and Constantinople general cargo.
- 11th St. George Cypriot bombarde 36 tons for Alexandrette in ballast.
- 14th 'Marencis', Italian brig 189 tons for Acre in ballast.
- 14th 'Gul Bahri' Cypriot schooner for Limassol with hay.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

- By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Beyrout—Messrs. Fazy and Gounopulo and six deck passengers.
- By the S. S. Roumelia from Liverpool, Syria and Limassol—Mrs. Harvey and Mr. Perkins Junr.
- By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Alexandria and Limassol.—Messrs. S. Ganopulo, T. Constantinides, D. Simionidis, Angeludi, Nicolaidi, C. Caridi, G. A. Perides, Hazzai Jani, and six deck passengers.

LIMASSOL ARRIVALS.

- July
- 8th S. S. 'Simiote' British 296 tons, from Larnaca, mails and general cargo.
- 8th 'Irene' 39 Cypriot schooner from Damiat in ballast.
- 13th 'Merianthousa' 54 tons, Cypriot schooner from Alexandria general cargo.
- 10th S. S. 'Elpitha' British 462 tons from Larnaca, mails and general cargo.
- 10th S. S. 'Roumelia' British from Syrian Coast and Alexandria Government stores.
- 10th 'Chazili' 40 tons Cypriot schooner from Larnaca general cargo.
- 18th 'Evangelistrie' 45 tons Ottoman from Foniiki with wood.
- 13th 'Eftikia' 33 tons Greek from Port Said in ballast.
- 15th S. S. 'Elpitha' British, 462 tons, from Alexandria mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

- July
- 8th S. S. 'Simiote' British for Larnaca Mails and general cargo.
- 9th 'Evangelistrie' 45 tons Ottoman brig for Papho with wine.
- 10th S. S. 'Elpitha' 462 tons, British, for Alexandria, mails and general cargo.
- 10th S. S. 'Roumelia' British for Larnaca general cargo.
- 11th 'Naam' 40 tons for Beyrout with wine.
- 12th 'Evangelistrie' 45 tons for Rhodes, general cargo.
- 13th 'Evangelistrie' 35 tons for Beyrout with plates.
- 19th 'Evangelistrie' 28 tons for Saida general cargo.
- 15th S. S. 'Elpitha' British for Larnaca mails and general cargo.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

- By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Larnaca—Madame Peristiani, Mr. Jassonides, Mr. N. Nicolaidi, Miss Mihailo Loisides, Mr. Yazidzian and 27 deck passengers.
- By the S. S. 'Elpitha' from Alexandria—Mr. Reive, Lieut. J. Dickenson, R.E., wife and 5 children and 4 deck passengers.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

PAPAYANNI & CO'S STEAMERS.

The *Macedonia* Capt. Marsh will arrive at Cyprus on or about 22nd inst. For freight, etc. apply to:
CHARLES WATKINS,
IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK.

COMMERCIAL COURT FOR CYPRUS.

BANKRUPTCY OF ALEXANDRI PROCOPIOU, Merchant.

At the demand of Mr. A. Procopiou and by Judgment of this Commercial Court sub No. 114 dated this day, the latter is declared bankrupt.

The day of the cessation of payment has been fixed to be the 14th of last March.

The undersigned has been appointed *Juge Commissaire*. Mr. C. Vondiziano has been named provisional Syndic.

Therefore apparents creditors of the said Bankruptcy are to deposit their titles in the Registry of the Commercial Court, and to attend a meeting at the Chamber of the said Court on Friday 10/22nd July instant at 9 o'clock a. m. to deliberate and confirm, or change the Syndic in accordance with 170 art. of the Commercial Code.

Larnaca, 12th July 1881.

ABMET HIKMET,
Juge Commissaire.

THE EASTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

The Telegraph Office on Mount Troodos is now open to the public for the summer months.

June 25th, 1881.

ALBERT HOTEL NICOSIA.

Proprietor:

Mr. JOHN SOLOMIDES.

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

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

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

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THE UNDERSIGNED begs to inform the public that from the first of June next, he will re-open for the fourth season the

HOTEL VICTORIA,

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Visitors will be sure to find there all comfort. The Hotel is situated on the loftiest part of the mountain and the climate is specially recommended by the faculty as being the healthiest in Mount Lebanon.

The carriages of the "Diligence" Company carry visitors from Beyrouth to the Hotel's door in three hours at a very moderate charge.

For further information apply to the proprietor.

BEYROUTH, 1st March 1881.

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PROPRIETOR of Howard's Hotel, Jaffa; Howard's Hotel, Jerusalem and Howard's Universal Hotel, Larnaca, valley of Ajalon, (half-way to Jerusalem) has the largest and best supply of tents and equipment for Syrian Travel. Efficient dragomen and escorts provided. Greatest advantages given to all classes of travellers visiting the Holy Land, by direct engagement at Jaffa, or by contract made at my Cairo branch office, in the Esbekieh, opposite Shepherd's Hotel, during the winter season.

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THE LEVANT HERALD.

ESTABLISHED IN 1856.

THE LEVANT HERALD is at present published under the title of *The Constantinople Messenger*. It is the oldest newspaper published in Constantinople.

THE LEVANT HERALD is published daily on a single broad sheet, of which the two external pages are devoted to advertisements, and the inner pages, one English and one French, to general news. The daily edition of the *Levant Herald* has the character of a general newspaper, and is intended for readers in the East.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget consists of sixteen to twenty-four pages. It is published every Wednesday in winter and every Tuesday in summer. It contains only Eastern matter selected from the columns of the daily issue, and is a *Levant* newspaper specially designed for readers not residing in the Levant.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget contains from two to four pages of Commercial information gleaned from the best authorities and carefully collated and edited. Merchants engaged in trade with the Levant will find the *Levant Herald* a valuable and trustworthy business record.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget contains provincial correspondence, reviews of the Turkish press sketches of Eastern life, and much extractable matter which renders it of great utility to the Editors of Country papers, to whom it is confidently recommended.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget will be sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on the following terms: Three months, 15s; Six months, 25s. 6d; Twelve months 42s. Orders and post office orders to be made payable to EDGAR WRIGHTER, Constantinople.

THE LEVANT HERALD weekly budget may be ordered of any bookseller or News Agent in the United Kingdom or of Messrs. George Street & Co., 20 Cornhill, London: the Agents for the paper. Subscriptions and advertisements are received at the Office of *Cyprus* for the *Levant Herald*.

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

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

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The proprietor, Mr. Liassides supplies also special conveyances for Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagousta, Kyrenia and for excursions; these may be hired either in Nicosia or Larnaca.

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„ Larnaca for Beyrouth every Saturday, at 4 p. m.

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Hocks—Qts and Pts.

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Sherry—Amontillado, Palo Dry, Red Seal, White do.

Lion Brand, Black Seal Parkingtons, Best Marsala in octaves.

Brandy—Courvoisiers Curlier freres, Sticards *, **, and ***, cherry Brandy.

Whiskies—Coyle and Co., Old Dublin, Danvilles "Old Dublin, Rob Roy Scotch, Thom and Cameron do.

Gins—Plymouth double refined, Holland's De Kaypers

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Jams and Marmalade—Apple and Lemon, Gooseberry and Plum, Raspberry and Currant, Apricot, Strawberry, and cherry, Crockage, Currant and damson, Marmalade in 2 lbs. and 7 lbs. tins, Calves, foot Jelly.

Peck Frean's 2 lbs. 2 lbs., and 5 lbs. tins of Prince of Wales, Cracker, Charm, Picnic snow Flake, milk, etc.

Discuits.

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An assortment of Horse and Dog Medicines, consisting of Distemper powders, Mange ointment and powders, Valdress powders and soaps, Leaming's essence, Cupress's Balls for Horses, Goslings cough balls, do. denition powders, Days Gascour Fluid, do. Red drenches, etc. etc. etc.

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