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CYPRUS

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

No. 140. SATURDAY, APRIL 23rd, 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. Constantinides, and also of Mr. Michel Christofides; in Limassol at the office of Mr. G. Rossides, and in Larnaca at the Office of the Newspaper.

All letters or communications to be addressed to he 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 *Daily News* has published a telegram from St. Petersburg, stating that Skobeleff has gone east and that he had arrived at Khelat about a week ago. The same paper declares the proceedings of General Skobeleff to be of a very grave and compromising nature.

In a meeting of the Land League held at Dublin, the Land Bill was declared to be unsatisfactory.

Lord Dufferin has been appointed Ambassador at Constantinople. Sir Augustus Paget, Ambassador at Rome, will succeed Lord Dufferin at St. Petersburg and Sir Henry Layard will probably be appointed Ambassador at Rome.

The Basutos have accepted the mediation of Sir Hercules Robinson.

General Kauffman has had a paralytic stroke.

It is stated that the Turkomans have captured the fort Naru-Kissar, on the road to Merv, and have massacred the garrison.

According to a despatch from General Skobeleff the submission of Tikmar and other sirdars puts an end to the expedition against the Tekke Turkomans.

In the event of war between Greece and Turkey there is every reason to believe that the Powers have agreed not to allow the Turkish fleet to bombard the Greek coast, and also to exempt Athens from attack. At the same time, the Turks, if victorious, would be free to name their own indemnity, and the frontier would remain the same as before the hostilities.

From Hungary the news received at Vienna was of the most distressing character. The dikes at Szegedin were beginning to leak, and terrible accounts were given of effects of the floods in the surrounding neighbourhood. The town of Csongrad was reported to be under water.

General Skobeleff has forwarded a despatch to the Grand Duke Michael announcing the close of the expedition against the Tekke Turkomans.

In reply to the Bey of Tunis, the Turkish Premier has stated that should the necessity arise the Porte would feel bound to protect its rights as suzerain of Tunis.

According to the latest returns, the casualties from the earthquake at Scio in all parts of the island are 8,000 killed and 10,000 injured. The locality which has suffered most is Nevita, where 1,200 persons have lost their lives. The violent shock which was experienced on Monday caused the surface of the ground to subside one metre. Great numbers of the inhabitants are emigrating from the island.

EGYPT.

(From "The Egyptian Gazette".)

On 12th inst. Dr. Bimsenstein, Ottoman Sanitary Delegate, communicated to the International Sanitary Council two telegrams respecting the preventive measures taken by the Ottoman Sanitary authorities in the districts of Mesopotamia infected by plague.

One telegram is dated 8th March and is from the Inspector General to Dr. Zitterer, the Sanitary Inspector at Bagdad. Instructions are given to establish a strict sanitary cordon round Nedjeff, Djaara and other infected places which no person will be allowed to cross till the disease is completely stamped out.

A second cordon will be established round the lands of the villages sequestered by the first, this combined with a system of quarantine at Samava, Mahavil and Musseyeb will form the third line.

Instructions are given respecting the process of disinfection, the burning of houses and tents which may be infected, the transfer of the inhabitants of infected districts to healthy sites &c.

The other telegram is from Bagdad dated 10th March in which Dr. Zitterer, who was at Musseyeb, states the measures that he has taken to prevent the spread of plague. In his report he appears to fear that, when the waters of the Euphrates fall at the end of March, the epidemic may increase in intensity and spread. He therefore calls upon the authorities to act promptly. His report concludes with the satisfactory information that among six hundred pilgrims who had been in quarantine at Musseyeb for three days, no case of plague had occurred.

The troops having applied for a readjustment of their rates of pay, the subject is now receiving the careful consideration of the Council of Ministers.

Mr. De Lesseps held a Conference on the Panama Canal, on 19th inst. at the Free Schools in Alexandria.

A meeting of the Alexandria Omnibus Company took place at the office of Messrs. Zogheb.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Transvaal Volksraad will meet on the 15th inst, when a proclamation will, it is stated, be issued calling upon the Boers to abstain from everything calculated to embitter the relations between the English and the Dutch. At the same many settlers are preparing to leave the country, because they are distrustful as to their safety under a Boer Government. Claims for compensation are expected to be largely made to the Commission, but the Boer leaders express confidence that every difficulty will be overcome. Eighteen hundred people met at Port Elizabeth on Tuesday night, the major presiding and passed resolutions strongly condemning the peace concluded with the Boers.

THE EARTHQUAKE AT CHIO.

Later accounts of the earthquake in Chio give a terrible description of the devastation caused by it. A telegram received at the German embassy at Constantinople states that the number of deaths is said to be 9,000, and the wounded 4,000. It is said that in all there have been 250 shocks since the first three which devastated the greater part of the island, and it is estimated that barely twenty houses now remain habitable in the whole island. The inhabitants are camping out in the gardens and fields, many of them without shelter. There is great suffering among the injured, many of whom are left unattended. Assistance is being sent from Athens and Constantinople, and subscriptions are being raised in various quarters. Mr. Goschen has sent Major Trotter to the island to assist in the relief of the sufferers. It is reported at Vienna that during the confusion caused by the earthquake at Chio the prisoner Tewfik, the translator of the Bible, who was confined in the island, escaped and got on board a British vessel on which he is now making his voyage to England.

INTERNATIONAL PHARISAISM.

There is something wonderfully edifying in the pious exhortations which some English organs just now think it their duty to address to the French. It does us good to listen to the solemn lamentations over the fact that "there is, unfortunately, little reason to doubt "that Chauvinist ambition and jealousy have "been stirred up in France, and that French "public opinion at the present moment is some-"thing more than willing to support the "Government in laying a heavy hand upon "Tunis." The spirit of aggression which had been inherited from the First and Second Empires, and which was supposed to have been exorcised, has revived, and the world is grievously disquieted "to learn that "the French people, after an interval of peace-"ful progress, have been infected with the "fever that has so often wasted their powers "and drawn them into peril and disaster." All this is well enough; but the French would have been much more likely to give an ear to such admirably sound discourses if the country from which they come was not fresh from a long campaign in the very field of policy against which we are so benevolently warning them. It is quite true that the fact that the British Government committed the folly of taking Cyprus is no reason why the French Government should set about the annexation of Tunis. But it is at any rate one among several other good reasons why England should in common decency be very slow to chide and lecture France for entering on a course which the homilist herself has barely abandoned. Curiously enough some of those who were most intent on the policy of invasion and aggression which was practised under Lord Beaconsfield's Government are now most eager for active protests against a policy of a similar complexion if practised by France. We may assume, says one of these prints, that Lord Granville will endeavour, at least diplomatically, to sustain the obviously threatened independence of Tunis. Yet this very print has barely recovered from its sense of shame and anger at our abandonment of Candahar, and the partial restoration of the independence of Transvaal, and would blaze up into inconsolable wrath if the Government were to wash its hands of Cyprus. It is not surprising that the French press laughs at such pharisaical hypocrisy. Now we begin to find out one more of the evils that were attached to the old policy. We knew already how much it cost us in money; the Budget brings that home to us, and will do so still further for some years to come. The uncompensated loss of brave men in Afghanistan and in South Africa we had also measured. What will probably be the worst drawback of all is now drawing upon us, and it is twofold. First, the example that we set by annexing Cyprus, for instance, is very naturally being followed by our neighbours. Second, the recollection of that famous exploit most effectually deprives us of such moral influence as we might otherwise have had either with France or any other Power. We are not inclined to exaggerate what moral influence can do, but it is good for something, as is admitted by those who are now calling out for diplomatic representations. Whatever it is good for, whether much or little, has been for the time thrown away by the escapades of the last four years.

If we turn to the clients whose interests it is proposed that we should undertake, the moral is much the same. We are urged to sustain at "least diplomatically the independence of Tunis." As it happens, the British Government has lately had two different clients; Lord Beaconsfield's party was the patron of one of them, and Mr. Gladstone's party was the patron of the other. The Tories were bent on doing something for the Turks, and the Liberals were as bent on doing something for the Greeks. Whatever formal and express encouragement either Turks or Greeks had from their respective backers in England, it is at least clear that each of them was led to expect help and countenance—the one to maintain the integrity of their empire, the other to procure certain great extensions. It would be a delicate question to decide whether Turks or Greeks have the better right to complain of their English friends. We can imagine that it might be said that England had done uncommonly little for either of them or even had in each case left her friends in the lurch. What does this mean? It certainly does not mean that either Lord Beaconsfield or Mr. Gladstone was not thoroughly in earnest in his desire, the one to help the Greeks, the other to help the Turks. The reason lies in the nature of things, in circumstances which are too strong for even the strongest individual prepossessions of any school of statesmen. Military non-intervention has been forced upon both parties against their will. The weight of the empire has been to heavy for them. There was, no doubt, the Anglo-Turkish convention, but then the very Ministers who made it were forced to treat it as a dead letter, and still is it likely to remain a dead letter in the hands of the Minister who only two or three days ago reiterated his former description of it as an insane convention.

We shall, no doubt, hear a great deal about the British interests that are involved. We are reminded, for instance, that "England, as "a Mediterranean Power, whose commercial "fleets run through the strait between Tunis "and Sicily, is concerned in a quarrel which "might end in the Bey's entire subjection." In the old days two or three years ago this would have been quite text enough for column after column of clamorous calls for pressure, representations, active intervention, and all the other phrases of the doctrine of "British ascendency in the councils of Europe." Well, it is something to have got well away from this. The attempt to establish British ascendency has ended in depriving us for a time of that ascendency which would rightly belong to any Great Power that could come into the court of the European Areopagus with clean hands. Meanwhile our interest in the preservation of the European peace remains as strong and as direct as it ever was. The only question is how we can best further it. That there are serious dangers latent, and not even particularly latent, in the possible complications between France and Italy is most certain. Nothing that England can do in the way of action, diplomatic or otherwise, is likely to make a decisive difference to the issue. There are two directions in which abstention may do much more good than any action of a positive kind. For one thing, the Bey of Tunis may well be allowed to look after his own independence. It is no affair of ours. For another, we shall be wiser not to tease the French by useless importunities, not to plunge into a policy which will bring them no solid gain, and may endanger much.

(From "Pall Mall Budget.")

Latest Telegrams.

London, 17th April.

The Greek government has demanded of the Powers, if the occupation of the ceded districts takes place peaceably and without delay, whether they will propose a new frontier; the actual proposed line being insufficient. Also what arrangement will be taken with regard to Greek population remaining under Turkish rule. The oppositions in the Greek Chamber condemns the government policy.

In London it is stated that the ambiguity of the terms of the Greek acceptance will probably delay arrangements.

King Humbert has called upon Sella to form a new ministry.

The St. Petersburg regicides have all been hung.

Lord Beaconsfield's state is improving and he is gaining strength.

London, 19th April.

An enthusiastic meeting was held at Athens on Sunday condemning the government policy. The popular agitation is increasing. The *Times* announces that England, India, and Canada will be represented at the metallic conference.

A *Daily News* telegram dated Merv 8th April states that a council of two hundred chiefs has resolved to avoid hostilities with Russia and Persia. King Humbert has finally refused to accept the resignation of his ministry.

After a serious relapse during the night Lord Beaconsfield died this morning at 5 without pain and fully conscious.

London, 21st April.

The Powers have proposed a convention between Greece and Turkey to fix the details of the arrangement of frontier under the auspices of the great Powers.

The monetary conference has commenced at Paris and nearly all the European States and the United States are represented.

It is officially announced that the Queen is profoundly grieved at having lost in Lord Beaconsfield an esteemed councillor and a devoted friend. All parties are unanimous in regreting the death of Lord Beaconsfield whose death has caused a great sensation throughout Europe. Mr. Gladstone offered to arrange the funeral at the public expense, which offer, however, has been declined by testamentary executors of the deceased.

"CYPRUS"

Larnaca, Saturday, April 23rd, 1881.

THE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD, K.G.

"Amid the relative calm of the political atmosphere we have been startled by one of those death-notes which are pealed at intervals as from an archangel's trumpet to awaken the souls of a whole people at once." The Earl of Beaconsfield who has so long and so amply filled one of the highest places in the public eye has shared the lot of humanity, and is laid now as soundly to rest as the poor peasant whose ideas went not beyond his daily task. The voice of praise and the voice of censure are alike hushed. These have made way for the sound of a nation's regret. And this will follow him to where he will be laid by the side of those who have made for themselves the noblest names in the history of a great nation—in Westminster Abbey by the sides of Pitt and Canning and Palmerston.

Of ripe years, full of honours, possessing the marked confidence of his sovereign, the warm support of his party, and with mental capacity in no way dimmed by time the illustrious and brilliant statesman has passed from the arena of political strife and dissension. At his town residence in Curzon street on the morning of Tuesday the 19th inst. Lord Beaconsfield breathed his last. The cause of illness—a severe attack of bronchial asthma attended with spasmodic symptoms and complicated by gout—was undoubtedly the late prevalence in England of severe easterly winds. For some days previously to March 30th the health of the noble earl had caused great anxiety, but on that day a bulletin was issued announcing that improvement had taken place. Subsequently the fluctuations in the state of his lordship's health were considerable. The spasmodic attacks, however, grew less violent, and the *Times* in its weekly edition of the 8th inst. alluded only in its summary of news to the illness in a brief paragraph to the effect that the last reports were Lord Beaconsfield was no worse, although there was a slight increase of weakness.

To tell the story of Lord Beaconsfield's life would be but to repeat an oft-told tale. His biography has been so often and so recently sketched that it is probably familiar to our readers. It will suffice if we give the slightest sketch of his career.

Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield K.G. was born on the 21st of December, 1804, and not as is generally supposed in 1805. He was thus 77 years of age when he died. Born of an opulent family of Jewish origin which came to England from Venice in 1748, his father Isaac Disraeli was a writer well known to the world by his "Curiosities of Literature", and other works which though thought much of in their day are now barely remembered. At 22 years of age he published the first volume of "Vivian Grey" which made for him at once a brilliant reputation as a novelist. The following year he spent some time in visiting Italy and the principal places of interest in the Orient. The publication of his other novels was attended by success. He did not enter St. Stephens without a severe struggle. For five years he worked hard for it, and when at last he gained the coveted position, his maiden speech was received with interruption and laughter. "I am not surprised" he said "that I am received in this manner, and if I must now sit down, the time will come when I shall be heard." How the prophecy has been fulfilled the years have proved.

In the year 1852 he was Chancellor of the Exchequer to the Earl of Derby's Ministry; again in 1858; and once more in 1866. In February, 1868, he was made Prime Minister which office he held for 285 days. His last and most noteworthy tenure of office commenced in February 1874, and was held six years and 67 days, the longest term of office with the exception of that of Lord Palmerston in 1859 since Viscount Melbourne's in 1835. Mr. Benjamin Disraeli was raised to the peerage in 1876.

The memory of the late Earl Beaconsfield will always dwell in the grateful recollection of Cypriots as that of the statesmen who relieved them from the burden of Turkish oppression and misrule. His lordship's belief in the ultimate future prosperity of the East led him, it was well known, to take much interest in its countries; and it was thought at the time England occupied Cyprus that a new and brighter era had dawned upon the Island. That all the sanguine hopes entertained then have been realized it would be impossible to admit. The late Government has now been a year out of office and what it would have done for Cyprus if it had remained in power will never be known. However radically we may differ from Lord Beaconsfield in other matters, we cannot but consider that he seemed at least to have our interests at heart. Up to the present this can hardly be said of the present liberal government.

On the 20th of next month Mr. Rylands M. P. will bring before Parliament his motion on Cyprus in regard of the reforms imperatively necessary here if English rule is in any way to benefit the Island. We greatly hope—we ask—that the Government will on this occasion express its intentions with no uncertain sound, and that we may be informed once and for all, in no vague and indeterminate manner but frankly, plainly, outspokenly what are its views in reference to the tenure of the island. Until these are known Cyprus can never prosper. The occupation of the country in the present condition of things is not worthy of English dignity, and to a progressive people like the Cypriots is a public misfortune. The fact is that under an enlightened English rule with a populatiou anxious for advancement and with ideas as unlike those of the Turks as could well be imagined, we remain stagnant and without any guarantee as to what the morrow may bring forth. In conclusion we shall hope that the liberal government will be able to crown the work initiated by the late Earl and at last to form a definitive resolution as to the future of Cyprus. The steps taken will, we trust, be such as will be worthy of England and as will be beneficial to the Island and in accord with the sentiments and interests of its population.

Local Notes.

According to a telegram received from Constantinople, Mr. de Castillon St. Victor the newly appointed French Consul for Cyprus will arrive here by the Austro-Hungarian steamer on Tuesday next, and the same day Mr. Dozon, who at present occupies the post, will leave the Island. During his stay amongst su Mr. Dozon has discharged the duties devolving upon him in such a manner as to gain for himself general esteem and popularity, and his absence from Larnaka society, as also that of Madame Dozon who accompanies her husband, will be much missed. Mdme. Dozon has always shown herself active in works of philanthropy and her exertions as President of the "Ladies" Society for the Relief of the poor will be long and gratefully remembered.

About two months ago Mr. Watkins purchased a piece of ground near the temporary hospital, which was then merely a barren piece of land, but those visiting that spot now will find that a great change has been wrought there, trees of all description both native and foreign are growing, flower beds being skilfully laid out, means for having a plentiful supply of water being adopted, that the garden promises to be in time quite a little *res in urbe*, and it only shows what a little enterprise and energy can do.

The greater part of old Larnaca has no supply of water; but a contract has now been made between the Water Committee and Mr. Constantinides of Nicosia by which the latter undertakes to lay down iron pipes to supply the whole town with water.

It is generally known that the water which flows into both parts of Larnaca was brought into the town by Bekir Pasha who by his will ordered that the revenue derived by the sale of water to private persons should serve in keeping up the sources, and retaining the pipes in order, and that the surplus, if any, was to go to his relatives.

Now the revenue amounts annually to a £100, but with the extension of the pipes to old Larnaca, and with the distribution of water to householders the revenue will undoubtedly increase. We must add that all praise is due to Mr. Joseph Habbas, the President of the Water Committee, for his indefatigable efforts on behalf of this very important work for the public good.

Three new fountains are now in course of erection in old Larnaca.

We are informed that the Reaping Machines made by Messrs. Howard & Co. of Bedford and imported by Messrs. Henry S. King & Co. are answering the purpose for which they are intended remarkably well, the farmers who are the purchasers say they can cut 30 echel les a day. Messrs. Henry S. King & Co. have also a two horse Thrashing Machine which is for use in the Messora plain as an experiment.

In a large part of the Island the locusts are making great ravages, and the rural population are complaining that great negligence is shown in the destruction of these voracious insects by the authorities who, it would seem, advance the plea that there is not sufficient money in the Island Treasury for employing labourers to destroy them. It is asserted that at the time of the Turkish *régime* greater efforts were made to rid the Island of this plague, and it is certain that owing to this negligence next year the locusts will be so numerous that it will be of extreme difficulty to destroy them. The only endeavour to exterminate this insect made by the Island Government is an Ordinance the provisions of which it has not had the force to put into execution. This is another proof that the governmental machinery in Cyprus needs radical reform.

A new *Café* will be opened on the Strand to morrow called *Café de la Poste* the proprietor of which is a Frenchman recently arrived in Cyprus. Great pains have been taken to render the establishment a comfortable resort.

We remind our readers that the Agricultural Show at Nicosia will take place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday next week.

It is announced in the Greek papers that Mr. Skinner correspondent of the *Daily News* in Greece will shortly arrive here from Athens.

The "Cyprus" is the designation of a new temperance dining room recently opened at the top of Cheapside. It is described as being beautifully fitted up and admirably situated. The proprietor is Mr. Kirkland, the manager of the People's Café in St. Paul's-churchyard.

Mr. Rylands has secured the first place on the 20th of May for a motion with reference to the Anglo-Turkish Convention. He proposes (the "Daily News" says) to raise the whole question of the obligations which that Convention has imposed upon this country with respect both to Cyprus and to Asia Minor. The resolution he intends to move will be sufficiently comprehensive to admit of a discussion on the reforms that are urgently called for in the local administration of Cyprus.

Mr. Donald Currie, M.P. (of the firm Donald Currie & Co., London steamship owners) arrived here yesterday afternoon in his steam yacht 'Courland' from Kyrenia and Famagousta, besides the owner there were also on board Mrs. Currie, Mr. and Mrs. John Currie, four Miss Curries, two Master Curries Mr. Davin Currie, Miss Bonnor, Miss Dunett' Miss Munn, and Lieut. Wisely, R. E.

A little while after the arrival of the yacht the children of His Excellency arrived here in the diligence from Nicosia, and shortly afterwards Sir Robert and Lady Biddulph on horseback, as it had been arranged that Lady Biddulph and family were to proceed to Malta in the "Courland." About seven o'clock Lady Biddulph and family embarked on board the yacht, accompanied by Sir Robert who will proceed in her as far as Papho and then return to Nicosia overland. It is expected that Lady Biddulph will be absent from Cyprus for six months

The crop of barley is now being reaped, but a disease consisting it is believed in a parasite has attacked the sheaves, and the peasants in certain parts of the island are complaining that the weight of the barley will be much less than they expected.

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THE *CYPRUS GAZETTE*.

(Published by Authority).

April 18th, 1881.

His Excellency the High Commissioner is pleased to direct the following transfer of duties:—

Merton King, Esq., from Assistant Commissioner of Limassol, to be Assistant Commissioner of Papho. Dated 10 March, 1881.

H. L. Thompson, Esq., from Assistant Commissioner Papho, to be Assistant Commissioner of Limassol. Dated 10 March, 1881.

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NOTICE OF QUARANTINE.

Under the powers vested in him by Ordinance No. X. of 1879, (formerly No XI, of 1879) His Excellency the High Commissioner is pleased to direct that until further orders all vessels arriving in Cyprus and which have passed through the Suez Canal (in quarantine) whatever be the tenor of their Bills of Health, and provided always that during their passage they have not had on board any suspected sickness or death from plague, shall be subjected to a rigorous quarantine of seven days with landing of passengers and disinfection of personal effects and of all susceptible goods.

If such vessels have had during their passage deaths or sickness suspected to be plague, the quarantine shall be raised to fifteen full days.

The quarantine will be performed at Larnaca in conformity with Section 4 of *Gazette* No. 67, dated March 23rd, 1881.

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NOTICE OF QUARANTINE.

Under the powers vested in him by Ordinance X. of 1879, (formerly XI. of 1879) His Excelleney the High Commissioner is pleased to direct that all vessels arriving in Cyprus from ports where small-pox is prevalent shall be placed in strict quarantine until fourteen days shall have elapsed from the date of the vessel leaving the infected port.

The quarantine shall be performed at the port of Larnaca.

Passengers and passengers' baggage must be landed in quarantine.

Passengers so landed shall perform such quarantine, and baggage so landed shall undergo such process of disinfection as may be considered necessary by the Superintendent of quarantine.

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The *Gazette* also contains an Order in Council providing "*Regulations to determine certain matters relating to the Collection of Tithes*" from which we extract the following article: No. 14. "The undermentioned articles are exempted wholly from payment of tithes during the current year:—

FRUITS.

Almonds	Medlars	Plums
Apples	Melons	Quinces
Apricots	Nuts	Walnuts.
Cherries	Peaches	
Dates	Pears	

VEGETABLES.

Acorns	Ideh	Sumach
Aniseed	Lentils	Other vegetables, (with the exception of those enumerated in art. 5).
Beet-root	Levana	
Canes	Madder-root	
Chick-peas	Maho	
Cummin	Maize	
Garlic	Millet	
Ground Apples	Pumpkins	
	Reeds	

Fidan or young apricot trees used or sold for planting, and *Hassilik* or green barley."

Limassol News.

21st April, 1881.

Ass. Com. General Leach and Mrs. Leach left on Sunday last by the mail Steamers on four months leave to Malta and England—he bears with him the good wishes of all those that know him and wishing him a pleasant journey, we hope to see him back again here. By the same steamer left Major Grattam, Lieuts. Trafford and Donn and Sergt. Ackland all of the 35th Regt.

A dreadful calamity has befallen the small Detachment of the Royal Engineers stationed at the Depot here. It appears that there was a standing joke between Corpls. Laurie and Snelling that whoever awoke first should go and throw stones at the other's doo: to awake him up—this was done yesterday morning at about 5 a.m. by Corpl. Laurie, who at the same time emptied his gun in the air and then hid himself behind some bamboos. Corp. Snelling who was already awake took his gun and repeated the same, not noticing that he was firing in the direction of Corpl. Laurie, when suddenly he heard him moaning and proceeding to the spot found that two or three shots hit Corpl. Laurie in the head and near the heart. He at once assisted by Sergt. Major Drew R.E. and Sergt. Adams A.H.C. who ran to the spot placed him in his bed and tried all they could, unfortunately some of the shots were mortal, as after all the means tried by Surgeon Major Steele A.M.D. who was at once summoned there, Corpl. Laurie expired at 8. 30. a. m. having lost all conscience since 6 o'clock.

His funeral took place to-day at 4 p. m. It started from the R. E. Depot, the Band of the 35th Regt. first, then all the Detachments of A. Corps, A. H. C., R. E., and 35th Regt. stationed at Limassol and finally all the officers in this town. A great number of the inhabitants of Limassol also attended the funeral as the late Corpl. Laurie was known and liked by everyone in this place. He was buried at the Greek Cemetery of Saint Nicolas, three rounds of shot having been fired before his coffin was laid in the grave. The burial sermons was read by the Rev. Garbushian.

We are informed that a Court of Enquiry is about to be held to enquire into the circumstances connected with this most sad event. The deceased, we learn, was always on the most friendly terms with Corporal Snelling for whom much sympathy is expressed; it being generally rumoured that this fatality was occasioned purely by misadventure.

Last week Mr. King late Asst. Commissioner in this District returned from his leave of absence he proceeds in the same capacity to Papho, Asst. Commissioner of Papho Mr. Thompson having been appointed to the same post in our district.

I hear that the Census taken has given the total population of Limassol as 5640 souls all included.

The S. S. "Roumelia" belonging to Messrs. Papayanni & Co. has arrived in our port with material for the pier.

Kyrenia News.

April 19th.

Ali Riza Effendi who was once a member of the Daavi Court of Limassol has been appointed in the same capacity at Kyrenia, *vice* Abdullah Effendi who has tendered his resignation.

Mr. Donald Currie M. P. is expected to visit our town shortly. The Honourable Gentleman will be entertained by the Commissioner during his short stay.

The Commissioner was out in the District to supervise the destruction of locusts. We are glad to hear that nearly all the locusts have been destroyed owing to the strict measures which had been adopted by the authorities when the insect was young.

Mr. and Mrs. Goussio of Larnaca visited Kyrenia and all the places of interest in the environs.

We are informed that Mr. Luesley will shortly start an Hotel in this town. This will naturally encourage the frequent visitors for whom it will be a great advantage to resort to this lovely and picturesque side of the Island.

SOCIAL ECONOMY IN CYPRUS.

(*Continued from No.* 128.)

In the consideration of this subject we must regard Cyprus not as it has been in the past but as it is in the present. The Island may be looked upon now as being practically bare of trees, as lacking water and having but a scanty population. At the same time we must estimate fully the value of what remain of these from by-gone ages. Particularly must we remember the yet productiveness of the soil, when, as in the present year it has been plentiful. First we may ask what are the causes of the present depressed state of agriculture on the Island? The reply is, the main reasons are the absence of capital for the promotion of agriculture in the hands of the people, the want of agricultural banks, and in a not less degree the prejudice of those who cultivate the land—a prejudice not confined to the peasantry but shared in by the large farmers who it might be supposed would have shown a little more intelligence. It may be remarked *en passant* that crass unreasonableness is displayed even by the cattle, who obstinately refuse to eat chopped straw cut by a machine more modern than the one in common use with the Cypriots and which dates back to the time of Hesiod. I had an argument with a large farmer of the country in regard to the value to him of the introduction of good modern ploughs on his farm. I referred to the fact that with these the soil could be manipulated in any way, that it would drive a small or deep furrow or leave the virgin soil which, as some say, cotton seed requires. The somewhat bluff reply I got was—"You don't know anything about it. I have proved that the Cypriot plough only is suited to Cypriot soil" If a statement like this is made by a land-owner what may be expected from the poor ignorant peasant! Agriculture is now the first and in fact the only resource of the Island; and for its developement it is imperatively necessary that means should be used if the country is to prosper. The requirements are:—

(1st) The institution of agricultural banks.
(2nd) Irrigation.
(3rd) A new organization of existing schools and the creation of new schools.
(4th.) A proper organization of the municipalities.
(5th.) That measures should be taken to promote colonization.

At another time, we shall deal more especially with the institution of agricultural banks; to-day I only propose to show that these might flourish here under certain conditions. If the climate were always as this year highly favourable to the crops, the profits of these banks would be such as would recommend them as an investment to shareholders. But unfortunately this happy state of things is by no means always the case. In our opinion irrigation must go together with the establishment of the banks; and it would, we think, be well if one company should carry into execution the two schemes.

In this case a farmer might obtain the water for his land to assure him a revenue, and the bank gain business at one and the same time. In regard to the subject of irrigation and agricultural banks we do not find ourselves wholly in accord with the opinions expressed by Sir Samuel Baker in his "Cyprus as I saw it in 1879." The rate of interest to be demanded of the agriculturists by the banks is put by Sir Samuel at 6 per cent; but we are of opinion that this rate can only prove profitable on farms where the water supply is assured. This will explain our meaning in saying the providing irrigation would best rest with the banking companies themselves. As things exist at present the small farmer is in a miserable condition. We will suppose a case. There is a small farmer in the Messaorea. His land is of good quality but he has not the wherewithal to purchase the seed it. A "Kramer" say at Famagousta learns of his case and immediately proceeds to call upon him. He inspects the land minutely, and finding it every thing that could be desired he makes the customary proffer. He offers to provide the necessary seed, pay half the expenses of cutting (which operation is never performed with a scythe but usually with the sickle, or by the hand when that form of reaping is all the meagre crop requires) and half the cost of cleaning. The poor man who is often landlord, tenant and farm-labourer all in one then "ploughs the fertile meadows" in the different furrows required, sows the seed, and with labour provided by himself and cattle of his own performs such agricultural operations as are necessary until the work of Nature only is necessary to a good harvest.

This arrived the landlord, tenant and farm-labourer all in one has to meet his expenses. He has to pay half the cost of cutting, an operation he must himself superintend and in which he shares the manual labour. His cattle carry the grain to the threshing place and do the threshing. The expence of all this, including the feed of the cattle is, of course, borne wholly by himself, he defraying too as per agreement a moiety of the cost of cutting. The capitalist and the landowner then share equally the crop and the resulting straw. Often the money-lender pays wholly for the threshing if such it may be called, in which case he takes all the straw. If it is a "bad year" the capitalist loses part or perhaps all of the money he has invested. But the poor "landlord" is in far worse case. The usurer has his other revenues to fall back upon; the farmer is without a para. Having no other resource, he is perforce constrained again to resort to his patron, the man of means, who obtains from him any rate of interest he likes to ask. Should the year be a good one the lender makes a handsome profit. Next week I propose to lay before the readers of these articles an illustration of a far worse position to which a small tiller of the soil may be condemned by the customs prevalent here in regard of land and crop hypothecation.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

(Larnaca),

Sir,

I have waited with some impatience for a continuation of the interesting notes of your former correspondent "Observer" but as he seems unable from some cause to continue them, I beg leave, as far as practicable, to take up the train of thought on which he had entered and to endeavour to point out various matters which deserve the attention of all interested in the well doing of the Island. It is agreed on all hands that the wealth of Cyprus depends on its agricultural productions and we must, as real patriots, endeavour to show our countrymen how to produce two ears of corn where one only grew before and how to turn to more profitable use what is already to be found here. Cyprus, from its geographical position, seems well adapted for the growth of various trees and plants which are not indigenous but which may be introduced with every hope of being successfully cultivated and thus follow out the same principle that has led to the introduction into the island, which may be indefinitely extended and which is followed perseveringly in Algiers and in various of our colonies.

Among other things I have had occasion to observe is that the Castor oil is either indigenous or has become acclimatized, seeing it attains a large size and becomes a tree. Why should it not be systematically cultivated? Besides the oil that, can be extracted from its seeds which is largely used in machinery and even in some countries, as India, China, and Australia, used in cooking, there is another and important use to which it might be profitably turned. The whole of the silk produced in Europe and here in Cyprus is obtained from the common silk worm, though it is well known that the mouths of other insects in various countries, especially in Central America, produce silk in considerable quantity. Among these is the Aricidy silkworm which feeds solely on the leaves of the Palma Christi as the Ricinus Communis or Castor oil was formerly called. This moth produces remarkably soft cocoons the silk of which is so delicate and glossy that it cannot be wound off but is therefore spun like cotton and the thread manufactured can be woven into a coarse kind of white cloth of a loose texture but which is of very great durability. The seeds necessary for carrying out so interesting an experiment could of course be obtained by the Island Government from India on application to the Colonial Office with directions as to management and then I would suggest that a prize should be offered for a specimen of the silk produced in the Island by worms reared and fed here.

I am Sir, etc.

VIATOR.

Occasional Notes.

Under the heading "A Radical Cure for Drunkenness," a Hungarian paper tells the following Russian story:—A workman brought a complaint against four of his fellows that they had given him twenty-five blows with a stick. The accused on being asked for their defence produced an agreement in writing, one clause of which expressly stipulated that if one of their number drank to such an extent as not to be able to attend to his work, the others were to measure out to him twenty-five blows, and that they had merely carried out the agreement. Upon this the magistrate discharged them, remarking that they were not deserving of blame for what they had done, but rather of praise.

The correspondence between Talleyrand and Louis XVIII. at the time of the Congress of Vienna, which has been already announced, will be published in French, German, and English on the same day, towards the end of April.

Victor Hugo has sent to the press "Les Quatre Vents de l' Esprit," a work which will appear at the beginning of May; it will be in two volumes, divided into four books—"Le Livre Satirique," "Le Livre Dramatique," Le Livre Lyrique," and "Le Livre Epique."

The most interesting passage in Mr. Gladstone's Budget speech was also the most discouraging. It is a new thing to hear in one of Mr. Gladstone's budgets of "the setting sun of prosperity," even although he referred not to the future, but to a past from which he, at least, has done his best to shake us free. His comparison of the growth of population, revenue and expenditure between 1842 and 1879 is calculated to discountenance sanguine hopes as to the future of our finances. The following is the table of increase per cent. during the four unequal periods which he selected:—

	Population.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1342-1858.....	1¾	1¾	2½
1859-1873.....	1	3	1⅓
1874-1877.....	1	1½	3¼
1878-1879.....	1	½	2 1-6.

The revenue is that derived exclusively from customs, excise, stamps, and taxes. The expenditure does not include exceptional votes, such as that for the Alabama award or for the six millions wasted in 1878. The comparison would have looked still worse if these items had been included, but it is bad enough as it is,

The publication of the revised New Testament is not to take place till the 17th of May, the delay being due (the *Record* says) to the difficulty of getting ready a sufficient number of copies to meet the enormous orders already received by the publishers, both for this country and for America. The literary part of the work has now for some time been complete. The preface originally written by the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, has been itself "revised," after having been submitted to each member of the company of revisers. A valedictory address to the bishop, as their president, richly emblazoned, has received the names of all his colleagues. The *Record* also states that the committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society have resolved not to come to any decision as to the measures to be adopted with reference to the new version until it has been submitted to public examination.

The *Academy* hears that 10,000 copies of Lord Beaconsfield's "Endymion" have been sold in Canada, being the largest sale which any book has yet reached in the Dominion.

M. Mario Raggi was engaged on a full-length statue of the Earl of Beaconsfield, for which his lordship had given sittings.

It may enlighten some readers to know that Lord Carlingford who has succeeded the Duke of Argyll in his office of Lord Privy Seal is the statesman whom they formerly knew as Mr. Chichester Fortescue some time a Lord of the Treasury, under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Chief Secretary for Ireland and President of the Board of Trade. He was raised to the peerage in 1874.

Ancient Nazareth is now the site of an orphanage under the supervision of the Education Society of England. It has been opened four years, and there are in it now thirty-six girls of ages varying from four to fifteen.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS INWARDS DURING THE WEEK AT LARNACA.

April

22nd S. S. Yacht 'Courland' British from Kyrenia and Famagousta.

22nd S. S. 'Fortuna' British 433 tons from Alexandria and Limassol mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

April

17th S S. 'Fortuna' British for Limassol and Alexandria mails and general cargo.

22nd S. S. Yacht 'Courland' British for Malta.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

By the S. S. 'Fortuna' from Alexandria and Limassol—Rev. Mr. Ferguson, and Mrs. Ferguson, Messrs. Page, Bromley and Henry, also 12 deck passengers.

LIMASSOL ARRIVALS.

April

17th S. S. 'Fortuna' British 433 tons, from Larnaca, mails and general cargo.

21st S. S. 'Roumelia' 1884 tons, British from Alexandria with pier material.

22nd S. S. 'Fortuna' British, 433 tons, from Alexandria mails and general cargo.

Cleared Outwards.

April

17th S. S. 'Fortuna' 433 tons, British, for Alexandria, mails and general cargo.

22nd S. S. 'Fortuna' British, 433 tons for Larnaca, mails and general cargo.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

By the S. S. 'Fortuna' from Larnaca—Mr. Williamson and 8 deck passengers.

By the S. S. 'Roumelia' from Alexandria Mr. and Mrs. Turner and Mr. Quizzon.

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PIETRO PAULICEVICH.

BEYROUT, 1st March 1881.

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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.

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Subscriptions and advertisements are received at the Office of *Cyprus* for the *Levant Herald*.

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