

MISCELLANY.

THE ALGERIENS.

At a time when the eyes of all Europe are fixed on the prosecution of hostilities on the part of the French nation against the Algeriens, we are disposed to think our readers cannot but be glad to have before them the following brief sketch of a people whose history as a whole, stands without a parallel on record.

The government of the Algeriens is despotic; although chosen by the majority of the people, all of whom have an equal right of voting; the Dey once seated on the throne, rules with the most absolute sway for the remainder of his term.

For the maintenance of his power, the Dey is attended by twelve officers, ready to execute his slightest wishes, who are called the "Mouskars," and who may accuse and arrest his officers, though often unarmed, without meeting with any resistance on the part of the officers.

His senate, or privy council, consist of a dozen members, amongst whom affairs of state are decided, in a manner somewhat after the European fashion. These ministers he elects or displaces at pleasure: in fact the Dey in his own person concentrates all the power of the state, with the exception of his authority in religious matters. He declares war, and makes peace; he imposes taxes and tributes; he is sovereign ruler over all public affairs—general of the troops, and supreme judge, both of civil and criminal cases; his will is law; nor would there be any objection to his power, but for the existence of the Deyans.

The Deyan of Algiers is nothing more than the general assembly of the ruling (Turkish) militia. With this view, this assembly should take place every Saturday, for the examination of important matters, and of the decrees of the Dey, which are not of force until approved of by the assembly.

But the stormy approval of a senate of twenty members, could not long be compatible with the promptitude, secrecy and utility necessary for the government of such an aristocracy. At present the military only make their appearance at the Deyan on special occasions, and then, without arms, they are represented by their officers, with whom are associated all the ministers and principal functionaries in the nomination of the Dey. The senate, thus constituted, consists, nevertheless, of seven hundred members, and the Dey, in consequence of his advanced age, is assisted by a young man, representing the Dey: the age of longest standing in the army presides over the meeting. The Dey opens the meeting with a statement of affairs, upon which the President gives his opinion, and afterwards the members, in succession, express their views according to their seniority. Such is the dress of the Dey, that his wishes seldom meet with any obstacle, unless in a very important affair, and when the assembly feels that the spirit of insurrection is about to break out, and that it is necessary to take the most energetic measures.

The Deyan assembles regularly every Saturday, and occasionally, by special convocation, on other days, to approve, for forms sake, the resolutions of the executive power.

The decisive and military manner in which the greatest and least affairs are equally treated in this singular government, is truly admirable. Every day, Fridays excepted, which is their day of devotion, and Thursdays, which the Dey sets apart for his own private affairs, the sovereign is seated in his palace from the hour of morning prayer, until eleven o'clock, and from two in the afternoon until sunset. All the members of the administration, and the two great judges of civil causes, the Kadis are there.

At the door, and in different parts of the palace, are seated functionaries of a lower order. The four secretaries of the Dey, and the terrible ministers of his will, surround the throne: the one to record his decrees, the other to execute them. The right of access to the presence is open to every one. Whatever be the suit, public or private, complaint, process, reclamation or demand, the suit comes and finds the functionary or defendant, to whom he may finally appeal in all decisions. This concentration of authority, gives an astonishing celerity in the settling of affairs. In a few minutes an irrevocable decree is obtained, and as general as the execution.

Some civil cases, such as those touching divorce and inheritance, are taken before the Kadis; others of more importance are placed before the Dey, and it is interesting to see the efficacious mode of avoiding process, and the prompt proceedings adopted by this otherwise contentious race. Every man who loses his suit, recites the bastinado for having taken up the time of the magistracy with an unworthy cause. The same punishment is inflicted upon every one bringing forward an action on frivolous pretences; and as a summons bonus, the judge is empowered in all cases of great obscurity and embarrassment, to order the bastinado to be inflicted on both plaintiff and defendant, to teach them in future to simplify all questions they may have to submit to the eyes and ears of justice.

Of the manner in which their piracies are organized and conducted, a few words will suffice for explanation. Every commander of a armed vessel has to ask permission of the Dey before he can put to sea, which, however, is never denied, unless the government should think fit to put his ship in requisition for its own use. On obtaining leave, the captain hoists his flag and fires a gun, as a signal to all who may wish to join him in his expedition, that he will depart on the ensuing day; all comers are received, and it is only when under weigh, that a list is drawn of the complement gathered. Each captain, however, takes care to insure the services of some of his Turkish friends, who, in turn, bring others with them; for the Turks only bear arms and fight, the Moorish sailors being only for the working of the vessel, and the service of the gun.

Each of these volunteers brings with him a crew, in which to encamp himself, and which forms his only equipment. As for the vessel, which depends on the reputation of the captain; and the confidence he

is capable of inspiring. When very full, the Moors are disembarked, and the Turks only retained: these are always commanded by an old officer, who takes the title of Aga of the vessel, and without whose advice the captain can do little. In return, the Aga is accountable to the Dey for the conduct of the captain, who is punished if failing in any capture, for want of perseverance in the conflict, or if allowing any vessel to escape under any other than a clear passport.

On return to the harbour with a prize, the first step is to disembark the slaves, who are conducted before the Dey. The crews of all nations with whom the Algeriens are on friendly terms, are then summoned, and each inquires after such captives as may be of his country, taking an account of whether they belonged to the captured vessel, or were only passengers in her; in the latter case, they are given over to the protection of the consul, in the former they are sold as slaves. Of those condemned the Dey takes his choice of eight, in every eight, who are sent to the government baths; the remainder are the property of their captors.

The cargo is afterwards landed, and of this the Dey likewise selects an eighth portion; his officers, in consequence of this, are thus stripped, sold, and again the Dey steps in for an eighth of the produce. In the subsequent division among the crew, all Christian slaves serving as sailors, if there be any on board, are allowed an equal share of booty with the rest. Of the slaves, those who become the property of the state, are generally treated with tolerable kindness—those who fall into the hands of private individuals, are of course at the mercy of their masters, and consequently experience every variety of treatment.

FROM THE ALBION.

TYING THE INTERNAL ILIAC ARTERY.

The important operation of taking up this great artery was deemed among the surgeons totally impracticable, until it was boldly and successfully performed by Dr. William Stevens, of the island of St. Croix, in 1812, a gentleman of great professional attainments, now in this city in the suite of Chamberlain Von Schellen, Governor General of the Danish West India Islands. A few persons having remained sceptical on the fact and success of the operation, among them no less a person than the celebrated Mr. Lawrence, of London, we avail ourselves of the following article upon the subject, which we find in a late number of the London Medical Gazette:

"We have lately seen a preparation taken from the patient on whom Dr. Stevens, of St. Thomas, whose interesting paper on the blood we analyzed in our No. for May the 8th, tied for the first time, the Internal Iliac Artery, for the cure of an aneurism of the Great Ischiatic. This case occurred in the island of St. Croix, in 1812. The position of it was made in England, and it also since been performed in England, and in 1822 she died from some other disease, when an opportunity was afforded of examining the parts, which were afterwards sent to London, and might have remained unused for an indefinite period in the city, had not Dr. Stevens happened to be in town, and to have his attention called to the subject by observing that Mr. Lawrence in his lectures (see Gazette No. 128.) still doubted the possibility of tying the Internal Iliac, and alluded only to one case in which it had been so done, and which was performed in 1822. This induced Dr. Stevens to have the preparation sent immediately to the Royal College of Surgeons, where a minute examination of it was made in the presence of Mr. Lawrence, who, we understand, expressed himself as perfectly satisfied. The preparation, though it has been eight years in spirits, still exhibits the Internal Iliac converted into an impervious cord where the ligation was applied, and shows very distinctly the remains of the aneurismal swelling in the Ischiatic Artery."

Dr. Stevens originally believed that the aneurism was situated in the Gluteal Artery, but on examining the parts soon after death, he found the Great Ischiatic, the seat of the disease, and from the appearance on dissection, he is now convinced that the most cases described as aneurisms of the Gluteal, are in reality aneurisms of the Ischiatic Artery.

The operation of tying the Internal Iliac has since been performed in Barbadoes, by Dr. Thompson and the preparation of the parts, which was sent to Sir Astley Cooper, is now in the museum at Guy's Hospital—It has also since been performed in England, and once in the United States by Dr. Pomeroy White. It has also been done at St. Petersburg, where the Emperor Alexander settled a pension for life on the surgeon who performed it, for having been successful in so great an operation.

The operation of tying Internal Iliac has been brought forward in some of the late surgical works, as one of the most striking proofs of the splendid improvements that have been made in modern surgery. On Dr. Stevens' case was published, those who were afflicted with aneurism of any of the branches of the Internal Iliac were allowed to perish, without having even an attempt made to relieve them.

As Mr. Lawrence not the only one who has affected to throw doubts on this subject, we may add that the preparation has now been seen by many of the most eminent surgeons in London. Sir Astley Cooper, after having examined minutely the artery at the spot where the aneurism had existed, sent Dr. S. the following conclusive note: "Royal College of Surgeons, May 12th, 1830."

"My dear Sir—I have examined your preparation in the presence of Mr. Cliff and Mr. Owen, and I am perfectly satisfied of the existence of aneurism for which you operated, and also of the complete obliteration of the Internal Iliac Artery which you had tied. ASTLEY COOPER."

"To Dr. Wm. Stevens. From the Salem, (Mass.) Register of Thursday. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE.—We learn that a most extraordinary and melancholy event took place on Monday last, by which the settlement of Swampscott, in Lynn, was deprived of one of its most valuable and respectable inhabitants. Mr. Joseph Blaney went out in the bay for the purpose of fishing in one of their small fishing schooners—after the vessel came to anchor in the shoal water off Scituate, Mr. Blaney took the dory, and went alone about half a mile distant from the schooner to fish—he had been absent several hours when he was observed waving his hat and calling for aid, and apparently disabled in one of his arms.

A boat immediately went to his assistance from another schooner at anchor near the same place, but she had proceeded but a short distance, when a large fish, supposed a Shark, was seen lying athwart the dory mizzenmast; the however was soon clear of the boat, and Mr. Blaney was still seen to be safe on board her. But before the boat which went to his assistance had reached him, the Shark renewed his attack, the boat instantly disappeared, & the water appeared in a foam; nothing more was seen of Mr. Blaney, but the boat re-appeared and was picked up, together with his hat, a small firkin, &c. The boat was uninjured, excepting that her thole pins were all broken, and that there were scratches about her as if made by the rough skin of a shark. There was no doubt amongst the crews of the two vessels who witnessed the whole scene, that Mr. Blaney was destroyed by the shark. He was 52 years of age, and has left a wife and six children. The sensation created at Swampscott by this melancholy event, we are informed is unprecedented.

"Was it not the Sea Serpent?"

EUROPE.

(From papers on the Greek negotiation, submitted to the British Parliament.)

TURKISH DIPLOMACY.

Report of the Dragomans of France, Great Britain, and Russia, dated 9th Sept. 1827.

"The undersigned, in consequence of the joint instruction which they received from their Excellencies the Representatives of the Courts of France, Great Britain and Russia, went together this day, the 9th September, to the country house of the Reis Effendi, where this minister expected them, being prevented by serious indisposition from going to the Porte.

"The first Dragoman of France was chosen to represent verbally the instructions of their Excellencies. At the commencement, he Reis Effendi declared that if they had any intention of delivering a paper to him he would not receive it. Monsieur Desgranges announced that he was sent, with his colleagues, to tell the Reis Effendi that they were ready to give him the explanations he had urgently requested, upon the mens and the measures announced in the declaration of the 31st of August, if his Excellency should persist in that request. Unluckily I do," said his Excellency, "speak-I am listening to you."

"Monsieur Desgranges then began—"In case the Sublime Porte should refuse the intervention,—there is no possibility of raising doubt on that point. On another point, his Excellency also desired us to observe, that he had not accepted the declaration of the 31st of August, and that his only knowledge of it was derived from the verbal explanations of that day. His Excellency made no other remarks. "What Monsieur Desgranges had given, word for word, a most exact translation of the instructions with which he was charged, the Reis Effendi collected himself for a few moments and desired, in a friendly and calmness and suavely, a long speech, in which his Excellency repeated the same things several times, and of which the tenor is as follows:—

"The Sublime Porte has presented to the Ministers of the friendly Powers a declaration containing the principles from which I will never deviate. These principles are:—The Sublime Porte owes to the free of its arms, and to the respect of the Greeks as its subjects; no foreign Power has the right to interfere in any thing which concerns the Greeks and the Mussulmans."

"The holy law of the latter is the only code which we must obey. If we broken the same, our Rayahs would be refused to them. Our Rayahs were happy. An inspiration from hell alone can have bewildered them. The hope of foreign assistance was vainly neglected, and they refused to obey. We are continually seeing acts of submission. Only a few days ago numerous petitions were addressed us by several districts. "The territory belongs to us; the subjects are ours; our rights are incontestable. We reiterate our cause upon the most irresistible argument; what do the Powers desire of us? They are all our friends, we ask nothing of them,—what pretension, then, can they bring forward? Have we broken the treaties which attach their Governments to ours? We have treaties with France, with Great Britain, with Russia; does any one of our articles give a right to the pretensions put forward by the Powers? Have we broken any of these treaties? If they then obligate towards them! Whence are derived the propositions of intervention, of armistice, and of pacification? Justice and reason reject them all. The Sublime Porte repeats it, it will refuse to listen to them till the day of judgment."

"Nevertheless, the Ambassadors, bent on the prosecution of a project which justice condemns, have spoken to the Sublime Porte of means and measures which their Excellencies have not authorized. If they asked you, gentlemen, to announce to me openly what their Excellencies meant by these expressions, it was not that I was not perfectly aware of their true meaning. I know their whole tendency, but till now, all that has passed has only been a question of words."

"Previously to their being followed up by an act, I wished to declare to you that the Sublime Porte sets a greater value on peace than any other power,—to repeat to you that our language appears unintelligible to it,—that that which you assure us makes no breach in our friendship, is, in our opinion, an infraction of this same friendship; and that, in short, the means of which you speak, presents so remarkable an incompatibility, that one may say that fire and cotton, or water and fire, are not more opposed. In fact, you announce that your fleets will intercept the sending of men and munitions of war; they are also to stop our forces whenever, in execution of the orders of His Highness, they advance upon the rebelto chastise them if they do not submit. What conduct would be more regular than that of our commanders,—what conduct more irregular than that of yours, if they oppose yours? You will receive, I say, you say, from Greece, and you will send others thither; but, setting aside the consideration of what is contrary to justice and to right in this step, how will the safety of these agents be guaranteed? Every thing has to be done, and you will only last for a moment. It must soon finish. Examine with impartiality the true state of things, you will perceive that wherever your influence

has not penetrated, the rebellion has ceased. Almost all the provinces of the continent have been brought to reason. Some districts on the coast, where the influence of which I speak still reigns, alone remain to be subjected. Every misfortune which has occurred may be attributed to some hundred individuals. Refuse, then, your support, and order will be every where restored. It is the hope alone of intervention which prolongs resistance. It is my wish, therefore, gentlemen, to make you explain officially the means and measures announced in the declaration of their Excellencies the Representatives of the three friendly Courts, in order to point out to you their injustice and incoherence. It was moreover, my duty to make known to you the only course of conduct which the Sublime Porte could pursue. The hopes daily held out to our Rayahs by the reports which are unceasingly disseminated amongst the public, necessarily nourish in their imaginations, the ideas of liberty. Two liberties or two sovereignties of friendship exist in one and the same empire; the one must annihilate the other. The Sublime Porte does not think itself called upon to give an account of its views. It will be sure to conduct itself in conformity with that wisdom which has always distinguished it. Whenever the commanders of your squadrons put into execution the measures which you announce to us, the aggression will be on their side. From that time, our commanders will act according to the orders which they will have received, and the Sublime Porte will take such measures as it may judge fitting. In short, gentlemen, the Courts have promised to themselves the maintenance of a general peace, the repose of the world; and God knows if the road they are pursuing will not lead to a universal disturbance and an unexampled conflagration!

"I cannot too often repeat it, the Sublime Porte is desirous of peace, and of the continuation of all those relations of friendship which attach it to the Powers.—Never will it violate treaties; they are sacred to it.—In this world, and in the next, all the blame will fall upon those who shall have been the first to infringe them. The Sublime Porte is glad to proclaim beforehand, that it throws back upon them the responsibility of every infraction."

"These were the last words of the Reis Effendi's speech. The first Dragoman of France then replied to his Excellency, in answer the most formal assurance that the high contracting Courts, being resolved to pursue the work of pacifying Greece, have no other and whatever in view than that pacification."

"As the Reis Effendi had from the beginning declared that he would receive no paper, the undersigned retired, without having had the opportunity of leaving with his Excellency a copy of his instructions. (Signed) "A. DESGRANGES. "F. FRANCHINI. "A. DEODATI."

Report of the three Dragomans of France, Great Britain and Russia, of their conference with the Reis Effendi, on the 30th of October, 1827.

"The undersigned, in consequence of the joint instruction, dated 29th, from the Representatives of France, Great Britain and Russia, leaving yesterday presented themselves to the Reis Effendi, in order to see the Reis Effendi, on account of the lateness of the hour, again waited upon that minister-day, who gave them an audience in his secret cabinet."

"M. Franchini said, that he was the bearer of a message in the name of the Representatives of the Allied Powers. "What Allies," said the Reis Effendi; "we do not know them."

"The Allies," answered M. Franchini, "are Great Britain, France, and Russia." "His Excellency then listened with the most profound attention, and with the utmost calmness, to the whole instruction. "At the passage, 'Thus has been realized a resolution which the Representatives notified to the Porte,' the minister observed, that nothing had ever been notified to him, excepting assurances that no act on the part of the three Powers should interrupt the friendship which existed."

"M. Desgranges observed, that it had been announced to the Reis Effendi, that the operations of the Ottoman fleet would be prevented by force. At the end of the first of the three questions, his Excellency refused these words to escape him. 'Truly this is very amusing,' he then desired M. Franchini to proceed. The Reis Effendi did not again interrupt him. These were his replies."

"I Whatever may be the answer returned to Ibrahim Pacha by the Sublime Porte, you have no right to interrogate us on that score. That concerns no one but Ibrahim Pacha and us.—Let every one mind his own business. When your Governments give orders to their commanders do not ask you what those orders are, and your commanders and your commanders are officers charged with the execution of the instructions of their Courts. The Porte has not given powers to Ibrahim Pacha to sign any convention. That Vizier is commanded to employ all his forces, and every means at his disposal, to enforce submission on the rebellious Rayahs, and to reduce them to obedience."

"We are ignorant of what has taken place between you and Ibrahim Pacha, and a woman is with child, which of you can tell whether she will bring forth a boy or a girl.—Knowing nothing, we can say nothing."

"The Sublime Porte has always declared that it will never admit the interference of others in its affairs. The Sublime Porte does not alter its resolutions; and as it has already declared, so it still declares, that till the day of judgment, it will refuse to admit of any foreign interference. Repeat, we are ignorant of what has taken place between our fleets; and when a woman is with child, we must await her lying in, to ascertain whether she will give birth to a boy or a girl. It would be impossible that you, according to your repeated assurance, the Powers, should maintain a peace, we should presume that any thing would be likely to disturb our friendship. In a word, the Sublime Porte has no answer to give you."

"In the last place, with respect to the declaration of their Excellencies the Representatives, as to their resolution, in the event of an equivocal answer on the part of the Reis Effendi, his Excellency said, 'The Representatives can regulate their concerns in whatever way they please. Their intention, by to-day's proceeding, has doubtless not been to advance recriminations or

complaints. It would be easy, in such a case, for us to ask, to whom belonged the right to make them; and what, then, might we not have to say? But our business to go on as heretofore, and to attend to all the affairs of our embassies, in constant conformity with treaties."

"The undersigned then retired." (Signed by the three Interpreters.) "Report of the Dragomans of France, Great Britain and Russia, dated Nov. 4, 1827."

"The undersigned, in obedience to the joint instruction of their Excellencies the Representatives of France, Great Britain and Russia, repaired to the Reis Effendi at the Porte. The Minister, the Amegdi Effendi, being present, received them in his secret cabinet."

"M. Pisani read the instruction without being interrupted. He proposed to repeat it. "I have understood it," said the Reis Effendi, "and that is enough."

"M. Pisani asked what answer the undersigned should report to the Representatives. "There is no answer," replied his Excellency: "I am authorized to enter into no discussion. And besides, what answer would you have me give to a question quite contradictory to itself? Tell me," said the Minister, "whether your Ambassadors are Plenipotentiaries?"

"M. Pisani answered in the affirmative. "Well, then," continued the Reis Effendi, "how can the Sublime Porte listen to their wishes for peace, when they have broken that peace?"

"The Representatives," said M. Desgranges, "are accredited to the Porte for the purpose of preserving security. They have deplored the occurrence at Navarino. They had announced to the Sublime Porte, that the fleets would be employed to arrest the progress of hostilities between the Mussulmans and Greeks. Their armaments, equally with the armaments, receive their instructions from their Courts."

"Is there any mention of Greece in the treaties?" said his Excellency. "Treaties," said M. Desgranges, "are the mutual guaranty of tranquility and peace, and have been sufficient for the orders of the Archipelago were prejudicial to the Powers."

"But," said his Excellency to M. Franchini, "have you not yourself told me that your vessels only came into the Mediterranean to convoy your merchantmen,—is this the way you keep your word! Instead of that, your ships have gone to Navarino and burnt our fleet?"

"M. Franchini avoided this question. "In short, gentlemen," continued the Reis Effendi, "reverting to the object of the visit of the undersigned, I have no answer to give to your Ministers. Their conduct is an instance of extreme contrariety. The fact is, that your vessels only came into the Mediterranean, I little same time measured him of my friendship. Would not such a proceeding be absurd? Such, however, is the present question. Your Ambassadors talk about peace, and have broken the treaties."

"M. Pisani stated that the undersigned were empowered to leave a copy of the present instructions. "Then you can give it to the interpreter of the Porte," replied his Excellency. "The undersigned thereupon went to the interpreter of the Porte, and delivered it to him. (Signed) "A. DESGRANGES. "F. FRANCHINI. "ANT. FRANCHINI, "Councillor of State."

GREAT BRITAIN.

PUBLIC PRAYERS FOR HIS MAJESTY'S RECOVERY.

Both Houses of Parliament assembled on Saturday about twelve o'clock, which, according to established custom, were the Houses of Commons and the House of Lords, for the celebration of the Restoration of King Charles (an event which had not occurred for upwards of 9 years), the members of either House went in procession to attend Divine Service at Westminster Abbey and St. Margaret's Church.

Shortly after twelve o'clock the procession from the Lord's entered the Cathedral. The Archbishop of York and Canterbury took their seats in the stalls on the right hand of the altar, and the Lord Chancellor and Lord Bexley in the left stalls. The organ, as the procession entered the Cathedral, pealed forth a solemn anthem.

Divine Service was then commenced, and prior to the Litany being read, the following Prayer, ordered by the Archbishop of Canterbury to be read in all Churches, &c. throughout the Kingdom, pursuant to the command of a late Cabinet Council, was read for the recovery of his Majesty's health:—

"Almighty and most merciful God, in whose hands are the issues of life and death incline thine ear, we beseech thee, to the cry of thy people, and accept our supplications and prayers which we make unto thee, on behalf of thy servant, our Sovereign Lord, the King."

"Vouchsafe of thy goodness, O Lord, to assuage his pain, to relieve his infirmity, and to strengthen his soul by the consolations of thy grace, that so resigning himself with all meekness and patience to thy holy will, and trusting entirely in thy mercy, he may be raised by thy power from the bed of sickness, and long continue to govern the people committed to his charge, in peace and tranquillity."

"Finally grant O Heavenly Father that when it shall be thy pleasure to call him from this world unto thee, he may receive a crown of glory in thy everlasting kingdom: through thine merits and mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.—Amen"

Message which refers to the relief sought to be afforded to his Majesty in affixing the Royal signature to public documents required by his Majesty's Ministers, and the occasion that has called for this Bill, and in the expression of those feelings of sorrow I am sure that I speak the sentiments not only of your Lordships but of every loyal individual throughout this Kingdom.—[hear.] In proposing this Bill, my Lords, I beg to assure you that I am thoroughly sensible of the delicacy of the subject. It is of the utmost importance,—this measure having been called for by his Majesty's Ministers, and the occasion that has called for this Bill, and in the expression of those feelings of sorrow I am sure that I speak the sentiments not only of your Lordships but of every loyal individual throughout this Kingdom.—[hear.] In proposing this Bill, my Lords, I beg to assure you that I am thoroughly sensible of the delicacy of the subject. 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