



SKETCHES IN CYPRUS: GOATHERD WATERING HIS FLOCK IN THE PLAINS OF PAPHOS.

SKETCHES IN CYPRUS.

The Engraving on our front page is a view, from a photograph, of the west front of the ruined Gothic Cathedral of Famagusta, which place was the chief seaport town and fortress of Cyprus under the Venetian rule, from 1473 to 1571. It has been described by our Special Artist and Correspondent, "S. P. O.," who was lately in Cyprus on the service of this Journal. We learn from Mr. R. Hamilton Lang's interesting book on "Cyprus," just published in one volume by Messrs. Macmillan, that Famagusta in the sixteenth century, let us say in the time of Othello's unhappy residence there, was a city of thirty thousand inhabitants. It had belonged to the Genoese from 1376 to 1464, having been wrested by that mercantile Republic from the crusading Lusignan dynasty of Princes, to whom Cyprus was delivered, in 1192, by our own Richard Cœur de Lion. We are not told by whom or when the stately Cathedral was built; its architectural style is that of the fifteenth century in Western Europe, with some variation, and it was probably erected before the Venetian period. In striking contrast to this relic of superb mediæval lordship on the eastern shore of Cyprus we give the Sketch of a quiet pastoral scene near Paphos, at the western extremity of the island. The native herdsman there leads his flock of goats to water, like Tityrus and Menalcas and their like in a poem of Virgil or Theocritus, caring little for the decay of proud Empires and Principalities, which have so frequently come and gone upon the sea-girt plains and hills of Cyprus. "Assyria, Greece, Rome, Egypt—what are they?" Or what the Norman, the Venetian, the Ottoman, or the British Imperial power, when a few more generations of mankind have lived and died? The Cypriote goats and kids will browse and frolic in their pasture when Sir Garnet Wolseley's administration is long forgotten.

THE LATE M. GARNIER-PAGÈS.

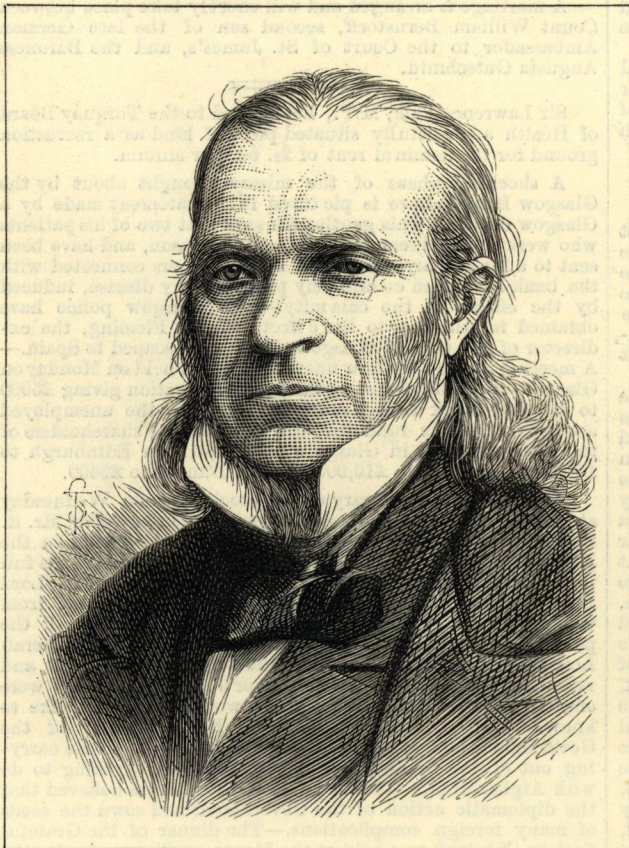
M. Louis Garnier-Pagès, who died a week or two since, after a short illness, in his seventy-sixth year, had retired from political life since the resignation of the Government of National Defence in 1871, but attended M. Thiers's funeral fourteen months ago, and sent a letter of adhesion to the recent Peace Congress. He took part in the Revolution of 1830, but only became a prominent politician on the death, in 1841, of his half-brother, Étienne Garnier-Pagès, a Republican leader of some note in his time. As a Deputy under the Orleans dynasty, he materially contributed to the limitation of the concessions of railway companies, thus securing their reversion to the State. In 1848 he became first Mayor of Paris, and afterwards Minister of Finance, being mainly responsible in the latter capacity for the increased direct taxation which saved France from bankruptcy, but brought on the Republic the odium of the peasantry. He failed to obtain admission to the Legislature of 1849; but in 1857 he was one of the chief organisers of the first electoral opposition to the Empire, but was not himself one of the half-dozen successful candidates, being defeated in Paris by M. Emile Ollivier. In 1864, however, another Paris district elected him, and he became a sharp critic of M. Haussmann's

administration of Paris; but in 1869 he with difficulty retained his seat against the opposition of M. Raspail. In 1870 he was a second time member of a Provisional Government, but took no very active part in it; he was not elected to the Assembly of 1871, and refused a candidature for a by-election in 1872. The Portrait is from a photograph by Truchelot, of Paris.

AN UNSCIENTIFIC FRONTIER.

The reader who may wonder at this phrase should turn to a page Engraving, in which he will see how the Suleiman range of mountains rises like a mighty wall, forty or fifty miles distant, beyond the perfectly level plain, to a spectator looking westward from a house-top on the banks of the Indus, at Dera Ismael Khan, towards the centre of our Punjab frontier. As we consider "the impending Afghan war"—if it should not

rather be termed the intended war for Afghanistan—we are gratuitously furnished by the most absolute of political authorities with an explanation of its geographical motive. His Highness Prince Beaconsfield, Imperial Chancellor and Grand Vizier of the Anglo-Asian Empire, announced last Saturday to the Lord Mayor's guests that it is designed to remedy the inconvenience of having, as he said, "a haphazard and not a scientific frontier." We therefore submit to our readers, by the aid of a sketch lately sent us from an esteemed military correspondent, this View of what they are told to regard as an unscientific frontier, with its mere "haphazard" summit, the Takht-i-Suleiman, or Solomon's Throne, attaining a sublime height of 11,000 feet, the whole range extending 350 miles from south to north, beyond which only the Khurum and Khyber Passes break the continuous curve of mountain ramparts, to the almost inaccessible Himalayas, including the British dominion. It is, of course, a very unscientific freak of nature, and a fortuitous accident of history, that made these marvellous highlands, from time immemorial, the abode of the aboriginal race of Afghanistan, dividing them from the natives of the Punjab and of Sind, and from Daman or the Derajat, which is the strip of lowland west of the Indus, and from all which we took from the Sikhs of Lahore thirty years ago. To be sure, it has been the deliberate opinion of three successive Governors-General, and presumably of their military advisers, till the advent of the present Viceroy, that this north-west frontier of British India was one of unsurpassed natural strength for defensive purposes; only needing the construction of bridges and roads up to the foot of each Pass, and a few connected forts to guard them in time of war. But the Anglo-Asian Mystery is fraught with a superhuman insight into these and other matters of practical statesmanship and strategy, which it would be rash to contradict; and its dictum is supported by newspaper letters from a distinguished common-law barrister who resided a few years at Calcutta. We must, therefore, leave the View of "Solomon's Throne" to speak for itself, if our readers think it can do so, against the plea of alleged necessity for a more commanding barrier on the Afghan frontier of the Empress Victoria's Asiatic dominion. It will certainly cost a trifle of Asiatic lives and British taxpayers' money to effect the proposed rectification of the frontier; and if the Hindoo Koosh, north of Cabul, or even the ill-omened passes of Jugdulluk and Khoord Cabul, are to be substituted for the Suleiman range, it may hereafter be discovered that a more formidable enemy has been invited to a nearer approach. But these are questions not requiring to be discussed in England at all, either by the Press or by Parliament; England has only to fight and to pay, and "the harebrained chatter of irresponsible frivolity" is desired to hold its peace.



THE LATE M. LOUIS GARNIER-PAGÈS.

At Camborne, yesterday week, a large number of county gentlemen, including Mr. Pendarves, High Sheriff of Cornwall, Mr. Pendarves Vivian, M.P., and Colonel Tremayne, M.P., held a meeting, presided over by Mr. Bolitho, to consider the condition of the working men and their families in the mining districts of Cornwall, and to provide for the distress which exists.