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SPECIAL AGENCIES. This paper is for sale at the following places: L. P. Fisher's, room 21, Merchants Exchange, California street, and the principal News Stands and Hotels, San Francisco.

EASTERN BUSINESS HOUSES. "The Tribune" Building, New York City. Western Business Office, "The Bookery," Chicago.

Weather Forecast. Northern California—Fair Saturday, with increasing cloudiness in northern portions; light southerly winds.

THE SHAME OF ENGLAND—STORY OF CRETE.

England, through its Cabinet chief, has notified its representatives abroad that the autonomy of Crete will be secured, but the island must remain under Turkish control, and that if Greece resists force will be used by the Powers to compel compliance.

This declaration is in direct conflict with the sentiment of the English people, and flies in the face of human sympathy for the world over—excepting in Turkey.

This action, so far as England is concerned, is solely to check any advance of Russia southward by keeping Turkey in occupancy and control of the territory in Europe and in Asia which she now holds, and thus to continue it as a buffer between Russian and Anglo-Indian possessions.

Whatever may be the purpose of Russia, in her declaration against Greece, there can be no doubt about the motive that actuates the English Cabinet. It has permitted its dread of Russian advance to make sacrifice of Crete. It is an infamous proposition and must bring upon the English nation the reproaches of all civilized peoples, who believe that states capable of self government have the natural and indefeasible right to choose their own governments.

In the consideration of this matter with righteous indignation moving every honest heart at this demand that a small and helpless population shall be turned over body and soul to the rapacity, incompetency and barbarity of the "Un-speakable Turk"—for the thin disguise of "Cretan autonomy avails nothing"—it becomes of interest to sketch rapidly the salient points in Cretan history, a more stormy and heroic history, by the way, is not of European record.

The revolt of the Cretans is an old story of never ending and dramatic interest. In antiquity Crete or Candia was the "Isle of One Hundred Cities," and boasted of a line of illustrious Kings, of whom were Rhadamanthus, Minos and Idomeneus, the last being notable in tradition for the part he played in the siege of Troy.

After centuries of which there is but faint record, we come to the period when the hordes of Persia descended upon fair Greece. Then Crete, rich, populous, brilliant, prosperous, was a territory divided into independent republics.

These kept out of foreign wars but sent military aid to such friends as pleased and hired them. Modern nations of loftier claim have not been guiltless of like performance. The Cretans were men of great prowess and their archers were alike feared and admired. Their courage, their devotion to their land and their intelligence kept them free until nearly down to the opening of the Christian era, when Rome swept abroad in her march to conquer the world. But even then Crete remained untouched. Some seventy years before the Christian era, intestine quarrels, however, laid the Cretans open to assault from without, and their island was invaded by Rome.

It took army after army, however, to accomplish the work, for the Cretans annihilated the flower of Rome's forces before they were conquered, and 68 B. C. the island became a Roman province. Ever since that day the unhappy people have been subjects of a foreign power, never achieving their independence, though always hoping for it.

After Rome the Byzantine Empire held Crete. In 823 the Arabs under Michael the Stutterer conquered the island, but did not attempt for a long time to colonize it. However, his people preached the faith of the Moslem so diligently that many of the Greek inhabitants of Crete were converted, and to this day 30,000 of them are of the

Moslem faith. These are of pure Greek strain, though Mohammedans. Indeed, it is true that only few Turks or Arabs have ever lived upon the island except as soldiers and rulers. About 860 the Greeks took the island, much to the delight of the mass of the people, but in 1204 it fell into the hands of Boniface, Marquis of Monterrat, when the Latin Empire was established in the time of the Crusaders.

Boniface, when the Genoese tried to buy the island, sold it to their rivals, the Venetians, for 100,000 silver marks. The Cretans thereupon revolted and Genoa came to their aid and peace was unknown to the Isle for a long time. In 1645 the second Moslem conquest led to the capture of the island by the Moslem under Sultan Ibrahim, who claimed that Venice had aided the Knights of Malta. He was so hotly resisted that it took him two months to capture Candia and twenty-four years elapsed before the crescent was triumphant over the cross at the capital of Candia. The outcome was that Venice yielded the territory, except three ports, and the last of these she gave up in 1715.

Then, say the historians, came the bloodiest chapter in Cretan history. Oppression, rapine, torture, unspeakable cruelty and awful outrage made up each day's story for a whole century. All the while the Cretans were in a state of revolt; all the time they were battling for their liberties. But in 1821 Egypt sent an army to aid the Turk, and seven years later Crete was ceded to Egypt when Greece became independent.

There was comparative quiet and prosperity for a long time under the shrewd wise rule of Mehemet, Ali and Mustapha Pasha. But in 1840 "the Powers" compelled Egypt to turn the Cretans over to the mercy of the Turks once more, and ever since that day there has been practically a condition of chronic revolt in the unhappy island, and the rule of the Turk has been as cruel and unwise as it possibly could be.

In the sixties the Cretans succeeded by an uprising so far as to wring from the Turkish Government promise of reforms. Some of these were carried out, but as has been true of the Turk always he violated most of his pledges. Twenty years or more ago the Porte promised most solemnly that a Cretan should be made Governor, and that local legislation should be by a chamber chosen by the Cretans, but to this hour the promise has not been honestly kept, and still 60,000 Moslems tyrannize over 250,000 Christians, native-born Cretans, who with the advance of civilization and the spread of knowledge and democratic sentiment have come to understand that their demand for liberty has the backing of human right, and is precisely as justifiable as was our revolt against England and our successful assertion of the right of the governed to choose their own form of government.

As the Cretans are in fact Greeks, it is not surprising that they look to Greece, since it has achieved its independence of Moslem domination, as their best friend, and their only helper. And Greece, though a kingdom, has come to the help of the Cretans, not to conquer, but to give them either freedom or annexation as they may choose. That they will prefer the latter as a precaution, since they are not territorially large enough nor numerically strong enough to maintain themselves under modern systems of war against Europe with its cowardice and Turkey with its greed for holding in bondage peoples foreign to it in tongue, religion and blood, is a matter of course.

There is another tie also; when Greece raised the standard of freedom the Cretans nobly went to the assistance of their brethren, and fought for them gallantly against the banners of Turkey, but under the "peace of London" they were sent back to chains and the rule of the Porte. In 1866 Crete arose once more and nearly accomplished her independence, when Louis Napoleon of France stretched out his hand and crushed her by intervention.

As matters stand, the Cretans say that Turkish promise is never kept; that the promise of autonomy is a fairy story; that a Cretan cannot obtain justice in the courts; that they are heavily taxed, and the money instead of being applied to schools, internal improvements, hospitals and general betterments is shipped away to Constantinople to feed the luxuries of the Sultan and his harem. The local officials are mainly Moslems. There is not a Christian policeman or similar officer on the island. True, the Turks did send Crete a Christian Governor, but they put over him a Moslem military Governor, so that he was an executive without power. This was so intolerable that this Christian civil Governor three years ago ceased to exercise his functions, and since then a Turk has filled the office.

Such, in brief, is the story of poor Crete, and such is the situation that Christian, enlightened, rich, powerful and soulless England declares shall continue. Why? That Macedonia may not be given a chance to rise and engage the Porte in arms, and thus afford Russia opportunity to descend with her legions, and seizing the hated Turk by the beard hold him while Cossacks and gray-coated Russian soldiers move south and draw near to the Indian border and involve the grip of Great Britain upon a people now dying of famine, while held in practical bondage by the nation over which Victoria nominally rules.

APPLY THE AX AT THE ROOT. A fellow in Los Angeles who published a scurrilous and indecent "newspaper" has just been sentenced by the proper court to three years at hard labor in the State Prison, for using the United States mails in violation of the law. That was right. Yet that rascal claimed to be a "journalist," heaven save the mark! He posed as one of

the influences entitled to be classed with "The Press." He was rightly punished of course. Yet we cannot repress a feeling that complete justice has not been done, for the simple reason that he was prompted and led to his offenses by the examples of more pretentious sheets, which claim to be "great and powerful journals," but whose methods are not less detrimental to the general weal.

The Los Angeles criminal simply spoke plainly and presented his filth undisguised. The large lurid and flash papers which assume to be exponents of public opinion, publish precisely the same order of filth but they thinly veil it. In Indiana recently a man named Wilson was convicted and sentenced to two years in a convict prison for running a filthy sheet and using the mails for its distribution. He too was led on to his indecency by examples of "greater journals," so-called which daily and especially in their Sunday editions, overflow with smut and impudicity, with indecent pictures of half-dressed women, the frolics and crimes of prostitutes and the lechery of rakes; the prurient accounts of amours and illicit relations, horrible exposures of shame and brutality, the obscenity and shamelessness of dive actresses and the indecencies of people of a "higher" order.

The President has refused to grant the request of a petition for the pardon of this Indiana offender, and has this to say about it: This convict was one of the editors and proprietors, and a distributor through the mails and otherwise, of a disgustingly vile and obscene newspaper. His conviction and sentence was an event distinctly tending to the promotion of public morals and the protection of the sons and daughters of our land from filth and corruption at a time when indecent newspaper publications are so dangerous and common. Everybody in favor of cleanliness should encourage the punishment of such offenses and desire that it should be more frequently imposed. While I am much surprised by the number of respectable people who have joined in urging clemency in this case, my duty seems so clear that I am not in the least tempted to interfere with the just and wholesome sentence of the Court.

VOICE OF THE PRESS. Red Bluff People's Cause: The Populist Legislature of Nebraska has repealed the bill passed two years ago placing a premium on the destruction of the Russian thistle. The weed makes fair fodder and fuel, and does not spread as rapidly as some of the farmers would like.

PROTECTING HOME INTERESTS. San Diego Union: Members of the State Board of Trade are at Sacramento on a novel mission. They wish the Governor to ask the Legislature to establish a commission whose duty it shall be ostensibly to furnish correct information in regard to California. It is intimated, however, that the real task of the commission will be to prevent land swindles upon unsuspecting foreigners, who are frequently lured to this State under false promises and induced to part with their money without value received. Almost everybody in California is more or less familiar with these frauds.

Alameda Argus: The frequent accounts to be seen of State Legislatures adopting measures to abolish the high hat at the theater shows that people are getting a better appreciation of the evil, and are determined to abate it. The spirit of correcting evils and abuses seems to be growing. It has long been a national trait to put up with inconveniences and discomforts rather than to appear to be boorish by objecting to the typical American jokes over his misery rather than assert himself. The theater hat has been just as much an offense at any time within thirty years as it is now. Yet men have craned and ducked behind their backs until the very name of the new woman is responsible for the awakening. If new woman, why not new man? And perhaps the new man takes this method of first asserting himself.

GOOD ROADS. Alameda Telegraph: California is not alone in its awakening to the necessity of good roads. All over the Union the matter is being discussed, and a campaign of education is in progress all over the land that is bound to culminate in the establishment of a system of construction and maintenance of public highways that will yield satisfactory and substantial results.

WIDE TIRES. Sausalito News: Those interested in the good roads movement will be pleased to know that another step has been taken in that direction, and that Jones' bill, commonly known as the "wide-tire bill," passed the Senate by a unanimous vote Wednesday.

OUR SEMI-CENTENNIAL. In the next year, 1898, Sacramento will attain her half hundredth year as a social body and political community. The first election held at this point was in 1848, when an Alcalde was chosen, the polls being held at Sutter's Fort. Properly the city history dates from that moment though there was a settlement here in 1847. But assuredly next year Sacramento will be half a century old. In view of that fact it is not day too early to now take into mind this subject, and to begin the formulation of plans for observance of our semi-centennial anniversary. It will take over a year to get into communication with all who should have part, in person or by letter, in such a celebration. Some cities which have had similar celebrations, have prepared for them as long as three years in advance. At any rate, the subject is one worthy of debate at this time. Assuming our town history to begin properly, though municipal character came two years later, from the election in Sutter's Fort, Sacramento's celebration should take place next year.

Our evening contemporary has at last discovered that there is a Pure Food Exposition in progress in this city. Once the "Bee" was able to get the news and publish it, but that day seems to have passed. But for the "Record-Union" the people of this city would have had no knowledge of one of the most successful exhibitions ever held in this city. That the people appreciated the full reports in the "Record-Union" was evidenced by the sale of hundreds of extra copies of the paper daily. That the Sacramento Grocers' Union and merchants generally appreciated our efforts will be seen by perusal of two communications from them published in another column. Moral—Take the "Record-Union" and get all the news.

The position of Senator White in the matter of the Cuban troubles is opposed to the sentiment of the people of California. Senator White's action in the Senate on Thursday puts him in the attitude of misrepresenting the thought and sober judgment of his constituency.

Spring humors, eruptions, hives, boils, pimples, sores, are perfectly and permanently cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best spring medicine and one true blood purifier.

Hood's Pills act easily and promptly on the liver and bowels. Cure sick headache.

Special sale of 100 ladies' and misses' winter and early spring trimmed hats of nice material and good styles; can be had for half their value at the Red House Company.

We fill any doctor's prescription. Will save you money. Green's Pharmacy, 7th and K streets.

The only genuine domestic bread at the Pacific Grove Bakery, 823 J

Extracts From Editorial Expression of Journals Of the State and the Coast on Subjects of Living and News Interest.

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ten years the State of California has spent \$20,000,000 on roads, and to-day there is hardly anything to show for it. Cheap wooden bridges, that are more costly in the end than stone or iron; wooden culverts, instead of vitrified pipe; roads run some places on grade, and at others all out of proportion to the main plan, and roads run on section lines, as though the eternal hills were made by a surveyor's compass after consultation with the Land Office.

These are a few, and only a few, of the faults. The expenditure of \$20,000,000 in ten years is a large outlay. The people must have confidence in some one, and in a system covering the whole State nothing but a board for that purpose could handle it. The Governor has power to remove at any time any one of the board, and could be trusted to see that the work is done right.

Let every one interested in good roads stand by the plan of the commission and see that it is carried to a successful issue.

Among the Greek and Roman sculptors the serpent is frequently represented as a protecting deity.

A man cannot run away from death. If he would conquer it he must stand and fight with the weapons of common sense and science. Thousands of men and women try to escape death's most active agent, consumption, by running away from one climate to another, and from one end of the world to the other, forgetting their demon is within them and not to be escaped from by a change of locality. Consumption has been pronounced incurable. It is not. It is curable and without change of climate if the proper remedy is resorted to, in reasonable time.

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I have used one bottle of your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and am now on the second one," writes Amanda E. Blankenship, of Templeton, Dyer Co., Tenn. "I am pleased to say that I have received more benefit from it than from all the medicine I have taken from our home doctors in the last twelve months."

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When "M. D.'s" Fall Out about a case, a variety of diagnoses and prescriptions are apt to be the outcome of the dispute. But it is pretty well understood in this vicinity that when "M. D.'s" Come Together and agree the most, is when the question comes up where to have a prescription filled in the quickest, safest and most reasonable manner.

CONCURRENCE OF OPINION POINTS TO FRED KOLLIKER, THE DRUGGIST, S. W. Cor. Sixth and J.

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