EUROPE.

THE WAR IN CRETE.

BATTLE WITH THE TURKS AT HERACLEUM—FULL ACCOUNT BY AN EYE-WITNESS.

Special Correspondence London Daily News.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE INSURGENT FORCES NEAR HERACLEUM, April 26.—The battle of yesterday was a sufficient proof that, beyond the walls of their sea-coast fortresses, the Turks have little hold upon Crete. They may profess to believe the insurrection at an end, but they have to fight their way like foreign invaders when they would visit the pacified districts. Only yesterday they made one of these visits, with what result I will presently relate. On April 18 we marched down to the plain of Heraclem (Candia) with a strong body of Cretans and Greek volunteers, under the chiefs Petropoulaki and Korakos. It had been rumored that the Pacha of Heraclem would soon attempt to enter the districts between that city and Rethymno, so it was resolved straightway to draw him into action, and to have this matter settled before we should be called elsewhere. Our chiefs had taken post on the last range of rocks overlooking the plain, and had waited on the plain in hopes of an attack, but no attack was made. Therefore we descended to the plain, left the defile by which we had come temptingly open, and occupied a village named Krusonas, at the entrance of another defile a little further south. The Turks fired some cannon shot from the village of Agios Meron in our front, and as night drew on there was a slight skirmish before Krusonas. But next morning all was quiet. The beautiful view across the plain of Heraclem towards the mountains of eastern Crete was lit up by glowing sunshine, whilst a pleasant breeze fluttered our standards and made the white cross upon a blue ground stream out bravely, for Turks and other misbelievers to behold. It was a fair scene, that which spread out before us. Yet it had its darker side, for the insurgents looked sternly to their weapons, as homeless families came toiling up from the plain to seek safety among the grey rocks and yellow gorse. We were in the presence of a cruel enemy, whose light troops make war like red Indians, and these families did well to seek the rocks and gorse bushes.

During the earlier part of the day reports were brought to our chiefs that a Turkish detachment had appeared in the defile, left open to tempt them. We accordingly marched westward through the defile behind Krusonas, to a central position among the mountains. Here we halted until a breathless messenger came running to summon our aid. The Turks had advanced in force. There was a sharp contest now going on between their van-guard and the corps of Koroneos, who had already driven the villagers in the defile. Not a moment should be lost, or, if quick enough, we could take the enemy in flank. This was what our chiefs had been maneuvring to do, and they resumed their march with all the eagerness of men forty years younger. The aged soldiers also gained vigor with the occasion. Petropoulaki cheered forward his well-tried volunteers; Korakos urged on his hardy Cretans; and we scrambled over almost impassable paths with marvellous rapidity. We dived into one ravine, and climbed out of another; slipped over rocks, and trampled through prickly bushes, until the troops had fairly cheered their commander. Now some little shepherd boy high above us cried in a shrill voice, "This way, patriots!" or "Turn to the right, patriots!" or some such practical direction.

Then it was a refugee family which cried out to us from the rocks, "Hasten, children, hasten! God bless the Christian arms." We could presently hear a sharp fusillade, crackling, and echoing in the defile of Monsoros. Faster ran the men, with a warlike murmur, rather than a distinct cheer, passing from end to end of the column. Petropoulaki's son, Loucadas, who was usual among the very first, and with a strong body of volunteers, he had thrown himself upon the enemy's flank just as our main force reached the edge of the valley. A few stray bullets had come singing over the rocks far in rear, but now, all at once, we entered upon a scene of action, and our men took up the fire in loose skirmishing fashion. The head of our column had delivered a volley to let friends and foes know that we had arrived. But thenceforward we had independent firing.

I cannot easily describe the field of battle, nor can I give you any clear notion of the movements on either side. Whilst we could see Heraclem on the sea-shore, seemingly at our very feet, and could distinguish mountain-tops at an immense distance, there was great difficulty in making out the combatants, who were engaged close before us. What with rocks and bushes with the irregular formation of even the so-called plain, and an atmosphere which made objects at 5000 yards look as though only at 500, we were often puzzled as to where the Turks had gone, or whither the Christians were following them. Nevertheless, it was an exciting spectacle. Up the opposite hill-side there moved a column of Turks with red banners clearly to be distinguished at their head. On the stony roadway of the defile were other Turks pressing forward, and we could hear their furious shouts above the crash of musketry. Some skirmishers fired in our direction when we first appeared, but very soon lost heart as Petropoulaki's men poured a steady fire upon them. The detachment under Leonidas Petropoulaki, and the Cretans of Korakos, had meanwhile descended to the bottom of the gorge, and were climbing swiftly towards the enemy's position. Koroneos recovered the ground which he had lost, there was a louder and louder discharge of musketry from our rocky vantage point, and an advance of Christians along the roadway with ringing cheers. We could see the Turkish banners waver and fall back—faster and faster. They are in full flight. There is a shout of triumph from every side, "Victory to the cross!" And now our fire ceases, for we can no longer distinguish friends from foe, while down towards the plain goes crackling a brisk fusillade. The Turkish irregulars fly with goat-like activity, but their disciplined troops behave well, and fire at intervals during the retreat. We who are high up can see that our friends below had better stop and pursue no further. We can clearly make out a large reserve of Turks on the plain, with cavalry and cannon. It is useless to descend. But the Cretans have warmed to their work, and push forward with loud shouts until they have reached the lowermost range of rocks.

Here they must pause, as we can well discern, for the guns and cavalry will bar their progress. So it turns out in a very few minutes. There are waite puffs of smoke, and there is a whizzing of shells from the Turkish reserve. Then some horsemen move quickly forward, and some Egyptian infantry in white uniforms come charging up towards Monsoros. The Christians fall back before these new specialties, though not without a murderous fire to protect their retreat. The Egyptians charge resolutely on, and there is again a discharge from our side of the valley. Yielding step by step, Koroneos and Korakos move slowly out of reach. No bayonet charge can last all night, and when the enemy has lost his breath and our men have spent their ammunition the battle is over.

I must add that the Turks returned to Heraclem without any further attempt to explore the mountains.

TRE GREATREX FORGERY.

TRIAL OF GREATREX AND THE GRIMSHAWS FOR FORGERY ON THE UNION BANK OF SCOTLAND—THE EXTRADITION FROM NEW YORK—JANE WEIR'S TESTIMONY—CONVICTION AND SENTENCE, ETC.

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The first witnesses called were Mary Gibb, Elizabeth Robertson, Margaret Sinclair, Elizabeth Kennedy, and Alexander Hutcheson, who had been employed by Greatrex. Their testimony was to the effect that the Grimshaws had, in the spring and summer of 1866, come constantly to the premises of Greatrex, that a room (formerly the laundry of the house) was cleared for some operations unconnected with photography, in which the Grimshaws constantly worked, from an early hour in the morning till a late hour at night, and that Greatrex also spent much of his time there, especially latterly, when his business as a photographer began to fall off.

Alexander McCall, Superintendent of Police, after the forgeries were rumored, traced the lithographic stones to Telford's, and they were then put into the hands of George McDonald, lithographic printer, who deposed that there was no visible impression on them when he received them, but, by the application of a preparation used for bringing up faint impressions, he brought up on one of the stones the impression of a Union Bank note, and on another there were faint indications in two places of the word "One." These impressions correspond exactly with the forged notes.

The case was resumed on Friday, when Jane Weir, who had accompanied Greatrex in his flight to New York, was examined. She had been for some time in the employment of Greatrex. The Grimshaws began to come about the place in January, 1866. They took no part in the photographic department, but worked in a back room formerly used for lumber. Greatrex often went down to the room where the Grimshaws were. When Greatrex was wanted in the photographic department they had often to go down for him and knock at the door of the secret room, which he would only partially open. She had seen stones at the kitchen fire, as if drying; no such things were used in photography. About six weeks before Greatrex left Glasgow he told her what they were doing in the private room. They were out walking, for they had become acquainted by that time, when he told her that he and the Grimshaws had been making experiments and had found out a way of making Union bank notes. They had tried photography and afterwards galvano-photography, but these had failed; but they had succeeded by engraving the note on a copper plate and transferring it to the stone for printing. He told her it was Sewell Grimshaw who engraved the plates, and that Thomas was to advance the money and give his assistance generally to the work. On subsequent occasions, almost daily, Greatrex told her how the work advanced. He took her into the room one day when the Grimshaws were at dinner and showed her one or two of the printed notes. She saw the printing press and a stone upon it from which the first impressions were evidently being taken in a blue ink. Some time afterwards Greatrex told her the notes were completed, and he said he had written the signatures. She saw bundles of the notes in a cupboard. About this time Greatrex proposed to her to leave the country with him. She was to tell her father she was going on her holidays, which she did. She went to Aberdeen to stay with some friends, while Greatrex and the Grimshaws were to go about the country and get the notes exchanged. Greatrex came to Aberdeen unexpectedly. He came to inquire for a remittance of £50 he had sent her. She had received no such remittance. She had gone to Rosehill, and had not got the telegram he sent her from Stirling. The telegram was as follows:—"From J. H. Rivers, Stirling to Jane Weir, No. 20 Dee street, Aberdeen. £50 sent. Have you received it? £50 more sent to-day." Greatrex had called at Dee street, before following her to Rosehill, and had got the letter with the £50, and the £50 arrived that day. She went with him to Forsyth's Hotel, and on her return from the station, whither she had gone to inquire for two boxes which were to be forwarded in the name of Mr. Rivers, she found Greatrex in an excited state, he having seen in the newspapers an account of the discovery of the forgery. He said he should require to leave immediately, and left for London that evening. He told her to address to him as "Mr. Gray, Brown's Private Hotel, Strand, London." She left for London two days after, and joined Greatrex. They then went to Mitchell's lodgings, Waterloo row, where they lived for a week. In the course of that time he was in the receipt of the Scotch newspapers containing the news of the forgery. At the end of the week they resolved to go to New York, and went to Southampton together. He took a passage by the Hermann, and went off at once. She waited a week later for the boxes from Aberdeen, but they did not come. When she reached New York Greatrex was on the pier waiting for her. They went first to a hotel and afterwards to lodgings, where they passed as Mr. and Mrs. Parker, which was the name they had sailed under. A few weeks after her arrival there Greatrex was apprehended by Superintendent McCall, and was taken back to Scotland. While in Aberdeen Greatrex told her that after reading the newspaper he had burned the forged notes in his possession.

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