









THE SUNDAY HERALD

Cape Town, June 24, 1897.

A MODEL FARM.

We are glad to find that the Legislative Council is fully alive to the views which we have so often advocated in this paper, that the wealth of a country consists not in its commercial, but in its agricultural development. The idea is a trite one. It is a mere matter of groundless faith, we think, but when an antagonistic idea prevails, and when like many other theoretical convictions, it is entertained in our duty to warn the public against being led astray by such delusions. We do not for a moment contend that our agriculturists, are anything like model farmers; but we fearlessly ever, that, taken in the general run, they are as successful, if not more so in their pursuit, than the Model, or rather Meteoric Agriculturists that from time to time turn up among them. It may be all very well to attempt to apply a system of Agriculture which prevails say in Sweden or England to the arid soil of South Africa, but we have invariably seen, as well in the Eastern as the Western Province, that European agricultural experience is sadly defective in South Africa. Any one who has embarked his capital in an effort to prove the contrary, has generally found that his faith, and hopes, were far from being realized in his experience. An Englishman, for instance, arriving in the colony with more voraciousness in his pocket than a corresponding amount of judgment to invest them properly, purchases a farm. This of course is to be a model farm. All Colonial Agricultural appliances must be forthwith set aside. New implements for rendering the soil more productive must necessarily be introduced. He does not yet know that Africa is not England, neither will he believe it, until he discovers to his sorrow and disappointment, that with a quarter of the outlay, his neighbour, in his old-fashioned method, has netted a return of some twenty per cent more than he himself has done with all his new inventions and modern appliances. We are far from disparaging any private effort towards the rendering of South African soil productive. We would encourage it by every means in our power; but we should certainly dissuade any one who has much to lose, from any attempt to reduce his European experience to practical results in a country differing toto caelo from that in which he gained it. Suppose for instance a rich Drakenstein farmer were imported into England with all the capital that is usually conceded to an English farmer just arrived among us: and supposing further, that he buys a farm in Yorkshire, and determines to plant orange groves, vines, apricots, &c. on his lands, the people of his neighbourhood would certainly think that the individual was a fit subject for a lunatic asylum. Turn over the picture, and how does the observer appear? An Afrikaner planting orange trees in Yorkshire is not a whit more ridiculous than an Englishman cultivating gooseberries under the shade of Table Mountain. And we would quickly, and without the most remote intention of offence, ask whether of the two Agriculturists to whom we have alluded, appears the greater fool? Admitting, as every one must that neither is endowed with superlative wisdom, the question arises whether of the two has the right to judge of the other? The question is such a nice one, that we leave it to our readers to determine. We are far from discouraging individual enterprise, but we do not like to run away with, or to be carried away by an idea. We are thankful to those who sacrifice their wealth for their country's good, but we are not such idol-worshippers as to recommend our friends blindly to follow their example. We extract from their disastrous experience whatever may be beneficial, while we avoid the sunken rocks on which they suffered shipwreck. All honor to our experimental farmers; and, as Paddy says, "more power to their elbow," but we must first see their success before we practically adopt their plans. The idea of establishing a Model farm for the benefit of the entire Colony, was equally, if more not absurd, than was that of erecting a Botanic garden under Government patronage. Without calling in question the abilities or zeal of those who are more immediately connected with said garden, we should like, in Parliamentary phrase, to see returns of the beneficial results it has operated on the arboricultural, horticultural or any other "cultural" developments of Colonial "culture."—We are strongly of opinion that divested of its attractions for pleasure seekers and nurserymaids, it would soon be regarded instead of a Botanic garden, as simply a place of resort for those who did not know where else, or how otherwise, to spend their time.—This is it remembered is a Government Institution, supported by an annual grant, and yet, but for the attractions of the Military Band and the protection its inclosures afford to byddom, it would be passed by fifty times without being revisited once. It is a failure, as most of our ideal theories are, but as it approximates very nearly to our most recent idea of a Model Farm, we may safely draw conclusions from the one, that would in all probability be applicable to the other. Without establishing a Government Model farm, there are hundreds of model farmers as well in the Eastern as in the Western Province. In fact every one wishes to be such, and in most cases, is simply restrained from being so, because his means are not equal to his aspirations. It is an insult, and a gratuitous insult to the farmers of this Country, which they indignantly resent, to tell them, that they are to be taught their profession by those who know nothing at all about the country, but who, confiding in the

strength of their Government pay, presume not only to dictate to the Farmer, but to talk disrespectfully of him, because forsooth his common sense tells him that the dicta are mere moonshine, and the nearest possible approximation to absurdity. Well one may be an idiot, but he does not like to pay wages to a fool to be everlastingly flouting this unfortunate fact to his ears.

But we forget about our Model Farm.—Where is it to be? Under what supervision is it to be managed? What is it going to effect? To prevent rust in corn, and blight in the vineyards? If so, in heaven's name let it be forthwith established. But if the project is only a vague theory which has been haunting the mind of an enthusiastic Agriculturist, but rests on no better grounds than the "baseless fabric of a vision," let the vote of the Council be considered as having definitively settled the question.

There are fifty farmers, within fifty miles of Cape Town, and probably the same number in the Eastern Province, that were three or four thousand pounds advanced to them, without interest for a year or two, at most, would convert their farms into Model Estates, and refund the money "with usury." We should then have Model Farms without any expense to the Government, and with very great advantage to the country. Government, generally speaking, mismanages matters; therefore it is not desirable that it should have the control of the development of the resources of the country in its hands. That is, however, no reason why it should not assist, if it can, without risk, persevering industry in laudable agricultural exertion. This, however, Government cannot legitimately do, and therefore the best course it can adopt is that which the Council has recommended; to leave agricultural enterprise to its own natural development. A model colonial farm is as little to be dreamed of in this country as would a Kew-garden in the centre of the Great Sahara, or in the middle of our own Karroo, and even were it established here, what good purpose would it serve? We intended to say something about the decided failure of our Agricultural Shows which were to work such wonders, but we have already overstepped our limits.

APPOINTMENTS.—P. Nightingale, Esq., as Civil Commissioner and Magistrate of Robertson; R. W. H. Giddy, Esq., as ditto of Bedford, justice of the peace for Cape Town and the district thereof, and the several country districts, and road magistrate; H. Meyer, Esq., M.D., as justice of the peace for the district of Calcutta; P. J. A. van Breda, Esq., M.D., as district surgeon of Breda; J. de Smidt, Esq., M.D., as ditto of Fort Beaufort; G. Gerard, Esq., a United States Consul; J. F. Hiltz, Esq., as consular agent at Simon's Town.

SEQUESTRATION.—The estates of: Joseph Jaffha, saddler and strokemaker, first and second meetings at the Magistrate's Office, Uitenhage, 3rd and 10th July.—Richard Austen, ditto at ditto, Fort Beaufort, 6th and 13th July.—Johannes Petrus Jacobus Moutjies, ditto at ditto, Graaff Reinet, 2nd and 9th July.

INTESTATE ESTATES.—A meeting of the next of kin and creditors will be held in the estate of A. C. Collinet and surviving widow Mr. S. A. Hironimus, at the Masters' Office, 13th August.

WELLINGTON AND WYBERG RAILWAY.—The receipts on these lines for the month of May have been £3276 2 9.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Information is sought at the Colonial Office, respecting John McWade, of Dundee, Scotland, who embarked for Algoa Bay in the ship Mathilda Alheling, from which vessel he was discharged on the 12th February, 1882.

Also respecting Mayer Rivh, who is stated to have been a printer, and who has belonged to the English navy. He is also stated to have been a schoolmaster in Cape Town for some time.

VISIT OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.—The Ministry have resolved to erect three triumphal arches, one at the military lines, one at the Castle Bridge, and one at Government House, or such other places as may be found necessary;—to present an appropriate address to H. R. Highness, and to invite the inhabitants to have a general illumination. A mixed committee of Commissioners and Wardmasters has been appointed to carry out this resolution.

DUTCH DRAMATIC COMPANY.—The Dutch Dramatic Company "Doo' Yver bloeit de Kunst," will give their second performance at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday evening next.

ACCIDENT TO THE DUTCH SHIP "GALLEIL."—On Saturday last it was discovered that this ship, which was lying in the Breakwater basin ready for sea, was making a good deal of water,—in fact was almost sinking. As soon as the agents were informed of this, measures were taken to charge the cargo, the pumps being at the same time kept going. It is supposed that the vessel passed over her own anchor, one of the hands of which made a hole in her bottom, through which the water rushed in.

STELLENDRECH.—A lecture will be given tomorrow evening at half-past six o'clock at the Stellenbosch Library and Reading Room, for the benefit of that institution by the Rev. G. Jeffrey. The subject will be "Value of a knowledge of science in daily life."

ESCAPE OF TWO CONVICTS.—On Saturday afternoon, while the convict gang was employed in quarrying gravel just outside the town, two of them managed to make their escape. Constables were sent in pursuit, but no tidings have as yet been received of the runaways. They got about half an hour's start of their pursuers, and of course were "over the hills and far away" in a twinkling; and if they are sensible, there they will stop, for there is a nice little rod in pickle for their edification in the Worcester gaol, if ever they find their way back here again.—Worcester Courant.

CAUGHT AT LAST.—On Monday a man known as William Peters, the flute player, was brought before the Acting Magistrate, J. D. Hugo, Esq.

He is the man for whose apprehension a warrant appeared some time since in the *Grass-Reiner Herald*, for the crime of murder, and who is supposed to be concerned in the murder of Mr. Spiller, of Grass-Reint. He was recognized at Darling Bridge by Mr. Pett, who passed there on Sunday, upon which Mr. Rothkugel apprehended and handed him over to the field-cornet, who brought him to Worcester for further disposal, during the journey to which he will have ample opportunity to play his fluke to the tune which is most suitable to his position. We ought to say that this is the second time Mr. Pett has done some service to the public in this way. Some years since, while residing in this place, he recognized a man who had broken out of the Prince Albert gaol, and gave him into custody.—Ibid.

ADELAIDE, June 12, 1897.—Mr. J. A. Raubenheimer, an old and respected inhabitant of this place, met with an accident of a serious nature, on Wednesday evening last about 7 o'clock, on his way home from Fort Beaufort. Approaching the Waterkloof drift, about two or three miles from Adelaide, is a small embankment on the lower side of the road, which proved a deception to Mr. Raubenheimer, he being a gentleman of advanced years, and falling sight the grey appearance of the embankment in the dark, led him to deviate from the proper course in mistaking it for the line of road. The cart containing Mr. Raubenheimer and a little boy, coming in collision with the embankment, was overturned on the top of the former, breaking two of his ribs and severely fracturing the right shoulder, the latter was precipitated without any material damage. Fortunately the horses stood still immediately the accident occurred, otherwise the disaster must have proved fatal on the spot. Mr. Duploy and his son, who were also returning from Fort Beaufort, happened to arrive a few minutes afterwards at once extricated the unfortunate sufferer from underneath the cart in a state of insensibility, and by applications of cold water obtained from the river, succeeded in restoring him to a state of consciousness. With some difficulty he was then conveyed to his residence and placed under treatment of Dr. Brown. Faint hopes were entertained of his recovery and he is still in a precarious condition. This is the third accident occasioned by the same cart.

A very sudden death transpired on Friday evening, the 31st ult. Mr. John Nicholson, a mason by trade, who far some time past has been complaining of a slight ailment of the chest, but not of character to warrant any serious consideration, retired as usual to rest about 9 o'clock. About an hour afterwards his wife was aroused at the mention of her name, and before the cause could be ascertained, he was a corpse.

Housebreaking is becoming an ordinary occurrence. In addition to the theft of money, &c. perpetrated on the premises of Mr. Meyer, a few evenings since, on the premises of Mr. Botha, and sundry articles of provisions &c. abstracted. Frequent visitations of that kind in Adelaide cannot be wondered at, being without Government protection of any kind whatever, a fact which our sable brethren know to value. A village compact for a Mutual Protection Society, would not be amiss, despite the fear of State Trials and a distant jury.—F. B. Advertiser.

TIGER KILLED.—On Monday last, as the men employed at the farm of Mr. J. C. Naude, "Winterhook," went in search of some oxen, they came upon a tiger, crouching between some stones. He was fired at, but the shot missed; thereupon three dogs tackled the brute, and although they were severely handled, they succeeded in completely biting off the head of the animal. Although not full grown, he measured 7 feet from nose to tip of the tail. As soon as the dogs had finished the tiger, a steinbuck was started, which a greyhound secured within 200 yards.—G. R. Herald.

SOMERS.—Our district is not at all exempt from stocklifters, they too often pay our farmers an unwelcome visit, by relieving them of a number of their sheep, sometimes of their cattle and very often of some of their horses. One farmer in the neighbourhood, missed 80 fat lambs, the other day and although a diligent search was made, they never were found. This is only one case out of the many, for nearly all our farmers are complaining that they are suffering by the sheepstealers.—Somerset Courant.

ACCIDENT.—As the waggons of Mr. Wessel Moolman were returning from Somerset on Monday, a riding party in horse wozons and carts overtook them on the road, and drove past in a furious and reckless manner, as the generalty of wedding parties do: The oxen got frightened, and turned out of the road when the driver in jumping off the wagon to turn them unfortunately fell in front of the wheel, which passed over the whole length of his body and right arm. He now lies in a precarious state.—Ibid.

LOCUSTS.—This terrible plague is now in close proximity to the town and may be expected to alight here at any moment and carry in their work of destruction in our gardens. The insects are swarming on the farm Prinsloo and along the Fish River in myriads. Mr. J. A. Van Nickerk informs us that during the whole course of his experience, he has never seen these pests swarm in such immense numbers as they are now doing at Prinsloo. Owners of crops would perhaps do well to gather in sharp, early, possibly in a few days nothing will be left to gather.—Ibid.

THE FORGERY CASE.—Edward Dry was brought up on Thursday last, June 17, for preliminary examination. The prisoner appeared perfectly cool and almost unconcerned, indulging occasionally in a quiet smile when any part of the proceedings amused him. If the depositions of the witnesses are correct and we have no reason whatever for supposing them otherwise, then Dry must be a very wrongly disposed young man, lacking only the cunning to effectually carrying out his unlawful designs. He endeavored to implicate or cast reflections upon the character of both John and Robert Callahan, but he entirely failed in his object as the evidence will show. We sympathize with the father of the youth and with his other relations, but consider it fortunate that he has fallen into the hands of justice before opportunity permitted him to be guilty of greater criminality. The examination is to be resumed on Tuesday next.—Ibid.

GOOD RETURNS.—Although our districts of Somerset and Bedford, do not excel in the cultivation of cotton, coffee and silk, yet they can compete with any in the production of that article of export, destined to supersede wool, namely Angora Hair. Last week Mr. Isaac

de Klerk of the Bedford district will know as a breeder of Angora goats, sold his clip of Angora Hair to E. Gabriel & Co., of this town. From 500 Angora ewes, which Mr. de Klerk considers superior, he shorn two full bales of hair weighing about 1000 lbs. after the coarser and dirtier parts were removed. For this he received 2s per lb, thus realizing from 500 goats £100. For two bales of hair of inferior quality it will be remembered that about 2 years ago, when the demand for Angora's to export to America was greater than it now is, Mr. de Klerk sold nearly 300 ewes from £25 to £1 each. Last week he sold 20 at 45 each to be shipped for Natal. Mr. de Klerk has a flock of about 24 thoroughbreds.—Ibid.

FANCY THINGS.—A DEAR PIG AND A DEAR TURKEY!—On Saturday afternoon, June 8, a sale of stock, &c., (collected by the children) was held on account of the new Dutch Reformed Church. The following prices were realized: lambs from 5s. to 18s.; ewes, 7s. 3d.; goats, from 4s. 9d. to 9s. 4d.; a small pig, £8 3s. 3d.; a turkey, £8 4s. 9d.; some poles and packing cases put up for sale by the Building Committee, fetched £33 10s. The total amount realized by the sale was about £300.—Cradock Register.

THE KINDERFEZ, or gathering of the children of the Dutch Reformed congregation in this town and district, took place on Monday last. At nine o'clock on the morning of that day, the weather being all that could be desired, the children, numbering at least 300, assembled in the Dutch Church and were addressed by their pastor, the Rev. J. H. du Plessis, and from thence proceeded to the Victoria Drive, where they were joined by their parents and friends, and spent the remainder of the day in the usual out-door games and amusements.—Ibid.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

Legislative Council.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19th.—The Uitenhage Water Bill was read a second time. Mr. van der Byl brought forward a motion to request the Governor to make provision in the Estimates for establishing model farms in the Eastern and Western Province, with the view of developing the vegetable and animal resources of the colony; to which Mr. Goddoulton moved as an amendment, that the Governor be requested to call the attention of Parliament to the expediency of establishing such farms. Mr. van der Byl having withdrawn his motion in favor of the amendment, the latter was, after some discussion, agreed to. The Stolen Property bill, as amended in committee, was adopted, read a third time and passed. The Fish River Bridge bill was read a second time. Council adjourned till Friday.

FRIDAY, 21st.—A petition was presented by Mr. Goddoulton, from the Divisional Council of Fort Beaufort respecting the Katberg road. Mr. Goddoulton moved that the grants for religious purposes should be re-distributed, but after a lengthened discussion the motion was withdrawn. Council, in committee, considered the Uitenhage Water Supply bill. Progress was reported. Council adjourned till Tuesday.

House of Assembly.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19.—Mr. Advocate de Villiers took his seat as one of the members for Worcester. The House went into committee to consider the Cape Town Municipal Bill, and after agreeing to a variety of amendments,—amongst others altering the title of chairman into that of Mayor, and abolishing the office of vice chairman,—the bill was reported with amendments.

The House went into committee on the Governor's message relative to the withdrawal of the troops, when Mr. Rutherford moved the following resolutions: 1. That the Committee, while recognizing with sentiments of profound gratitude the fostering care of the British Government, and the generous protection afforded to the colony by the liberal employment of the British Forces and Expenditure of National Treasure on its behalf, learns with great regret and anxiety that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to withdraw the Troops at present stationed in it, unless a sum of £400 per man be paid by the colony for their maintenance. 2. That the Committee, being of opinion that in the present circumstances of the colony it is simply impossible for Parliament to undertake the responsibility of guaranteeing such a payment, reluctantly records this its opinion. 3. That as, in the opinion of the committee, the proposed withdrawal of the troops must be regarded as the completion of the policy inaugurated by the annexation of British Kaffraria—a policy imposed upon rather than accepted by its legislature, and especially inconsistent with the liberal proposals made by the Imperial Government in 1864, and subsequently withdrawn, of subsidizing a force of irregular horse to be raised within the colony; the committee considers that the Imperial Government should have made provision for the expenses of defending British Kaffraria for some time at least after its annexation; and that the colony has an equitable claim to terms far more favourable than those proposed. 4. That the situation of this colony in reference to the Aboriginal Tribes is peculiar and perilous, and widely different from that of any other colony—a circumstance which, in the opinion of the committee, establishes a very strong claim on the part of this colony to the exceptional consideration and treatment of the Imperial Government. 5. That in the opinion of the committee, the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Forces will exercise a most detrimental influence, not only upon the colony, but also upon the various tribes within and beyond its borders. 6. That these Resolutions be transmitted to His Excellency the Governor, by respectful Address, with a view to their being forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a request for their favorable consideration.

Capt. Millie moved that the following stand as the second resolution, in lieu of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th resolutions: "This committee is of opinion that this colony, willing to do all in its power to meet the views of the Imperial Government, is totally unable to contribute towards its defence in money more than it would be left to Her Majesty's government to act in the matter as it may deem just, right, and expedient, with due regard to the peace and welfare of the Colony and of the Native Tribes within and beyond its borders."

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Messrs. G. Wood moved as a further amendment, that progress be reported. This amendment was agreed to. The order to go into committee on the Kaffrarian Attorney's bill, was discharged, and the Standing Rules Committee were directed to report whether said bill was to be considered as a private or public bill.

The House adjourned till Thursday. THURSDAY, JUNE 20th.—A petition was presented by Mr. Solomon, from 37 merchants, shipowners, &c., against the abolition of the office of Shipping Master.

The Cape Town Municipal Bill was reported with amendments, and ordered to be considered on Tuesday. A petition was presented by Capt. Mills, from the Divisional Council of Fort Beaufort for the continuation of the Katberg-road through that town.

Three messages were received from the Governor, the first transmitting a bill to confine the use of postage stamps to the purposes of postage, the second, stating, with reference to the representation made by the House, that H. E. would do his best to comply with its wish, to publish government bills before the commencement of each session;—the third forwarding certain correspondence between the Governor and Mr. Justice Bell, relative to the remuneration to be assigned to the latter for performing the duties of Chief Justice. The Postage Stamps bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on Friday.

The motion of Mr. Stanton for a return of the number of bonds registered in Cape Town between 1862 and 1865, was negatived, and another for a return of acquiescences during the last seven years was not seconded. Mr. Wehmeyer, after discussion, withdrew his motion to request the Governor to place £400 on the Estimates for the re-construction and repairs of Devils Kop Pass. His motion to request the Governor to cause an estimate to be framed of the costs for completing the Kromme River road, &c. was negatived. The Game Laws bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed on the 27th.

The House went into committee to consider the petition of the widow of sub-inspector Ford, when Mr. Walter proposed to give her a gratuity of £300; but on the motion of Mr. de Korte, the chairman vacated the chair, and the matter dropped. The House, in committee, considered the Governor's message respecting the expected arrival of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, and resolved: to make provision for all necessary expenditure that may be incurred for the proper reception of H. R. Highness. The resolution of the committee of the whole House, respecting the continuation of the Katberg road to the Orange River, was adopted, omitting, however, the words "as a measure of justice," &c. The Judge's Pensions bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned till Friday. FRIDAY, 21st.—The resolution of the committee of the whole House, respecting the visit of H. R. Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, was confirmed, and ordered to be forwarded to the Governor. The motion for the second reading of the Postage bill gave rise to a long debate, which was ultimately adjourned. Several other measures were postponed, and at about half past 4 o'clock the House adjourned till Tuesday.

Foreign Intelligence.

It appears from an article in the last number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, by General Changarnier, on the French and Prussian armies, that the boasted prowess of the soldiers of the latter, as exhibited in the campaign of 1866, culminating in the battle of Sadowa, is held as an equal value by French military men; and this opinion will not be without its effect in forming a general opinion of every English Prussian—think the hesitations of that country greatly overrated, but admits the importance of improving the French weapon. But the most important part of the article relates to what we conceive to be the want of stamina in the Prussian soldier, and he thus embodies his idea: "Without speaking of the war of 1849, the two campaigns against honest and unfortunate Denmark—the first anything but glorious for the aggressor; the second too easy by the aid of ill advised Austria—had suggested some reforms, given experience to a portion of the soldiers, and some useful lessons to all the officers; and yet notwithstanding its rapid victories over the brave Austrian troops commanded by generals worthy of her in courage, but whose method fortune did not crown with success, the Prussian army proved that it is not capable of supporting the fatigues of a long war. In a campaign of a few days the roads were covered with its stragglers, and the hospitals crowded with its sick. In presence of an enemy, tenacious, obstinate, disputing the ground inch by inch, it would have been exhausted, in spite of its inextinguishable bravery, long before the completion of its task." The last sentence in this paragraph is of course, intended as a compliment to the characteristics of French soldiers, and it would be unfair to deny that those soldiers are remarkable for the military qualities spoken of—more remarkable, it may be said, as most of their great engagements have proved, than the Germans; but does it not seem odd at this time of day, that a commander in General Changarnier's position should be thus indulging in a publication which as its name imports, is written to enlighten two hemispheres, in such free and dis-paraging criticism on an army that he may soon have to meet in the field? To defeat such an army, after such an opinion, would bring no great honour to the victor, and to be defeated by it would be the height of ignominy. Utterances of this kind by a military man of acknowledged reputation appear to us very inconsiderate, if not unwise.

TAKING BABIES.—A correspondent writing from Sibova (Bulgaria) speaks of the hardships of the new system of levying the tax for each month from military service. A few weeks ago (says the letter) the soldiers of our town for the Bulgarian *chorba* this and surrounded him that he had just received a Russian general to exact on every male infant, not exceeding even new born babies, the sum of 27 1/2. He added also that he had stringent orders to collect this tax to the last penny for the current year. Our Bulgarian community remonstrated with the Governor of the *stano*, but their application having received no answer, they have just memorialized his Imperial Majesty the Sultan on the subject. In this petition they state that the payment of this additional tax is beyond their means, and that they therefore humbly pray his Majesty to remit it, and to order that the *babes* should be levied as hitherto, only from adults. The *babes* are the children of the present generation, and to fight by the side of their fathers and grandfathers for the defence of the throne and country.—Levant Herald.



