

reinstating Mussulmans in their villages; that he appointed mixed commissions to discover and return stolen property; that he compelled Mussulmans who had stored a great quantity of spoils at the village of Meskinia, to return them to the Christians, confiscating at the same time from Mussulmans a great number of arms; that, as the latter refused to return to their villages unless a like measure was adopted against Christians, he was under the necessity of confiscating also some arms from the latter, while returning to Mussulmans their stolen property; that unavoidable slight irregularities may have taken place, but that, as he acts openly, and with the assistance of Christian notabilities, the reported outrages are not consistent with truth, and that he consequently begs the Consuls not to put faith in malevolent and exaggerated rumours, but to apply to the authorities for information in every case reported by individuals, who intrigue in order to obtain popularity, and to prevent the Government from accomplishing the task of pacifying the island.

I beg to transmit herewith a copy of the list of outrages handed to me by the Archbishop; also a translation of this document, with explanations in each case.

I have considered it best to submit to your Lordship in the very words of Christians their complaints in this province.

Some cases of ill-treatment by the police which have been related to me by the sufferers leave no

doubt in my mind that there are real motives of complaint under that head in this town. Patronaki, No. 1, is one example.

As there was a general outcry at Christians being cruelly treated in the villages, and as very vague cases were mentioned to me, I was under the necessity of remaining here a few days, in order to find out what part of the province it was most convenient to visit for the object I have in view.

Among the great number of cases mentioned to me since, some proved, by Christian testimony, to be so exaggerated as not to represent the truth, and some were quite irrelevant by their own nature.

Of the remaining twenty-five cases, twenty concern ill-treatment, and five outrages of another nature, which I shall investigate on the alleged spots.

Hitherto only in one case from the villages could I see the sufferer himself, a certain Giorgi Haniotaki, of the village of Melessas, who stated that on the 9th (21st) September he received five blows with a stick, by order of the Mulazim of Varvarous. He also stated to have seen a certain Sifis Sphakianakis, of the same village, receive six similar blows by order of the same officer.

In all the other instances my informants had not witnessed, but had heard, the case from third parties.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) ALFRED BILIOTTI.

Inclosure in No. 10.

List of Outrages to Christians in the Province of Candia, handed to Consul Biliotti by his Grace the Greek Archbishop of Crète, on the 29th September, 1889.

(Translation.)

No. 1. Some gendarmes having asked Zacharia Patronaki to give them wine, and he refusing, they seized him and unmercifully thrashed him while conveying him to the police station.

No. 2. At the farm Livadiotis, near Pompea, a large stone weighing 30 or 40 okes was found close to the house of Janni Tsakiraki, and, on the suspicion that it had been taken from the destroyed Government Office at Mires, he was compelled, by thrashing, to carry it back on his shoulders to Mires, a distance of 6 miles.

No. 3. Some time since a certain Frangois Galenianakis—with his son and others, while coming to Candia from their village, Slanakia—was murdered by Turks at a place called Vezinegi Vrissi. However, the son and the other people coming together in the town are still in prison, the authorities not admitting that the murder was committed by Turks, and insisting that the son murdered his own father.

No. 4. A certain Jannis Pappadaki is kept in prison since many days because, on the evening of his being turned out of a house in which he temporarily resided, he went with his family to take shelter in a corner of his own house (now occupied by Turkish emigrants), and one of the Turkish women living there happened to die. The husband of the deceased accuses Pappadaki of having caused the death of his wife by the fright she experienced on his entering the house. However, the Mussulman doctor has declared that death was caused by a chronic disease.

No. 5. The position of Christians in Candia is desperate. Many Christians are imprisoned and thrashed on the least false accusation brought against them. It is sufficient for a Mussulman to accuse a Christian, whatever may be his position in life, that he has used offensive language

Explanations.

Although six days had already elapsed, the contusions I have seen evidently prove that he was most savagely treated. The officer of gendarmerie promised to punish the culprits, but Patronaki doubts whether it was done.

Was to be ascertained in village; but Christians having arrived from thence assure that Tsakiraki carried the stone only a short distance, and that he was not beaten. Native Mussulmans, taking pity on him, begged and obtained that he should not proceed further.

I called the attention of the Acting Governor to this case, who replied that under martial law all persons present at a murder are detained until the inquest is over. Twelve Mussulmans are in prison under suspicion. The arms of all the Mussulmans in the vicinity of Vezinegi Vrissi were confiscated on the occasion of that murder.

The case having been represented to me as a very hard one, also by Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, I spoke to the Acting Governor, who seems himself to consider it in the same light. He said that it being connected with a case of death, the Court was bound to examine it carefully, but that he would recommend its speedy solution.

The opposite case, mentioned as an example, is the only one of the kind which has taken place. Pompeano, who is only a tavern-keeper, and is not perhaps altogether blameless, having been sent to Canea for the rehearing of the case, was acquitted, and is returning here by first steamer.