

of a very few who are wanted by the authorities, all have returned to their houses.

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

No. 17.

Consul Biliotti to the Marquis of Salisbury.—
(Received October 22).

Mr. Lord, *Candia, Crete, October 14, 1889.*

ON the 11th instant I telegraphed to your Lordship to the following effect:—

"I returned to Candia yesterday evening. I find that in the southern and eastern villages which I have visited since the 7th, beating was pretty general. As many as twelve persons suffered on the 2nd instant upon the occasion of the escape of a conservative leader. The following is a summary of cases:—

One to three blows	16 cases.
Four to six blows	15 "
Nine to fifteen blows	8 "
Twenty to thirty blows	6 "

I have been told of two cases in which forty-five and fifty lashes were given without interruption, of one case in which the same individual received twelve lashes on four consecutive days. I can, however, report what the sufferers stated to me, as I have not the means of checking their evidence.

The following appear to be the chief outrages: Opening of a woman's dress by a leading Mussulman and a native gendarme, with a view to search her person for a letter; Apprehension of another female at 11 p.m.; Marching of two priests and an old man, eighty years of age, with their arms bound, to head quarters. No complaints were made to Abdul Kerim Pasha by the aggrieved parties. A Mussulman, who is employed as a dragoman, is considered responsible for sixteen of these cases, which are of recent date.

I have brought the above facts to the knowledge of the Governor, and he has directed the Sub-Governor to proceed to the spot and hold an immediate inquiry. In accordance with his promise to me, the Primates have been ordered to report to His Excellency all cases of ill-treatment."

It is only after perusal of the detailed statement that I am posting to-day that an exact idea can be formed of the importance to be attached to the cases reported to me by the interested parties.

And I have just wired to your Lordship that the second inquest held by the Christian Sub-Governor of Candia in the case of the woman mentioned in my telegram of the 7th instant, admits that she was murdered, but finds nothing to support the supposition that the murder was committed by Mussulmans.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a detailed statement of the cases that I have investigated since the 7th instant.

All the outrages on which circumstantial evidence was obtainable proved to be exaggerated, and were reduced by me to their real value in my statement. But as it was impossible for me to ascertain whether all those who stated to have been beaten were really beaten, and to what extent, I had no other option but to take down their statements as given to me. I have even recorded trifling cases so as to avoid all suspicion of partiality.

On the whole, there is no doubt that beating was freely distributed, but that exaggeration plays a great part.

Ill-treatment has taken place, when, about a month since, houses were searched for stolen property and a few rifles were confiscated.

Even a few Christians are of opinion that, as in the case of Mussulmans, who were the first to be thrashed, no stolen property would have been recovered without beating, and I have ascertained myself, in more than one case, that it was only after a few lashes that Christians made up their mind to give up stolen goods. Individually, soldiers have not given a single motive of complaint, they only acted under orders, and beating was not systematically resorted to by officers. It depended on circumstances, and also, no doubt, on the temper of the officer leading the expedition.

In some villages Christians dug holes deep enough to hold oil-jars 5 and 6 feet high, and cut trenches in which they embedded the rafters of whole houses.

In many cases, in most I may say, officers were influenced by the natives serving as dragomans, who are all Turks.

I have observed that the march of each officer could be easily detected by ill-treatment in the one case, by no complaints whatever in the other.

It is satisfactory for me to have to record that all cases of beating brought to the notice of Abdul Kerim Pasha were severely punished by him. His Excellency removed Yacoub Tshaoush, of the gendarmerie, from Aghia Varvara, and is going to send him out of the island. I referred to this individual in my preceding report as having ill-treated three boys.

There was no very severe case of beating during the recovery of stolen property, and the confiscation of arms, which after all do not amount to 300 rifles.

But some cruel cases appear to have taken place at and near Pediaa Castelli, on the occasion of the escape of a conservative leader named Trifizi.

Christians of both factions in that locality attribute these acts to a certain Ramadan, a native Mussulman dragoman, and perhaps also to the officer from whose hands escaped the conservative leader, and who lost all restraint.

As soon as I mentioned these facts to the Governor, who had not yet heard of them, he ordered the Christian Sub-Governor to proceed to Castelli Pediaa, and make an inquest. That functionary left this day to carry out his instructions.

I am almost certain that the measure adopted by Abdul Kerim Pasha to obtain returns from the Primates of all villages will put a stop to beating, which is quite contrary to the interest of the Porte.

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

Inclosure in No. 17.

Statement of cases of ill-treatment and outrages investigated by Consul Biliotti in the Province of Candia.

NO. 2 in Archbishop's List.—The Government Palace at Mires, which is the residence of a Kaimakam, was entirely demolished, and all its material carried off. A term was fixed for the restitution of stolen property in general, and after its expiration, the authorities made searches for the recovery of non-returned articles.

Janni Tsakiraki stated to me that on the 22nd ultimo a square cut stone, belonging to the Government Palace, was discovered in one of his fields, where it had been placed without his knowing it by his sons. All the beasts of burden being already loaded, the native gendarme conducting the expedition ordered two soldiers to put the stone on his (Tsakiraki's) back, which they did, and he had to convey it about half-a-mile, where other beasts of burden were waiting