SALE OF ARMY HORSES.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,— While fully prepared to concede that the letter signed "A Lover of Animals," appearing in your issue of the 31st ult, provides a complete vindication, from its purely economic aspect, of the existing scheme for the disposal of a proportion of our army horses by public sale in this country, I fail to see that in the light of facts he has succeeded in justifying its advantages from the humane standpoint. He suggests a definite working alternative does not lie within the scope of the present letter, the sole aim of which is to enlist sympathy and focus attention upon certain outstanding features of the scheme which surely constitute an imperative demand for its complete revision by those competent to do so. I would frankly appeal to the humane and sporting instincts of all concerned, for a reconsideration of the subject from the humanitarian aspect. My contention is that it should be so considered is entirely based upon two main propositions: First, that in the provincial districts of Egypt, horses and other animals are subjected to untold suffering and abuse; Second, that in process of time our sold remounts MUST inevitably pass into the state of misery. Grant these premises and you are immediately justified in the adoption of measures which must otherwise appear wasteful. With regard to my first point, by your correspondent's own admission, and as everyone familiar with the country districts is aware Egypt must be regarded as a land of starvation for working animals, the skeleton horses and ponies met with at every turn of the way affording absolute proof of the assertion. Like your correspondent, I have had two and a half years' experience in Egypt, during which period I have been the unwilling witness of animal suffering of a nature which can only be described as appalling, especially in the provinces. The lot of the Cairo or Alexandria buggy horse, close to the "operations" of the admirably organized S.P.C.A., is a fortunate one compared to the more isolated cases in the country districts, although, no later than today, I found a nice pony covered with wheals, being brutally flogged while flinching from pulling with two fresh cellar gulls on his shoulders. Regarding my second point I would merely ask on common sense grounds, what other fate can time possibly hold for our sold remounts as they deteriorate, than that they should be scattered far and wide among the smaller native buyers! What this implies, let those who experience attest! The evil would certainly be more immediate if they were not unsound, but is no less inevitable under the existing scheme. If the wiry country-bred pony encountered in the provinces, presents so often a pitiful spectacle, to what condition would our larger pedigreed horses be reduced when on the downward grade, accustomed as they have been to a liberal scale of feeding and proper stable management? Deprived, as many of them are, by short-docking, of their natural defence against swarming flies, they would endure the combined effects, of outrageous over loading, starvation, vile shoeing with all its consequences, and offensive work beneath a sun of tropical intensity. Ill-fitting harness would fatally produce its inevitable sequence of festering and gaping raw sore bodies, be subjected to the unmumbered tortures which attend the almost universal ignorance and apathy to animal suffering which prevails on all sides. The suggestion of your correspondent that the introduction of a number of our horses into the native market would automatically improve the situation from the humane standpoint, fails to impress me. At best only a temporary addition to the horse power of the country, its advantages in this respect would be completely overshadowed by the corresponding and immediate toll of suffering and abuse imposed on our British horses by the expedient. Nor can I follow his chain of reasoning with regard to the "retail rights" claimed by him for donkeys, mules, and camels. Why the fact that the suffering of these poor animals is often unprepossessing should constitute an argument for selling into slavery the gallant horses so largely instrumental in the achievements of General Allenby's far-reaching and brilliant successes in the field, is hardly apparent. Existing evils cannot justify the creation of greater. The satisfactory surroundings which your correspondent considers would be secured for our sold army horses' present condition, have no guarantee of permanence and equine deterioration once being a reality, process. One admits the accuracy of two simple facts, viz, the actual existence of acute animal suffering in Egypt and in time, its inevitability for our discarded remounts and the urgency of your correspondent's argument in support of the humanitarian advantages of the scheme vanishes into thin air. I am convinced that the scheme responsible for its framing and initiation but trace its final sage, the individual history of each British horse so disposed of, they would fail to evoke a decision which had consigned him to such acute and prolonged suffering. That my premises are no distorted pictures of the brain, but very real and horrible facts, will be acknowledged by all familiar with the country, or claiming practical experience in the horse. Even this aspect of the case, I base alike my contention and appeal. Let the military authorities decide that the claims of humanity are paramount in the adjustment of what is necessarily a difficult problem though involving financial loss, and they are assured in whatever action may be deemed requisite for its solution on such a basis, of possessing the support and active sympathy of all that is best in public opinion whether among civilians or the army.

Yours, &c.,
Equo Amicus.

Cairo, February 10.

FOOTBALL.

ALEXANDRIA UNITED SERVICES LEAGUE.

EMTEES v. B.W.I.'s.

This match which was postponed from last Saturday on account of the B.W.I.'s sports meeting was decided on Wednesday. The B.W.I.'s were the first to score. From a finely placed corner kick by Joseph the ball went into the net off Steward. It was some time before the Emtees obtained the upper hand. They eventually drew level from a penalty kick given the Emtees because Morale handled near goal. Morale was converted by Shaw. The same player scored a second a little later from a free kick just outside the area. Just before the end of the game Pattison headed a third goal.

Final:- Emtees, 3; B.W.I.'s, 1.

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THE CREDIT FONCIER EGYPTIEN.

A SUCESSFUL YEAR'S OPERATIONS.

The annual report of the Crédit Foncier Egyptien, which is the great land mortgage concern of Egypt, is always anxiously awaited by those who are interested in the finances of this country as it affords the most clear evidence of its financial situation owing to its intimate connection with agriculture which governs the backbone of Egypt's prosperity. This report has been submitted by the Directors to the general meeting of the shareholders held at Cairo on Thursday last and we give a few extracts from it which will undoubtedly prove of interest to many.

According to this report, the cotton crop of last year exceeded six million kantars and brought into the country the handsome sum of L.E.51 millions against L.E.43 millions in 1916 and L.E.21 millions in 1915. Likewise the other Egyptian crops have been equally remunerative in spite of the imposition of the food tariff and the restrictions on export owing to the war.

These enormous returns have increased the demand for land and consequently facilitated transactions and reduced to an appreciable extent the compulsory sale of mortgaged property. In addition, therefore, to paying back a fairly large part of its debts, Egypt has found it possible not only to subscribe freely to foreign loans but also to have large unemployed sums available at the banks and more notes in circulation.

In the various domains of financial activity purchases on cash payments have become the rule and on term the exception, and it is particularly observed that mortgage transactions have been rather insignificant, and instalments of old mortgages have on several instances been made in advance.

Owing to the fact that the Egyptian Government issued no loans the funds of Egypt drifted in the direction of London where they were invested in exchequer and National War Bonds.

The arrears of annuities and interest at the Bank which stood at L.E.2,240,034 on October 31, 1917 fell to L.E.1,511,956 on October 31, 1918, — which is the end of the financial year in review. This is the lowest figure attained during the last nine years.

The account of expropriated property which stood at L.E.2,965,500 on October 31, 1917, was equally reduced to L.E. 928,497 on October 31, 1918, owing to the fact that it has been found possible during the course of the financial year to dispose of a considerable part of these properties which had been a heavy charge on the Bank's finances ever since the famous crisis of 1906-07.

It is interesting to note also that as much as L.E.1,299,364 was remitted to the Bank during the year in the way of advanced instalments and that the total amounts received by the Bank were L.E. 6,904,287 while only a sum of L.E. 2,176,766 was paid out in the way of new mortgage loans leaving a net balance of L.E. 4,727,521 and raising the unmortgaged balance from L.E.5,484,956 in 1917 to L.E.10,212,477 in 1918 of which L.E.9,043,579 has been invested in Exchequer Bonds, National War Bonds, Bonds of La Defence Nationale, etc.

The net profits of the Bank during the year have attained L.E.702,529 against L.E.598,022 in 1917. This has enabled the Directors to declare a dividend of P.T.120 for the ordinary shares and P.T.3530 for the Founders' shares, which constitutes the highest dividend on record. It has been observed that since the present management took over the concern in 1906 the dividends have been gradually on the increase, with the exception of the early part of the war. Prior to 1906 the highest dividend paid was 17 francs and 400 francs for ordinary and founders shares respectively. These went up to 24 and 410 francs in 1907 and 26 and 52 1/2 francs in 1910. In 1914, owing to the war, the Bank only paid a dividend of 15 francs for the Ordinary Shares and no dividend at all for the Founders Share. These figures require no comment as they speak for themselves and testify to the great ability of M. Emile Mirel, the President of the Board of Directors, M. Chas. Rocca Serra, the Vice-President, M. P. Claudio Janet, the General Manager, as well as the other members of the Board.

The meeting ratified the appointment of M. Guernant, President of the Société Générale of Paris, as member of the Board of Directors in succession to Comte de Matharel, deceased, and took note of the resignation of Moise Cattaoui Pasha, who owing to private affairs has asked to be relieved from his duties as member of the Board on the expiration of his term of office.

A RADISH-SELLER'S SAVINGS.

According to an Arabic contemporary one of the recent flood victims, a female radish-seller, has been seen diligently digging among the ruins of her shattered house. On being questioned, it was found that the poor thrifty creature had saved and hidden L.E. 400 and was searching for it.

The Alexandria Assize Court, yesterday, sentenced five villagers of the Behera, to five years' servitude for life, for having committed a series of robberies in the Marakezes of Kafr el Dawar and Abou Hummos. One of the accused, the ring leader, was implicated in three different cases which were tried yesterday by the Court.

Cut out the Racing Coupon.

SUDAN PENSION LAW.

SOME IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS.

CRITICISMS AND SUGGESTIONS.

According to a rumour which is gaining much credence, the Egyptian Government is contemplating the amendment of its Pension Law for officials serving in the Sudan and of introducing certain modifications affecting the service of future entrants into the Sudan Civil Service.

The importance of the amendments to the new law as reported to be the following: (1) The assessment of the pension on the basis of the average of the official's salary during the last two years of service instead of the average of the last three years. (2) The acceptance of officials who join the service when they are above 35 years of age to serve towards pension the same as has been the practice in Egypt for the last ten years. (3) The extension of the age up to which unmarried daughters of deceased officials or pensioners are entitled to draw pension from 18 to 21. (4) The increase of the maximum pension accruing to families from L.E.200 to L.E.300 per annum.

Against these improvements the following disadvantages are said to have been introduced. (1) Counting pensionable service from the age of 21 instead of 18 as at present. (2) Raising the minimum age when a pension may be claimed by retiring from 45 to 48. Out of the advantages enumerated above the only one which appears to affect the officials generally is that pertaining to the assessment of pension on the basis of the average salary of the last two years instead of three. Against this, however, the official is made to lose three years of his service when he joins at an early age and to face the trying climate of the Sudan for three years longer than he would under the present law. These points, and especially the latter, are very important to officials serving in a country like the Sudan and one of the chief inducements of the Sudan Civil Service was the advantage of retiring at an early age and thus preserving one's health and enjoying a few years of well-earned rest after spending the best part of one's life out of reach of civilisation and comfort.

Another point which, though more advantageous under the new law is still considered a great drawback and requires putting right is the stopping of the pension of daughters at the age of 21 if they are still unmarried. This may appear very natural to our British readers but when it is remembered that the law affects many more oriental officials (Egyptian, Sudanese etc.) than it does European whose daughters are able to gain their living honourably even earlier than the age of 21, the reason for considering this as a drawback will be explained. Oriental ladies have not yet become accustomed to work and earn their living, as do our ladies, and it will undoubtedly be very difficult for the parents of such ladies to find themselves without means when they attain the age of 21. It is true that most of the Sudanese and Egyptian girls marry before they attain the age of 21 but very few who do not marry will find themselves in a very critical position and will be reduced to a state which neither becomes the dignity of their fathers had honestly served nor the society in the midst of which they may be living. Besides, in the Egyptian Law no such limitation of age is contemplated and the same law should not be applied to the Sudan just the same, as both are oriental countries where the conditions prevailing and the customs and habits are not very different.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

(To the Editor of the Egyptian Gazette.)

Sir,—W.L.B. in his letter on British East Africa, which appeared in your issue of the 12th instant, calls for the exchange of views of prospective settlers, especially on his scheme of co-operation and co-ordination. I would propose a real practical start forming an association of all those seriously interested; and would suggest W.L.B. should write a circular letter requesting these gentlemen to send in their names and addresses. He might then call a meeting for the purpose of electing a president and secretary, also to propose the agenda for the next meeting. A small subscription could be called for to cover any out-lay he might be put to and for the Association's future expenses. It will eventually be possible to make the Association a permanent factor, transferring its hobby to East Africa where many problems, no doubt, would require solution.

Yours, etc.
A.H.W.S.

Alexandria, February 12.

BOOKS ON C. OF E.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,— A correspondence has recently appeared in your paper touching the catholicity of the Anglican Church. Surely all the members of our Church and others who are earnestly "seeking" the Catholic Faith we would recommend the following books:—

Bishop of Oxford's . "The Religion of the Church."

Procter & Frere's . "The Prayer Book."

Rev. W. Carey, R.N. . "My Religion."

The above books are cheap and within the reach of all. Should one desire to study the dogma of the Church, the Bishop of Gloucester's book "The Thirty-nine Articles" will be found enlightening. If any on your readers wish to understand the position of the Anglican Church as part of the Catholic Church the Bishop of Oxford's "Church of Christ" is a recognised and respected work on the subject.

Yours, &c.,
Two Priests of the Church of England.
Mena Camp, February 8.

GOODS TRAIN THIEVES.

A few days ago some thieves succeeded in climbing into a goods train waggon loaded with sesame, on its way to Cairo from Mataria. About 50 sacks were thrown from the waggon, and the thieves made off with what they could leaving the rest on the railway line.

THE SIDI BISHR "HUNT."

THE APOLOGIA OF REX.

"Bill, you're made no one'll understand a word of what you're talking about," said George.

George, I must explain, is my tent companion, and Bill is my "nom-de tente" as Rex is my de plume: I have many other names, especially when people get angry, but none of them matter for the moment. George's rude remark referred to an article on hunting, in composing which I had devoured an entire pen on the previous evening. I was somewhat nettled at having my style crabbed in the early morning, before I had even climbed out of bed. "Don't you see, Silly, that's the whole point of it? All the people who were out hunting will understand everything, and the other half of the world will be completely befogged. That's just what's wanted: nobody likes to be mystified and they'll immediately wonder what it's all about. The more imaginative will think wonderful things. They'll read about the meet at the Depot, Arms and picture an old-fashioned "Pub" and a bottle-nosed proprietor handing out tankards of beer by the armful to the assembled multitude, instead of the Colonel greeting his guests at the sweltering Base Command Depot. I'm quite sure they'll think that Coates Farm is owned by a sinister farmer who twines insulting arms in his belt and bound fences, whereas you and I know that "Prison Copse" really contains several thousand Turkish prisoners, and that the only "chickens" we scattered on galloping through Coates' farmyard were a few bantam and mere waiters at the headquarters of O.C. Prisoners of War. As for our old friend Abdul Effendi, owner of that infallible outer bed in the back of their minds he'll be a jolly old farmer, standing at the corner of the Copse, holding his bush in the air and hoisting like a good-un; whereas we . . . well, we know he doesn't even exist, mere's the bush. It will stimulate their curiosity and the result will be they'll all come out and hunt. They've started coming already; there were more people out last time than before. One of the more righteous ones asked what the fox was doing in the middle of the pack! It was explained to him that the gentleman in the red waistcoat was the huntsman and not the fox! But they'll be sorry, and I will be a bit of a shock to them to discover that our quarry is not reposing saving his subtle trail of scent, but an omcer on a "hairy," scattering torn-up Army Forms to the winds of Heaven."

Then I ran out of breath, and a deep voice from George chimed in: "We'd better get up, Bill, but that bath's going to be blooming cold this morning."

Rex.

WELSH CHOIR AT ST. MARK'S.

On Monday next, February 17, an organ recital will be given in St. Mark's Church, Mohamed Ali Square, Alexandria, by the Ld. W. Bradwen Jones, who will be assisted by the Welsh Divisional Male Voice Choir, and Lance Corporal Pugh, Tenor-Soloist. The programme will be as follows:—

(1) Sonata, Mendelssohn; (2) (a) Harmonies du Soir, Karg-Elert, (b) Sunday Morning, E. Evans; (3) "The Heavens Declare," (The Choir); (4) Prelude and fugue in B minor, Bach; (5) Solo "The Holy City," Adams, (L/Cpl. Pugh); (6) Grand Finale in C, Guilmant; (7) Storm," Lemmens; (7) Festal Prelude, Faulkes; (8) "Land Sighing Flute," J. Barnby, (The Choir); (9) Andante in D, Hollins; (10) Grand Choeur, Spence.

ORIENTAL PIGEONS.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,—Seeing an article in your paper referring to the Oriental Pigeon, the only information I can give (Columbus) is that the pigeons during the Oriental Drill will be found are Constantinople, Adrianople and the districts round that area. They are the best birds for flying over the Moshi's and several of our well-known fanciers used to visit these places with a view to importation of frills to improve their studs.

Yours, etc.
Muff Tumbla.

Alexandria, Feb. 11.

THE FRENCH RED CROSS.

The following is the tenthlist of subscriptions received by Madame Lefevre Pontalis:—(the figures are in pounds Egyptian and millieme):—Ld. Hemi Nuna, L.E.10; Society Protectrice d'Irrigation, 50; Mr. Jacques Portos, 3; Mr. Antoine Gisolo, 2; Mr. Gaston Brignoli, 1; Mr. Selim Bahari, 1; Mr. Ferdinand de la Boccacci, 1; Mr. Nicolas Diamataris, 1; miscellaneous, 6; Mr. Nessim B. Levy, 10; Mr. Hesim Sadek & Fils, 10; Mr. Basili Saba, 10; Mr. Constantin Saba, 10; Mr. Mohamed A. Waras & Frères, 5; Mr. Abdelrazzak Hassan, 5; Moustapha Abdelrahim, 5; Mr. Abdelgawad Ashari, 1; Mr. Mohamed Ali Ibrahim Hassan & Mohamed El Wattar, 2; M.M. Saleh & Amin El Zéni, 2; Mr. Ali Hassan Chahine, 2; Mr. Mohamed El Zéni, 2; Mr. Mohamed Ali Zéni, 2; Mr. Abdelrehim El Zeini, 1; Mr. Ahmed Bazaria, L.E.0.500 mills; Raffierie de Hawamdieh; Mr. Zéni Mohamed, Mr. Director, 2; Mr. Jacques Bondi, 2; Mr. Abdelchani El Mokeimi, 2; Mr. A. Bondi, 2; Mr. Ch. Ch. Balestrieri & Fils, 1; Mr. & Mme. Orillat, 1; Mr. I. Mimouni, 1; Mr. Francis Pirot, 1; Dr. J. Kahil, 1; miscellaneous, L.E.0.200 mills. Indigènes Fabrication, L.E.16.900 mills.; indigène Matériel, L.E.1.900 mills.; indigène administration, L.E.11.315 mills. Succursle de Kom Ombo: Mr. Demulling (Director), 3; Mme. Demulling, 2; Mr. Joseph Hanna, 1; Mr. Ch. Ch. dikiles, 1; Mr. Van de Calsevyde, 1; Mr. Blanchard, 1; Mr. Mentor, 1; Mr. A. Schmidt, 1; Mr. Mitoudis, 1; Mr. A. Leve.do, 1; Mr. Constantinople Anastas, 1; Dr. Alphes, 1; Mr. Chebata Gad, 1; Mr. Ahmed Hassan Ibrahim, 1; Mr. Abdallah, 1; Mr. Hassan Sanadaoui, 1; Mr. Mohamed El Sayed, 1; Mr. Tendera Mahmoud 1; Personnel indigène de l'usine à la journée, P.E.17.260 mills.; miscellaneous, L.E.17.150 mills. Total, L.E.70.000 mills. Total amount acknowledged, L.E.9,211.410 mills.; grand total, L.E.9,482.100.

THE "AMERICAN" THIEVING METHOD.

The Cairo Governorate draws attention to a common method of thieving of which a man named Habib Ibrahim was recently made a victim. There are usually two accomplices one of whom throws a purse in front of a pedestrian and on his stooping to pick it up, the second one approaches and demands a share of the booty. During the ensuing discussion the first returns, and demands his purse and on receipt accuses the victim of stealing its contents. Both search the accused and second with all the money that they can find on his person.

RACING ENTHUSIASTS.

Those who cannot attend the Races can yet have a big interest by taking chances in the "Gazette" weekly competition. All entrance fees less ten per cent given to the winner.

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ALEXANDRIA GRAND MILITARY MEETING

For Military Charities

SATURDAY FEB 22

CAIRO SOLDIERS ENTERTAINMENTS.

Lecture on Egypt. — A remarkably interesting lecture on "Egypt in the Nineteenth Century" was delivered by Mr. J. C. Elliot at the Y.M.C.A., Cairo, on Tuesday evening. The speaker was at great pains to explain (to use his own words) "How the Englishman came to be in Egypt and particularly how they came to stay there." He dealt at length with the history of the nineteenth century, the contest for supremacy between the British and their present allies, the French, and the fact that it took the British over 100 years to decide to stay in Egypt. The speaker analysed the three great periods of that history, viz. (1) 1798-1805, associated with Nelson, (2) 1832—1841, Palmerston and (3) 1882—1914 associated, principally, with Lord Cromer. It is a historical fact that for something like 2,000 years "Egypt has never been for the Egyptians." In turn, the Persian, Greek, Roman, Arab, Mameluke and the Albanian (Mohamed Ali) dynastic have ruled. Egypt has always figured prominently in the great crises of the world, a fact that the lecturer attributed to God's purpose in a universal philosophical position as "The Gateway of the East." One of the great conquerors named have ever failed to realise the supreme importance of this. Even the Mameluke, "with whom the palatial buildings of Egypt are invariably associated, obtained the money from the East." The only blank in Egyptian history is for the three centuries after 1517 when the Turks were dominant. The speaker explained how the Turks ruined the trade of the country and Napoleon, in 1798, rediscovered the secret of Egypt. He cited a characteristic remark of Napoleon: "My army in Egypt is the left wing of the forces for the invasion of Great Britain; it cuts off the trade with the East." He dwelt on the political importance of the battle of Abukir Bay and later, the defeat of the Mameluks in the battle of the Pyramids with the subsequent intervention of the British against Napoleon and the Turks at Acre. He pointed out British ousted French domination this being the end of the first era, the British leaving in 1803.

The lecturer then gave the picturesque story of Mohamed Ali, the founder of the house of Kavalla. "Mohamed Ali was nearly drowned at the hands of the French and was saved by the British, yet, curiously, all his life, was extremely partial to the former and very antagonistic to the latter." It was explained how Britain intervened again when Greece was in danger of oppression by him and again when Mohamed Ali, with his victorious son, Ibrahim Pasha, seemed likely to take Constantinople itself. In 1841, coming on the scene of Egypt's fate, he made another attempt but Palmerston stepped in through Admiral Napier. This ended the second era when Egypt's great Britain's protector to stay in Egypt. Dealing with the subsequent events of history, the speaker detailed the succession of Abbas Pasha and Said Pasha, then Ismail Pasha "who ran the Egyptian National Debt up from £3,000,000 to £100,000,000 and deposed by Britain." The period of Tewfik was related, with the momentous mutiny in his name, right down to the battle of Tel el-Kebir in 1882 when the British again fathered the country's fortunes after the French withdrew at the instance of the French. "With the declaration of war by Turkey in 1914, Great Britain finally took over the country and this time we desired to stay." The lucid way in which Mr. Elliot connected the political history was very greatly appreciated and after several questions had been put and answered he was accorded and hearty round of applause.

GREAT POMPEY'S GHOST!

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,— Not wishing to leave Alexandria without having visited its most famous historical monuments, I set out yesterday to explore Pompey's Pillar, and in order that I might do so the more intelligently, I hired a person bearing the insignia of an official dragoman. After a short ride through fruitful fields his attempts to figure in the photographs which I took of the monument, I endeavoured to divert him from the ceremonial to the merely useful by asking what connection the pillar had with Pompey. That dragoman's numerous and evasive answers ascribed its erection alternately to Ramses II. and the Ptolemies; all he knew about Pompey was that he was a Roman general who flourished in A.D.500. At this point, I invoked the aid of a dragoman belonging to another party; who said that the pillar was indeed erected by Pompey the Great, to whom also the cities of Pompeii and Rome owed their foundation and their name. When finally confronted with the current and authoritative answers ascribed its erection alternately to Ramses II. and the Ptolemies; all he knew about Pompey was that he was a Roman general who flourished in A.D.500. At this point, I invoked the aid of a dragoman belonging to another party; who said that the pillar was indeed erected by Pompey the Great, to whom also the cities of Pompeii and Rome owed their foundation and their name. When finally confronted with the current and authoritative answers by the French guide book, both rascals were completely wrong.

Even showing for the possible possession by the second dragoman of a somewhat perverted sense of humour, I venture to suggest that the official purveyors of history should provide a rather more substantial pabulum to the earnest seeker after knowledge.

Yours, &c.,
H. G. H.

Alexandria, February 10.

PURIFICATION OF ALEXANDRIA.

(To the Editor of the Egyptian Gazette.)

Sir,— May I say how fully I endorse the remarks on God as a Punishing God made by your correspondent, Mr. Digby, against? I also believe that such a presentment of the nature of God is foreign to Mr. Upson's mind. Such a God "to be God is not fit." My personal standpoint is that of (I say it with humility of heart) his with correspondent, and sincerely a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the only point of contact between myself and Mr. Digby is probably that he professes the existence of a personal Creator creating as He will, and by an act of will. The teaching of the Bible is quite plain and clear, and in accord with our experience of life. The Creator made man's physical (and thus his mental) being subject to the inexorable laws of his particular form of life, and by the working of these laws sure retribution ensues when a man or a woman sins against the highest and holiest function of man's being, viz: the reproduction of his kind. Thus the race is preserved, and thus the sense of racial duty and of racial self respect is maintained.

So far on that line. May I state the Bible teaching of redemption with regard to sin, whether this particular sin or all sin? How infinitely removed from what Mr. Digby justly says would drive any noble thinking, reasoning man into open atheism. The God revealed in the face of Jesus Christ shows God as Creator of beings endowed with free will, taking the responsibility of sin—or, to push it back, taking the responsibility of having created a race of beings with power to sin, and so to set up the conditions of to-day. God shouldered the responsibility, and in doing it vindicated His justice: and He shouldered it by entering into the human race and living out in Man's full life perfectly, and then laying down that life willingly and willfully—pouring out His soul unto death—so that every man can have the perfect life of God within him if he will—Eternal Life, the Life of God, and be at one with God and to make Atonement, Jesus Christ as Son of Man made it for the race and as Son of God. He did God's part, but thank GOD the eternal law of Retribution holds, God's forgiveness and our repentance are alone in the plane of a mere white-washing, and man's failure in his responsibilities to his kind must be paid for—not by him, by his. Mystery upon mystery piled up in our human life! We are something infinitely greater than we understand, but the clear strong line of the redemption of the world Jesus Christ is the Revelation of God in Man, and the answer to every problem:- not its solution, but an answer to it, and every man can enter into the bliss of a full redemption if he does what means the moment he so will, by asking God for and receiving the Holy Spirit. Experience to the other part of Mr. Digby's letter, I would like to say that although I agree with that it is the life of Acre, Sidney Smith's man, sane and wholesome, who is desirable,—whether his morality is based on Christ's teaching or God or on other grounds,—yet experience does not show, (and I have a knowledge of the conditions and of the Bahai's methods to cope with them in various European cities) that such men have done any more towards reducing this evil than the Bahai's have done as a body. When Our Lord was on earth He made pregnant sermons pushing right back to the motive of a man's heart—"Whosoever shall look upon a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery already with her in his heart."

When we make the spring of a man's motive pure but God alone He pledges Himself to do it through the redemption of the Lord Jesus Christ, if a man will.

Yours, &c.,
N. Acourt.

Zeitoun, February 10.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir, I am sorry that both "Malsi Moore" and "Brittisher" in your issue of to-day, have voiced the wishes of the majority of British Tommies who are in favour of the Bahai house of impurity closed to them. Tommy was not tempted in this way while up the line, and does not desire temptation of this sort whilst here awaiting the call to return to his own country. Great as is the remedy that those who are weak enough to succumb to this vice are few indeed of the great mass of British who are here, and surely it is up to the majority to save the minority from sin and shame. Besides, our victorious Commander-in-Chief has asked each one of us to avoid temptation, and we are trying to do so.

I have soldiered in both Hong King and Rangoon where there is far more vice than I have ever heard of in Alexandria, and yet when the brothels were placed out of bounds on account of plague in both these cities, I never heard of any case where a British Tommy was accused of having violated the laws of decency with regard to the gentler sex. Trust him and try him and he will not fail, for he has bled and died for the sake of Right, which includes all that is clean and good. Close the filthy house out of bounds and Tommy will be grateful.

Yours, &c.,
A British Soldier.

Alexandria, February 8.

GREEK GIRLS SOLD AS SLAVES.

The Turkish paper "Stamboul" reports that young Greek girls are being publicly sold as slaves in the market at Konia (Asia Minor). It is declared that the prefect of Ballikesir have posted up notices that young girls and women of Greek origin can be procured at reasonable prices.

The Chef du Parquet will leave for Cairo in order to submit to the Procureur General the result of the enquiry he has held into the circumstances of the coitus scandal.