



THE LATE MR. GEORGE THOMPSON.

dragomans, or official interpreters. He says:—

“What we want is officials who can not only talk, but read and write, Turkish and understand Turkish accounts. A present matter are at a deadlock in this respect. Mr. Barin is the only one who talks and understands Turkish in the least, and he does not read or write it; at least, so I understand. Mr. Baring's father-in-law, who has been many years in our Consular service, is well fitted for the highest Government employ here; but the terms offered him are such as he could not possibly accept. All officialdom is in the hands of interpreters, and most unsatisfactory interpreters too. Justice and the administration of the government must suffer. A proper staff of Turkish-speaking Foreign Office officials, from Constantinople and Cairo, should be sent here. It is an uphill job for Sir Garnet Wolseley, with a raw staff, utterly ignorant of the requirements of a strange people, to administer the government. The whole administration will fall into disrepute if we are not alive to our interests which suffer now. Our Treasury is robbed with impunity, as no one knows accurately what should be paid in and what the revenues are; and that can never be arrived at as things are carried on at present.

“It may seem presumptuous for me to say so, but I cannot help thinking that the Executive has too much of the military element in it at present. It is all very well to appoint smart young subalterns of crack regiments as Commissioners and Assistant-Commissioners of districts, but a military education is hardly that which is best fitted to train civilian Judges; a staff of experienced Indian civil servants would have been far superior. As it is, all the appointments made to the district are good as far as energy, hard work, and goodwill may do their utmost in their power.”

The above remarks were written so far back as Aug. 28, and must not be taken as bearing reference to anything witnessed subsequently in the Carpas district, but may find their application more properly elsewhere. It could not have been expected that the British civil administration of Cyprus would at once be made perfect; it is nevertheless a vast improvement upon the barbarous Turkish anarchy, by which the island was all but irretrievably ruined. The Greek Christian population, at any rate, seem to be most grateful for the change.

The remaining Sketch presented this week is a view of the jagged summit of Mount Pentadactylon, about 2200 ft. high.

172, LAMBETH ROAD,
S.E.

October 28. 1878

My dear Mr Garrison

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I am much obliged
to you for sending me the very interesting
and appreciative sketches of our honoured
friend who has just joined "the great
majority". Both my wife and I
like it better than anything else
we have seen in the public press..

My time has been so much
occupied that I have been unable
to write to you concerning Mr. Thompson's

death, as I had intended doing..
In fact, although present at
the funeral, I arrived in Leeds at
ten o'clock a.m.. only to learn that
town by the 5.30 p.m.. train. You
will, however, have derived full
information from Mrs. Mowbray's
letter and from the copies of the
"Leeds Mercury" sent to you.. But I
think you will be interested in the
following extracts from a letter
written by my daughter who was
actually present at her grandpapa's
death:—
"30 Francis Street Leeds
"October 8: 1878
"Dear grandpapa passed away last

nights at about 10 minutes past
(11⁰⁰ P.M.)
ten. Aunt Love, Aunt Edith, and
I were with him at the times.
The end was very peaceful. There
was only one struggle, followed by
the most seraphic look upwards and
all was over. An hour or so previously
Mr. Barran*, a very kind friend, called
to take a last look at the dear
patient, who was then quite
unconscious and breathing painfully.
This kind friend stayed some time
with us by the bedside, and before
leaving offered a short and beautiful
prayer for the sufferer and for
those he was leaving behind. Good

* one of the Mr. B. for Leeds.

after Mr. Barran had gone a great
change came over dear grandpapa.
Aunt Louie and I were the only
ones present.. We said the Lord's Prayer
and Aunt Louie fetched Aunt Edith.
Within a few minutes afterwards
grandpapa was at peace."

There is no doubt that in
his latter years he turned much
to the new Testament for hope and
consolation.. It appears that ^{for some time before his death} one
thing he continually did was to send
for an old Methodist neighbour to
pray with him..

I hope to be able to write
a memoir - not too long but giving
the facts of his life in an interesting
form.. I should feel much obliged

If you would send me anything
likely to be useful.

I enclose you 2 photographs
of our two youngest children -
George Donisthorpe (named after
his grandpapa) and Julia Eastwood
Chesson.. They are the youngest
of your old friend's grandchildren..

The Eastern Question has kept
me very busy.. and now our wretched
Tory government threaten to involve
us in the calamities of another
Afghan war.. My wife sends her
best love.. We both send our

Kindest regards to your son.

In great haste

Very faithfully Yours,

J. W. Chesson

William Lloyd Garrison

P.S. I enclose you a portrait
of Mr. Thompson which appeared
in the "Illustrated London News"
of October 16: 1878.. I think it
is excellent.