

# The Cairo News

VOL. III. - NO. 86.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1838

PRICE 6d.



SULTAN MAHMUT II OSMANOGLU

## TURKISH INCURSION.

### SULTAN DEMANDS ADANA AND ALEPPO.

THE Ottoman Sultan sparked a diplomatic incident on February 25 as he demanded the return of Adana and Aleppo from the Khedivate of Egypt.

THE whole of Syria, including Aleppo; as well as Adana and Crete were ceded to Egypt at the Convention of Kütahya in May 1833. In the war preceding the Convention the forces of Muhammad Ali threatened Constantinople itself and it was only when Russia stepped in, followed by France and Great Britain, that a peace was brokered.

SULTAN Mahmut II has ruled the Ottoman Empire for thirty years and has always been an ambitious political operator. He has attempted to push through many reforms during his rule though he was forced to recognize the independence of Greece in 1832.

THOUGH our Khedive is nominally a viceroy of Egypt still under Ottoman rule; Mohammad Ali is independent from the Sultan in all but name.

THEREFORE, nothing more than the recognition of Egyptian independence, and the right to hereditary rule for Muhammad Ali and his family, has been demanded in return. Further lands in Adana have also been demanded in retaliation for breaking the previously agreed Convention.

## EGYPTIAN NATIONAL POLICE.

NEW legislation passed on March 5 created the first national police force for Egypt. A statement from the Citadel stated these new police force will cover all of Egypt with a central headquarters in Cairo. "It will be a Police of the people and will achieve tranquility of the citizens" a spokesman said.

RECRUITMENT and training will start immediately to ensure adherence to the law, as well as putting down the growing radicalism within the country.

## NEW GOVERNMENT VIZIERS.

KEMAL Pasha and Halil Abd al-Rahman have been appointed as new Viziers to the Khedive as of March 5.

SINCE Muhammad Ali took power with his Army the Vizier Rifat Sabri has been the main advisor to the Khedive; being the voice of the armed forces. However, many have described Sabri as little more than an absent-minded bureaucrat, and little more than a pawn to the will of the Khedive.

WHILE it is unlikely that these two new Viziers will have any real influence over the autocratic Ali; it does seem to signal a change in direction for new policies coming out of the Cairo Citadel.

CLAIMING to have the ear of the Petite Bourgeoisie, the 28-year-old Halil Abd al-Rahman has been a regular contributor to our letters section. Though he has little clout behind him, he is considered charismatic and his years spent as a merchant might help to influence financial policies.

THE former lawyer Kemal Pasha has the backing of the landowners, and though some suggest he will be just as much a pawn as the other Viziers; there is a lot of clout behind him. The Khedive will have to tread lightly and avoid upsetting the landowners if he is to remain in power, leading some sources to say this is a case of keeping his enemies close.

## RUSSIA TO STEP IN.

THERE was a surprise intervention from Russia on March 27 when they announced they would support the Egyptian side in the diplomatic play from the Ottomans.

IN the 1831-33 conflict the Russians took the side of the Ottomans but now it seems the Tsar is upset at the Sultan breaking the previously agreed Convention.

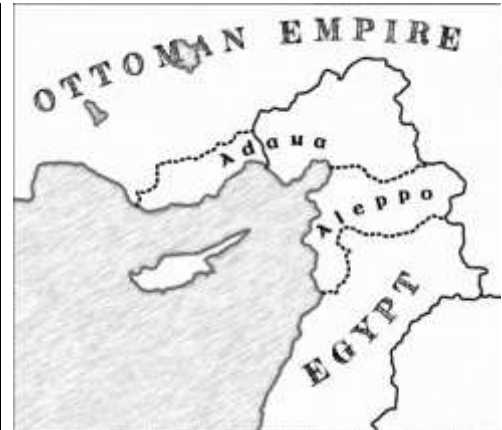
THIS new state of affairs certainly sways things in favour of the Egyptians, though Lieutenant-General Ibrahim Al-Alawi - the Khedive's own son and head of the armed forces - said he was confident that Egyptian forces could beat the Ottomans without any allies.

EVEN with Russia on our side it will mean fighting a war on two fronts, as Tripoli still bows to the control of the Sultan.

ALL troops have been mobilized, with the main force of 104,000 troops being sent to the Adana border in the north under the leadership of the Khedive's son. A further 26,000 troops are heading for the Tripoli border to the west, being led by Major-General Charles-Marie-Napoleon de Beaufort d'Hautpoul.

DURING the last conflict Muhammad Ali was tempted to march on Constantinople itself, and even considered demanding that Mahmut II should be replaced with the Sultans young son.

IT seems the Khedive is being more cautious this time and is only demanding the remaining territories of Adana that were denied to him in the last treaty.



MAP OF THE CONTESTED TERRITORIES

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Editor, -It is about time we had another war with the Sultan. The Ottoman Empire is archaic and should be cast in to the history books, where it belongs.

I can assure your readers that if we go to war with the Ottomans that every one of their soldiers will meet a swift end as they face our armies and we will raze the very city of Constantinople itself! -Yours, &c.,

Major-General Ahmad Pasha Abu Widan

Dear Editor, -At first, I was living with my poor widowed mother, then with my terrible uncle, then they both died and I became an orphan.

Since then, I have risen from the ground up and now represent a group of like-minded intellectuals who wish for a different direction for the good people of Egypt.

I support the conflict with the Ottomans just as any good Egyptian does, but I also support liberalism, the end of slavery and the end of Sultans and Khedive's to rule us.

So, I invite any like-minded people to meet with me in Alexandria to further our small but noble cause. -Yours, &c.,

Yusuf Al-Nahhas

Dear Editor, -I have already made my position clear to the Khedive and I now write to your publication to further express my dissatisfaction.

For too long has the Egyptian leadership ignored the needs of the Sunni Ulema. Muhammed Ali builds himself new Mosques in the Citadel but what of the poorer folk?

Therefore, I have demanded a position for myself as a vizier to the khedive to ensure the needs of the faithful are met. Who else will speak for them? -Yours, &c.,

Selim Pasha

Dear Editor, -Why is no one reporting about the rising price of coffee? How am I supposed to go to work and interact with people when I can barely afford one cup, let alone the minimum of three I need each day! -Yours, &c.,

A concerned clerk