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Lemnos

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LEMNOS¹

(PLATE XV.)

I.—HISTORY, B.C. 512 to A.D. 1920.

As a rule, it is extremely difficult to distinguish the boundary between legend and history. In the case of Lemnos, however, this difficulty does not arise chiefly owing to a lack of material, as very little is known about the early days of the island, and, as far as our knowledge goes at present, the first date in its history is B.C. 512. At this time it was still independent, and though, no doubt, Athenians lived in the island, there was no official connection between Lemnos and Athens. Athens was at war with Persia, and Darius sent Otanes, who was in command of the Persian forces on the sea coast of Asia Minor, on a punitive expedition. As a result of the invasion of Thrace and Macedonia by Megabazus, Lemnos with several of the other Aegaeian islands came under the Persian rule; but the islanders did not surrender without a struggle and put up a very gallant fight. The survivors of the battle were placed in charge of Lycaretus, brother of Maeandrius, tyrant of Samos.² Lemnos was not fated to remain under Persian rule for many years, for about B.C. 493 in the reign of Xerxes it was brought under the rule of Athens by Miltiades.³ He was at this time in the Thracian Chersonese, and recalling the famous quibble of the Lemnians in their negotiations with the Athenians after the raid during the festival of Artemis at Brauron,⁴ took advantage of the

¹ These notes on the history, places of interest and lists of birds and fishes of Lemnos were compiled by a naval chaplain (who was stationed at Moudros for three years) partly for his own information, partly as a means of interesting the men who were compelled by their service to spend weary months in 'the last place God made.' The transliteration of place-names is that adopted for the *Annual*, and does not always correspond with the transliteration used in the map, which is based on the Admiralty Chart.—*Ed.*

² Herod. v. 27.

³ Thuc. vii. 57.

⁴ Herod. vi. 137-140.

Etesian winds, sailed from Elaeus, near the modern Seddul Bahr, and landed in Lemnos. On his arrival he proclaimed that he had fulfilled the Athenian part of the agreement, and required the Lemnians to acknowledge the lordship of Athens, according to their promise. The citizens of Hephaestia, the chief town in the island, acknowledged the justice of his demands and surrendered with as good grace as they could, no doubt on account of the difficulty of defending their city. Myrina (the modern Kastro), however, did not accept Miltiades' plea on the ground that the Chersonese was not Attica. The citizens resisted, and the city held out for some time as the citadel was very strong and well adapted for defence. At length Miltiades reduced the fortress and annexed Lemnos to Athens about the year B.C. 493.¹

The authority of Athens was not yet very strong, as the Persians were still fighting against the Greeks, and forced most of the Aegaeen islanders to supply ships to support the march of the Persian troops through Macedonia; these ships fought against the Greeks at the battles of Artemisium and Salamis and after the defeat of the Persians at Artemisium B.C. 480, only one of the pressed ships took advantage of the defeat to go over to the side of the Greeks. This ship was commanded by Antidorus, a native of Lemnos, who was rewarded by the Athenians with a grant of land in the island of Salamis.²

The next date in Greek history connected with Lemnos is B.C. 477 when the island was admitted into the Confederation of Delos. It was some time between this year and about B.C. 452 that official colonists were sent from Athens and settled in the island, for in the latter year we find the amount of tribute and taxes to be paid by the colonists in Hephaestia and Myrina is fixed at $4\frac{1}{2}$ talents,³ also that a statue of Athena was presented by the colonists and was dedicated at Athens.

In B.C. 441 the Athenians placed fifty boys and fifty women from Samos as hostages in Lemnos, but they were released by some of the Samians who had escaped during the fighting in their own island and had reached Asia Minor and allied themselves with the Persians.⁴ In B.C. 430 Lemnos was visited by a plague which caused great loss of life.⁵ It was about this time that the Lesbians rebelled against Athens, but although Lemnos was so close, and the Imbrians are mentioned as taking part in

¹ Herod. vi. 140.

² Herod. viii. 11.

³ *I.G.* i, 233 and n. 37, 84; 227 *sqq.*

⁴ Thuc. i. 115.

⁵ *Id.* ii. 47, 49.

the fighting in Mitylene, no troops are stated by Thucydides¹ to have come from Lemnos, though in subsequent years they fought side by side with the Imbrians during the Peloponnesian War on the side of the Athenians. Thus in B.C. 425 Cleon at Pylos successfully undertook to drive out the Lacedaemonians from the island of Sphacteria, using only the Lemnians, Imbrians and a few other troops;² in B.C. 422 the best of the Lemnians fought for the Athenians against Brasidas at Amphipolis,³ and in B.C. 413 they took part in the fighting against the Syracusans.⁴

In the year B.C. 404 or 403 Lemnos regained its independence after the fall of Athens,⁵ but in the year B.C. 394 Athens renewed her struggle against Sparta and although not successful on land, regained command of the sea. Conon rebuilt the walls of Athens in B.C. 393 and brought several of the islands once more under Athenian rule, Lemnos being amongst the number. Her sovereignty was confirmed by the Peace of Antalcidas in B.C. 387.⁶

After this there ensued a few years of tranquility for Lemnos, until the year B.C. 351, when Philip of Macedonia made incursions amongst the islands and ravaged them.⁷ An inscription found in Lemnos⁸ shows that about B.C. 348 there was a colony of Chalcidians in Myrina (Kastro) who had probably been driven from their homes by him. In B.C. 322 Lemnos was regained by Athens, only to be recaptured in B.C. 318 by Cassander, with the help of troops supplied by Antigonos. Three years later, Antigonos, the most powerful of the successors of Alexander the Great, was engaged in war with Ptolemy, Seleucus, Cassander and Lysimachus, and fighting took place in all parts of Syria, Phoenicia and Asia Minor. In B.C. 314 Myrina in Lemnos, was besieged by twenty ships. In B.C. 311 peace was patched up between the various rulers, Antigonos being confirmed in his government of all Asia, but he still kept possession of various islands, of which Lemnos was one. In B.C. 307 Lemnos was returned to the Athenians by Antigonos and his son Demetrius Poliorcetes. About the year B.C. 287 or 286, Demetrius, driven out of Asia after the death of his father at the Battle of Ipsus, obtained Macedonia and the greater part of Thrace by conquest; he was attacked by Ptolemy, Pyrrhus and Lysimachus; the latter gaining possession of Lemnos; but the island shortly afterwards

¹ *Id.* iii. 5.² Thuc. iv. 28.³ Thuc. v. 8.⁴ Thuc. vii. 57.⁵ Aeschin. ii. 76.⁶ Xen. *Hell.* iv. 8, 15, v. 31.⁷ Dem. iv. 34.⁸ *I.G.* xii. (8), 4.

passed into the possession of Seleucus, who had declared war against his father-in-law, Lysimachus, and he returned it to the Athenians in B.C. 281.

In the years B.C. 266-5 and 263-2, when Antigonus Gonatas was King of Macedonia, Lemnos was again taken from the Athenians and occupied by his forces, and for some forty years there were no further changes in its fortunes. By the year B.C. 220, when Philip V. succeeded to the Macedonian throne, apparently Lemnos had been returned to the Athenians,¹ but about the year B.C. 202-1 the Athenians in the islands occupied by Philip appealed to Rome for help.² Upon the conclusion of the Second Punic War the Romans renewed their enterprises against Greece, and in B.C. 200 declared war against Philip; in B.C. 196 Philip sued for peace, and was compelled to withdraw his garrisons from the Greek possessions he had occupied, including many of the islands.³ Lemnos was declared to be free and the islanders once again were their own masters; seven years after his death in B.C. 179, his son Perseus engaged in a war with Rome, which terminated in B.C. 168 with his defeat and capture, but in B.C. 166 the Roman Senate returned Lemnos to the Athenians,⁴ and it remained attached to Athens until the time of Septimius Severus, A.D. 193-211, but it seems probable that under that emperor, who was not favourably disposed to the Athenians, Lemnos was for a time a "free" state. During this period the island occupied much the same position with regard to Athens as Malta does to England, both guarding the most important part of the most important trade route of their times, as the trade with the Black Sea had by this time become very large in volume. Lemnos, however, hardly emerges from oblivion, but a few scattered details can be gleaned from inscriptions. Between 30 B.C. and 14 A.D. various disputes between the Athenian communities in Lemnos were settled by the courts at Athens.⁵ In the second century A.D. a member of the important local family of the Philostrati filled the post of high priest of Hephaestos,⁶ and at the beginning of the same century the Athenian community at Hephaestia erected in Athens, at their own expense, a statue of the Areopagus.⁷

The geographical position of Lemnos exposed it to attack from all sea raiders whose goal was Byzantium, and the little that is recorded of

¹ *I.G.* ii. (1), 592.

² Paus. i. 36, 5.

³ Livy, xxxiii. 30.

⁴ Polyb. xxx. 21.

⁵ *I.G.* ii. 488.

⁶ *I.G.* xii. (8), 27.

⁷ A. Moschides, *Ἡ Λήμνος*, pp. 93, 94; *I.G.* xii. (8), 26.

its civil history from the second to the ninth centuries A.D. is in connection with the raids made on it.

Some time during the third century A.D., a certain Antiretes Akanthios was carried off by raiders from Lemnos.¹ At this time the island was subject to Rome but apparently it did not receive any particular protection against raiders, as in A.D. 267 a fleet consisting of 500 vessels, chiefly manned by Goths and Heruli, issued from the Hellespont after seizing Byzantium, plundered many cities of the Peloponnesus and laid waste several islands, including Lemnos.²

From the fourth century Lemnos was part of the Byzantine Empire and though the island is not mentioned by name as one of the sufferers from the raids either of the Avars in the reign of Heraclius or of the Sclavonians in the reign of Constantine V., it is recorded that after one raid by the latter in which the northern islands suffered severely, the Emperor ransomed some 2,500 of the islanders who had been taken captive by these pirates.³ At the beginning of the sixth century Lemnos was in the eparchy of Achaia.

The growth of the Saracen empire brought fresh trouble to Lemnos, and in A.D. 901 the Saracen fleet plundered the island, the Byzantine fleet being powerless to protect it.⁴ In A.D. 920 the fleet was completely reorganised by Romanus I., who in his youth had served as a mariner, with such good results that in 924 the Byzantine Admiral, John Radenos, so completely defeated the Saracen Emir, Leo of Tripolis, off Lemnos, that the latter barely escaped with his own ship and for a period Lemnos had rest from raids. At this time the island was included in the Aegean Theme.

The ecclesiastical history of the island during this period (third to tenth centuries) is also fragmentary. About the middle of the second century, the island was converted to Christianity or perhaps it would be more exact to say that Christianity was implanted in the island. At the beginning of the fourth century Hephaestia was the site of a bishopric⁵ and in 680 the Bishop of Lemnos took his seat in the Synod of Constantinople. In A.D. 776 the body of S. Euphemia was brought to Lemnos. In A.D. 797 Theodore of Studium, banished from Constantinople by Constantine VI., travelled to Thessalonika, his place of exile, via Lemnos where he was courteously received by the Bishop of the island.

¹ Polyæn. vi. 54.

² Syncellus, *Chron.* 382.

³ Hopf in Ersch and Grüber, 85, 87.

⁴ Symeon Mag. 463.

⁵ *B.C.H.* xxix. 59, 66.

During the reign of Leo VI. (886-912), Lemnos became a metropolitan See.

In the eleventh century the Venetian merchants, who were getting a grip on the trade in the eastern Mediterranean, began trading at Lemnos; and by the beginning of the next century there was a well established connection between the island and Venice. In A.D. 1136 Archbishop Michael of Lemnos gave to the Venetians a chapel at Kotchinos, the boundaries being specifically stated. The villagers seem to have objected, but the Venetians said they would build a chapel of their own there to the honour and glory of St. George, and that each year they would give two sea measures of refined olive oil to the Archbishop.¹ In A.D. 1173 the Monastery of S. Giorgio Maggiore in Venice possessed land in the island.

In 1172 Venice was at war with Byzantium and in 1172-3 a Venetian fleet of one hundred and fifty ships under the Doge Vital Michieli II. was in the Aegæan. It wintered at Chios, but owing to an outbreak of plague among the crews was forced to withdraw from that island first to Lesbos, then to Lemnos and finally to Skyros, abandoning many ships at each port owing to the death of the crews. Peace was made in 1174, Venice being restored to the position it had occupied in the island before the war. The islands of the Aegæan being part of the Byzantine empire, were involved in the redistribution of its provinces which followed the siege and capture of Constantinople by the Venetians and the Crusaders in 1204. Venice secured many, including Lemnos, and apportioned them to noble Venetian families the heads of which took the title of Grand Duke. The first Grand Duke of Lemnos was Philocolo Navigajosa. On his death in 1214 the island was divided between his son Leonard (1214-1260), who received half the island, and his two daughters, who took the remainder. On Leonard's death his son Paolo succeeded him (1260-1276).

The history of Lemnos from the thirteenth till the middle of the fifteenth century presents difficulties, as it is seldom clear who ruled the island. It is fairly evident, however, that at various times the Venetians and Genoese simultaneously claimed right of exploitation, and no doubt they were both there; probably the Genoese occupied the western and the Venetians the eastern half of the island. It is certain that

¹ Daru, *Hist. de Venise*.

Lemnos, in spite of all these quarrels, was very prosperous, for in 1437 it contained two towns, six castles and one hundred villages.¹

In 1261 Michael Palaeologus, Emperor at Nicea, in order to obtain the assistance of the Genoese, who were the great rivals of the Venetians in the Aegaeen trade, in his attempt to place himself on the throne at Constantinople, signed a treaty with them at Nymphaeum, by which Lemnos was given to the Embriaci family, a branch of the Gattelusi who were in possession of many other islands.² In 1278, however, the island was again in the power of the Latin Empire and from 1296 to 1303 the Venetians once more ruled there.³ In 1306 Roger de Flor devastated it. In 1322, civil war having broken out at Constantinople, the Lemnians sided with Andronicus III. In 1327 a colony of two thousand Dalmatians was planted there by the authorities at Constantinople, but probably did not stay for any length of time. In 1334 Turkish corsairs raided the island and captured many ships. In 1344 John of Selymbria, nephew of Manuel II., was banished to Lemnos and remained there until recalled to Thessalonika to receive the title of co-Emperor several years later. In 1349 Gregorius Palamas, Bishop of Thessalonika, took refuge in Lemnos.

About the year 1395 the Turks again raided Lemnos, doing great damage, and it is believed that about this time the city of Hephaestia was entirely blotted out by a landslide following a period of very heavy rains. Hephaestia had fallen from its former high estate as the chief town in the island owing to the gradual silting up of its harbour. The merchants were the first to leave the city and establish themselves at Kotchinos, at the extreme south end of the Purnea Bay, only a few miles distant, where they were followed as time went on by the remainder of the population. The first migration from Hephaestia to Kotchinos took place shortly after the introduction of Christianity in the middle of the second century A.D., the new converts moving there because they could not live peaceably with the Kabiri worshippers. In 1397 Kotchinos became the headquarters of the Venetian garrison who erected a very strong fort, which in the same year was given by John VIII. to his wife Eugenia, daughter of Francesco Gattiluso of Lesbos. In 1398 Manuel II. promised Lemnos to the Venetians in return for their help, but between 1414 and 1419 it was again given to the Genoese Gattelusi and Jacob Gatteluso was the ruler.

¹ Νεὸς Ἑλληνομνήμων, viii. 363.

² Bent, J. T. *Genoa*, p. iii.; *B.S.A.* xv. p. 248.

³ *Ath. Mitt.* 1906, p. 247.

Soon after the marriage of the Emperor Constantine Palaeologus XI. a dispute arose between him and his brother Demetrius who called in the assistance of the Turks. At that time Constantine was in the Peloponnesus, and, on hearing of these intrigues, at once left for the capital. On the way he went to Lesbos where his wife was staying with her father Dorino I. and after leaving this island encountered the Turkish fleet off Lemnos and took refuge in the castle of Kotchinos (1442). In 1442 the Turks were laying desultory siege to the castle, and after the arrival of the Emperor and Empress they carried on the siege with increased vigour, but were eventually compelled to retreat owing to the courage of the Lemnians fighting by the side of their Emperor. The hardships of the siege caused the Empress to give premature birth to her child, and she died in the castle of Kotchinos in August, 1442, and was buried with all honours at Palaeo Kastro.¹ Phrantzes, in his account of the siege, does not mention the name of the castle, but Chalcondyles² expressly says that it was Kotchinos.

According to Piacenza, during the Venetian rule in the island several castles or forts were built at Moudros, Kondia, Palaeo Kastro, Plata and Scala as well as that at Kotchinos. Possibly he confused Palaeo Kastro with Kastro (Myrina), which he does not mention but which was the strongest castle in the island. Kotchinos was next in importance, and the remainder were of little value,³ being nothing more than outpost stations.

From 1449 to 1455, Nicolo II., a Venetian, Duke of Naxos, held Lemnos, although in 1453 Constantine gave it to the Genoese, and the Gattelusi had some authority in the island. Constantine needed help against the Turks and he hoped to obtain some assistance in return for his concession.

In 1453, the Turkish rule was definitely established in Europe after the siege and fall of Constantinople; for a time Mohammed II. left Lemnos and Thasos under Christian rulers, but in 1457 he annexed the islands to his dominions. Lemnos suffered severely, many of the inhabitants had already fled to Chios, Euboea and Crete,⁴ the wealthiest of those who remained were deported to Constantinople and only the peasants remained to till the soil.

¹ Moschides, *op. cit.* p. 168.

² Book VI. p. 306, ed. Bonn.

³ Moschides, *op. cit.* p. 191.

⁴ Critobulus, i. 75.

Between 1457 and 1464 the Turks were continually fighting with the Venetians, who gained possession of Lemnos in 1464. In 1476 they successfully held the castles of Kastro and Kotchinos against the Turks. Fighting took place in many other parts of the Near East. In 1477 the war went against the Venetians, in 1479 the Turks were at the gates of Venice, and amongst the terms of the treaty by which the war was ended was the cession of Lemnos to the Turks.

During the sixteenth century Lemnos led a comparatively peaceful existence. Belon du Mans, who went there about the middle of the century, says that he found the island in a prosperous condition and there were seventy-five villages¹; in 1577 Gerlach notes that the islanders paid a tribute of 5,000 ducats.² Their prosperity lasted till the Cretan War, when they were ruined by the cutting down of trees during a Venetian occupation.

For another hundred years the history of Lemnos is obscure, but in 1655 Venice was again fighting against the Ottoman Empire, and in the course of the operations her naval forces seized the island of Tenedos after an engagement with the Turkish fleet in July. They then attacked Lemnos, which had been further fortified by Mohammed II., and in 1656 laid siege to the citadel of Kastro. The disaster which had overtaken the Turkish Fleet facilitated these operations, and the besiegers were able to hail bullets and all sorts of combustibles on the defenders. The Capitan Pasha of the Ottoman fleet, who was then at Gallipoli, managed to send some reinforcements; the Venetians were repelled in two different actions and lost several hundred men, but some sections of the attacking force entered the town. The water cisterns were empty in the citadel, the walls breached by artillery fire, and the besieged garrison could no longer hold out. On the nineteenth day of the siege they capitulated, and everything fell into the hands of the Venetians, who, besides taking fifty thousand sheep, collected enormous booty. Amongst the loot was the sum of sixty thousand piastres belonging to the Aga of the Janissaries, and the Turks left the island with nothing but their clothes. The following year, 1657, however, the Turkish Commander Mohammed Kiuprili was able to inform the Sultan, who was at Adrianople, that he had recaptured Lemnos, which was considered of great importance to the Turkish Empire.³

Another long period of quiescence ensues and it is not until 1770

¹ Belon, *Observations*, p. xxv.

² Gerlach, *Tagebuch*, p. 403.

³ *Hist. de Lemnos*, Vol. viii. Sect. 17. Extracts from Turkish records of Naima Effendi.

that we are able to glean any further information. At this time Greece was attempting to re-establish its independence, and was supported by Great Britain and Russia.¹ On July 7th, 1770, the allied Russian and British fleets under Alexis Orloff, Admirals Greig, Elphinstone and Spiritoff defeated the Turkish fleet at Chesme, in the Chios Channel; the Turkish fleet was commanded by Capitan Pasha Hosameddin, with Hassan, the Algerine, as his Flag-Captain. This victory opened the way for the Allied fleets to attack the Dardanelles, and Elphinstone urged Orloff to force the passage and either to dictate peace at Constantinople or to lay it in ashes. Orloff rejected this advice, projects for attacking Chios and Smyrna were discussed, and finally it was determined to attack Lemnos, as the harbour would be a useful base for a strict blockade of the Dardanelles. The attack on the island was at once undertaken, but the castle at Kastro offered an unexpectedly strong resistance and three months were spent in fruitless endeavours to reduce it.

In the meanwhile the English officers had been recalled, and the weakened Russian fleet was left to carry on the siege alone. Orloff's dilatory conduct gave time to the Turks to assemble fresh forces. Baron de Tott was given charge of the work of strengthening the fortifications of the Dardanelles, whilst Hassan, as soon as he recovered from the wounds received at Chesme, was appointed Capitan Bey, and entrusted with full powers to collect a force to relieve the Turkish troops in Lemnos. He assembled 4,000 picked troops in the Gallipoli Peninsula, and embarked them in twenty-three small vessels. This force, escorted by two line-of-battle ships, effected its landing on the east coast of Lemnos, on October 9th, and stormed the Russian camp sword in hand. The Russians were caught unawares and were forced to fly, only managing to reach their ships with the loss of all their artillery, military stores and equipment. A few days later a naval engagement took place off the island in which Hassan manoeuvred so well that he was able to keep the sea without any loss, and Alexis Orloff, finding that his vessels needed repairs, sailed to Paros, leaving Hassan with the highest personal honours of the campaign, in spite of the catastrophe of Chesme.

Hassan has left his name in Lemnos, for in addition to driving the Russians out of the island, he built a bath-house at Thermia, the famous hot-springs which are still used by the inhabitants.

¹ Finlay, *History of Greece*, Vol. vi. pp. 258 ff.

During the war between Russia and Turkey, Lemnos, like the rest of the Hellenic world, was reduced to a condition of great misery, and most of the villages appear to have been almost entirely deserted, though by the beginning of the next century, when Dr. Hunt visited Lemnos in 1781, conditions had improved.¹ At Kastro, the chief town in the island, he found a shipbuilding yard, and at the time of his visit there was a 50-gun ship on the stocks in course of construction for the Turkish Navy. He mentions that Varos, a village in the N. of the island, between Moudros Harbour and Purnea Bay, contained only 15 houses. In the time of Belon du Mans, there were 75 villages in the island, but when Hunt paid his visit the number was considerably less. As regards the state of the island, he tells us practically nothing, except that it produced sufficient grain for its own needs, exporting the surplus to Mitylene. The peasants were very poor, and were ground down by the exactions of the Turkish authorities. Kastro was the chief town of the Turkish Sanjak, and was also the cathedral town of Lemnos and Strati, the Greek bishop residing there.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, Greece was still engaged in the attempt to regain her independence, and in 1829, on August 28th, the Treaty of Adrianople was signed, by which Turkey, amongst other concessions, ceded the Cyclades and Lemnos to Greece. Shortly afterwards, however, Greece returned Lemnos and Crete to Turkey, in exchange for the island of Euboea. Thus Lemnos again became part of the Ottoman Empire, and it was not until 83 years later that it was again occupied by Greeks from Athens. On October 21st, 1912, during the first Balkan war, the Greek Fleet occupied Port Moudros in Lemnos, and a blockade of the other ports of the island was declared.

At the beginning of the Great War, 1914, the fate of Lemnos was still hanging in the balance, though Greece was administering the island, collecting the revenues, running the post office, and had erected certain fortifications, &c. The island was however still nominally part of the Turkish Empire, and from the end of 1914 to the early spring of 1916 it was the British base for the Dardanelles and Gallipoli adventures,² and was thronged with men of all the allied nations and of the neutrals who ministered to their needs. As many as five hundred ships—fighting

¹ *Walpole's Travels*, pp. 54 ff.

² See Masefield's *Gallipoli*, pp. 32–35, for a description of the departure of ships.

ships, transports, hospital ships and merchantmen—often lay at anchor in Moudros Bay, and it was then that the name of 'Mudros' (to many synonymous with Lemnos) became a household word throughout the British Empire. After the evacuation of the Gallipoli Peninsula most of the camps were removed, but the island remained an important base for the allied operations in the Near East until the end of the war.

On September 27th, 1917, the inhabitants expressed their political preference by hoisting the flag of the Provisional Greek Government. By the terms of the Treaty presented to Turkey, as published on May 11th, 1920, Lemnos becomes part of the kingdom of Greece.

II.—PLACES OF INTEREST IN THE ISLAND.

The following notes supplement the descriptions given by Conze, Friedrich, Tozer, Picard and A. Reinach, and other travellers.

*Kastro*¹ (*Myrina*).

Fig. 1 shows a piece of the polygonal wall on the left of the approach to the castle. One of the blocks is five feet five inches by three feet. Underneath is an open cave over which a large rock projects. Just inside the gate of the castle Conze saw a slab with the monogram of the Palaeologi²; Tozer also saw it but it has now disappeared; so has the small relief mentioned by Picard and Reinach. The plateau near the top of the castle hill is covered with pieces of marble. I saw two marble columns about ten feet in length and one in diameter; there were also the bases of several columns and many slabs were built into the walls and pavement. Fig. 2 gives a view to the north from the castle wall, looking over the modern town. The only thing of interest in the modern town is an old bronze cannon brought from the castle in 1917. Engraved on the top of the gun near the breech is the coat-of-arms of Philip of Spain with the words 'Philipus Rex' below it. Further down is 'Opus Remigy de Balut' and the extreme end at the top of the breech bears the date 'Anno 1555.' On the promontory with a windmill on its extremity (Fig. 2) Friedrich found traces of a temple of the 'Great Goddess' and fragments of the wall

¹ Conze, *Reise*, p. 108 f.; Friedrich, *Ath. Mitt.* 1906, p. 243 f.; Tozer, *Aegean Days*, p. 240 f.; Ch. Picard and A. Reinach, *B.C.H.* 1912, p. 339.

² *Op. cit.* Taf. xiii. 3.

are still to be seen. Mr. Andreas Michalopoulos, Sub-Governor of Lemnos, has very kindly sent me the following details of the remains. 'They

FIG. 1.—POLYGONAL WALL AT KASTRO.

FIG. 2.—VIEW FROM THE CASTLE OF KASTRO, LOOKING NORTH.

consist of two parallel rows of local rock, hewn into big square blocks.

These rows run from east to west and are about nine metres apart and joined at the west end by a similar row of blocks. The length of the two rows is about eleven metres, and the breadth of the blocks about forty-five centimetres. They are almost certainly part of the groundwork of an ancient temple. The whole is thinly covered in grass. I think that the rows running east and west originally extended further, but there are no signs of stones at the east end. At the east end of the southern line there are a few chips of white marble which have been smoothed and polished. A certain amount of sherds are to be found in the neighbourhood. There is a curious mound a few paces away, probably ancient. I hope to have the place excavated.'

*Varos*¹ (*Baros*).

The stone base of the priest's throne appears to be Roman work, the base consisting of three steps, the top one decorated with a looped-up garland, the bottom one semi-circular. At the foot of the throne are two couchant animals, apparently lions.

The track from Varos to the sea (Purnea Bay) leads past some ruins known as Palaeo Pretorio² (Fig. 3). In some ways they are the most satisfactory of any of the existing classical remains in the island (to the lay mind), as there are some marble columns still standing *in situ*. The area of the ruins is bounded by an irregular quadrilateral wall, nowhere above the level of the ground, the external measurements of which are: east wall, sixty-eight feet; south wall, fifty-five feet; west wall, sixty-six feet; north wall, forty-eight feet. These measurements may not be quite accurate as the corners were very indistinct and overgrown by grass. The thickness of the wall is about fourteen inches and is composed of two rows of stones. Inside the area are some marble columns, of which the remains of five are still to be seen, one being three feet above the ground, and another about eight inches; the remainder level with the ground. They are about nine inches in diameter. Towards the north-east corner is part of an upright granite column about four-and-a-half feet high and eighteen inches in diameter. About twenty feet north of the ruins is a well, and on looking down it, I noticed that just below the level of the ground the well was considerably broader than was to be expected, and there were arches on the north and south side, the south side being nearest the ruins. They

¹ Conze, *op. cit.* pp. 113, 114 (Varos); Friedrich, *loc. cit.* p. 251. ² Conze, *op. cit.* p. 113.

were roughly formed of dressed and undressed stone, and semi-pointed in character. Whether the well ever had any connection with the ruins I cannot say, but it seems quite possible, though the arches must be considerably later than the date of the ruins. Inside the ruined area, near the north wall, is a depression as if someone had been doing some excavating. Probably the ruins would repay any attention in that way, as the height of the columns rather indicates that the floor of the building (a temple?) must be some way underneath the present ground level.

FIG. 3.—PALAEO PRETORIO.

Conze¹ states that he saw the top of a marble sarcophagus in this district.

There is another spot near Varos on the road to Erpani which deserves a visit. The rocks which abound look quite ordinary, but when broken are found to consist of petrified wood. The petrified forest covers a good area and is only about three hundred yards from the saddle of the first ridge after leaving Varos. The wood is found on each side of the path, and some of the trunks are great boulders, some amongst them six or seven feet square. The silicified wood is found in all stages from the pieces as hard as granite to those which seem hardly to have been affected in any way. The pieces show many different

¹ *Reise*, p. 113.

characteristics, some being white and very like marble in appearance, whilst others are more like agate. I have taken pieces of this wood to the Geological Museum in Jermyn Street, and was informed that they were specimens of silicified wood. Other parts of the island in which this silicified wood is found are near the Turkish Prisoners' Cemetery on the side of the hills to the south-east of Moudros, and on the hills between Moudros Harbour and Examination Anchorage. (Pl. XV.)

*Erpani.*¹

The church dedicated to St. Athanasius contains much ancient marble, most of it brought from Kotchinos. Several large slabs of marble were recently unearthed, and were lying outside the churchyard. Some of these measured at least 5' x 3' and 4" in thickness and one bore the monogram
Α Ρ Ω

*Kotchinos*² (*Kokkinos*).

The stone houses and warehouses on the sea front noted by Conze are still in existence, and the sea wall of the castle hill.

Before reaching the hill a ditch can be traced for some distance, and apparently it completely guarded the two landward sides of the fort, and was connected with the sea, so that the citadel could be isolated from the land. On the inside of the ditch are parts of a wall, probably erected by the Venetians when they built—or rebuilt—the castle there. Slight traces can still be found all over the area bounded by the ditch of this castle, but nothing remains above ground to-day; the buildings have met the usual fate of all such disused buildings in those parts, and have been used by the islanders as a quarry for the building of their houses.

About fifty feet remain of the well-built sea wall on the north side figured by Friedrich.³ It is composed of large stones, and is ten feet high and five to six feet thick. On the summit of the hill there is a small church, which contains nothing of special interest, but leading from the portico is a flight of fifty-seven steps, every thirteenth step being of white marble. A few steps lead to the commencement of this subterranean staircase which ends in a small chamber about seven feet square with a domed roof in the

¹ Conze, *op. cit.* p. 114 (Drepanidi); Friedrich, *loc. cit.* (Repanidi).

² Conze, *op. cit.* p. 114 ff.; Friedrich, *loc. cit.* p. 253.

³ *Loc. cit.* p. 254, Fig. 5.

centre of the hill. In the far right-hand corner is a small opening in the

FIG. 4.—HILLS CONTAINING THE LEMNIAN EARTH PIT (X) FROM THE S.E.

FIG. 5.—THE LEMNIAN EARTH PIT.

floor where there is always fresh water. This well is at sea level and was evidently part of the water-supply of the castle, though it may be older than the castle which was built in 1476 on the site of a still older building.

Flint arrow heads and scrapers and stone axe heads made of a hard green stone have been found on the hill. Also some bronze ornaments, apparently part of a necklace, and some bone beads. Coins and pottery (of all ages) have also been found. A beginning was made at excavating what looked like a small chamber on the slope of the hill not far from the church, so far with little result except a large slab of marble decorated with a cross.

*Lemnian Earth Pit.*¹

Figs. 4, 5, 6 show the low hills in which the pit lies, the pit, and the perennial spring (Phthelidia) on the hill side. The pit is in the saddle which connects the slightly higher ground on the right with the main ridge. There is a circular depression, about twenty feet in diameter, partially marked out with stones. At the bottom of this depression is a hole approximately eight feet by three feet, with a mass of loose stones, thistles, etc.,

FIG. 6.—PERENNIAL SPRING (PHTHELIDIA) NEAR THE LEMNIAN EARTH PIT.

at the bottom. It is said that some time ago the owner of the land wished to fill up the pit and cultivate the land, but this was not done. The old ceremonies are still observed (1918), and the earth is still in demand as a specific in cases of fever and dysentery.

¹ F. W. Hasluck, *B.S.A.* xvi. pp. 220 *sqq.*, with a full bibliography.

Kastro Vouni (Hephaistia) (Figs. 7, 8).

The underground building mentioned by Conze¹ was actually excavated by a naval officer who gave me the following information :—

The building was almost entirely filled up with stones and tightly packed earth, and dynamite had to be judiciously used to facilitate its removal. The roof is formed of a concrete-like mixture of about four feet in thickness, though slightly less thick at the top. The roof is well arched, and down the centre of the chamber is a series of columns, four in number, supporting five arches, semi-pointed in style (Fig. 9). The columns have a plain capital; on the inside of the most easterly column a cross was found cut in sunken relief. The capitals appear to be made of some sort of concrete plastered over the same kind of stone from which the columns are cut. From the top of the roof, inside, to the floor is at least nine-and-a-half feet, the floor being composed of red bricks on a six-inch foundation of concrete mixed with flints, etc. All the corners were rounded, which gave the chamber the appearance of having been used as a reservoir. The internal dimensions are about forty feet long and twelve to fourteen feet in width; the south aisle is the narrowest, being only about five feet wide. The east wall does not go completely across the chamber, but stops short about two-and-a-half feet from the south wall. Behind this gap is another column, and from here you can clamber to the surface. On searching closely outside, I found traces of an extension of this underground building to the eastward, and it seems that only about half of its total length has been even partially excavated.

All round the top of the hill there are signs that there are many other underground chambers. Round the sides of the hill, as well as on the top are to be seen pieces of worked stone, marble,² pottery of all ages in fragments, etc.

At the bottom of the hill, towards the east, are traces of what may have been an artificially prepared area. It is more or less level, and on the north side use seems to have been made of the natural strata of the rock, which here is above ground. The impression conveyed was that there had been an artificial ceremonial roadway leading from a building, and in the centre of the roadway there had been places for statues, etc.

¹ *Op. cit.* p. 115; De Launay, *Rev. Arch.* 1895, p. 306; *B.C.H.* 1912, p. 327, note 1.

² Apparently from Thasos.

FIG. 7.—KASTRO VOUNI. FIG. 8.—VIEW FROM KASTRO VOUNI LOOKING NORTH-EAST.
FIG. 9.—UNDERGROUND BUILDING AT KASTRO VOUNI.

*Vorio Kastro.*¹

There is very little to be seen of the remains of the mediaeval castle, as the wind and rain have effaced the traces of it. The vaulting of the cisterns had fallen in when Friedrich was there in 1906. Not far away the French, during the Gallipoli campaign, made some excavations and found pottery, fragments of statues, coins, etc.

*Komi.*²

There is practically nothing left of the foundations of the temple of Herakles which Friedrich found in 1906. I traced them for about thirty

FIG. 10.—FOUNTAIN AT KOMI.

feet in one direction, only one course of stones being in position, and for about fifteen feet at right angles to the north-east side. In 1912 there were still four blocks superposed. The remains were pointed out by one of the villagers who remembered some excavating being done some years ago when the inscriptions were taken to France (?). He said all the stones from the temple had been used in building sheds, etc., and certainly every

¹ Conze, *op. cit.* p. 119; Friedrich, *Ath. Mitt.* 1906, p. 255, note 3.

² Friedrich, *loc. cit.* p. 251 and note 2; *B.C.H.* 1912, p. 349 and Fig. 18.

house in the village contains some, the corner stones in particular being used. I saw no marble fragments near the temple, though there are pieces of granite columns in and near the village. The fountain (Fig. 10) which lay a little beyond the ruins has been recently demolished (1918).

*H. Sophia.*¹

Both Conze and Friedrich refer to the ruins at H. Sophia in the south-east corner of the island, but neither appears to have visited them.

The ruins cover a fairly large area, and are surrounded by an outer wall. In places this wall is still about three feet high and very thick, being

FIG. 11.—RUINS AT H. SOPHIA.

composed of loose stones. Parts of the wall have been broken down, whilst in others there are no stones remaining. The outer wall is about twenty yards from the ruins proper. They cover an area of about 315 feet by 120 feet. At the north end is a small mound with parts of the wall still remaining on three sides, the stones being rectangular in shape, and fairly well cut, carefully laid; no mortar being used as far as I could see. At the south end of the ruins is a much larger mound; the wall on the outside, though ruined, is fairly well preserved (Fig. 11). A hole has been made

¹ Conze, *op. cit.* p. 120.

in the wall, and this shows the great thickness and composition of the various materials used in its construction. The outer layer is composed of dressed stones, whilst they are backed up with a considerable thickness of rubble and large roughly cut stones, the whole being backed up by earth. All round the area is a mass of stones from the walls of buildings.

Inside the inner walls, about ten yards from the mound at the south end, is an erection about five yards square, though there is not much of it left. On the west side are traces of several chambers or detached buildings, some of them being forty by thirty feet in size; others were smaller. Between the outer wall and the ruins are several isolated erections.

FIG. 12.—ROCK GRAVES AT KAMINIA.

A fort was built by the Venetians in this part of the island, according to Piacenza at Scala, and local tradition says that the ruins were destroyed by the Turks when they first came to Lemnos.

All round the ruins are countless pieces of marble, and it seems as if the whole, or at any rate part, of the buildings may have been faced either with marble, or else with sandstone which has a thin natural facing of calcite. Several blocks of this sandstone are to be seen in the walls at the north and south end of the ruins.

To the south of the ruins is a chapel about a quarter of a mile away.

Outside it are several pieces of marble columns, some granite columns, and a marble slab inscribed B + Γ. The interior of the chapel is bare, but the altar is composed of a marble slab resting on the top of a broken column.

*Kaminia.*¹

Fig. 12 shows the four rock graves on the plateau described by Friedrich and by Picard and Reinach. There are still some remains of a small fortress on the top of the hill at the end of the ridge. The chapel in which the famous inscription was found² has been incorporated with some other buildings and is now part of a farm.

Moudros.

In the floor of the old church is a relief—possibly representing Aphrodite rising from the sea. Near the new church on the hill are capitals of columns, and a carved fragment of a column showing a fish (something like a porpoise).

To the east of the village on the Chrysopoulo road is the Allied Cemetery. There are two monuments: one erected by the French, a truncated obelisk on a large square section pedestal and base, having bronze plaques inlaid in the pedestal, bearing a dedicatory inscription and the names of the fallen. The British monument is a slender obelisk surmounted by a cross. Both monuments are of local stone and were made by the troops with a little local help. The cemetery is now surrounded by a high wall and the fine entrance gateway will be closed by wrought-iron gates.

Portianos.

This village lies on the west side of Moudros Harbour. Just outside the village lies the cemetery made by the British during the Gallipoli campaign. It is surrounded by a low wall, and a fine lych gate has been erected as a memorial. The officers and men who served in H.M.S. 'Endymion' during the war are also erecting a memorial here.

¹ Friedrich, *loc. cit.* pp. 252, 253; *B.C.H.* 1912, pp. 341 ff.

² *I.G.* xii. (8), 1.

Fig. 13 shows a marble statuette of Kybele about 10" high which I found near the road from Portianos to Kondia. The figure is of the usual seated goddess type and is identified as Kybele by the lion on the right-hand side.

FIG. 13.—MARBLE STATUETTE OF KYBELE.

III. NOTES ON BIRDS AND FISHES SEEN IN LEMNOS.

Birds.

I am much indebted to Temporary Surgeon J. W. Harrison, R.N., of the late 'M28,' for the following list of birds which he has seen in Lemnos.¹

Lark. Crested; Sky (sub-species); Calandra²; Wood (W); Pipits, Meadow.

¹ W=Winter time; ?=observation doubtful; a=rare; 1=only one seen.

² Not seen, but is found in the island.

Wagtails. Pied ; White ; Grey ; Yellow ; Black Headed Yellow (1).
Buntings. Corn ; Cirl.
Crow. Hooded ; Carrion.
Jackdaw.
Dove. Rock ; Turtle ; Ring.
Hawk. Common Kestrel (sub-species).
Blackbird.
Wheatear. Common ; Isabelline ; Black (1), (?), (a) ; Pied ; Eastern
black-eared.
Stonechat. Ruficollis (sub-species).
Finch. Gold ; Chaffinch.
Linnet. Common.
Chiff Chaff (W).
Whitethroat. Greater ; Lesser.
Wren.
Hoopoe.
Starling. Common.
Raven.
Duck. Teal (W).
Kestrel. Lesser.
Falcon. Peregrine (1).
Gull. Black Hooded ; Mediterranean Black Hooded ; Yellow
Legged.
Terns. Common.
Duck. Mallard ; Widgeon (W).
Shag (sub-species).
Grebe. Great Crested ; Little Crested.
Sheldrake. Common.
Pochard. White-eyed.
Merganser. Red Breasted.
Cormorant. Common.
Diver. Red Throated.
Woodcock.
Snipe. Common ; Jack.
Partridge. Red Legged.

From the above list it will be seen that Lemnos is well off as regards bird life, but the shooting, in comparison with the varieties of game birds

mentioned, is not good. The best districts for shooting are : the Salt Lake for duck, etc. ; the flat lands and marshes north-west of Moudros Harbour for partridge, duck, geese, snipe, and also for hare ; the valleys round Thermia for woodcock, widgeon, and partridge ; the hills south-west of Moudros Harbour for partridge, etc. A few game birds and hare are shot amongst the hills to the east of the harbour.

Fishes.

The island is fairly well off for fish, but most of them make coarse eating. Good sport can be had by spinning with a spoon and live bait, or artificial bait, to the south-west of Black Rocks and across the entrance of the Harbour from Bouda Point to Limne Point, where fish of over 15 lb. can be caught. Another good spot is just outside the rocks south of Ispatho Island. The boat should be kept just moving and the hook, baited with meat or fish, kept close to the bottom, being moved gently up and down. Another good patch is near Bailey Shoal. Fishing with a hand line from the ship's side is a favourite sport, when mullet up to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. are caught. Another method is to lower an electric lamp about three feet under the water, and to keep a baited hook moving about a foot beneath the surface. A good strong gut is needed.

For the following list I am indebted to Major H. W. Stock, R.M.

These fish are caught in the Harbour :—

Tunny. Bass. Bonito. Dendici (Sheepshead), (Oldwife). Rock Cod. Skate. Conger. Red Mullet. Grey Mullet. Grey Bream. Pink Bream. Mackerel. Sardine. Rock Fish. Gudgeon (Scorpidi). Gar Fish. Sepia.

Greek names of other Fish :—

Melandrini (Blacktail?). Sarpa. Mélenes. Maitiko. Savridi. Lufari. Spari (Gilthead?). Perdica.

F. L. W. SEALY.

LEMNOS: MAP OF THE ISLAND (AFTER THE ADMIRALTY MAP).