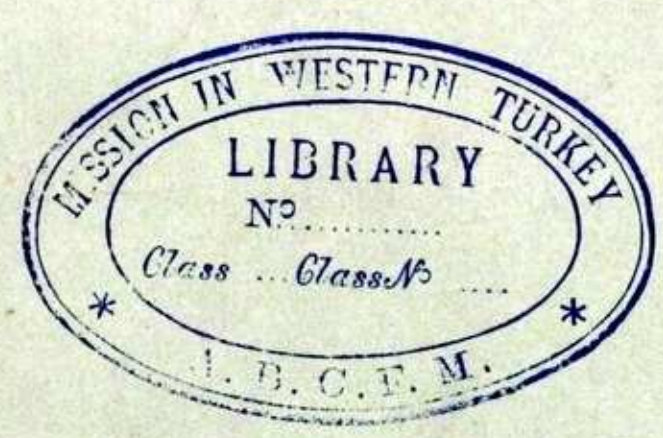
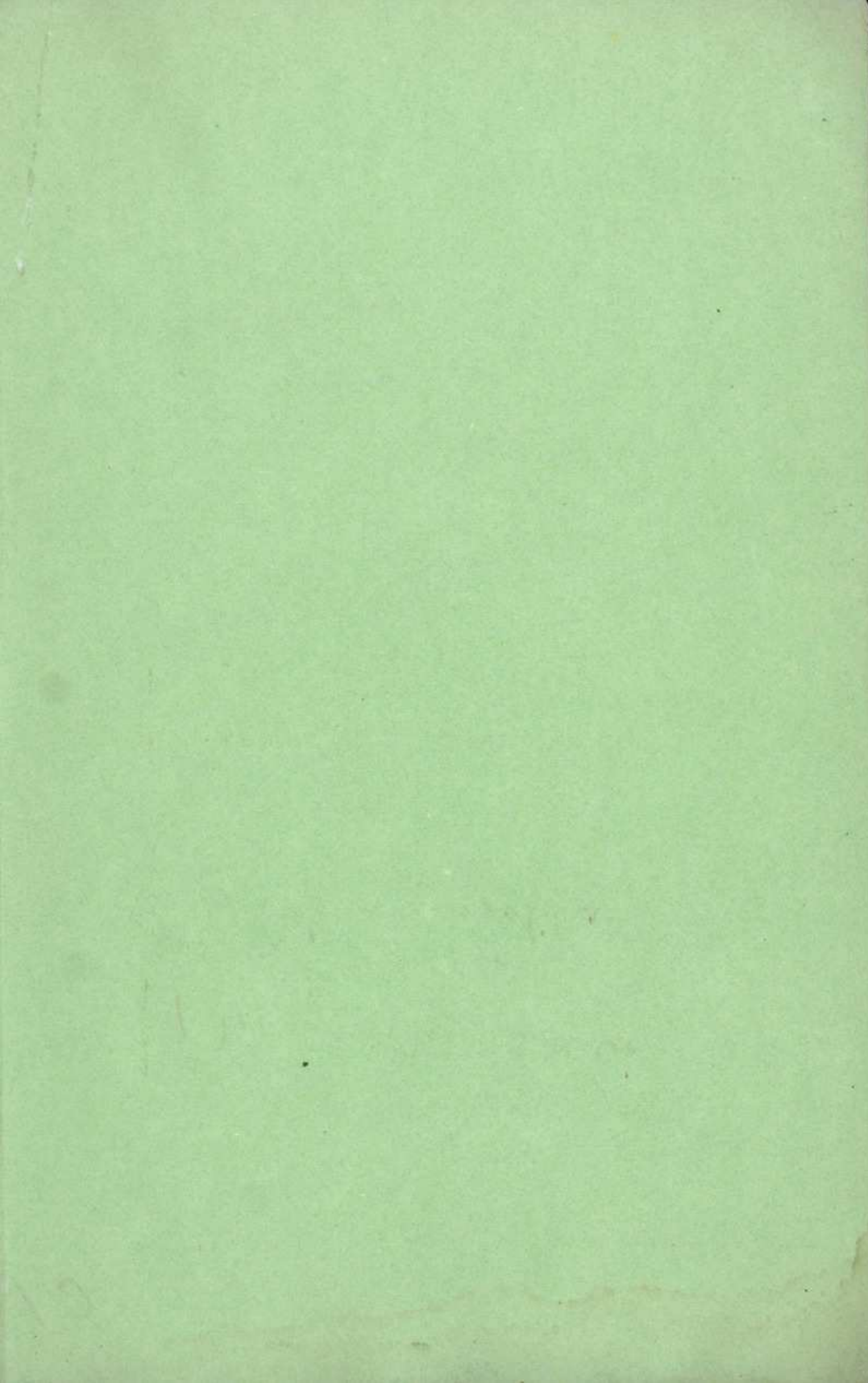


B

2

Bulgarian Relief
Committee.





REPORT

OF THE

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS

IN BULGARIA &c.



CONSTANTINOPLE

PRINTED BY A. H. BOYAJIAN.

1877.

REPORT
OF THE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE
FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS
IN BULGARIA &c.

Published under authority of the Ministry of Public Instruction.

CONSTANTINOPLE
PRINTED BY A. HOYALIAN
1877.

CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

at

CONSTANTINOPLE.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT.

His Excellency Sir Henry Elliot G. C. B.

VICE PRESIDENT.

The Hon. H. Maynard

| Mr. M. H. Foster C. B.

SECRETARY.

TREASURER.

Mr. W. H. Wrench.

Mr. A. Lebet.

Mr. S. Adler
His. Ex. Blacque Bey
Rev. T. L. Byington
» J. K. Greene
Mr. H. J. Hanson
Rev. Dr. Long

Mr. E. Mercet
His Ex. Munir Bey
Mr. E. Pears
» P. Pedemonte
» E. Schuyler
» N. Tamvaco

Rev. Dr. Thomson
Mr. E. Whitaker
» J. W. Whittall
» J. Von Hass
» G. Zarifi

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Rev. T. L. Byington
» Dr. Thomson

Rev. Dr. Long
Mr. A. Lebet

Mr. H. J. Hanson
» W. H. Wrench

BANKERS.

The Imperial Ottoman Bank, Constantinople, Paris and London,—The Credit Lyonnais, Constantinople, Paris, Marseilles and Lyons,—Messrs D. Lebet & fils Victor—and Messrs C. S. Hanson & Co., Constantinople.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

received by the Central Committee.

	£	s	d	LIRAS	Ps.
Sir Arnold Kemball.				10	—
Lady Kemball.				10	—
Miss Vere Kemball.				1	—
Miss Belle Kemball.				1	—
By Rev. S. A. Steindthal, Manchester.	500	—	—	545	—
Sir Henry Elliot.	50	—	—	55	12
Lady Elliot.				27	50
Miss Elliot.				5	—
Francis Elliot.				5	—
A. Lebet.	50	—	—	55	—
G. Zarifi.	50	—	—	55	—
Chas. S. Hanson and Co.	30	—	—	33	—
J. W. Whittall and Co.				50	—
M. H. Foster.				25	—
Honble. H. Maynard.				15	—
G. N. Tamvaco.	30	—	—	33	—
J. Von Haas.	15	—	—	16	50
E. Mercet—Credit Lyonnais.				20	—
P. Pedemonte.	10	—	—	11	—
W. H. Wrench.	10	—	—	11	03
E. Whitaker.				10	—
Rev. Dr. Thomson.				5	—
E. Schuyler.				5	—
S. Adler.				4	40
Blacque Bey.				2	77
Rev. T. L. Byington.				4	—
» J. K. Greene.				4	—
» Dr. Long.				3	—
E. Pears.				3	—
English Church at Kadikeni per Rev. R. Elliot.				11	97
George Crawshay.	100	—	—	108	50
Baron and Baronne de Langsdorfs.				7	—
James Bee, Smyrna.				3	—
Miss Elinor Bruce.	1	—	—	1	09
Toros Minasian.				1	—
P. Dimitroff.				2	—
A. Tsanoff.				4	—
Rev. M. D. Kirejian.				25	—
A. Aivazian.				1	—
A. Karacashian.				22	—
W. Sellar.				1	—
H. Mikayelian.				20	—
A. Kasbarian.				10	—
Rev. Dr. Wood.				1	—
Miss M. M. Patrick.				1	—
Mrs. Thomson.				5	—
Mrs. K. P. Williams.				1	—
John Seager.				10	—
Rev. J. A. Baldwin.				1	50
H. O. Dwight.				1	—
Rev. I. G. Bliss D. D.				2	—
» E. E. Bliss. D. D.				1	—
» M. P. Parmelee.				1	—
				£r. 1191	15

	£	s	d	LIRAS.	Ps.
				1191	15
A Friend				2	—
Rev. Dr. Riggs				5	—
Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Herrick				2	50
Rev. M. H. Hitchcock				1	—
Garabed					08
G. G.				3	—
O. L. (with a packet of clothes)	2	—	—	2	20½
Samuel Palmer (with a packet of clothes)					20
Dr. Kœlle	2	—	—	2	20½
Collection made by Mr. E. A. Freeman for Batak, by Mr. E. Schuyler.	268	14	—	295	23
Sir A. Buchanan	10	—	—	11	—
Dr. Beddoe	1	—	—	1	10
Earl Russell	10	—	—	11	—
B. P. O.				2	—
Collected by Mr. E. A. Freeman for Batak, by Mr. E. Schuyler.	130	—	—	141	70
» ditto for Boyadjik, ditto.	132	17	—	144	81
Through the Imperial Ottoman Bank				7	90
George Baker				2	—
W. R. Swan				2	—
Henry Ridley				1	05
Rev. W. A. Farnsworth				1	—
Fred and George H.					30
Robert Seager					40
A. Asadoorian					20
X					20
John and Geo. C. Rowell				5	—
Rev. Alex. Tomory	1	—	—	1	10
Per Messrs. D. Lebet and fils Victor.					
Messrs Arles Dufour and Cie. Lyons				<i>Fcs.</i> 250	
» A. Bonté and fils. . . . Lille				» 200	
» Ls. Dreyfus and Cie . . . Marseilles				» 200	
» Bennert and Bivort Tumet				» 100	
				<i>Fcs.</i> 750	
Per Messrs. D. Lebet and fils Victor.					
Mr. Raffard, Paris				<i>Fcs.</i> 500	
Messrs L. Molines and Cie, Marseilles				» 300	
» Stocker Goldsmid and Cie				» 300	
» Droche Robin and Cie				» 50	
» Fornet and Vergnier, Lyons				» 250	
» Malmazet, Pirjantz, Mayor and Cie.				» 250	
» Casano and Zuzcher				» 200	
» Domken Frères, Vervier.				» 100	
				<i>Fcs.</i> 1950	
Danish Bey				84	23
Offertory Fund Memorial Church				1	—
Bulgarian Ladies' Committee of Ortakeui, thro' Dr. Long From Edinburgh, thro' Dr. Thomson	195	—	—	330	—
Rev. R. H. Weakley				214	50
Jovan Kisiroff				2	50
Keifi Effendi				1	—
Isidore Isidor				1	—
Through the Imperial Ottoman Bank, London	156	—	—		10
Alloa, Scotland, by Mr. Alexander Ure.	20	—	—	171	99
Earl of Minto	10	—	—	22	05
Countess of Minto	5	—	—	11	02½
				5	51½
				£T. 2719	48¾

	£	s	d	LIRAS.	Ps.
				2719	48 ³ / ₄
Honble. Mary Abercromby	2	—	—	2	20 ¹ / ₂
Viscount Melgund	1	—	—	1	10 ¹ / ₄
Honble. George Elliot	3	—	—	3	30
» Arthur Elliot	2	—	—	2	20 ¹ / ₂
Lady Antrobus	10	—	—	11	02 ¹ / ₂
Miss Amy Frances Yule	10	—	—	11	02 ¹ / ₂
Through the Imperial Ottoman Bank, London	50	—	—	55	12
Mansion House Relief Committee, thro' the Lord Mayor of London	3000	—	—	3315	—
W. B. Smijthe Esq.				5	—
Mr. Massakian				10	—
Through Mr. S. Adler.					
Messrs. Ephrussi and Co, Paris				<i>Fcs.</i> 500	
» Wolf Furth and Co, Strakonitz				» 200	
» Geb Weill and Co, »				» 60	
» Geipel Jager, Vienna				» 50	
» Bernard Furth, »				» 25	
» Wel. Michel Nachfolger, Nieustadt. »				» 50	
» Gab. Gronmann,				» 20	
				<i>Fcs.</i> 905	39 82
Bulgarian Students, Robert College					6 —
Lord Provost of Perth, thro' Mr. A. Kinnaird	50	—	—	55	—
Pastor Suhlé					1 —
Mad'lle Lucas					44
Through the Imperial Ottoman Bank, London	30	12	—	33	81
» » » » »	16	11	9	18	33
» » » » »	15	—	—	16	50
Edinburgh &c. Bulgarian Relief Fund	400	—	—	440	—
Thos. Seraphinithes					85
Congregation N. P. Church, Dunse, thro' Rev. Dr. Ritchie	13	5	—	14	58
Contributions in England, thro' Rev. H. Jones, London	700	—	—	768	25
Through Mr. S. Adler.					
Messrs. Thierry Mieg and Co, Malhous				<i>Fcs.</i> 50	2 19
Through Messrs. D. Lebet and fils Victor.					
Messrs. Cumont Declercy, Alost				<i>Fcs.</i> 100	—
Collected by «l'Union Liberale,» Neuchatel »				» 245	50
Collected at Buttes				» 94	50
				<i>Fcs.</i> 440	—
A. T. Stoddard and family, thro' Rev. Dr. Long	18	12	3	18	97
Liverpool Relief Committee	400	—	—	440	—
Honble. H. B. Devereux	10	—	—	11	—
» Mrs. Devereux	5	—	—	5	50
C. F.	5	—	—	5	50
Through the Credit Lyonnais, Constantinople					
Mr. Le Duc de Sabran Poutèvès				<i>Fcs.</i> 100	—
Mr. L. Thomassy de Cannes				» 5	—
Le Cercle d'Endoume				» 18	20
Mr. Ciani				» 20	—
				<i>Fcs.</i> 143	20
Mansion House Committee, thro' Lord Mayor of London	6000	—	—	6615	—
Luckfield Church, thro' Rev. Astley Maberly	5	15	—	6	34
Lady Lewis	3	—	—	3	31
John Muir Esq. L. L. D. Edinburgh, per Rev. Dr. Thomson	20	—	—	22	—
The Committee of County of Berwick, per Mr. Kinnaird	300	—	—	330	—
Edinburgh &c. Bulgarian Relief Fund	200	—	—	220	—
T. A. Relief Fund, Cambridge, per Mr. J. D. Digby	50	—	—	55	—
				£t.	15291 59

	£	s	d	LIRAS.	PS.
English Residents in Moscow, per Mr. Rt. Mc-Gill . . .	208	19	—	15,291	59
Miss Elinor Bruce	2	—	—	229	58
Mr. and Mrs. Ashley Mande	5	—	—	2	20
Mansion House Committee, thro' Lord Mayor—balance .	96	3	—	5	51
Collection made at St. Ives, Hants, per S. W. H. Goodman	9	1	—	106	—
Mr. L. R. Webber				9	98
Mansion House Committee, subscribed at Cheltenham .	205	11	—	2	—
Edinburgh &c. Bulgarian Relief Fund	200	—	—	227	13
John Peters Seferian, Philadelphia	1	—	—	220	50
Through Messrs. D. Lebet and fils Victor.				1	10
Messrs. Camille Oulman, Paris. <i>Fcs.</i> 100 —					
» Walfrath and Metzner, Neuchatel » 62 40					
				<i>Fcs.</i> 162 40	
Messrs. N. de Rothschild and Sons, thro' H. E. Sir H. Elliot	500	—	—	7	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Captain Bowden Smith—H. M. S. «Hercules»	10	2	—	551	25
Edinburgh Ladies' Working Association	150	—	—	11	10
Collection by Free West Church, Helensburgh, per Thos. Mc. Micking.	25	—	—	165	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. James Watt, Bible Society Agent, Odessa	3	—	—	27	56 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. N. Burness				3	30
Collection at Florence by Rev. Loftus Tottenham	29	—	—	2	—
Liverpool Relief Committee	400	—	—	32	05
Collected British Legation Chapel, Athens, per Rev. J. B. d'Arey.	7	11	9	442	—
County Berwick per Mr. Kinnaird	27	1	9	8	35
Edinburgh Ladies' Working Association, per Dr. Thomson	60	—	—	29	69 $\frac{1}{2}$
From Lord Provost of Perth per Dr. Thomson	13	5	—	66	—
Rev. I. O. Burrows, Fred and Alice Burrows				14	51
Reg. Stuart Poole, British Museum				1	40
Gillebrand thro' Rev. S. C. Trowbridge				3	53
U. C. Parkinson, Canada Road Baptist Chapel				13	48
Friends in America				44	20
Contributions in England, thro' Rev. H. Jones	500	—	—	52	86
Through Messrs. D. Lebet and fils Victor, from Buttes <i>Fcs.</i> 32.				547	50
From Miss E. Wigham, Treasurer of Edinburgh Ladies' Working Association (including £ 40 from Lausanne,) per Dr. Thomson	100	—	—	1	40
Edinburgh &c. Relief Committee per Dr. Thomson	175	11	7	111	—
Contributions in England thro' Rev. H. Jones	500	—	—	193	14
From the Lord Mayor.	7	13	11	551	25
From Mayor of Liverpool.	44	—	—	8	43
Mansion House	76	17	3	48	18
Madame S. Meyer, Dresden, per Baron Testa				84	54
Edinburgh Ladies' Working Association per Dr. Thomson	60	—	—	11	—
Journal de Genève <i>Fcs.</i> 155				66	—
Colonel James Baker, Salonica,				6	74
Offering from a School boy.				3	—
Cecil Buckland					01
				1	—
Total Amount Subscribed					£r. 19,204 54 $\frac{3}{4}$

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF RELIEF FOR BULGARIA &c.

The deplorable events which occurred during the spring and summer of the past year in Bulgaria and in other of the European provinces of the Turkish Empire, occasioned such widespread distress as imperatively to demand that steps should be taken to alleviate the sufferings of the people who had lost their dwellings, their livestock and agricultural implements, and who, in too many instances, had been reduced to utter destitution. Convinced of the necessity for making a strenuous effort of relief, those gentlemen, residents of Constantinople, who in 1874 were active members on the "Asia Minor Famine Relief Committee", formed the idea of creating at Constantinople a Central Committee for the purpose of collecting subscriptions in aid of the sufferers by the more recent calamity and of distributing to the necessitous, without distinction of race or creed, the form of relief most adapted to their circumstances.

Early in September 1876 the members of the Central Committee were all elected, his Excellency Sir Henry Elliot kindly consented to accept the presidency, the various officers of the Committee were selected, an address was prepared for circulation, and, on the 14th of the month, the first considerable contribution to its funds, in the form of a donation sent by the Rev. S. A. Steindthal of Manchester, having been received through the President, the Committee voted the first instalments of relief, namely LT. 300 for Batak, Dervent and other villages in the province of Philippopolis, and LT. 50 for the districts of Mitrovitza. A small Executive Committee was then elected, orders from the Imperial Government were obtained by which protection and assistance were secured to the several Agents of the Committee, circulars soliciting subscriptions were despatched throughout Europe and America, and no time was lost in applying sums received to the relief of the sufferers. The Executive Committee held regular sittings once a week, and special meetings were convened whenever immediate action appeared requisite. Agencies were promptly established in those centres where the need was most pressing

and where responsible persons could be found willing and able to undertake the arduous task of distribution.

During the famine in Asia Minor, the American Missionaries resident in the Turkish provinces, proved themselves to be practical men of sound common sense who would willingly devote their whole time to a work of charity and suspend their ordinary duties to labour cheerfully, and with the strictest impartiality as regards creed, among the people whose ways of life and whose wants they, from long study, thoroughly understood; the Committee, therefore, naturally looked to the American Missionaries for assistance in the present emergency. Thus in the Philippopolis district the proffered services of Mr. Clarke, for many years resident in Roumelia, aided as treasurer and accountant by Mr. Bond, were gladly accepted. Mr. Marsh conducted the distribution at Boyadjik and Yamboli, and Mr. Flocken, at Rustchuk, undertook to supervise the work of relief in the provinces of Widdin, Sivlievo, and Gabrova. The district of Mitrovitza was confided to Mr. Klundt, an Agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society, who undertook the office of distributor for this extensive region at the request and on the recommendation of his chief, the Rev. A. Thomson, D.D., while Messrs. Herboldt and Heringer, of the same Society, assisted Mr. Flocken. The arrangements made at the commencement of the work were shortly afterwards in some places modified. For instance, at Rustchuk, a sub-Committee was formed, under the presidency of Mr. Reade, H. M.'s Consul and consisting of Mr. Flocken, Mr. Harrower, Inspector in Chief of the Rustchuk and Varna Railway, Mr. Heintz, Director of the Imperial Ottoman Bank, Messrs Sorensbury and Elief, of the American Mission, and Mr. Kyossa, of the British and Foreign Bible Society; while in the Philippopolis district it was soon evident that the work to be done was so varied in its nature and extended over so wide an area that it would be highly desirable to despatch special Agents in that direction as soon as the funds at the disposal of the Committee should be sufficiently large to warrant such a step being taken. At the latter end of October, contributions having either come in or been promised, the Committee secured the valuable services of Mr. W. L. Stoney, C.E., who, with Mr. Isidore (Radziwonowicz) as assistant, started for Philippopolis on the 25th of the month to work in co-operation with Messrs. Clarke and Bond. These gentlemen received general directions explanatory of the principles by which the Central Committee were guided, but matters of detail were left to their own judgment, and they were requested to confer with the

Committee established at Philippopolis, with Lady Strangford and with any other relief agency that might later on appear on the scene, with a view to an understanding as to a division of work, and to affording what assistance lay in their power to others engaged in a similar charitable mission. The Committee not only kept its Agencies supplied with funds, but purchased at Constantinople, at different times, medicines to the value of LT. 50, and 540 articles of native clothing for Philippopolis, 200 blankets and bed-coverings for Rustchuk, and 517 blankets for Mitrovitza, besides forwarding to Philippopolis 26, to Rustchuk 6, and to Mitrovitza 13, bales of blankets and clothing received from the charitable in England. Of these bales the greater portion, and—as they mostly contained blankets—the really *useful* portion, were received from the Committee presided over by the Mayor of Liverpool. On one occasion 15 bales of blankets were forwarded by this Committee, and these were equally divided between the three agencies. A question to which the Committee gave its serious attention at an early period of its existence was that of providing the shattered communities with the means of gaining their future livelihood. It was with this object that the work in the Rose gardens was undertaken, and that the purchase of oxen, ploughs and seed was made. The Committee were anxious, when once the most pressing wants were satisfied, to devote the bulk of their resources to the purchase of oxen, &c., and for this purpose husbanded their funds in the oft renewed hope that peace would soon be restored to the country. This hope has been destined to disappointment, but the Committee feel that their action has been judicious, their apprehensions being justified by the recent outbreak of war; for while cattle have been supplied to those whose existence seemed to depend upon its possession, the funds of the charitable have not been, to an extent which under present circumstances might be considered excessive, invested in live stock and thus exposed to sequestration or requisition at the hands of the belligerents. When peace is again secured the Committee are prepared to complete their unfinished operations, but for the present, unless any pressing cases of want present themselves, they consider it best to suspend all relief in those provinces threatened with the passage of troops and with invasion by foreign armies.

In submitting to the subscribers the annexes to the present report the Committee wish to observe that, with the exception of the Committee-men, the Constantinople public has not been canvassed for subscriptions. The stagnation of trade and other causes have combined to induce the Com-

mittee to postpone from time to time the collection of local donations; they must now wait for the return of peace, the revival of commerce and the creation of a degree of prosperity that does not at present exist in the Turkish Capital.

The notes of aid dispensed by the different Agencies, and the accounts with which this report closes, will give to the subscribers a general idea of the work performed up to the present moment, and of the manner in which the Central Committee of Constantinople have acquitted themselves of their self imposed task.

In conclusion, the Central Committee beg to record their sincere acknowledgements to the subscribers to the fund and to the Committees formed at the Mansion House in London under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, and in Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other towns of the United Kingdom, for the liberality with which they came to the assistance of suffering humanity. Nor would the present report be complete without offering the thanks of the Committee for their very able assistance, to Messrs. Clarke, Marsh, Bond, Stoney, Isidore (Radziwonowicz), Klundt, Flocken, Gabriel Elief, Herboldt, Heringer, Natchoff, and the other distributors of the Fund. The devotion shown by these gentlemen is beyond all praise, and the Committee feel that they owe the successful accomplishment of their mission to their Agents' knowledge of the requirements of the people, and the zeal and intelligence of their distributors. The thanks of the Committee are also due to the Roumelian Railway Company, under the direction of Mr. Kuhlmann, for the generous permission granted to their Agents to travel free of charge over the lines of the Company and for the gratuitous transport of all bales of blankets and clothing destined for the relief of the sufferers in European Turkey.

Constantinople, 20th June, 1877.

WILLIAM H. WRENCH,

Honorary Secretary to Central and Executive Committees.

PHILIPPOLIS DISTRICT.

The following remarks are furnished by Mr. W. L. Stoney, C. E., as explanatory of the work done in the Philippopolis district, and are headed and placed in the same manner and order as in the account of expenditure.

HOSPITALS of Batak and Radilovo.—These buildings were erected by Mr. Clarke in September and October 1876, to serve as Refuges and Soup Kitchens, and were of great service to the homeless and sick. They were at a subsequent period handed over to, and the outlay incurred was reimbursed by, Lady Strangford when she had organised her staff of Doctors and Nurses.

CLOTHING was made of native material and by native workmen. All the available home-spun cloth of the country ("Shyak" and "Aba") was purchased, and orders for more were given. A double benefit was in this way rendered. When Lady Strangford had organised her system of distribution of clothing, this branch of relief was also handed over to her, and value was received from her for the amount expended by the Central Relief Committee.

BEDDING.—The heavy goats'-hair rugs, as also the thick woollen blankets of the country, were issued as far as possible, but the supply being limited, blankets of European make were imported.

FOOD.—In several villages it was found necessary to supply prepared food for a time, as the people had lost their cooking utensils.

GRAIN FOR FOOD.—Later on, when the stores of the poorest were exhausted and those of the rest wearing low, a distribution was made of rye, barley, and maize, and this form of relief was of all others the most acceptable. During the months of February, March, and April, in 59 villages, 9,370 families received 10,911 kilos of grain, (equal to 14,613 cwts) at a cost of LT. 3,136.

GRAIN FOR SEED was not so much required, as the Government had already supplied it in many instances for the autumn sowing. During the winter but little work could be done, and the spring sowing of grain was in a great measure prevented by the long continued wet and cold weather; further, in many villages the people had no ploughs or oxen, and these the Committee did not feel itself authorized to supply on a large scale.

WOOL.—In every family the women and girls occupy their

spare moments in spinning woollen thread and manufacturing "Shyak" and "Aba" cloth. The loss of their sheep left them without necessary material, and withal, too much leisure to brood over their misfortunes. Thus a few okes of wool to each family was a great boon.

MATS woven of reeds are to be found in every house, and are used to lay on the ground, before spreading the goats'-hair blanket, which forms the only bed of the poor.

BUILDING.—The Government Commission sitting at Philippopolis, commenced the work of reconstructing the burned villages, about the end of September, but it was not for a month later that they can be said to have got regularly to work. Timber had to be cut and carted from the forests, and skilled labour was scarce. Each Turkish village near the mountain forests, was obliged to cut a certain amount of timber, and the inhabitants of those villages in course of construction, who had oxen, were forced to cart the timber from the mountain.

Government supplied the skilled labour necessary, and, not wishing to keep their men idle, naturally began with those houses for which the materials were on the spot. In this way the poorer classes, who had not the means of transport at their disposal, were in danger of being overlooked. At this juncture, the Central Relief Committee came to their aid with building materials, such as timber, nails, hinges, &c., purchased at Philippopolis and Bazardjik, which they sent out and distributed to the poorest of each village, at the same time pressing upon the Government officers the necessity of building for the poor first.—[And here the Committee wishes to bear testimony to the courtesy ever shown by the members of the Government Commission sitting at Philippopolis, and to the readiness with which any suggestions for the advancement of the work were received. What assistance the Agents of the Central Committee were able to afford was cordially and gratefully acknowledged and accepted. There was no jealous rivalry evinced, but on the contrary a spirit of hearty co-operation].—Building operations were suspended about the middle of January, in consequence of the impossibility of transporting timber from the forest through the snow, but this did not occur before every family had at least a temporary shelter, and the works have since the spring been resumed by the Government.

MONEY.—Although it was the expressed desire of the Central Committee that relief should, as far as possible, be given in kind, still instances presented themselves where it was

necessary to make exceptions, notably in the case of the widows of Turks, killed during the insurrection, as also of the widows and families of Bulgarians, who had taken refuge in villages not their own.

OXEN to the number of 440 have been purchased and distributed amongst 22 villages. It was considered advisable, for several reasons, that they should be *lent*, not given, and that each ox should bear a horn mark, the letters C R C, and a number, by which the ox may be recognised—a precaution (in times of peace at least) against tax collectors and cattle stealers. A small charge per month is made for each pair sufficient to cover the wages of an Agent employed to go round the district to inspect the stock, and see that the oxen work for the poorest of each village. Mr. Clarke has kindly undertaken the general direction of this branch of relief, and the Agent employed by him is a respectable man in whom he has confidence.

FARMING IMPLEMENTS.—A native plough was given with each pair of oxen, and in some instances an “araba” or waggon.

LABOUR IN ROSE GARDENS.—The cultivation of Roses and manufacture of the Otto form an important feature in some parts of Roumelia, especially in the Valley of the Geuk-Su, which lies at the foot of the Great Balkans and extends from Dervent or Clissura to Karlova. At Clissura and Sindjirli, two villages which had been completely destroyed, the inhabitants were employed to dig the rose gardens before the setting in of the winter frosts, and thus the crop of this year was saved, which would otherwise have been lost. At Clissura, during 6 weeks, about 250 persons, men, women, and boys were employed, earning wages varying from 2—4 piastres per day.

Agents.—The great extent of the district of Philippopolis, and the feeling that no time should be lost, rendered it necessary to have a large staff of sub-Agents and distributors. These men to the number of 14, were, with one exception, Bulgarians, men recommended by the members of the American Mission at Samakov, or by leading merchants of Philippopolis, and their monthly salaries, exclusive of travelling expenses, varied from £.T. 3 to £.T. 5. The direction and control of this staff were in the hands of Mr. Clarke of Samakov and the special Agents of the Central Committee Messrs Stoney and Isidore. After the retirement of Mr. Clarke, in the month of January, and the transfer of the further distribution of clothing to Lady Strangford, Mr. Stoney was able to reduce his staff to four sub-Agents. The entire cost of distribution in the district does not come up to 10 per cent, although much horse-hire is necessarily

included as well as cost of escort, which, for obvious reasons, is best defrayed by the party escorted, more especially when it is known that he must carry gold with him.

The number of villages visited by Messrs Stoney and Isidore exceeds 200, of which 66 figure on their relief list, apart from 10 or 12 others, to which they have lately sent money by the hands of Mr. Clarke. Amongst the 66 villages are included 5 Turkish, burned by the Bulgarians.

Finding that no existing map of the country was trustworthy, Messrs. Stoney and Isidore have compiled one from actual observation, which accompanies this report. The names of the villages wholly or in part burned are underlined in the map.



Philippopolis district in account with the

Dr.	<i>Receipts.</i>		£T.	PS.
To Cash received by Mr. Clarke in various sums from the Central Relief Committee, between September 15th 1876 and January 12th 1877			2,470	—
	£ T PS.			
» Cash received by Mr. Clarke from Liverpool, £450	495 —			
» Cash collected from Bulgarians	2 17			
» Agio on gold	3 90 ¹ / ₄		501	07 ¹ / ₄
» Cash received by Mr. Stoney in various sums from the Central Relief Committee between October 25th 1876 and April 14th 1877	8,000 —			
Less balance returned to treasurer Mr. A. Lebet.	491 10		7,508	90
» Value of clothing received from Central Relief Committee.	83 90			
» Value of medicines received from Central Relief Committee.	49 44 ¹ / ₂			
» Cash received from Mr. A. Lebet			133	34 ¹ / ₄
			256	30
			£T. 10,869	61 ¹ / ₂

Central Relief Committee, Constantinople.

Expenditure.

CR.

	£T.	PS.
By Hospital at <i>Batak</i> :—		
Building	£T. 202.09½	
Furnishing	» 55.96¾	
Current Expenses to Jan. 12th 1877.	» 14.19½	
	272	25¾
» Hospital at <i>Radilovo</i> :—		
Building and furnishing	90	52
» Clothing	885	93¼
» Bedding	382	59½
» Food (soup, meat, bread, &c.)	173	32
» Grain for food	3,139	71
» Grain for seed	121	37½
» Medicine	52	61¼
» Wool	1,020	66¾
» Mats	64	86
» Reconstruction of houses	1,384	44½
» Money given in relief	465	99
» Oxen (purchase, distribution, superintendence, &c.)	1,489	15¼
» Farming and household implements, &c.	52	20
» Labour in Rose Gardens	115	32
» Freight on wool and clothing	27	31¾
» Commission on forwarding goods	2	83¾
» Rent of office and magazine	12	40
» Office expenses, stationery, telegrams, postage, &c.	19	42¾
» Loss on exchange	6	19½
» Expense of rescued children from <i>Batak</i> to <i>Samakov</i>	3	96
» Purchase of 2 horses. — Saddlery repairs, &c.	21	97¼
» Agents. Salaries.—W. L. Stoney £T. 256.30, Isidore Radziwonowicz, £T. 99.—	355	30
Travelling expenses, escort, &c.	203	76¾
» Native Agents.—Salaries and travelling expenses	363	97½
	10,728	11
May 31.—Balance in hands of Mr. Clarke in course of distribution in the form of provisions, grain, cash, &c. in <i>Samakov</i> and <i>Raslog</i> districts	141	50½
	£T. 10,869	61½

Constantinople, 20th June 1877.

W. L. STONEY,
Special Agent of Central Relief Committee.

MITROVITZA DISTRICT.

Mitrovitza.—Mr. Klundt started on his mission as soon as he was in receipt of the order of the Imperial Government for his protection. He commenced operations by supplying food, clothing, and the means of purchasing both to the poorest of the villages occupying both banks of the river Ibor. Up to the 15th May, at which date his accounts are balanced, he had distributed 4,376 pikes (of 26 inches) of native cloth, 14,481 of calico, 2,104 pairs of sandals, 217,613 okes (of 2.8 lbs) of maize, 4,552 okes of beans, 954½ okes of salt, besides providing bread, meat, firewood, medicines, and 665 sacks. He had also distributed the 517 blankets purchased by the Central Committee and the contents of the bales sent from England, with the exception latterly of articles of European clothing, which were at his request sold at Salonica, the proceeds being passed to the credit of the fund.

When sending in his last accounts, Mr. Klundt represented that thousands of people who had taken refuge in Servia were returning in the utmost destitution to the Mitrovitza district, funds were accordingly forwarded by the Committee to meet this new want. Again, the Rev. Dr. Thomson, who recently visited this region, while testifying to the energy and ability displayed by Mr. Klundt in the execution of his onerous task, urged on the Committee the necessity of despatching still further funds, an additional grant was, therefore, made on the 15th inst. Thus the Mitrovitza Agency, which is the only one now carrying out systematic measures of relief, is debited with a large sum at yet unaccounted for: this balance, however, will have been to a great extent already laid out in relief.

Mitrovitza district in account with the

Dr.

Receipts.

	£r.	Ps.
To Cash received per Dr. Thomson from Central Relief Committee	150	—
» Cash received from Central Relief Committee per Dr. Thomson and Mr. Crosbie up to 15th May	1761	48
» Value of Bedding received from Central Relief Committee	166	44
» Contribution from Andria Risto Velevi	—	93½
	£r. 2078	85½

1877

May 15 To Balance in hands of Mr. Klundt	£r. 167.43½
June 15 » Cash since remitted.	» 488.52
	£r. 655.95½

Central Relief Committee of Constantinople.

<i>Expenditure.</i>		C _{R.}	
		£T.	PS.
By Clothing		473	06
» Bedding (sent by C.R.C.)		166	44
» Food, Provisions		1161	73½
» Medicine		—	60¼
» Money		35	35¾
» Household implements.		1	68¾
» Mats		4	71¾
» Miscellaneous		—	22¼
» Freight and portorage on Clothing and Food		15	58¾
» Office Expenses, rent, stationery, postages, telegrams, &c		7	93
» Agent's Salary, travelling expenses, escort, &c		44	08
		1911	42½
May 15. Balance in hands of Mr. Klundt		167	43¼
	£T.	2078	85¾

Certified as agreeing with Mr. Klundt's account to 15th May 1877.

Constantinople, 20th June 1877.

W. L. STONEY,

Acting as Accountant for the Central Committee.

RUSTCHUK SUB-COMMITTEE.

Rustchuk.—On the 6th October the Central Committee, in consequence of letters received from Mr. Herboldt at Gabrova and Mr. Heringer at Widdin, forwarded to these gentlemen LT. 100 each for distribution in those towns and neighbourhoods. Relieving parties were at once organised and the Rustchuk sub-Committee, established prior to the end of the month, superintended their operations. The result has been that in the district of Gabrova-Sivlievo 9,395 articles of native clothing, 287 native blankets, 1,544 reed mats, 73 pieces of calico, 5,604½ okes (of 2.8 lbs.) of salt, 105,313 okes of corn meal and 779 okes of soap, as well as 8 pairs of oxen, have been purchased and distributed. About 10,000 people contained in 7 villages and several farms participated in the receipt of relief. In the Widdin district, 1,270 articles of clothing, 62 pieces of calico, 110 boards for doors and windows, 98 okes of nails and other ironwork, and considerable quantities of food and salt were bought and given to the refugees in Widdin and to the people in 7 villages, amongst whom were several Tartar families (Mussulmans), who had lost all by the Servian War. Owing to the proximity of these localities to the Servian frontier, the sub-Committee was obliged greatly to restrict relief measures. Besides 5 bales of blankets received through Mr. Baxter, of the Liverpool Committee, and one bale of clothing, forwarded to Rustchuk by the Central Committee, the sub-Committee received from the inhabitants of the towns of Rustchuk, Tirnova, and Gabrova 25 packages of clothing and a variety of useful articles for the poor.

Mr. Christo Markoff, one of the distributing Agents in the Gabrova district, unhappily lost his life from typhoid fever while in the service of the Committee, leaving behind him a widow and orphan in reduced circumstances; on the representations of the Rustchuk sub-Committee, a grant of LT. 20 was made towards their support.

Rustchuk sub-Committee in account with the

DR.

Receipts.

	£T.	PS.
To Cash received in various sums between Oct. 5, 1876, and Dec. 15, 1876.	2,200	—
» Value of bedding received from the Central Relief Committee.	66	91
» Contributed by Bulgarian ladies of Gabrova Ps. 5,000	—	—
» " " Capt. Ardagh " 90	—	—
» Value of pair of gaiters sold " 40	—	—
» Agio on gold " 60	20	—
	Ps. 5,190	20
» Amount received from private individuals.	47	18 ¹ / ₄
» " " gained on exchange.	16	54
	4	83
	£T.	2,335 46 ¹ / ₄

Central Relief Committee of Constantinople.

<i>Expenditure.</i>		C <small>R.</small>	
		£ <small>r.</small>	P <small>s.</small>
By	Clothing	1,229	36 ¹ / ₂
»	Bedding	108	64 ¹ / ₂
»	Food	543	47 ¹ / ₂
»	Medicine	—	97 ³ / ₄
»	Reconstruction of houses.	11	08 ¹ / ₂
»	Mats	120	93
»	Oxen,—purchase, distribution, &c.	70	64 ¹ / ₂
»	Farming and household implements.	2	18
»	Money given in relief.	25	92 ¹ / ₂
»	Office expenses stationary, postage, telegrams, &c.	7	19
»	Freight on goods.	11	36 ¹ / ₂
»	Expense attending sickness and burial of Christo Markoff, native Agent	£ <small>r.</small> 5.01	
»	Donation to his widow and family.	20.00	25 01
»	Freight, telegrams, postage, &c.	15	11
»	Agents, salaries, travelling expenses, &c.	140	55
»	Balance handed over to Mr. Reade.	22	21
		£ <small>r.</small> 2,335	46 ¹ / ₄

Certified as agreeing with the accounts forwarded by the Rustchuk sub-Committee.

Constantinople, 20th June 1877.

W. L. STONEY,
Acting as Accountant for the Central Committee.

BOYADJIK AND YAMBOLI DISTRICT.

Boyadjik and Yamboli.—Mr. Marsh commenced his work at Boyadjik by purchasing carpenter's tools to assist the people in the reconstruction of their houses, and by supplying 3 okes (of 2.8 lbs.) of wool to each widow. A total of 676 okes of wool was thus distributed, 5 weaving machines and 5 reeling and carding machines were also given. At a subsequent date, 72 oxen, 5 waggons, and 30 ploughs for the general use of the people were given out: thus wheat was sown in good season. Mr. Marsh received some LT. 18 from Bulgarians in the district, which he devoted to the reconstruction of houses.—At Yamboli, Mr. Marsh confined himself to the distribution of flour, of which 15,868 okes were purchased and given away among about 120 families.

Boyadjik district in account with the

Dr.

Receipts.

	£r.	Ps.
To Amount of cash received of the Central Relief Committee at various dates.	620	—
» Gain on exchange	5	36½
» Subscribed by Bulgarians.	18	—
<hr/>		
	£r.	643 36½

Central Relief Committee of Constantinople.

<i>Expenditure.</i>		Cr.	
		£t.	Ps.
By Clothing.		11	86½
» Wool		71	45½
» Reconstruction of houses		23	29½
» Oxen. — Purchase, distribution, &c.		297	95½
» Farming and household implements.		38	04½
» Office expenses, postage, telegrams, &c.		1	26
» Agent's travelling expenses.		7	99¾
		451	86½
By Expenditure at <i>Yamboli</i> ,			
Flour.	£t. 188.—		
Travelling expenses and buying.	» 3.50		
		191	50
		£t. 643	86½

Certified as agreeing with Mr. Marsh's accounts.

Constantinople, 20th June 1877.

W. L. STONEY,

Acting as Accountant for the Central Committee.

BALANCE SHEET OF CENTRAL

Dr.

To Total amount of subscriptions received as per List
» Transfer from Lady Strangford's Fund, for Hospitals and clothing

£t.	Ps.
19,204	54½
1,662	18

£t. 20,866 72½

COMMITTEE OF RELIEF.

Cr.				
	£t.	Ps.	£t.	Ps.
By <i>Philippopolis Agency.</i>				
Cash	9,978	90		
Purchased at Constantinople, clothing £t. 83,90, medicines £t. 49,44 $\frac{1}{4}$	133	34 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Salary of Mr. W. L. Stoney, from 25th Oct. 1876 to 15th June 1877	256	30		
» <i>Mitrovitza Agency.</i>			10,368	54 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cash	2,400	—		
Purchased at Constantinople, 11 bales blankets	166	44		
» <i>Rustchuk Agency.</i>			2,566	44
Cash	2,200	—		
Purchased at Constantinople, 100 blankets and 100 yorgans	66	91	2,266	91
» <i>Boyadjik Agency.</i>			620	—
Cash			15,821	89 $\frac{1}{4}$
» <i>Expenses of Central Committee.</i> September 1876 to 15th June 1877.				
Advertising in England and Constantinople and printing.	74	06		
Expenses on bales received from England	13	78 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Expenses on specie sent to Agencies	35	45 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Telegrams and postages	12	13 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Stationery and sundries	1	72		
Salary of Assistant Secretary at 5s. per sitting.	11	28	148	43 $\frac{1}{2}$
	£t.		15,970	32 $\frac{3}{4}$
» Balance in the hands of Treasurer			4,896	40
	£t.		20,866	72 $\frac{3}{4}$

Certified as agreeing with the accounts.

Constantinople, 15th June, 1877.

A. LEBET, Treasurer.

WILLIAM H. WRENCH, Honorary Secretary.

General meeting of the Central Committee held at the Imperial Ottoman Bank, Saturday, 30th June, 1877, at 1 o'clock p.m.

The Honble. H. Maynard in the chair.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by referring to the work done by the Executive Committee, during the past nine months, and requested attention to the Report that had been prepared by the Secretary, which, having received the approval of the Executive Committee, would now be submitted to the General Committee.

The Secretary then read the Report and explained the several accounts, after which he proposed, seconded by Mr. Pears, that the Report be adopted as the Report of the Central Committee and that authority be granted to the Executive Committee for the printing of 500 copies for distribution among subscribers. This proposal was carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Lebet, President of the Executive Committee, and seconded by the Chairman: That the special thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. W. L. Stoney for the very able manner in which he carried out the distribution of relief in the Philippopolis district. Carried unanimously, the Secretary being requested to convey the Committee's appreciation of Mr. Stoney's services to that gentleman.

Proposed by Mr. H. I. Hanson, seconded by Mr. Wrench: That although having for the present discontinued the systematic distribution of relief, excepting in the Mitrovitza district, the Committee desired that it should be understood that they were prepared to continue their labours at the return of peace when increased want must exist on the Danube and other provinces of European Turkey. The Committee, therefore, earnestly appeal to the charitable to increase the amount of funds at their disposal.

Proposed by Mr. Pears and seconded by Mr. Greene: That this Committee begs to place upon record its high sense of the devoted and arduous labours of the President and members of the Executive Committee, and especially of the great services rendered by the Honorary Secretary of the two Committees, Mr. Vice-Consul Wrench.

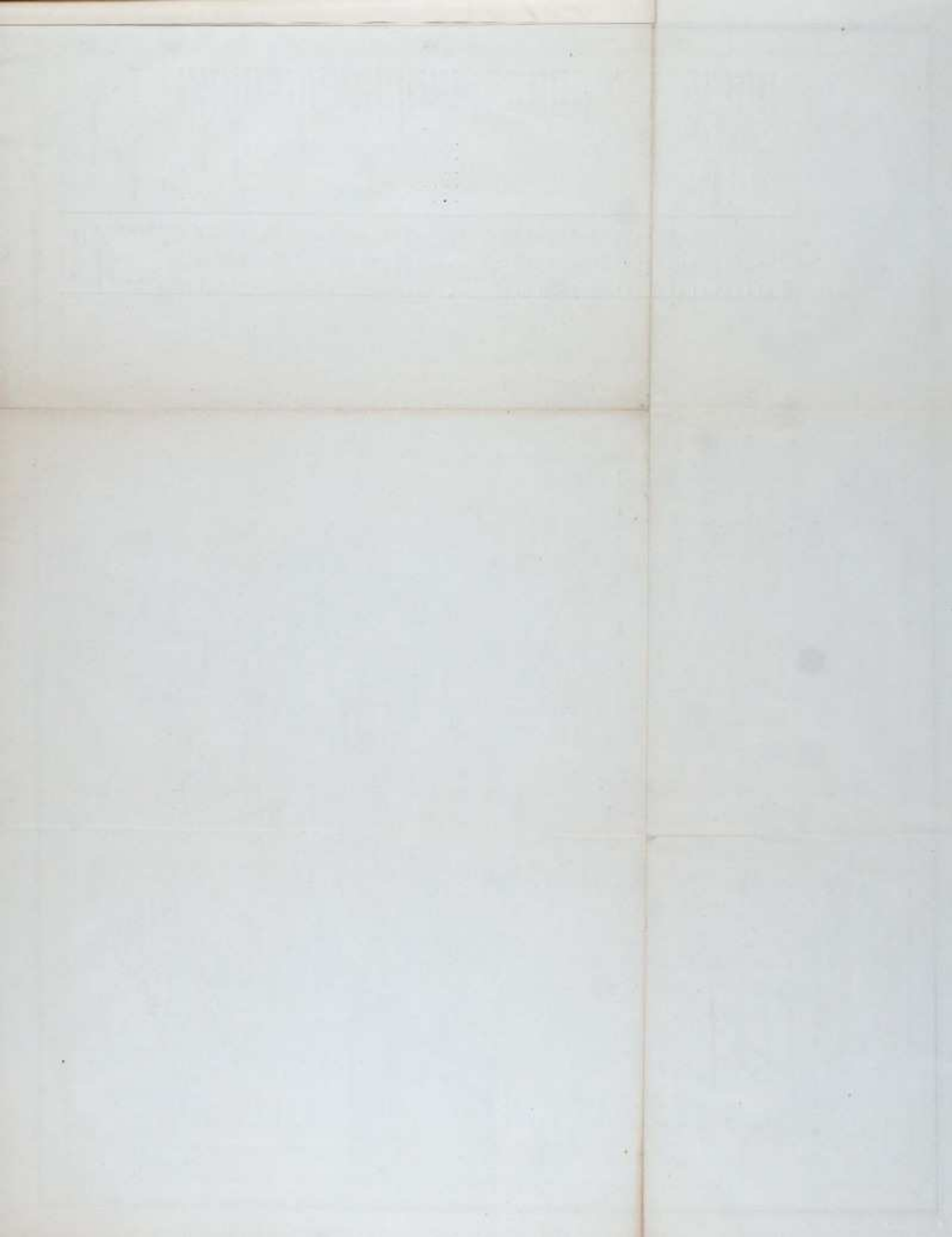
With a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Tamvaco and seconded by Mr. Pedemonte, the proceedings closed at 3 p.m.

**Names
of
Burned Villages**

Original N ^o	HOUSES	
	Bulgarian	Turkish
Sindjirli	187	187
Tobanadjiler	280	3
Novo Selo (Yenikesi)	56	70
Krasovo	372	260
Strelcha	2000	108
Otlakel (Panigurista)	600	500
Dervent (Glesura)	77	7
Bata	123	119
Lesnik	106	106
Oheren	123	29
Popnita	52	—
Oroush Mahala	51	—
Doushla	47	—
Oktchal	29	—
Djafarli	120	120
Erell	77	60
Arvadjik	64	32
Sarigeni	70	30
Bedova	60	56
Bojova	99	99
Kotarsko	323	323
Perustiza	89	67
Kempeli	50	14
Sarajza	104	87
Zvezhitchka	490	10
Eratchikova	107	82
Begha	72	72
Ali Hodja	163	163
Radilovo	23	23
Pastouchia	116	74
Meschka	343	327
Petrich	240	20
Smolsko	78	23
Kaminitza	695	249
Pouhen	180	68
Lesitohovo	200	94
Geulveri	72	45
Shtirkovo	57	42
Dinka	587	587
Batak	112	112
Yessakoria	61	61
Ishikishier	80	52
Eshitza (Arnaonkeal)	82	42
Schachlar	148	147
Karamoussal	385	93
Vetrina	12	—
Palanka	37	30
Dere Harman	119	43
Seri Harman (Plotza)	162	11
Yanik Harman (Slavevitz)	100	63
Terevo	257	126
Mehovo	254	197
Bakovitza	115	59
Djumat	161	118
Kaligari	1070	576

1070 576 1854





PA6-22