

to purchase them. General Di Cesnola, who has been ten years in Cyprus, yielding at length to an often repeated request of his friends to publish his experiences, has come forward in the very 'nick of time.' His superb work,—for it is unquestionably one of the handsomest books ever published—supplies a want which has long been felt, and the recent political changes in the island have combined to make it an imperative need. At the close of the American war General Di Cesnola, who took an active part therein, was sent by President Lincoln to Cyprus as American Consul. He spent over ten years in the country and indulging his natural taste for exploration and excavation, it was not long before he began to make extensive researches in the territory. The stupidity of the Turkish Government, the cupidity of his assistants, the lack of enthusiasm which his subordinates sometimes exhibited, all did their part to throw obstacles in the General's way. But undeterred by these circumstances he continued working and exploring and excavating. Having no other resources but his own immediate means to draw upon, his labour was necessarily slow, and as he proceeded he found it extremely costly. He was constantly harassed by misunderstandings with the Governor-General, the Custom House authorities, and other officers of the Turkish Empire. And even after he had paid an immense sum for the ground, and an equally large figure for the privilege of digging, he found to his chagrin that he could not obtain at any price a firman by means of which he could ship his treasures to England and the United States. Indeed authority came one day absolutely prohibiting him, as American Consul, from exporting his cases, and a Turkish man-of-war, anchored in front of his residence, backed with her guns the mandate of the Ottoman. But, the General tells us with considerable humour, how he succeeded in outwitting his tormentors

at last. He followed strictly the very letter of the despatches which had been sent to the Customs people. As *American* Consul he was powerless; but as *Russian* Consul he removed his enormous collection and shipped it off before the very eyes of all the discomfitted pashas in the Island. The whole book is as fascinating as a romance. At the outset we are prepared to look for faults of style, for the author informs us that he has not a very good acquaintance with the English tongue. But this becomes quite a feature in the story as the narrative proceeds. It imparts a zest to the pleasing character of the whole. General Di Cesnola indulges in no idle theories. He forms no estimates and makes no rash speculations. He tells simply the story of his life in Cyprus, the adventures he passed through, the nature of his work, and the scope and character of his 'finds.' Some forty pages of introductory matter prepare the reader for what follows. A complete and succinct history of the Island is related and much valuable information conveyed. The book proper then begins and no time is lost in moralizing.

The discoveries are extremely valuable and rich, and a list of them is given at the end of the volume. The engravings are very interesting, and form, perhaps, the most attractive feature in the book. They are engraved in the very highest style of the art. The book on the whole is quite sumptuous looking and occupies a place in literature peculiarly its own. The appendices might have been fuller, and the index should have been larger; but these little faults scarcely detract much from the value of the book as a whole. It is a masterly performance; and Cyprus and her institutions, her people, her products, her natural characteristics, her value as a commercial and military port, are all detailed at length and in an exceedingly happy and often terse way. We commend Cyprus; its ancient cities,