

A Greek Poet in England: Assorted References on Andreas Kalvos in the English Press (1818-1821)

Research by Lefkios Zafeiriou*

1. The Times, Saturday, June 6, 1818

[GREEK LECTURE. - We are requested to notice, that the Lecture proposed to be given by Mr. Calbo, a native of Greece, on the Ancient Greek Language compared with the Modern, will commence precisely at three o'clock on Monday next, at the Argyle Rooms.]

2. The Morning Chronicle (London, England), Monday, June 8, 1818

[GREEK LECTURE - We are requested to notice, that the Lecture proposed to be given by Mr. Calbo, a native of Greece, on the Ancient Greek Language compared with the Modern, will commence precisely at three o'clock This Day, at the Argyle Rooms.]

3. Caledonian Mercury (Edinburgh, Scotland), Monday, June 15, 1818, issue 15096

[We were exceedingly gratified on Monday by what we believe may be considered a very novel exhibition in this country - a lecture delivered in English by a modern Greek, on the true pronunciation of the language of Homer and Thucydides. The lecturer was a young man of interesting appearance, named Calbo; he is a native of Zante, but has left that island for five years, during which time he has travelled over Europe, and has, in addition to other tongues, acquired such a knowledge of English, that his lecture would not have disgraced one of our best writers either in style or argument. His object was to show, that though the purity of the Greek tongue has been considerably debased, yet that the pronunciation remains the same as in the earliest and most classic times; and among other arguments he showed, with considerable spirit and truth of reasoning, that neither the conquest of Greece by the Romans, nor by the Turks, were at all calculated to effect a change in the Grecian habits of speaking; because the Romans had so great an admiration of those they conquered, that they

* Poet and Philologist

themselves became imitators, rather than models for imitation, and that the brutal ignorance and ferocious arrogance of the Turks precluded all possibility of any voluntary adoption of their models of speech by their indignant slaves. He refuted the theory of Erasmus with great success, and read a passage from Homer, and another from Thucydides, as specimens of the genuine pronunciation. It would lead us far beyond our limits to enter upon this interesting controversy; but we certainly think that Mr C.'s remarks, for their logic no less than their eloquence, deserve much as at the Argyle Rooms, was respectable, though not numerous.]

4. *New Monthly Magazine and Universal Register, (1818: July) pg. 548*

[A Lecture has been lately delivered in the metropolis, in the English language, by a modern Greek, on the true pronunciation of his language. The Lecturer is a young man, named Calbo, a native of Zante. His object was to show that though the purity of the tongue has been debased, the pronunciation remains the same as in the most classic times; an opinion which he enforced with considerable truth of reasoning.]

5. *New Monthly Magazine and Universal Register, July 1818, p. 548*

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6. *The British Critic, 10 (1818: August) pg. 224*

[LITERARY INTELLIGENCE. WORKS IN THE PRESS.

A Grammatical Apparatus to Mr. Bagster's Polyglott Bible; containing an Analysis of the French, Italian, Spanish, German, Greek (ancient and modern), Latin, Hebrew, and Syriac Languages. By the Rev. F. Nolan. The modern Greek part will be supplied by M. Calbo.]

7. *The Times, Thursday, February 11, 1819*

[This day is published, Nos. 1 and 2. price 2s. 6d. each, to be completed in eight or ten numbers, each number to contain one or more complete grammars.]

A POLYGLOTT GRAMMAR of the principal ANCIENT and MODERN LANGUAGES, upon a uniform plan, and by a new simple principle of analysis applied to the improvements of the latest and most approved grammarians. By

the Rev. FREDERICK NOLAN. The modern Greek will be supplied by Mr. Calbo. Printed for Samuel Bagster, No. 15, Paternoster-row; where is now publishing, a Polyglott Bible and Common Prayer, to which the above work is a Grammatical Apparatus.]

8. *The Times, Wednesday, June 23, 1819; pg. 1*

[LECTURES on the Greek Language.---A.CALBO, a native of Greece, respectfully acquaints the nobility and gentry, that he purposes giving, by subscription, three LECTURES on the Greek Language, at the Argyll-rooms, on Monday 28th inst., Wednesday 30th, and Saturday, July 3d; to commence at 3 o'clock; subscription, one guinea. Tickets to be had of Mr. Bagster, 15, Paternosterrow, and at the Argyll-rooms.]

9. *The Times, Friday, June 25, 1819, pg. 1*

[LECTURES on the Greek Language.---A. CALBO, a native of Greece, respectfully acquaints the nobility and gentry, that he purposes giving, by subscription, three LECTURES on the Greek Language, at the Argyll-rooms, on Monday 28th inst., Wednesday 30th, and Saturday, July 3d; to commence at 3 o'clock; subscription, one guinea. Tickets to be had of Mr. Bagster, 15, Paternosterrow, and at the Argyll-rooms.]

10. *The Times, Saturday, June 26 1819*

[LECTURES on the Greek Language.---A. CALBO, a native of Greece, respectfully acquaints the nobility and gentry, that he purposes giving, by subscription, three LECTURES on the Greek Language, at the Argyll-rooms, on Monday 28th inst., Wednesday 30th, and Saturday, July 3d; to commence at 3 o'clock; subscription, one guinea. Tickets to be had of Mr. Bagster, 15, Paternosterrow, and at the Argyll-rooms.]

11. *The Times, Monday, June 28 1819, pg. 3*

[(Advertisement). - We are desired to state the following particulars, respecting the Rev. Mr. NOLAN'S Polyglott Grammar, published by Mr. Bagster, of Paternoster-row, and forming an apparatus to his Polyglott Bibles, Common Prayers, &c. The work consists of two parts, ancient and modern; and two grammars of each (viz. the Latin and Greek, the French and Italian) are published, price 2s 6d each. The Hebrew, Chaldee, and Syriac; the Spanish and German will follow in succession; the modern Greek to be supplied by M. Calbo. These grammars are on an uniform plan, and contain concise rules for

pronunciation, for the inflection of nouns and verbs, embracing the exceptions generally classed as irregular, and ascertaining the genders of nouns, &c; with a compendious syntax, containing necessary rules for composition, speaking each language; with a full exemplification, explaining the genius of the principal ancient and modern languages, by a new and simple principle of analysis.]

12. *The Times*, December 17, 1819, pg. 4

[This day is published, in four parts, price 7s.

CALBO'S ITALIAN LESSONS; containing, 1. a Synopsis of the Italian Grammar; 2. a Translation of the First Book of Robertson's Charles 5th; 3. Saul di Alfieri et La Danaïdi di Calbo; 4. Extracts from Tasso, Ariosto, Petrarca, and Dante: each part may be had separately. Printed for Alexander Black, 27, Pall-mall.]

13. *The Times*, February 26, 1821

[{Advertisement. }-The BOOK of COMMON PRAYER, in eight languages, dedicated to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, in one volume 4to, price 2l. 10s.-This volume is elegantly and curiously printed, having the eight languages at one view; the English, French, Modern Greek, and Italian, on one side; and the German, Spanish, Greek, and Latin, on the opposite, The intrinsic worth equals the unparalleled beauty of appearance. The Editors and Translators are the Rev. Dr. Kuper, the Rev. Blanco White, Mr. A. Calbo, Dr.

J. Carey, LL. D., &c &c.-The Grammatical Apparatus is by the Rev. F. Nolan, and is sold separately. The list of subscribers will soon be arranged for publication; it is honoured already with the names of His Most Gracious Majesty, His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, of Durham, of Oxford, of Worcester, &c &c; Earl Spencer, Lord Aston, &c &c. Whether this publication be considered as rendering the acquisition of language more easy and pleasurable, or giving a new impulse and value to our Church Service by uniting literature and devotion, or exciting the attention of other nations to the purity of the doctrines of our national formulary, it may surely be considered of extensive utility. - The names of subscribers may be sent to Mr. Bagster, No. 15. Paternosterrow, or to Messrs. Rivington, Waterloo-place, from whom, and of the most respectable booksellers, copies may be had.]