

Σ. Ι. Παπαδοπούλου, *Ἡ ἐπανάσταση στὴν Δυτικὴ Στερεὰ Ἑλλάδα μετὰ τὴν πτώση τοῦ Μεσολογγίου ὡς τὴν ὀριστικὴ ἀπελευθέρωσή της, 1826 - 1832. [The Revolution in Western Greece, from the fall of Messolonghi to Western Greece's final liberation, 1826 - 1832].* Publications of the Faculty of Philosophy of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, Appendix 8, Thessaloniki, 1962, pp. 231.

This publication is a most important contribution to the study of Modern Greek History. It throws new light on the final struggle of the Greeks against the Turks in Western Greece from the heroic exodus from Messolonghi, in April 1826, to the Treaty of Callentza, in July 1832. The final result of this military enterprise was the recognition by the European diplomacy of the Arta - Volos line as the northern frontier of the first independent national state in the Balkan Peninsula.

Dr. Papadopoulos is chiefly concerned with the military endeavours of the Roumeliots to liberate their country. In the beginning of the struggle their efforts were based on unconcerted plans; but upon the transport in November 1827 of General Church and his "thousand" to a base at Dragomesti, the struggle assumed a more definite shape and operations were extended. These operations consisted of an extensive guerilla warfare—a warfare carried out in great financial difficulties—in Acarnania and Aetolia with the support of the local chieftains who gradually threw in their lot with Church's troops. They ended with the seizure of Vonitza, the Makrynoros and Karvassara in April 1829, victories which led to the surrender of Lepanto, Messolonghi and Anatoliko some two weeks later. In the last section of his most readable book Dr. Papadopoulos deals in a scholarly way with the maintenance of the Greek troops in Aetolia and Acarnania and with the diplomatic process which led to the conclusion of the Treaty of Callentza. What makes this particular study important is that the author has shown that the idea of the campaign in Western Greece did not, as is generally believed in Greece, originate with Capodistrias. Dr. Papadopoulos would have found even more support for this view if he had consulted the numerous *Chureh Papers*, and especially the *Narrative*, in the Manuscript Department of the British Museum. His diplomatic account of the years 1826-1832, which provides a framework of the military history, does not give any new facts and is confined rather to French diplomacy, since it is based almost exclusively on Driault-Lhéritier's *Histoire diplomatique de la Grèce de 1821 à nos jours*. Nevertheless, what makes this book valuable to the specialists is the well-documented information from numerous Greek original sources and printed matter. Particularly valuable are the Appendices (pp. 181-208) of selected documents illustrating various portions of the text. The publication of these documents makes this book essential to any library which has a section on Modern Greek Historical Studies.

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