

LOCAL REVENUES.

RETURN of all LOCAL REVENUES raised and appropriated under the Authority
Monte di Pietà

| REVENUE. | Amount collected. | | |
|---|-------------------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| <i>Balance on the 31st December 1830.</i> | 3449 | 7 | 9½ |
| <i>Revenue of the Landed Property of the Monte di Pietà branch</i> £ 91. 16. 10½ | | | |
| <i>Interest on Pawns redeemed within the Year</i> 1239. 11. 11½ | | | |
| <i>— Do — on Money invested in the Govern- ment Treasury</i> 40. — — | | | |
| <i>— Do — Do lent to the Monte of Gozo</i> 20. — — | | | |
| <i>Fee on Pawn Tickets</i> 25. 16. 9 | | | |
| | £ 1417. 3. 7½ | | |
| <i>Revenue from the Property of the Redenzione Branch</i> 1502 7. 9½ | 2919 | 11 | 5 |
| <i>Money repaid on Pawns redeemed</i> £ 15767. 4. 5½ | | | |
| <i>Deposits received</i> 160. 3. 3½ | | | |
| <i>Residues of proceeds of the Sale of unclaimed Pawns</i> 322. 15. 11½ | | | |
| <i>Revenues of the S.^{to} Spirito Hospital</i> 397. 17. 6 | | | |
| <i>Do of the late Nunery of S.^{to} Mary Magdalen and other Private Charitable Funds</i> 742. 2. 11 | 17390 | 4 | 1 |
| | £ 23759 | 3 | 3½ |

The Monte di Pietà of Malta was established in the Year 1597, and, like all Institutions of the sort in other parts of Europe, particularly at Rome, with the object of affording pecuniary relief to the distressed

of any Municipal or other Body, nor accounted for in the General Revenue of the Colony.
and *Redenzione*

| EXPENDITURE. | Amount expended. | | |
|--|------------------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| <i>For keeping in good repair the Landed Property of the Monte di Pietà branch</i> | £ 77 | 7 | 7½ |
| <i>Salaries &c. of the Establishment</i> | 685 | — | — |
| <i>Incidental Expenses</i> | 61 | 9 | 7½ |
| <i>Interest on Money borrowed</i> | 1042 | 13 | 3½ |
| | £ 1866 | 10 | 6½ |
| <i>Payments on Account of the Redenzione branch including all Expenses attending the keeping and improving of the Property, as well as the Allowance of £ 500. Sterly to the House of Industry</i> | 2251 | 9 | 3½ |
| | £ 4117 | 19 | 9½ |
| <i>Money advanced on Pawns received</i> | 16403 | 10 | 3½ |
| <i>Payments on Account of money borrowed at Interest</i> | 45 | 16 | 8 |
| <i>Deposits paid off</i> | 1156 | — | 9 |
| <i>Residues on Pawns paid to the Holders of Tickets</i> | 325 | 2 | 1½ |
| <i>Payments on account of the S. Spirito Hospitals</i> | 314 | 9 | 6½ |
| <i>of the late Nunnery of S. Mary Magdalen and other Private Charitable Funds</i> | 1144 | 6 | 4½ |
| | 19389 | 5 | 5 |
| | £ 23507 | 5 | 2½ |
| <i>Balance remaining on the 31st Decemb. 1831.</i> | 251 | 18 | —½ |
| | £ 23759 | 3 | 3½ |
| <i>at reasonable interest thereby preventing them from having recourse to usurious Contracts. Any Sum of Money however small is advanced to the applicants on the Security of property given in pawn, such as gold, silver and other</i> | | | |

precious Articles, or wearing apparel, whether worn or new. The period of the loan is for three Years, on pawns of the first description and never more than two on those of the latter renewable at the option of the parties, who are also at liberty to redeem their pawns at any time within the period on payment of interest in proportion. The rate of Interest now charged is 6 per Cent per Annum. The unclaimed pawns, at the expiration of the period, are sold by public Auction, and the residue of the proceeds after deducting the sum due to the Institution, is payable to the person producing the respective Ticket. Of the accommodation thus afforded by the Monte not unfrequently persons in better circumstances have availed for any momentary exigency, and in this way considerable sums have ^{been} advanced. Till the Year 1787 the operations of this Institution were conducted by means of money borrowed at a moderate Interest, and by funds acquired by donations, &c. But the Grand Master Rohan authorized the consolidation of the Funds of the Monte di Pietà with those of the Monte di Redenzione another Institution equally national founded in the Year 1607, by private donations, and bequests, for the philanthropic object of rescuing from Slavery any of the Natives who might fall into the hands of Mahomedans not having means of Ransom. As this Institution had larger funds (mostly in landed property) than it actually required to meet all demands, the Act of consolidation proved of the greatest advantage to the Monte di Pietà. Thus united the two Institutions with the new title of Monte di Pietà e Redenzione conducted their separate duties under the Superintendance of a Board consisting of a President and eight Commissioners till the expulsion of the Order of S. John from Malta which happened in the Year 1798. The French Republicans by whom the Island was then occupied stripped the Monte of every Article whether in money or pawns, and the loss sustained by the Institution on that unfortunate occasion amounted nearly to £35,000 Sterling, including the share of the proprietors of pawns, in as much as the advance they received on that security never exceeded one-half or two-thirds of the value of the Articles pawned. It is needless to state that not a Shilling of this sum was repaid by the French Government after the restoration of their legitimate Monarchs.

When

When the British Forces took possession of La Valletta in September 1800, it was one of the first cares of the head of the Government to see this useful Institution resume its operations: Accordingly a new Board was elected and about four thousand Pounds advanced to them (without Interest) from the local Treasury. A Loan was opened to which Individuals did not hesitate to contribute when they were assured that the Institution considered itself bound to pay the old Loan though forming part of the amount carried away by the French and that in the meantime interest would be paid on it. The Monte possessing landed property to a much greater amount could never refuse such an act of justice. Happily the cessation of Slavery having put an end to the old charge for ransom enabled the Institution to devote its revenues to the payment of Interest on the old Loan, to the extinction of part of the Capital to the improvement of its property, and, for the last eight ^{nine} Years, to assign a Subsidy of £ 500 per Annum to the House of Industry.

There is another Monte di Pietà at Gozo established by the late Sir Alexander Ball about Twenty eight ^{or} Years ago, but its operations are extremely limited, in as much as it possesses no funds of its own worth mentioning, and has no other Capital at its disposal but 4,400 Dollars borrowed from the Monte di Pietà e Redenzione of Malta at the interest of 3 per Cent. per Annum.

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