

Heath Lodge
Regate Lury.
21/9/69

My dear Sir

I have the following information from a Greek friend & client, which I prepare by observing that in an application for naturalization the Petitioner may designate himself in every style he may choose, but I apprehend that to be so evidence beyond his ipse dixit (translation from the Greek original

"About the epoch of Charles II there existed in London a numerous colony of Greeks, who inhabited Greek St. & Dean St. Lomb. St. & had at that time a very handsome Greek Church there, of which some epigraphs remain to the present day. But these Greeks in the second & third generation became anglicized and are now all English, except in name, as I myself know the Chortatzi (late Vice Consul in Corfu) Milo, Adelphe &c

The most of these Greeks were Eperotes (from
Continental Greece) but a certain Rhodo-
conaki was distinguished as of Chios

He wrote many works to be found in the
British Museum. together with Memorials
to Charles II but he, distinguished as he
was, was neither a prince nor of the royal
line of the imperial Palaeologi, ^{that community} they had
arch~~deacons~~ ^{priests (Bishops)} but no Arch~~deacon~~ ^{priest} of that
name is recorded ^{of Rhodocoraki} (NB It is not called a Bishop as the
Greeks have no bishops in partibus)

On the capture of Constantinople by the
Turks & the death of the then Emperor
two of his brothers were saved
the one ^{the} both of which took refuge in England
and settled in Cornwall. another the
^{race} ~~name~~ ~~existence~~ of the Palaeologi was preserved
even till now in ^{some} the metropolitan church
(? Rectory Church) and upon tombs by
a regular genealogical tree, but the
name "Palaeologos" has been somewhat
distorted from its original pronunciation

but at the present day there exists in the
Royal Navy, one a baker, and the other a
surgeon (i.e. ἰατρός) who descend in direct
line from the Paleologoi - Rhodocorakes
however as a Paleologos was never heard of,
nor a Prince Rhodocoraki, and it may be
a Turkish Bey whom the ^{ignorant} Europeans may
choose to translate "Prince" as ignorant
people are wont sometimes to do.

At present in England and in London
& Manchester there are many merchants
and brokers called Rhodocoraki, but
none of these to my knowledge is known
as an ancient prince, nor is so designated.
Among these is my own friend Michael
Rhodocoraki of the well known House
Rhodocoraki & Sons of Lincolns Inn
He has made minute researches, respec-
ting his learned progenitor the Rhodo

This is not a solitary
 attempt at imposture by an
 venturer Greek, the Melaschi
 one of whom ^{Costaki} married Miss
 Pelli choire there he became
 a worst Merchant (Gothick)
 & was afterwards pensioned
 by her wife & turned out of the
 house by the police, ^{a blackswand} called him
 self "fount" Melaschi, the other brother
^{Battista}
 lives at Bath having also married
 a rich English woman on the
 strength of his pseudo title (Battista)
 he served in the East India Navy
 There is a County family in
 - dated under the Venetian
^{for assistance rendered against the Turks in Crete}
 Rule in Cephalonia, but these
 Melaschi do not belong to that
 family

The family of Caruso is another
all these I know personally
& they have no claim to the
title, also ^{de} Nulsamaki who
married the widow of Bishop
Heber calls himself Count &
has no claim nor title to the
designation

These adventurers (Nulsamaki
however of ^{Polynesian} origin) ^{is rich}
assume these titles on coming
to England or travelling were
~~conspicuous~~ ~~with~~
accepted in the domain
Islands as having done a
clever stroke of business to ob-
tain rich English wives under
false pretences.

coronati of the time of Charles II

If you wish to know more I am at your service to make the enquiry "

Hence I think it is clear I was right as to the Rhodocoronati-Paleologos being a myth. These sort of tales will not do with me, who am somewhat acquainted with the country & the people & know something of Byzantine history one of my favourite studies - When Constantinople was destroyed or rather taken Mohammed II coquetted with the Greeks and induced some to remain under promise of protection lest the city should be depopled, but on his violating the word of a noble Byzantine, the nobility fled to Europe & it was these who ^{introduced} ~~brought~~ ancient Greek literature ~~into Europe~~ beyond, the pronunciation they taught was soon lost & we now pronounce Greek like English ^{barbarous} ταύτα καὶ ὀργάνη ἁβελουα