

1907.

Jerusalem,
31 July, 1907

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Departure of Ottoman Subjects for Egypt
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(Minister)

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Jerusalem,

July 31. 1907.

No. 27.
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Sir,

A statement having been made to me recently that an Imperial 'Trade' had been issued prohibiting the departure for Egypt of all Ottoman subjects, whether Government officials or not, I have caused enquiries to be made into the matter. I now find that in the course of last March secret instructions in that sense, with

Your Excellency

The Right Hon^{ble}

Sir M. R. O'Connor, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.

&c.

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special

Special reference to persons of influence, were sent by the Minister of the Interior to the Mutessarif, but that within the last few days His Excellency has been instructed to use a certain discretion in carrying out this prohibition and not to insist on its being rigidly maintained in all cases.

Emigration from this district continues practically unchecked, through the connivance of some of the lower officials, and the prohibition is hardly more effective than is the law forbidding the permanent settlement

settlement of foreign Jews in Palestine.

I have the honour to be
With the greatest respect

Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient,
humble servant

E. P. Meek