

Her Majesty's Consul
Jerusalem, May 14th 1868

No 5.

at Sent Home.

Sir

At the request of Mr. W. R. A. of the Palestine Exploration Fund, I have the honor to transmit for Your Excellency's perusal and consideration, a copy of a letter, marked confidential, which he has addressed to me relative to the attitude assumed by the local Turkish Authorities on the question of excavations under the Area of the Haram Ish. Sherif, or Mosque of Omar.

Yours Excellency, The Right Honble
Henry Elliot
Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary
to — to — to Constantinople

1868

Consul. No. 125

M. F. H. H.

No. 4.

Dec 28.

By American Consul

Reporting acquisition
of property by French
Government near
Jerusalem
535.

Jan 1 1868

at Jerusalem.

I beg leave to add that my own local knowledge and experience would lead me to confirm Lieut. Warren's statements as to the favorable disposition of the native Mohammedan Notables, and the likelihood of the secret motive of opposition on their part. It would thus appear that the plea on which the Porte bases its unwillingness to grant permission to Lieut. Warren to work under the Haram Area, namely that it would offend the Mohammedan people to a high degree, is invalid.

With regard to Nazif Pasha, he certainly is not

404
as liberal-minded as his predecessor Izzet Pasha.

I have the honor to be with great respect, Sir,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient

Humble Servant

Nathaniel Moore

Copy

Palestine Exploration Fund
Jerusalem 12th May 1868.

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Confidential

Sir,

With reference to the attitude assumed by the Local Government of Jerusalem with regard to the excavations of the Palestine Exploration Fund, I have the honour to make the following remarks which I request you will have the goodness to forward to the British Ambassador to the Porte together with your own view of the subject which I understand to be in coincidence with mine.

It appears from the correspondence in the Consular Office that in the Viziral letter authorising the Agent of the P. E. Fund to make excavations

Most Temple Moore Esq.
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul
for Palestine

1868
Jerusalem May 14th
Mr Moore
No 5
Inchiquin
Dec 28
By Austrian Post
Transmitting copy of
a letter from
J. W. Moore relative to
his excavations at
Jerusalem with observations
thereon. 536.

in and about Jerusalem, an exception was made to the Haram Area under the misapprehension that it was inaccessible to Franks in general and that H. R. H. the Prince of Wales alone had entered there: the fact being that Christians of all denominations are allowed to examine and walk about it.

After fifteen months experience in Jerusalem, I find that there are no real obstacles to our digging openly in the Haram Area provided the Pasha is inclined to help us.

I have sounded the principal Effendis and local officials and find that there is nothing at present to prevent our working

working in the Haram Area ⁴⁰⁵ except the fanaticism of Najif Pasha the Governor of Jerusalem.

The Effendi who has behaved most liberally and in whose grounds I am working tells me "I am getting into difficulties, the Pasha tells me that if I do not stop your work he will make difficulties for me next time I go to the Serai"

All the Effendis of any note have given me to understand that they have no objection to our working in the Haram Area I have asked them to put it in writing, they say they cannot as the Pasha would get their names and crush them one by one.

The

The whole difficulty comes from this Pasha nominated by the Porte and it appears that if pressure were put upon him he must yield: even if the strongest Vezirial letter were sent out here, he, if he does not get private instructions from his Government to assist, can call up each Effendi separately and terrify him into making statements which would obstruct the work.

Kazif Pasha is acknowledged by his own creed to be a fanatic and it is quite hopeless and too expensive for Europeans to try

try and bring him round to look with indifference on our digging in the Haran Area so long as his own Government does not attempt to cause him to alter his views.

I have &c

(Signed) Charles Warren,
Lieut: Royal Engineers.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on the left page]

[Faint, illegible handwriting on the right page]

[Handwritten notes on the right edge of the page]

