

Jerusalem February 17th 1846.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that I was informed by Dr. Macgowan on the 15th instant of the death of a Jewish woman named Esther Arraf, a British subject. Her last wish being that she should be interred according to Jewish rites in the Jewish Burial Ground, the Rabbi objected to this on the ground that she had been excommunicated for being in the service of a protestant at the Jewish hospital of the London Society. Having requested the Chief Rabbi and his Excellency the Pasha to have these objections removed - it was refused; but the deceased's son soon afterwards appeared, and declared that the Rabbi would agree to the interment provided he would leave the service of Dr. Macgowan and never return to the Hospital; the son consented to this sacrifice rather than have his mother interred in any other but the Jewish Burial Ground,

Excellency, The Right Honorable,

Sir Stratford Canning J. C. B.

Constantinople.

Reference made to the
Acting Consul Marshall and
the reply.

Enclosure No 2.

but having made known his consent to the
Rabbis they again refused to allow it. I then
wrote to Mehemmed Pasha to request his protection
in burying the body in the Jewish Burial Ground,
and I have the honor to enclose a copy of this ^{N^o 1.}
letter and his Excellency's reply. After this
Dr. Macdonan accompanied by two other British
subjects of the mission attempted contrary to my
advice and opinion to bury the corpse in the
Jewish ground, thinking they would meet with
no opposition from the Rabbis. As they were
determined on this course by the earnest
entreaties of the deceased's family and many
of his Jewish friends, I gave them the use of
my Janissaries for their individual protection,
but exacting from them the promise that no
attempt at force should be made use of in
case of opposition. They were opposed by the
Hebrew dragoman and a mob of low Jews,
and I must do these gentlemen the justice to
say that they immediately gave up the attempt,
although I considered them wrong in trying
to act without the Pasha's protection and
contrary to my expressed opinion. The body
was afterwards interred in a piece of ground

purchased by the mission for the express purpose
of burying the poor Jews dying in the hospital,
but this is the first burial that has taken
place in it. Nothing further has occurred on
this subject, and I submit the matter to your
Excellency to decide whether Mehemmed Pasha
and the Chief Rabbi were on the side of justice
towards a British subject in this opposition,
there being full proof that the woman was a
thorough Jewess.

I have the honor to be
your Excellency's
most obedient
humble servant.

~~Wm. Bell~~

P. S. February 18th

I have this moment received a
petition from the British subjects members of
the House of Israel, to your Excellency, praying
for a redress of their grievances, and attached
to it a certificate that Esher Elias was a good
and faithful Israelite, and I have just time
to enclose it in time for post.

~~Wm. Bell~~

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Jerusalem le 15 février 1846.

Excellence,

Une femme nommée Esther Arnaiz de la religion juive, sujette de Sa Majesté Britannique, morte depuis hier dans l'hôpital de M^r le Docteur Macgowan, et ayant déclaré son desir d'être enterrée dans la cimetière juive, les Rabbins Juifs se sont opposés à cet enterrement, donnant pour raison que cette femme avait été excommuniée parce qu'elle avait été dans le service des chrétiens.

Ayant fait connaître ces faits à votre Excellence par mon dragoman ce matin, en vous demandant en même temps votre protection pour laisser enterrer le cadavre dans la cimetière juive, j'ai reçu pour réponse que votre Excellence ne pouvait pas l'accorder. Depuis ce temps les Rabbins ont fait dire à son fils que s'il voulait quitter le service de M^r le Docteur Macgowan et jurer de ne plus y retourner qu'ils laisseraient enterrer sa mère, le fils ayant consenti à ce sacrifice, j'ai cru l'affaire fini; mais apaisent en nient.

Votre Excellence
Mehemed Pasha

regarded & that our dear, dying in one said hospital to have a decent & unobstructed burial, without any

Jerusalem February 15th
M^r Acting Consul Stewart.

2. Instructions
No 3.

No 4

צוהיה נרמון ופחד
לעויל בנחיל פו לניץ
in budstine in the town
of the London Society Hospital.

de me dire que les Rabbins ont encore refusé de
consentir a cette dernière proposition fait par
eux mêmes - Je suis donc encore obligé de me
placer sous la protection de votre Excellence et j'espère
que vous ne refuserez pas de lui percuter le
cadavre dans le seul endroit ou cela peut se
faire -

Veuillez agréer

signé H. Newbolt

Reçu par le
Consul de Jérusalem
le 3. 1866. & H. Newbolt
à Constantinople

Reçu par le
Consul de Jérusalem
le 3. 1866.

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Consul de Jérusalem
le 3. 1866.

Petition to Her Britannic Majesty's Ministers
at the Sublime Porte
residing at the Sublime Porte

We the undersigned to this Petition members
of the House of Israel & heirs of the Covenant of Promise
made by the Eternal to Abraham Isaac & Jacob & to his
posterity - We being subjects of her Excellent Majesty
Queen Victoria of Great Britain through our Consul
General Newbolt of this place the Holy-City Jerusalem
humbly pray & petition, that you may hear our grieves
& extend your influence & aid hereafter on our behalf
to grant us our rights as English-Subjects. This
petition is to show that on Saturday last, the 14th of this
month Esther Pious a respectable Jewess of this place
in the employ of the English Hospital under the
immediate Superintendance of Doct^r Edward Macgovern
you will observe is certified by many respectable Is-
raelites in a Certificate accompanying this document
her grievance is - that after her death, the Chief Rabbi
Micaëls Gagguin of the Portuguese Jews & a Subject of
the Ottoman-Porte & supported by his authority, Ma-
moud Pasha of Jerusalem; positively persisted in refus-
ing her a burial amongst her co-religionists, declaring
that she was no longer an Israelite but a Christian, be-
cause she had entered the employ of the said Hospital
in order to prevent the like occurrence again, of such an
unpleasant & heart-rending circumstance, not only to
the friends, but more particularly to the immediate relatives,
those who may be hereafter visited by death from the
mercy of God in the said Hospital; we humbly pray &
petition your excellency to interpose on our behalf be-
fore the proper authorities of Constantinople, that the
proper & necessary rights of your subjects may not be
regarded & that our dear, dying in the said Hospital
may have a decent & unobstructed burial, without any

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interruption, let or hindrance either by any Pa
Jerusalem that now is, or, that may be hereafter
ted in this place, or by any Rabbis presiding over
Jews; considering ourselves entitled to enjoy the
rights, as other English Subjects whether resident
here or in England. & we further humbly pray
protection you, that in case of an Husband who
Israelite dying in the Holy Land that you
prevent by your order & authority, that all his
-erty whether it be money or other valuable goods
not be taken as an inheritance; by the Rabbis
congregation, & thus deprive & leave entirely
the Surviving Widow & all absent lawful heirs
this is at present a great grievance now existing
Jerusalem, that is not to be found, in any other
of the world where Jews reside; this your Excellency
will please take into consideration & correct this
together with fixing a stated & reasonable price
interring our dead which at present, is very exp
& which the poor Jews are incapable of defray
& meeting, therefore we humbly pray that a man
erty may be left to his lawful heirs, according to
desires, provided he does not die intestate.

Jerusalem February 18th 1846

Witnesses -
(Edward Macgowan M.D.
Physician of the English Mission
at Jerusalem
Isaac Aaron
John Nicolson
Abraham Ben-Sahan
Isaac Aaron
Rabbi Joseph

The undersigned do Certify that the woman called
Ruar wife of Joseph Ruar (deceased) & mother of
Solomon Ruar of this place was a good & faithful
Israelite having kept our Holy Law during her lifetime
never heard any thing against her character
was descended from the great Rabbi Meshach Ruar
was her Grand-father - but because she died in
English Hospital, she was denied a burial
amongst the Jews, the Rabbi declaring she was not
Jew but a Christian, which we Certify is untrue
without any foundation -

Jerusalem 21st of Shebat 5606. corresponding to Feb 17th 1846

(Solomon Ruar)
(Joseph Ruar)
(Rabbi Meshach Ruar)
(Rabbi Joseph Ruar)
(Rabbi Menachem Ruar)
(Solomon Ruar)
(Rabbi Joseph Ruar)
(Rabbi Menachem Ruar)
(Rabbi Joseph Ruar)

que vous me demandez. N'obtenant
 de votre part. Je suis très averti
 que s'il arrive quelques désordres
 à la suite de cette mesure, toute
 la responsabilité sera sur vous
 Agréer etc
 (Signé) Mohamed Pacha

Reçu par le Secrétaire
 de l'Administration
 le 3 Mars 1846

Reçu par le Secrétaire
 de l'Administration
 le 3 Mars 1846

Jerusalem March 25 1846

Sir,

I have the honor to inform your
 Excellency that since my despatch no. 3 of
 17th ultimo, the right to the piece of land
 where the corpse of the Jew *Isaac Meas*
 was buried has been disputed by his Excellency
 the Pasha, and I have the honor to enclose
 his Excellency's correspondence on this subject
 with my answers. In consequence of being
 deprived of this burial ground for the
 hospital, and the refusal of the Rabbis to
 allow Jews dying in the hospital to be
 buried in the Jewish Cemetery, *Dr. Magowan*
 addressed me a letter of which the enclosed
 is a copy; Your Excellency will perceive by
 this letter, and what had taken place
 previously, the necessity of having some
 place to bury the dead from the hospital.

His Excellency the Right Honorable
 Sir Stratford Canning G. C. B.
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