

Directorium & Casus  
Nancy's reply: 1873  
23 January 1874

Handwritten notes on the left margin of page 157.

Jerusalem 30<sup>th</sup> January 1874

No 4

Sir

I have the honor to report to  
Your Excellency the following cases which  
have lately occurred here, and which I  
fear are too faithful indications of the  
fanatical disposition of our present Pasha,  
who will readily find willing Agents in  
this District to second him in the propaga-  
-tion of his extraneous -

About a fortnight ago an  
Armenian named 'Serius' tragly was  
found murdered near Bethlehsem -  
Three days after the corpse had been in-  
-terred, two Sheiks appeared before the  
Pasha and declared that the deceased  
was a Moslem, - upon which, the Pasha  
caused the body to be disinterred, the  
rite of circumcision to be performed, and  
after the other ceremonies of Islamism  
had been gone through, to be reinterred

Yours truly  
The Right Honorable  
Sir Stratford Canning G.C.B.

in the Moslem burial ground. The Pacha's orders were duly executed.

So long as the man was believed to have been a Christian, little notice was taken of his murder, but so soon as he is declared to have been a Moslem, the village is made responsible for the murder, and a sum of money is demanded of the inhabitants in default of the murder's being discovered.

The deceased was always recognized here as a Christian, and admitted by his Church to all the privileges of his religion; his family is well known in Jerusalem; but it is said that when absent from home on some occasions he had thought it was better for his personal safety, or for his interest, to pass for a Musulman, and it is therefore supposed that there might have been some reason for the evidence given by the two Shiks. But I would submit to Your Excellency, that from the great

manifested

manifested by the Pacha in this case - he should not be very scrupulous in his proceedings should he be called upon to interfere in religious matters among the living.

Last week an unfortunate Capt who had just arrived, a stranger in this place, with his sister, from Egypt, was enticed by another Egyptian, into the house of an Arnout Officer - where he was murdered the same night, and his sister violated - it is pretended that the Arnout's groom (who is a Moslem) was the guilty party - he is got out of the way, and there the matter is allowed by the Pacha to terminate. I need scarcely add that the poor victims of this infamous outrage, are Christians.

Yesterday while walking out I saw an Arnout draw his sword, and without any provocation, strike a poor pilgrim - laid across the arm; if he had not had on a very thick capote - the consequences must have been very serious.

If it is asked why complaints are not made to the Authorities, it is replied, that it is in vain to complain against a Moslem.

To day two Assassins fell out, in the Area opposite to the Church of the Sepulchre. One of them drew his pistols, and discharged them at his Comrad, one after the other. - who it appears was a Christian. - he received both balls in his breast and fell dead at his feet. - The Murderer is imprisoned but I fear it is only to protect him as he is a Moslem.

Several robberies also, have lately been committed in the streets at night, on persons moving about, but no notice is taken by the Government Authorities of these outrages. - The parties complaining are desired to identify the individuals which of course is often impossible, and people, especially females

are

are actually afraid to move out of their houses - even in the day time.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Sir  
Your Obedient

Most Obedient

Account Servant,  
Mr J. Gouge

Committee &  
M. R. L. S. H.  
P. M. I.  
A. P. L. S. H.  
L. R. I.  
S. Y. M. I.

Committee &  
M. R. L. S. H.  
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A. P. L. S. H.  
L. R. I.  
S. Y. M. I.

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Have the honor to transmit  
Your Excellency the copy of a report from  
the British Consular Agent at Jaffa,  
relating the fanatical proceedings of  
the Muslims at Gaza, encouraged by  
the Authorities of the place.

And also the copy of a report  
from Mr Finzi, the Consular Agent at  
Acre, apprising me of a fresh outbreak  
between the Turks in the Stablonce  
District. These reports have only  
reached me to day - they in some  
measure expose to Your Excellency the  
disorganised state to which the affairs  
of this District are reduced, owing to  
the corrupt and mischievous adminis-  
tration - Since the evacuation of the  
Egyptian

Right Honourable  
Sir Stratford Canning G. C. B.