

and that pending an arrangement
he remains here on a pension.

I have been waiting in order to
report his movements better.

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Memorandum of
the Committee of

1885/1886

1886/1887

1887/1888

1888/1889

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1885/1886

41
Jerusalem,
March 25. 1895.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge
the receipt of Your Excellency's Despatch
of the 14th of January last, stating,
with reference to the inspection of books
belonging to the London Jews' Society,
that Your Excellency would be glad
to know whether Mr. Kelk objects to
the books which are destined for
Jerusalem being examined here, and

whether

Your Excellency

The Right Hon^{ble}
Sir Francis Clare - Ford, G.C.B.

Ye.

Ye.

Ye.

whether the other Societies take
exception to the new regulations;
also whether, in my opinion, they
are likely to cause serious incon-
venience and delay, or whether they
may prove advantageous to the
owners as suggested by the Governor
of Jerusalem in his note.

In reply I have the honour
to enclose herewith copies of letters
which I have received from the
Rev. J. Longley Hall, Secretary to
the

February 14 1858

March 8 1858

the Church Missionary Society, and the
Rev. A. H. Kelk, Agent of the London
Jews' Society, in answer to a
communication which I addressed
to them on the subject. The representatives
of the other Missions have not
replied to a similar communication,
but some of them have informed
me verbally that, as they receive
most of their School books from the
American Press in Beyrout, after
inspection by the Censor at that
place, they have no difficulty
with

with the Custom House.

I would respectfully beg to submit to Your Excellency that besides the objections enumerated by the Rev. J. Longley Hall in his letter above mentioned, the new regulations, which are contrary to the usage to which for many years past the Missionaries have been accustomed to conform, entail considerable extra expense to the Missions. The Agent is
either

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either obliged to hand over the books to the Custom House, who forward them to the Censor in Jerusalem by train, charging the Mission with the carriage, which is double or treble that of transport by baggage animals, or, if he takes charge of the books himself, he is compelled to deposit the amount of their value, and to pay the cost of their conveyance to Jerusalem, and also to and from the Office of

of the Censor. This is tantamount
to levying a tax on the books
imported.

I understand that the new
regulations were framed solely for
the convenience of the Censor, who
happens to have his dwelling at
Jerusalem and has no representation
at Jaffa, and who finds it more
suitable to examine here books
destined for Jerusalem than
to proceed to Jaffa to inspect
them

41
them on their being landed. I am
further informed that my French
Colleague has reported, on behalf of
the Missions under French Protection,
to the French Ambassador, against
the adoption of the new regulations.

I have the honour to be
With the highest respect,
Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient
humble servant

John Beckson

Church Missionary Society

Jerusalem.

February 14. 1893.

Copy.

My dear Mr. Dickson,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated February 1. which I regret has been so long in receiving an answer on account of my absence from home, on the East of the Jordan.

You state that His Excellency Her Majesty's Ambassador would like to have the opinion of the different Missionary Societies

John Dickson Esq^r
Vc. Vc. Vc.
H.B. Consul for Palestine

Societies

Jerusalem, March 25th
Edward Dickson
-16-11
2 letters
Recd. 25/3/93
By Post
The Church of Jan. 14th
Distribution of Mission Books
at Jerusalem - enclosed
Copies of letters from the
Rev. J. L. Hall & the Rev. A. H.
Little respecting the
Missionary Societies
of the East of the Jordan
J. L. Hall
A. H. Little
20/11

Societies in Jerusalem as regards
the new Regulations adopted by
the Local authorities for the
examination in Jerusalem of
books which have been imported
from abroad for the use of the
Missions. Until the receipt
of your letter I had not heard
that new Regulations had been
adopted with reference to the
examination of books and up
to the present moment neither I
nor my colleagues of the C. M. S.
the Rev.^d John Zeller and C. F.
Wilson have seen these regulations.

It

It would certainly, however, be a
very great hardship and annoyance
if books imported for the use of
the Missions are not examined and
handed over to us or our agents at
the port of disembarkation.

These books often come with
other school material - clothes,
stationery, Xmas presents &c. and
sometimes with private goods and
it would cause very great inconvenience
to have these goods delayed and
kept back from us because the
box also contained books which
must be brought to Jerusalem
for examination. Moreover we
protest

protest strongly against the boxes being brought to Jerusalem in the custody of Turkish officials as there would be no guarantee as to the safety of the contents. It would open the door much wider than under the old arrangement of examining the books at the port of disembarkation - to wholesale robbery and nothing would be secure. We claim the right of having all imported goods - whether books or otherwise - examined and handed over to us direct from the port of landing and

and we feel that we are entitled to some consideration in this matter, as during the forty-five years and upwards during which the Church Missionary Society has been working in Palestine, although books have frequently been kept back for a time (sometimes in a very vexatious manner) by the Turkish Officials, they have never once found a single book imported in C. M. S. boxes - which was contrary to religion and morals or otherwise contraband.

I trust that His Excellency will

will kindly use his great
influence to prevent any
vexatious changes being
made in the mode or place of
examination of imported books.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. R. Longley Hall.
Secy C. M. S. Palestine Mission.

Recd. 1
Mr. Longley Hall
1893
1893

Objections to Books imported
to Jerusalem being inspected
in Jerusalem.

Copy
The Hon. F. L. Hall
Consul Dickson
Jerusalem Feb. 14. 1893

Jerusalem
March 8. 1893.

Copy

Dear Sir,

In reply to your communication
about the censorship of Books I have
to state that I have a strong objection
to having our Books brought up to
Jerusalem to be examined on practical
grounds.

Our boxes must be opened
at Jaffa, where the Custom House
is, and if they have to be removed
elsewhere to be examined we have
no guarantee that there will not
be many losses.

John Dickson Esq.
Her Majesty's Consul
Jerusalem

Then

Then instead of the Censor
guaranteeing us against loss, we
have to deposit a sum of money
to cover the value of the Books,
and then to bring them up in
the most expensive way, to send
them to an appointed place and
then to remove them again, so
that it becomes a very costly
matter.

And the delay is very
great; I have now had Books
in the hands of the Censor for
more than three months and
I cannot get them away.

Another box of Books which
came

came from Constantinople and
with which I sent a raptich was
detained for some time by the
Censor, though the raptich ought
to have cleared them without
examination.

As long as there is no
Custom House in Jerusalem
the Books should be examined
at Jaffa before being taken
out of the Custom House.

I remain &c.

(signed) A. Hastings Melke

Jerusalem
April 3. 1893.

No. 12.
Confidential

Sir,

With reference to my telegram
of the 2nd instant, I have the
honour to report to your
Excellency, that, after my return
to my post from leave of absence
last Autumn, I was informed that
Monsieur Kherimian the ex-
Armenian Patriarch at

Constantinople,

His Excellency
The Right Hon^{ble}
Sir Francis Clare, G. C. B.

Yr.

Yr.

Yr.

The Hon. A. H. Kell
Cable
Constantinople, March 8. 1893
Referring to instructions of
Monsieur Kherimian in Jerusalem
March 2.
See also Bulletin
No. 11 of Nov. 25
1893
etc.