

Enclaves in
No. 36. of January
1861

Index of Despatches
from 1861.

No 1

Sir.

Jerusalem

January 15. 1861

I have the honor to enclose
Copies of my Despatches to London.
Political 2 and Political 3. of this
year for Your Excellency's information.

And to report likewise that in
consequence of considerable acts of
oppression exercised upon the
Protestants of Nazareth, under the

Excellency
Right Honorable
H. L. Bulwer G.C.B.
&c &c

English

English Mission, by Agents of the
Latin and Greek Ecclesiastics of
that place, in the name and by
means of Turkish authority. - I
have sent my principal Dragoman
with Kawapes thither to wait for
means of redress to be obtained in
Bagroot by Lord Dufferin, and
Mr Consul General Moore.

I have the honor to be
Sir
with the highest respect
Your Excellency's

most humble
and obedient Servant
James Fium.

Enclosing Opium of two
despatches to London.
— Na Sautth affair

1861
Jerusalem Jan. 15
Mr Consul Pinn
No 1 - 2 Snobs.
Re 1 Feb. 6
By French Packet

Political Copy
2

Jerusalem
January 4th 1861.

My Lord

I have the honor to report that at
the Bethlehem festival of Christmas, the
usual discussions between the Latin Patriarch
and the French Consul were exhibited more
openly than usual.

For the last three years it has been
the custom for the French Consul to
obtain a Turkish military force for the
protection of the Church during the celebration
of midnight mass, amounting to a company
of Infantry, who remain outside ready to
be called upon.

The Patriarch testified his displeasure
at this, on its first occurrence in 1858.

Right Honourable
Lord John Russell
cc. cc.

In

In 1859 he sent in a solemn Protest against it to the Pasha, who however gave his answer through the French Consul, that it had been done at the appeal of the proper Civil authority — This year the Patriarch sent his Protest to the Pasha before the occurrence, giving as reasons — that the presence of military in the town at such a time is a burden upon the Hospitality of the people, and leads to inconvenience with respect to the female members of families

Whereupon the French Consul immediately hired several Armenian houses for lodging the soldiers — but the Pasha declined — accepting the favor, and the men passed the night in the open air the first night and in the Vestibule or Great old Church on the second — The Pasha also himself went to Bethlehem for the occasion

The Patriarch then refused to attend the great and peculiar ceremonial, but commanded

commanded all the Bethlehemites of his Community, the young to attend the chapel of his College at the neighbouring village of Bait Jala, and the old to attend Mass at St Joseph's chapel in Bethlehem — none to attend the Church of the Franciscan monks or the adoration at the Manger

The Patriarch thus hoped to bring humiliation upon the French who were in great exultation at having a large party of the Syrian Expedition present in uniform, including the Comde de Picuerdo, the half-brother of the Queen of Spain — the only effect however of the Patriarch's absence was the much greater degree of quiet and order observed during the Church Service, than ever exists when His Excellency is there with his ^{two} violent ecclesiastics the Curates of Bethlehem — The Service was fully attended

I have sometimes wondered at the possible necessity for the French Consul requiring

requiring the attendance of a military
guard at Bethlehem at Christmas
- He reminds me that some American
Protestants were expelled from the
Church by the Patriarch's Kawasses
for asserted levity of conduct in 1858
- and that one can never be sure beforehand
that there will not be a riot of the
Orientals

The truth seems to be that both
parties are struggling for ascendancy
- I have on former occasions had to
report the intense antagonism of the
Patriarch's conduct to every thing
French - And the French Consul -
labors to uphold his pretensions over
the other Roman Catholic Consuls
to be at such times the representative
of

of his Emperor personally, and
wielding the military and police
authority of the country at his
discretion

The general effect is certainly
for all interests better conducted as
it is, than if the Patriarch had
the management of Bethlehem.

The Patriarch's temperament of
mind is at all times extremely
dogmatical and violent

I have the honor to be
My Lord
with the highest respect
Your Lordship's

Right Honourable
Lord John Russell

etc etc etc

most obedient

humble servant.

(signed)

James Finis

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Enclosure 1 in despatch
No 1 of Sunderland 1861

Discussions in Parliament

Copy

Dated Sunderland Jan 4th
1861

Not forward them to
Lord John Russell

Copy
Political
No 3

London
January 4. 1861

My Lord

I have had the honor to mention
before now, the exceeding dislike in
which the French nation are held by
both towns-people and the peasantry
throughout this country - but have not
before explained that this feeling arises
from a belief in a general character of
licentiousness with regard to women
which is attributed to them.

I have now the honor to report that
we have narrowly escaped a tumult
here on that account.

I am told that during the recent
visit of French soldiers with Colonel
Ormond, there was a disorderly drinking-

Right Honorable
Lord John Russell
&c &c

party

party in the house of a person intimate with the French Consul, and public dancing women were engaged for performance before them.

— This last is always regarded in the East as an offence against public morals, when done in a house of unmarried men.

It appears that the Consul was not present.

The neighbours gave notice to the military patrols in the streets. These gave notice to their officers and the Lewa Pasha, who repaired with them to the place.

The peculiar kind of music to be heard, and the shouts of the French within, left no doubt as to the nature of the performances, and the

military guard were several times on the point of breaking open the door and preventing its continuance — but meanwhile notice having been sent to the Civil Pasha (Lureya) he summoned the French Casulline and required him to break up the party peacefully, which was done.

Had the Turkish infantry forced an entrance, it is probable that the French soldiers would have resisted — but the population of the city, Moslem if not Christian, would have joined with the former.

Indeed some Moslems have gone so far as to ascribe the whole to a deliberate plan of the French Consul to bring about a collision in Jerusalem.

as a pretext for calling an
expeditionary force hither.

I do not believe any thing of the
kind to be true - but the occurrence
has confirmed the previous idea
universally adopted, of French
immorality; and shows that a
necessity exists for the local
authority to be on the alert in
preventing disturbances of the public
peace.

I have the honor to
(signed) James Finn.

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Specimen 2 in the
Lepellet No 1 of
Jerusalem 1861

McLennan from
to Lord John Russell
Political No 3
Dated Jerusalem
January 4. 1861
Copy

No 2

Jerusalem
January 15. 1861

Sir.

I have the honor to report to
Your Excellency that I have this
Evening received information
both from Bayroot and Nazareth
- to the effect that Lord Dufferin
has taken up the case of the
ill-treatment of the Nazareth
Protestants with so much vigour
that the latter and the Missionaries
are very grateful to His Lordship.

Your Excellency
Right Honourable
H. L. Bulwer

G. C. B. H. H.

J