

Copy sent to London

Jerusalem  
April 29. 1856

No 25.

My Lord.

I have the honor to report that during the celebration of the Holy fire on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> Instant in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, being the Oriental Easter Eve, a riot ensued between the Greeks and Armenians, in which about twenty men on each

His Excellency  
Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup> Viscount  
Stratford de Redcliffe  
G. C. B. &c

side

Prise of Rev J. J. Hyde.  
— sent to London

Jerusalem April 29  
The Consul Prince  
No 24.  
Prise of Rev J. J. Hyde

Side were wounded - of these  
two on the Greek side, and one  
on the other, remain in -  
considerable danger.

The military force at the doors  
had searched the pilgrims at  
their entrance, depriving them of  
sticks, knives &c - but in a  
moment during the celebration  
both factions were found well  
armed. The Armenians had for  
some days before brought and  
concealed cutjels within the church

and its recesses - and the Greeks  
were instantaneously supplied  
with the same kind of weapons  
stones &c. thrown from a window  
near the roof which communicates  
with the roof of St. Nicolas Convent.

The first movement seems to  
be hardly accounted for as yet.  
but during the conflict the missiles  
were also flung upwards to the  
galleries, demolishing rows of  
lamps and tearing Church-pictures  
representing the most sacred

Subjects of faith - glass and  
oil pouring down upon their  
heads - and silver lamps on  
silver chains were beaten down  
and the materials have since  
vanished.

The Pasha left his place in  
the gallery to separate the  
combatants with military force  
but was much hurt, and  
carried away on men's shoulders  
- his Secretary was also beaten,  
and the Bin Bashi had his  
face cut.

J

2

I have since got possession  
of one of the bludgeons employed  
- it is near five feet in length  
of old well-seasoned wingreen  
oak, and well oiled - Some  
of these were furnished with  
iron spikes.

In another hour the afternoon  
American service was proceeding  
- the monks holding in hand  
together with prayer books, the  
well known instrument of the East  
called "Korbady" - or whip of

Her Excellency  
Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup> Viscount  
Stratford de Redcliffe  
5th.

hippopotamus

hippopotamus hide.

Between the afternoon and evening services I went to survey the place, and found above twenty Greek monks and servants employed in cleansing the marble floor with brooms, water, and ashes for absorbing the oil. Others were replacing lamps for those demolished.

The Pasha immediately took measures respecting the coming midnight services, and had a compulsory arrangement made that the Armenians should not

commence till the Greeks had concluded.

After this, all went on well.

Too much praise can scarcely be bestowed on H. E. Kiamil Pasha for the measures adopted of late to ensure the public tranquillity. He and the infantry force and officers have had but little sleep of late. — because not only was this the period of Christian pilgrim celebrations, but also of the Modern fanatic processions to Niby Moopa, with banners, drums and cymbals — These

had to be conciliated, and in  
order to compensate for the favor  
so lately shown to Christian interests  
the Pasha resorted to the  
unprecedented measure of riding  
out in military pomp to  
receive the one special banner  
as its return from the pilgrimage

The streets have for several  
days been occupied by well-  
posted companies of infantry with  
fixed arms, and patrolled by  
moving companies with fixed  
bayonets. - The city gates are  
also

3

151

also doubly guarded  
Yesterday proclamation was  
made through the streets that all  
pilgrims were to leave Jerusalem  
to day, on pain of  
arrest and imprisonment - This  
is not a very severe or unusual  
step to take, inasmuch as the  
pilgrims care little for Easter day  
in comparison with the Holy Fire  
day which precedes it. - and  
two steamers are waiting to  
receive them at Jaffa. The  
Convents are glad to have them  
gone

His Excellency  
Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup> Viscount  
Patrick de Redcliffe  
GCB

gone.

It is believed that the recent display of illuminations, and the mimic siege and defence of the citadel in dark night, by infantry and artillery, with abundance of rockets, to celebrate the General Peace, had a good effect upon the common population of natives, both in town and the surrounding country.

I have the honor to be  
My Lord  
with the highest respect

Your Lordship's  
Most obedient  
Humble Servant  
James Finner.

My sent  
to London

No 27

Jerusalem

May 2. 1856

My Lord.

I regret to have to report that the loss of life has been considerable at Diba in the district of Nablus, and that intelligence has reached me of aggressions with further loss of life on the plain of Esdracton.

where Mohammed Khuspain 'Abdi

l. Hadj invaded the camp of the

Turkomans

His Excellency  
Et Hon<sup>ble</sup> Viscount  
Stratford de Redcliffe  
G. C. B. &c

1856  
Jerusalem  
The Consul General

No 25.

Re 16 May

*[Handwritten flourish]*

Rest at Holy Sepulchre  
- Holy Sepulchre  
- Jerusalem  
of Pasha - Administration  
for Peace