

Jerusalem, 21st July
1844

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Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to Your Excellency the copy of a Despatch which I addressed by the last Mail to the Earl of Aberdeen, reporting to His Lordship a case in which I was consulted by the Agents of the Society for promoting Christianity amongst the Jews, regarding a lately converted Austrian Jew, whose wife and two children had been induced by the Jews to leave him -

Having made an ineffectual application to the Austrian Agent here, to have his children restored to him, I am informed that it is not improbable that he may have to appeal to the Austrian Ambassador at
Your Excellency

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

By the way, the two copies
of the Despatch, enclosed &
sent you & the last
of the 20th inst. were of

2)

West

Count Downy
Stratford

at Constantinople. —

I therefore beg to place before
Your Excellency a statement of the
Case, as far as I have taken part in
it. —

I have the honor to be

With the greatest respect

Sir

Your Excellency's

Most obedient

Humble Servant

Transmitting copy of
my last despatch
to the Hon. Secy of State
for the Colonies
London
18th June 1841

Recd of
24th June

129

Copy

Jerusalem, 26th June 1841

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My Lord,

It was my duty to lay before
Your Lordship in my despatch No 16
the details of a case respecting three Jew-
ish Children who were in connection
with the Missionary Society here, and
concerning whom I had felt myself
called upon to give a decision, in favor
of the Jews -

Yesterday, I was called upon
by the Reverend Mr. Vetch, and con-
sulted in another case very similar,
respecting a Convert's wife who has desert-
ed him, and gone back to the Jews, -
taking with her their two children which
have been Baptised -

The Convert not being a British
Subject, I declined to interfere, thus as it
part of Aberdeen H.I. appears

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appears to me that the Jews are acting im-
properly, and very injudiciously in refusing
to listen to the application of the Father for
his Children. - I ventured to advise Mr
Witch what course I thought the Father
might adopt in order to obtain justice,
which, failing to obtain from his Consul
here who is a Jew; I thought he should
lay his case before his Consul General in
Beirut - which I believe he has done.

I have the honor to be

With the highest respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient

Humble Servant

(Signed) W^m J Young.

Postscript

Since writing the fore-
going Despatch I have been waited
upon by the Reverend Mr Nicolayson
and

and Mr Galman to inform me that
they had learned that the Austrian Con-
sular Agent is about to send the Woman
and her Children out of the Country

I still felt it my duty to state
to these Gentlemen that I could not inter-
fere. - I expressed my surprise and regret
that the Jews should take such a
step against a Christian Father after
the decision which I had so lately
given under very similar circumstan-
ces in favor of a Jewish Father.

The following morning Mr
Nicolayson again called on me to inform
me that he had heard that the Austrian
Consular Agent intended to send the
Woman and the Children to Aleppo on
the plea that he referred the Case, con-
formably to his instructions to Mr Piccini
the Austrian Consul General there.

Although I was afraid that
there might be reason for supposing
that

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that the Jews were actuated by feelings of bigotry and intolerance, yet I felt that I could not interfere.

Shortly after Mr Nicolayson left me, - I was visited by Rabbi Isiah, the Austrian Consular Agent himself; he introduced the subject.

I was very cautious in promising my reply with an express assurance that I had no desire nor intention to interfere in the matter, but as he had introduced the subject, I begged leave, in the most amicable way to suggest to him the temptation we were both exposed to in acting in cases where our Religious feelings were naturally liable to bias us to take a course contrary to the plain and unprejudiced justice of the Case.

I instanced the Case of the three Children, in which I had felt it to be my duty to act very contrary to my Religious

Religious feelings, and in favor of the Jews - I therefore did venture to hope that he would look at the present case without prejudice, and altogether as a civil matter, and let the Law, whatever it might be in such cases according to Austrian Jurisprudence, have its course; he was very amiable and friendly, - but from the numerous questions which he raised, I fear he is bent on making difficulties for the Convert, - such as the necessity of sending the Children with their Mother to appear before the Consul General, - and I could not but be impressed from the tenor of his Conversation that he is acting to please the Jews no less than to the indulgence of his own prejudices - which are said to be very strong.

I submitted to him the plan of putting the Children under Guardianship, as Wards in his Consulate, - until the

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the Consul General should have given a decision, if he could not see his own way clear to decide, - allowing in the mean time both parties to visit them, but neither party to have actual possession of them; - he then spoke of pecuniary differences to be settled in behalf of the Woman, and that he thought she was entitled to hold possession of the Children until she was re-paid her dowry. - Perceiving that it was to be made a complex question of Jewish polity, there was no room for any further suggestions on my part, - I therefore refrained from saying anything further. -

And I feel that I should apologize to Your Lordship for having gone so much into detail on a Subject in which my Office was not directly concerned; - my excuse however is that cases of a similar Character may be expected to arise in Jerusalem.

in

in which British Subjects may be interested, as the necessary result of Missionary Exertions being made amongst the Jews.

W.S.G.

Jerusalem

29th June 1844.

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

Received at
Jerusalem 30 July 1844
Consent to copy

My dear Sir
I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt
of your letter of the
27th inst. in relation
to the subject of
the proposed
amendment to the
constitution of the
Council of Jerusalem
and in reply to inform
you that the same has
been forwarded to the
Governor for his
consideration.

Jerusalem 3rd August
1844.

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Sir,

In calling Your Excellency attention to my Despatches Nos 26 and 27 addressed to Colonel Rose, with their Enclosures, - the copies, or the Substance of which Your Excellency may probably have received, - I have the honor to You, Notes descriptive of what is further passing here. -

In Nabloos the greatest confusion continues to reign between party and party, and the Governor seems to be unequal to the task of maintaining tranquillity - Our Dacha can do little or nothing towards his support; - he has indeed sent all his available force, about 200 men to his assistance - single handed, -

and
Your Excellency
The Right Honorable
Sir Stratford Canning G. C. B.