

Jerusalem
May 28. 1855

Copy
Political
No 13

My Lord.

I have the honor to report that on my return to Jerusalem after an absence of less than a fortnight, I found that His Excellency the Pasha had summoned a meeting of the various Consuls in Jerusalem on Saturday the 19th Instant, to consult what should be done in the present state of the country.

My first Dragoman whom I had left in temporary charge of the common

Right Honourable
Earl of Clarendon
Rt Hon Secy. &c

and

from His Highness
the British Consul
Jerusalem

Dated May 26. 1855

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Proposed for bearing
press in the
Masthead

Enclosure 4 in No 18
from His Highness
the British Consul
Jerusalem - 1855

and minor routine business of the
Consulate, was invited in my place.

A paper was produced and
read, of which I have the honor
to enclose copy, and then signed
by all the Consuls - my Dragoman
did not consider himself empowered
to sign so important a document -
but having been furnished with a
copy of it, he forwarded it, together
with a simple statement of the
circumstances to Her Majesty's Embassy
by the same Post (Austrian) which
conveyed the document to Constantinople
together with Despatches of the Consuls
to their respective Superiors in the
Capital -

Had I been present I should have

signed the document after a
modification of certain terms employed
in it.

I do believe that the country is
in need of energetic government, and
feel sure that the measure thus
taken has already checked the
audacity of Abderrahman at his
post near Hebron.

It is true that the present condition
of Palestine is such as to prevent its
commerce, its agriculture & general
civilization from advancing with the
progress which the Great Powers of
Europe have a right to expect -
but I am far from participating in
the fears entertained by the signers of
the document, of "une explosion
générale" - for there is no principle

or direct to be aimed at in common
by all the petty personal rivalries of
the Shaikhs or their Patrons the Effendis
of the City Council. And even in
matter of fact, Abderrahman cannot
take Hebron - he cannot even enter
his native village of Tura. - And
the mountaineers of the Nablus
district are satisfied so long as they
have not the dogs of Turkish
pipe-bearers, slipper-bearers, and
sherbet-makers, made governors of
their towns.

The idea of throwing off Turkish
dominion, backed as it is by European
Consuls, I am convinced never enters
the heads of the native people, except
of a few factious Christians in the
principal towns - and as for
the

the parties calling in wild Arabs
to their assistance, I have on several
occasions felt it my duty to
complain of Pashas themselves doing
this.

During my recent tour, while
at Jerash, Shaikh Burakat came
to visit me: but at the same time
he had in his district 25 inefficient
horsemen collecting tribute, and with
the Shaikh there was a Turkish Kawas
carrying a red umbrella, unable to
speak Arabic, yet comporting himself
in such a manner with respect to
my property that had I not wished
to uphold even the lowest degree of
Turkish authority before the Arabs

Right Hon^{ble}
Earl of Clarendon
R. G. L. G. &c

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he would have learned that morning to behave better for the future.

I have the honor to subjoin some remarks on detailed points connected with the meeting of the Consuls, as I have gathered them since from different persons.

The paper was read by M. Gilbert the French Secretary of the Pasha, as already drawn up for signature, in much better French than he can master - and the Austrian & Prussian Consuls expressed to each other their opinion that it was a French arrangement altogether.

The French Consul and his Chanciller sat silent all the time.

But a few days before that meeting, the Prussian Consul was alone with the Pasha recommending certain measures for the pacification of Hebron (of which I may mention in passing that they were of such a nature that no other Consul could for an instant entertain them) when the French Chanciller came in, and they had a controversy for about three quarters of an hour in Turkish on purpose that the Pasha might understand them - M. Leguennet contending for the expediency of bringing a French army of occupation into Palestine - M. Rosen himself told me of this.

The idea is now becoming familiar

in the minds of towns people that
we shall soon have a French army
of occupation here.

(The Latin Patriarch on his return
from Jaffa last Autumn, had
officially required to be reinstated
in Beit Saleh, by a French military
escort.) -

I should mention that a
General Des Parc, said to be an
aide de Camp of His Majesty the
Empereur Napoleon, has been for
some time in Jerusalem, but is
now gone.

In conclusion, I beg to observe
with respect to the suspension of
the Pargment, that I believe this
to be a necessary measure for a time
but

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but that a very few instances of
severity will suffice to produce a
great effect, provided that capital
punishment whenever adopted, be
made disgraceful instead of honorable
and that the right persons be
selected to serve for examples.

I have the honor to be,

(Signed) J. Ferris

Right Honourable
Earl of Clarendon
No. 25 -

Jerusalem
May 28. 1855

Copy
Plitical
No 14.

My Lord.

I have the honor to report
that during my absence from Jerusalem
M. Botte proceeding on an afternoon
ride found in the street near his
house, the horses of some Bashibozuk
placed across, having their feet
examined by a farrier - A young
gentleman of his train, named Amedie
struck with a whip one of the men
to make him remove his horse.

This was done so violently that the

Right Honourable
Earl of Clarendon
185 - 50/5. &c

mean

From
Jerusalem

Dated May 28. 1855

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Meeting of Council
summoned by the
Pasha

Subscribed 5 in No 18
from H. M. Consul
Jerusalem - 1855