

No. 38

Jerusalem  
July 8. 1897.

Sir,

With reference to Your  
Excellency's Despatch of the 15<sup>th</sup>  
of August 1894, transmitting a  
permission authorizing Dr.  
Bliss to search for antiquities  
in the neighbourhood of  
Jerusalem during two years,  
I have the honour to enclose

herewith

His Excellency  
The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Sir Philip Currie, G. C. B.  
&c. &c. &c.

Business  
for General Beckwith  
Desp. No. 37 (encl)  
9 July 5 1897

312  
herewith a Copy of a letter, with  
its enclosures in original which  
I have received from that  
gentleman asking that a new  
Permit may be issued in his  
name to enable him to carry  
on excavations in the district  
of Khurbet Judeideh, within  
this Mutaseriflik.

Dr Bliss's permission  
for searching for antiquities  
in the vicinity of Jerusalem  
expired

June 24 1897  
with two more

313  
expired on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May  
1896, but he was able, through  
the intervention of Hamdy Bey,  
Director of the Imperial Museum  
at Constantinople, to obtain an  
extension of such permission for  
one year which terminated on  
the 8<sup>th</sup> of June last.

Dr Bliss has now been  
desired by the Committee of  
the Palestine Exploration  
Fund to continue his excavations  
in

in the district of Khurbet  
Judeidah above referred to.

I have the honour to be

With the highest respect,

Sir,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient

Humble Servant

Muhammad

Jerusalem  
June 29. 1897.

Sir,

In 1893 the Palestine Exploration Fund of London applied through the Foreign Office for a Permit for Excavations in the vicinity of Jerusalem, for a period of two years in my name. Such a Permit was issued by the Sublime Porte under date of March 31 1894, (N<sup>o</sup> 4), April 12, valid for a period of two years to commence on the 1/3 May of the same year.

As the excavations were not completed in

John Dickson, Esq<sup>r</sup>  
N. B. His Consul  
" " " " " "  
Jerusalem

Copy

1897  
Jerusalem, July 8<sup>th</sup>  
General Dickson

N<sup>o</sup>. 38  
3 sheets.

Rec<sup>d</sup>

By Post

Lat. & Longitude No. 9 Aug. 15/97

Dr. Bliss - enclosing copy

of letter from - asking for a

new Permit to excavate.

Dray<sup>r</sup>

Encl. Mr. Merritt's N<sup>o</sup> 360 of August 12/97

53. J.

9

11/9/97

315  
in the given time, I applied to the  
Sublime Porte for an extension of one  
year, through Hamdy Bey, Director  
of the Imperial Museum, whose  
brother Khalil Bey, the sub-director,  
I saw on the subject, without the  
intervention of the Embassy. Such  
an extension was issued, available  
for one year, beginning June 8<sup>th</sup> 1896.

As the time has now expired,  
and as the Committee of the Palestine  
Exploration Fund desire me to continue  
excavation elsewhere, I have been  
authorised by them to apply for

a

316  
a new Permit, in my name. According  
to Article 20 of the Turkish Law on  
Excavations the area for excavation  
may contain ten square kilometres.  
I enclose a tracing on a large scale  
of the District of Khurbet-Judeideh  
and Environs (north of Beit-Jibrin)  
in the Mutessariflik of Jerusalem,  
with an area of ten square kilometres,  
enclosed in red lines, showing the  
limits of the proposed excavations.  
I also enclose a tracing on a smaller  
scale, of the map of Judea, showing  
the relation of the above mentioned  
area

area to well-known points, as  
Jerusalem, Yafa, Gaza, the line  
of Railway etc. etc.

I hold a receipt of £7. 50 -  
caution-money, deposited at the Dept.  
of Public Instruction. On my receiving  
a new Permit this receipt might be  
exchanged for a new one.

I am &c.

(Signed) F. J. Bliss

June 1  
In Central District  
Box No. 35 9 July 8.  
1897

Jobing for new Permit  
to secure to near Khalk  
Judah.

Permit  
D. Bliss  
Central District  
Jerusalem, June 29, 1897

Decypher

M<sup>r</sup>: Dickson Jerusalem 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1897

My decy. No 10 of Feb. 27.

A difficulty having arisen as regards  
the voting for the new Patriarch the  
\_\_\_\_\_ Vali of Beyrout arrived  
here on July 19<sup>th</sup> with instructions  
to hasten the election the \_\_\_\_\_  
result being that the acting Patriarch  
was elected yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_  
He is one of the candidates favoured  
by Russia.