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Jerusalem 16 January 1843

My Lord,

Until the 14th instant the building of the Church proceeded without interruption, on which day I had the honor to receive a visit from Izet Pacha when His Excellency asked me by what authority the Church was being built. I replied that I presumed he was in possession of all the information which I had on the subject; I also stated, that of course His Excellency was aware that application had been made by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople for permission for the English to build a Church in Jerusalem, to which he replied that he was, but that his permission had not been granted, he requested me therefore to cause the proceedings to be stopped until such

The Earl of Aberdeen R. J.

permission

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permission should come from Constantinople - I told His Excellency that as the work was not in behalf, or in the name of His Majesty's Government, I had no Authority directly to interfere, but if His Excellency thought fit to address me a letter, stating his wish that the works should be stopped until permission was obtained from Constantinople I would immediately lay it before the parties concerned.

It was with some difficulty that I could bring His Excellency to see how it was, that although British Consul I could not compel persons under British Protection to desist from doing that which it was admitted had not the sanction of the Porte.

I explained to the Pacha, that as the parties were not offending against British Law in building the Church, I could only interfere negatively, - that

the order to discontinue the work - must come from His Excellency - in which case I should on no account countenance a continuance of the building in opposition to His Excellency's Authority - The Pacha declined writing to me on the subject, but immediately on quitting my house, he sent his Dragoman to the Rev. Mr. Nicolayson and desired that the works might be stopped until permission be obtained from Constantinople.

I then received a letter from Mr. Nicolayson, which with my reply, I have the honor to lay before your Lordship -

In respect to the last paragraph of Mr. Nicolayson's letter viz. "as respects British Property and the rights of British Subjects here, I beg to ask your advice in this case as His Britannic Majesty's representative here." I would observe

observe to Your Lordship that Mr. Nicolayson applied for permission to purchase the property he refers to, especially for his own dwelling, as stated in his memorial to Metchem Ali, forwarded to Colonel Campbell in the following words "I as a British subject having resided in this Country for more than 12 years, and experienced much inconvenience in obtaining houses for hire, wish to purchase two small adjoining buildings for my more convenient residence."

Permission was granted by the Egyptian Government on these grounds, as is stated in the Order to the Local Authorities, and the legal Documents conveying the property to Mr. Nicolayson also state the purpose for which the purchase was allowed to be made, viz. for his private dwelling.

No mention is made any where in the transaction with the Turkish Authorities

Authorities that it was intended to build a Church on the property, and when it was made known to Colonel Campbell that Mr. Nicolayson was preparing to build a Church on the ground he had thus obtained, he addresses me, in his Official Despatch No 15, dated 16 November 1839, as follows - "In regard to the ground for Mr. Nicolayson's house, it was applied for by me on that Gutterman's affair & never that it was intended for a private residence for himself, and if therefore (which I cannot believe) Mr. Nicolayson is building a Chapel on that ground, he is acting most unfairly and unbecomingly."

I might My Lord have reminded Mr. Nicolayson of the foregoing facts, in my reply to him - but I have so frequently taken pains to point out to him and to his friends, what appeared to me

me to be the danger of their proceedings
that I considered I should only be
misapprehended - My advice has
always been considered by them as
the opinion of our opponent to them, because
and I expect to be compelled to state
to Your Lordship, that I have felt
it my duty to report to Her Majesty's
Consul General, that I cannot per-
form the simplest duties of my Office
without its being regarded by them
that I am actuated by personal or
party feeling -

Mr. Nicolayson accompanied by
Dr. Macgowan waited on the Pacha
after the receipt of my letter, with a
view to induce him to allow the
building to go on - but His Excellency
refused to do so without instructions
from his Government -

On learning that these Gentlemen had
waited on the Pacha - I addressed
His

His Excellency a note begging that for
the future he would do me the favor
to send for my Dragoman to be present
when British subjects waited on him
on Public Business - His Excellency sent
the Divan Effendi to repeat to me what
passed between himself and Mr. Nico-
layson -

As there appeared a disposition
on the part of the Missionaries to
dispute the Pacha's Authority to stop
the Works - His Excellency proclaimed
that all Rayaks were to cease working
at the English Building, otherwise
they would be sent to the galleys, an
order was also sent to the Convents
requiring them to prevent Pilgrims or
persons under their influence from
working for the English - These
orders were issued on Saturday -
notwithstanding some poor Rayaks
were encouraged by Mr. Nicolayson to go to
work on the Premises on Monday morn-
ing - They were pursued by the
Authorities

Authorities - One was imprisoned but has since been released. Two others were taken by a Government Cavalry, but rescued by the ^{interference} of D. Macgowan while passing Bishop Alexander's house, and taken in there for shelter. A force of 6 Cavalry was ordered to remain in the neighbourhood of the Bishop's dwelling in order to retake them -

I regret to state to Your Lordship that the Pacha's step in arresting the progress of the Church, is viewed with satisfaction by all Creeds and Clashes in the City, and I should fear that the attempt which has been made to proceed with the Building without a Firman, will only increase the difficulty here, as well as at Constantinople, as it will encourage the opposing parties in their opposition - And I cannot but fear that the mode which the Society pursued in order to obtain the ground is felt even by the Native Christians

Christians to be unworthy the sacred cause to which it is now consecrated

I have the honour to be
With the highest respect

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most obedient

Humble Servant,

Wm. Young

Lucasius No 1
Cancil King's Dept
18th January 1843

Copy of a Report
addressed to the Earl
of Aberdeen respecting the
Coptic Church at Jerusalem
being referred

No 2

Copy

Jerusalem 13 January 1843

My Lord

It has come to my knowledge
to day that Bishop Alexander received
a letter last month from the Coptic
Patriarch in Egypt, accompanied by
an English translation by the Reverend
Mr Lader a Missionary in Cairo—
requesting Bishop Alexander to receive
the Copts in Jerusalem under his pro-
tection. Although I have not the
means of knowing what reply the
Bishop has sent to the Patriarch—
I consider it my duty to mention the
circumstances to Your Lordship, as
having given rise to an intercourse
between Bishop Alexander and the
superior of the Copts here, which did
not exist before, and of which it is
not unlikely that the Armenians
may

The Earl of Aberdeen R.T.

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