

Jerusalem  
April 28. 1897.

No. 22.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's telegram of the 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, the substance of which I failed not to communicate to the British Consular Agent at Jaffa whose first Dragoman and Clerk is a Greek Subject.

The news of the declaration of War between Greece and Turkey reached here on the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, and caused considerable sensation among the Europeans

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

Jan 23.

for Mr. Currie

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Mr. Currie, G.C.B.  
No. 21, Court

by Mr. Currie

Mr. Currie, G.C.B.  
No. 21, Court

Europeans and native population of this city. I am happy, however, to be able to report to Your Excellency that no demonstration of a hostile character, on the part of the Moslems towards the Christians, occurred, but that on the contrary the behaviour of both the officials and Mussulmans was rather conciliatory than otherwise. The Greek Subjects, who are not very numerous in Palestine, were ordered to quit the country within fifteen days from the date of the outbreak of the war, and one or two shopmen of Greek nationality, who were supposed to keep fire arms for sale

sale, had their premises ransacked by the police, and their goods damaged, but, although somewhat roughly treated, they sustained no personal injuries themselves. The Greek Consul and a considerable number of Greek Subjects left yesterday morning by train for Jaffa in order to embark in the Russian steamer sailing the same evening for Alexandria.

The various ceremonies connected with the festival of the Greek Easter passed off very quietly this year. Some apprehension seemed to exist that there might be a disturbance on the eve of the  
Greek

268  
Greek Easter, - the occasion of the ceremony of the Holy Fire in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, - but His Excellency the Mutasarif took every precaution before hand to prevent this, having summoned to Jerusalem two companies of regular troops - one from Beyrout and another from Jaffa, - to be in readiness to suppress any quarrels which might arise between the different religious sects or the native Christians and police. No incident, however, occurred to disturb the public tranquillity, and the troops which were called to Jerusalem returned again to Jaffa yesterday.

On

On the other hand there seems to be a considerable amount of excitement and ill feeling in the interior districts among the Mohamedan population, and travellers who have quite recently arrived by land from the North have informed me that the fanaticism of the Moslems in some of the villages between Nazareth and Jerusalem was very marked, and their behaviour unusually hostile to Europeans.

Under these circumstances I have thought it advisable to dissuade tourists from visiting at present the interior

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I have the honour to be

With the highest respect

Sir,

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient

Humble Servant.

John Dickson

23.

Jerusalem

May 3. 1897.

Sir,

On the 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo I had  
the honour to receive your Excellency's  
telegram of the 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo, stating as  
follows:— "Great Britain, France  
and Russia have agreed to —  
"undertake the protection of Hellenic  
"interests in the Ottoman Empire,  
"with the exception of Hellenic  
"Catholics who remain under  
"French Protection. In view of  
"the difficulty of dividing the

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

Consular