

Copy
Confidential
Jerusalem 17th June 1841.
My Lord,

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I have the honor to report to
Your Lordship that I received a week last
week from Mr. Maroni the Sardinian Vice-
Consul, to inform me that he wished to make
a confidential communication to me.

It was as follows.

That the Superior of the Latin
Convent had enquired of him, whether the
restrictions of his Government admitted of
his receiving the Convent under his Protection,
and the Superior had requested him to
call upon me, and to enquire whether my
restrictions from my Government admit-
ted of my receiving the Convent under
British Protection, in case he should find it
necessary to apply to me and whether I could
remit a Protection from the Convent in my office
against the proceedings of all de laity.

Mr. Maroni informed me that
the Superior had expressed his intention to
resist the French Consul's interference with
the internal discipline of the Convent, -
which he considered to have become a com-
plete Tyranny on the part of the de laity
over himself and the Monks, and judging
from

Earl of Aberdeen &c.

Received of
21st 18
J. Maroni
Superior of the
Latin Convent
Jerusalem
Earl of Aberdeen &c.

from the lengths to which the French Consul had already gone, he stated that it was impossible to calculate on what measures of violence he might adopt, in case they should come to an open rupture.

Under these circumstances the Superior wished to know whether, in the case of such an extremity arising as the French Consul's calling in the aid of the Turkish Government to give effect to any measures which he might think proper to adopt, he could throw himself and the Consulate under British Protection.

Perceiving at once the extreme delicacy of such a communication, I considered it better frankly to state in reply, that there was nothing in my Instructions which would justify me in interfering between the French Consul and the Superior, and that I could not, without special Instructions to do so, receive the Consulate under British Protection, while there was a French Consul in the Country, even supposing the difficulties of the Consulate to be with the Turkish Authorities. But in the present case, where their difficulties lay

lay with the French Consul himself, a British Consul could in no wise interfere, whatever the circumstances of the case might be. In respect to the Protest which Mr Stavoni asked me if I could allow the Superior, in case of need, to enter in my Office against the proceedings of the French Consulate. I replied, that this it was equally impossible for me to permit, for were I to consent to it, and receive such a Public Protest, it would be on my part considered an unjustifiable interference with the jurisdiction of the French Consulate, and might give rise to a very unpleasant correspondence between the English and the French Governments, between whom there existed at present the most amicable relations.

Mr Stavoni then asked me, on behalf of the Superior, what course I should recommend him to adopt, under the trying circumstances in which he found himself placed with regard to the French Consulate.

I told him that I felt it was a very delicate matter for me to counsel the Superior. But it appeared to me, that it was with all de Lantivy personally, with

whom he had to deal, rather than with the French Consul as the representative of his Government, and I thought that if the Superior should deem it expedient to proceed to a Protest, he should address himself to act of all de Lantivy, if they be irregular, rather than allow it to be supposed that he thinks the French Consul is acting under instructions from his Government, and that under any circumstances it seemed to me, the protest should be addressed to all de Lantivy, with a request that a copy of it might be forwarded to his Government.

Mr Stavoni then asked me if I had any objection to receive with him a copy of such Protest - and in case the French Consul should apply to the Turkish Authorities for their aid - whether I should have any objection to advise the Pasha not to interfere - I replied that I considered the whole matter as a very delicate business for me, especially being the Consul of a Protestant Power to interfere in at all knowing as I did, how avowed the British Government was to sustain questions

questions which enticed within them anything of Ecclesiastical dispute or jurisdiction foreign to the direct interests of our Country - If however the Pasha should refer to me for advice, I had no objection, while I stated to him that I had nothing to do with the business - to add in conversation that I should think it would be wisest in him to decline taking any part in the differences between the Consul and the French Consul, but rather to allow each party to appeal for a decision to its mutual Superior.

As for the Protest, if sent to me officially, I could not receive it but I would mention in confidence that if a copy of the Protest should otherwise come before me I should most probably take occasion to transmit it, with a confidential communication to Her Majesty's Government.

At present all de Lantivy remains at Jaffa - Mr Stavoni intimated to me that he thought the object of the French Consul's treatment of the Superior

Superior, and of the Convent generally,
had for its end, the displacing of all the
Spanish and Italian Monks, and sub-
stituting in their places - Frenchmen -
and which I should think a very likely
scheme for him to have proposed to his
Government.

The French Consul is said to
be expected to return to Jerusalem, at the
end of the week - The Superior is now down
to Jaffa, it is said to avoid meeting him -
leaving the Padre Vicario instructions
to protest against the first step taken
by the French Consul towards the Convent,
that should seem to him to be irregular.

I have the honor to be
with the highest respect

Signed / W. Young

London 10th June
Presented to the
Hon^{ble} Secy 10th June 1844

My Lord
I have the honor to submit to Your Lordship the report of a somewhat difficult and delicate Case in which I have been called upon to decide relative to three Jewish Children who were brought from Smyrna some time back by the Agents of the London Society and who after having been for some time under the protection of the Society and Baptised their Father has claimed -

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The matter was first brought forward during my absence on a Visit to Nablouse, when Dr. Schultz the Russian Vice-consul, was acting for me.

I have therefore the honor, in

Yours faithfully
R. J.
Sir Stratford Canning G. C. B.