Acx. D. 36. July 28. 1871 - This dispatch referred to Secretary of the Navy

United States Consulate at
Jerusalem June 10th 1871

No 38

Hon Second Asst. Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the U.S. Frigate "Guerriere" in command of Comdr. J. H. Stevens arrived at Jaffa on the 5th ultimo and sailed for Beirut on the 10th. Captain Stevens and family together with most of the officers came to Jerusalem. About 150 of the sailors also came up in two different parties.

At the invitation & solicitation of Captain Stevens & officers I went to Beirut on the Guerriere returning to Jaffa on the 23d ultimo.

The Guerriere stopped for a few hours at Caifa Tyre & Sidon and was most hospitably received by the local authorities.

The appearance of our flag on this coast borne by such a noble vessel as the Guerriere has had a good effect by inspiring the people of Palestine and Syria with a more profound respect for our national authority and influence and, as a sequence, rendering our citizens more secure in their rights and privileges.

Captain Stevens has taken special pains to display the flag in every port and to render to our citizens in the Levant every possible moral aid and comfort. The presence of the Guerriere in these waters has been of the greatest moral advantage; It has rendered our labor here easier, our position more secure and our national repute higher and brighter. For more than a year prior to the arrival of the Guerriere the United States had been unrepresented in the Levant by a man of war.

Rumors



Rumors had reached this country, and were believed, that both our army and navy had been abandoned since our late war. No people in the world are more impressed & influenced by externals than the Ottoman Authorities and the natural results of such rumors were that a tendency to under estimate our national strength and influence was occasionally manifested. The cruise of the Guerriere however has changed all this to the great advantage of all American interests in the Levant.

I think our men of war would oftener visit these waters were they fully aware of the great comfort they bring with them, of the joy with which the flag is hailed by every citizen of the United States in the Levant.

Illness during the past fortnight is my excuse for not having reported the Guerriers visit sooner.

I have the honor to remain sir
Your obedient servant
Jno R. Beardsley
U.S. Consul