

Jerusalem

October 6 1853

Copy
Political
No 23

My Lord

It is my duty to report to
Your Lordship that since the
departure of the Battalion from
Jerusalem even the peasant artillery
(with the exception of half a dozen
men) have left us for Acre taking
with them the two small brass
field pieces which were in the
Castle.

I learn from the Agent in
Acre that that Citadel has now in
it
Hon. Sec.
Earl of Clarendon
G.C.B.
be

Earl of Clarendon

Dated - Jerusalem
Oct. 5. 1853

Copy -

Enclosure in No 31
of 1853
from the General Agent

118
it a force of 100 regular Artillery
and 300 peasant Artillery with
300 of the Bashi Buzuk or
irregular cavalry.

But our city and rural districts
are in a state of much disorder
- Since the departure of the troops
housebreaking has been more common
than before perpetrated by peasants
who climb on the city walls.

A great panic seized the inhabitants
last week especially in the Christian
Quarter and in their terror they were
firing guns and pistols all night
from the windows and terraces.

The nuisance was very great
to all not so much alarmed as

512
themselves particularly to persons
suffering from illness until the
Pasha sent round notice to houses
that fire arms were not to be
used except in case of robbers being
actually seen in the premises.

At this season of the year
we have usually a large number
of Bedaween Arabs bringing wheat
Kali and charcoal to Jerusalem
on Camels, but this year they are
here in unusually large troops
without increased stores and often
ride insolently through the streets
with spears: They have also brought
a greater proportion of women with
them who might no doubt assist in
plundering the city if opportunity

occurred: and gypsies are more numerous than even remembered before.

All peasantry of the district who are to be found in the Bazars are fully armed. In former times their guns would be taken from them by the soldiers at the Gate of the city to be returned at their leaving. but now there are not sentinels to do it and the guns are too numerous.

Several shops in the city have armourers at work night and day repairing guns and the short swords called Khanjars which the peasantry generally carry.

Gun powder and lead are prohibited from sale within Jerusalem

Jerusalem. but European gunpowder may be purchased in large or small quantities in Bethlehem and is brought here by people in their pockets or at the bottom of sacks of goods for sale.

Some petty robberies have been committed in the environs of the city at night by small parties prowling about, but these have ceased since the recent outbreak of village warfare within the last five days between Abu Gosh and Osman Lakhām in which several men and women are killed every

Rt Honble
Earl of Clarendon
KG GCB &c

The Pasha is utterly helpless he sends out Bashī Buzuk irregulars once a day, who proceed with their little kettle drums over the hills but return in two or three hours having done nothing and fire off their guns and pistols for triumph as they approach the city.

On the 3rd Instant having heard that Osman has taken the village of Chalkha and Jura I sent a Kawap to remonstrate with him. I also sent in the morning my Cancelliere with a similar message to Abu Yush in both cases advising the

belligents that it mattered not to me who was in the right or wrong. but that on the reestablishment of the Sultan's forces here I should not forget their proceedings.

Not one of the family of Abu Yush was at home and scarcely a man was left in that or the adjoining villages. all were out at the war.

Two days afterwards Osman sent two Taamari Sheikhs to ask my mediation with the Pasha.

In my despatch Political 17th September 12 I had the honor

to represent the plundering excursion
of the Tiyahah Arabs to the
Jordan with its issue - Since
then they have made under
the same leader an inroad upon
the Beni Sekh'a between Tabor
and Liberias and taken from
them 60 cows and 30 asses
besides good horses of good breed

That leader Abu Dahook
with his three brothers called
on me outside the city, on the
return hoping to get from me
a present of a new dress which I
had formerly promised him
in consideration of his having
facilitated

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facilitated the progress of travellers
from Jerusalem to Pitea - But
under the present circumstances
I assured him of my resolution
to give no present to Arabs until
the return of the Sultan's soldiers

Meanwhile we ourselves
have been living securely in
the country but I am about to
withdraw into the city not
from any apprehensions of the
Arabs or of the village warfare
but from an idea that since
His Lordship the Bishop has
left his encampment and
that

Rt Hon^{ble}
Earl of Clarendon
K^y. G^l C^l B^l &c

that the rumours from Constantinople
are of less pacific nature than
before. it is advisable for me
to be within the walls among
the British subjects by night
as well as by day

Some cases of throwing
stones at the houses and persons
of Europeans have occurred of late
one having been thrown at
the Austrian Consulate, Count
Pizzamano obtained from a
Frigate (the Bellona) which
touched at Jaffa several barrels
of powder and 40 pistols
from the ships armoury

then he gave notice to the Pasha
that he meant to use them in
case of such another insult
occurring.

I have the honor to be
My Lord

With the highest respect

Your Lordship's

Most obedient humble servant

(Signed) J. Linn

No 32

Jerusalem
Oct. 13. 1853

My Lord.

The truce of the neighboring
villages having been broken of late
and several lives lost by both
parties, the agricultural operations
of the season are in abeyance.
While our streets and roads abound
in fully armed peasantry and
the desert Arabs carrying spears - the
latter

Excell^t desert Arabs carrying spears - the
Or Hon^{ble}
Lord Stratford de Redcliffe
S C B &c

From the Government of
the East of Constantinople

Dated - Jerusalem
Oct 6. 1853

Copy.

2 Enclosures - No 31
of 1853
from the Great Divan