

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

16 Jer.

1907.

Jerusalem,
April 12.

Acting Consul
Freeman.

No. 10.

Last Paper.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

TURKEY

No.

(Subject.)

German Sanatorium.

Foundation stone laid on March 31.

(Minutes.)

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17 Jer.

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Received by *post.*

Jerusalem,

April 12, 1907

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the foundation stone of the church, hospice and Sanatorium which are to be built to commemorate the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Germany to Jerusalem in 1898 was laid on Easter Sunday on the site - acquired for that purpose on the Mount of Olives. I inclose herewith a programme of the proceedings. Baron von Mirbach was to have represented their Majesties, but

at

His Excellency

The Right Honourable

Sir N. R. O'Connor, G.C.B.,

sc,

sc,

sc,

Constantinople.

at the last moment was prevented by illness from doing so. His place was taken by the Senior Court chaplain, Dr Dryander. Besides the German Consul and a large gathering of the German Christian community, the Governor of Jerusalem and the military Commandant were present, both in uniform, and among the invited guests were the Consuls of the United States, Sweden, Austria - Hungary, Great Britain, the Netherlands and Norway, the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem, the director of the German catholic hospice and the superior of the German Benedictine Convent on Mount Zion. Dr Dryander delivered an impressive address, and read a telegram —

conveying

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conveying the greetings of the Emperor and Empress and invoking the blessing of God on the undertaking. A scroll signed by the representatives of their Majesties, the German and Ottoman authorities and the principal guests was inserted in the foundation stone, and the usual blows of the hammer were given by all in turn, prayers being said, hymns sung and a selection of music played by the band of a German School. At the close of the ceremony a telegram was despatched, at the suggestion of the German Consul, to the Emperor and Empress conveying the thanks of the Colony for the interest taken by their Majesties in the welfare of their subjects

here

here; and another telegram was sent to the German Ambassador at Constantinople asking his Excellency to thank the Sultan for the Imperial Irade' sanctioning the undertaking which had been received on the previous day.

The erection of the buildings by the Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Society will add greatly to the already numerous indications of German interest and influence in Jerusalem and Palestine, at the same time that it will supply a long felt want among German residents and tourist-pilgrims.

It is proposed at first to provide accommodation for 70 travellers and 40 convalescents, and it is hoped that

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the work will be completed in 1910. The admirable site vies with that of the Russian church and tower which crown the Mount of Olives.

It may not be out of place to note here that the imposing German catholic hospice outside the Damascus gate is nearing completion and may be ready in the autumn of this year. The German Benedictine Convent of the Dormition, which occupies a commanding position on Mount Zion outside the walls, is also progressing rapidly.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,

Sir

Your Excellency's
most obedient,

humble servant,
JG Freeman