

Jerusalem,
May 21. 1894.

No. 32.

Sir,

With reference to my
Despatch No. 11 of the 25th of March
1893, on the subject of the inspection
of Missionary Books, by the Government
Censor, I have the honour to
enclose herewith a copy of a letter
which I have recently received
from the Rev. J. H. Sedgwick of
His Excellency the

The Right Hon^{ble}
Sir Philip Currie, G.C.B.

vc. vc. vc.

Consent (Markham)
No. 31

Recd

By Mr

John. to Gal. p. 10th. 1st class

Attack on Mr. Currie
relating to the
late paid claim for
conspicuous

* See the book in envelope with
letter in the paper
A.C. 894.
Sister: to whom to leave?
M

1894

the Church Missionary Society, Complaining
of the confiscation of two Copies of
Milton's "Paradise Lost" by the
Censor in question.

I caused enquiries to be made
with reference to Mr. Sedgwick's
Complaint, and ascertained that
the books referred to had been
taken possession of by the Censor,
in consequence of an Order issued
by the Ministry of Public Instruction
dated June 6/18 1893, N^o 51, which
specially prohibits the introduction
into

92
into the Provinces of Turkey of Milton's
"Paradise Lost".

As the two copies of the Poem
mentioned by Mr. Sedgwick in his
letter are in English, - one of them,
as Mr. Sedgwick states, being a rare
edition with notes - and would
consequently be unintelligible to
almost any one except an English
reader, I beg to request that
Your Excellency will be pleased
to instruct me, for my guidance
in future, as to whether well
known

known works of old English authors,
such as the above mentioned, are
liable to confiscation without any
valid reason being given.

I have the honour to be
With the highest respect
Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient
humble servant
John Dickson

Consul Dickson
No. 32
1 sheet
Recd. from 5
By Post
Hat. Genl. No. 11, 9 1893
Milton's Works, containing
copy of a letter from the
Rev. J. W. Sedgwick containing
a thesis being confiscated by
the Genl. Consul.
June 7 note to R. A. C.
See letter to the Genl. Consul
from the Genl. Consul
Consul
Cannot see at what the
English has been since. Must be
allowed to remain copies of
the English. See from the
410 own language. R. A. C.

93
Bishop Gobat's School
Jerusalem 16. May. 1894

Copy
My dear Mr. Dickson,

You are well aware that
the Turkish Govt have at
the Censorship here an Index
expurgatorius of books which
they mercilessly confiscate
without their owner having the
option of returning them to
England.

In that Index, Milton's
"Paradise Lost" is placed, & this
must be regarded by every
Englishman

John Dickson Esq^r
H. M. Consul
Jerusalem

Englishman, as well as by literary men in every country, as a slight upon the memory of a great poet.

I have been at pains to find out any possible ground for such an injustice and it seems, that the only justification they can offer is that, forsooth, Adam is spoken of disrespectfully. This is of course a total misunderstanding based upon culpable ignorance, & it will be only an act of common kindness to set them right in this matter.

In

94
In writing thus I am actuated also by personal considerations, for in lately going through the humiliating and irritating ordeal of getting a number of books through the Censorship at Jerusalem, the clerk to whom the work is delegated, and who possesses not even an initial acquaintance with English literature, confiscated a very rare edition belonging to me of the first four books of the Paradise Lost with notes in Greek & Latin by B.^r Major - a copy of Milton's entire works belonging to a friend.

the

the Rev. S. Atlee. sharing the same fate.

Is it in the power of the Censorship to claim any book to which on any ground, — especially that it is well illustrated. — the Turkish Govt. may take exception. — say to the writings of Lord Byron?

At all events may I beg you to be kind enough to take steps to get our great Milton removed from the pillory & so to get restored to us the confiscated volumes.

I am &c.

(signed) J. A. Sedgwick (M.A.)

Jerusalem
May 30. 1894.

No. 33.
Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 25 of the 13th ultimo, I have the honour to report to your Excellency that Monsignor Arsenios arrived here on the 8th instant, as the newly appointed Russian Archimandrite in Jerusalem.

Your Excellency
The Right Hon.ble
Sir Philip Currie G. C. B.

Monsignor