

Jerusalem

15 July 1851

Sir.

It is my duty to report to Your Excellency that the Jews in Hebron have been greatly alarmed by threats of the Moslems there at the commencement of Ramadan.

For several days my Cancelline staid there with two Kawafes, and obtained from the Governor Abderrahman the punishment of some offenders, but others were released from prison on the self same night of their condemnation.

The Cancelline reports that the old feuds between the partisans of Abderrahman and his brothers still exist. - that the partisans of the latter steal cattle by force of arms during the night from Hebron itself, and that they did so close to his tent.

Yours Hon^{ble}
Excellency
J. Canning J.C.B.

The Great River

No 9

Rec^d August 1st.

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murder in the Mosque
of Omar, a Mohammedan
upon a Moslem -
Necessity of precaution
against Christian
fanatics staying within

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to the British Reside
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tent - also that in one day the vines were cut down from twenty feddāns of vineyard - but that such proceedings are sure to cease instantly on every approach of Abderrahman, which however is not frequent.

The Jews having complained that a freed slave named Saad Allah was more obnoxious to them than any other person in Hebron, and that Abderrahman had released him almost immediately after sentencing him to imprisonment I applied to the Pasha to have Saad Allah brought to Jerusalem - His Excellency gave an order that the offender should be examined by the Council in Hebron, and if convicted, be forwarded to Jerusalem for punishment.

Accordingly a Council was held there during five hours, and the result was that a Report was drawn up and signed by the Mufti and Kadi, declaring that none but Jewish ringleaders had appeared

"and we do not receive the testimony of Jews." Saad Allah was therefore dismissed.

I have a Kawass remaining in Hebron - one relieving another every three days from me at Jerusalem, and I intend to continue this guard there till a week after the close of Ramadan - but the Jews consider it a very inefficient protection.

My directions are to the persons sent by me, that in the present state of affairs they should make little or no distinction in the protection afforded to European Jews in Hebron, whether British, Austrian, or Russian subjects.

From Safed I learn that the Jews are but inadequately protected by the local governors, and that a burglary has lately occurred there in a Jewish house without however any redress being obtained.

Still on the whole I am sure that the Jews do obtain more redress from the

local governors in Palestine than
Muslims can procure - because the
authorities in dealing with a Jew, are
seldom certain but that some Consul
may claim to take part in the proceedings.

Only in Hebron the enormous avarice
of Abderrahman is peculiarly oppressive
upon them.

I have the honor to be
Sir

with the highest respect.

Your Excellency's
most obedient, humble servant.

J. Fein.

Right Honorable
His Excellency
Sir J. Canning, G.C.B.
Jc Jc

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[Faint, illegible handwriting on page 32]

No 11

Jerusalem

12 August 1851

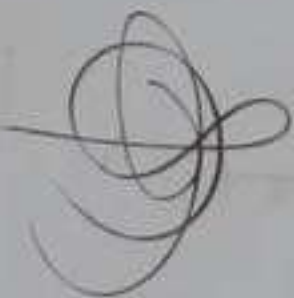
Sir.

I have the honor to enclose for Your Excellency, copies of correspondence held between Adhem Pasha and myself - The letter from His Excellency I consider as very insufficient, especially as it omits to give an account of the sentence which the man is to expect - and this I desired particularly, knowing that Hhaim es Sirzily, the Jewish official Dragoman, and Member of the City Council had been offering the man bribes of money on condition of not turning English, as the imprisoned man says he wished to do - and had told him about the 20th of July, that if he would renounce his ideas of Christianity he might be released in

Right Hon^{ble}
 His Excellency
 Sir L. Canning G.C.B.

The Consul Sir

No 10

Rec^d

Alarm of the Jews
 in Hhaim - Hhaim
 taken in consequence -
 Refusal of the authorities
 to accept Hhaim's evidence

Enclosed 1 - 1
 Sir

in a day or two, otherwise there should be no end to his imprisonment - This intelligence I received from my Kawas.
I have to add that up to this day the man remains in prison in the very house of the Pasha.

I am not sure that the subject of this correspondence is a person of excellent character, but I only wish to resist the continued imprisonment on account of the name of Christianity, and to induce Adhem Pasha to believe that while the laws of His Majesty the Sultan forbid flogging by the civil authorities under him, these are not at liberty to have an accused person beaten by their servants in another house.

I should explain to Your Excellency that the Arabic Statement sent to me by His Lordship our Bishop, being just what his Arabic writer gave him, contains some exaggerations - such as that assertion that witnesses came to depose before Mr Nicolayson; and that that

gentleman had designated David as his servant - the truth is that the complainant coming to him just as he was about to ride off to Jaffa and representing that he had no home to go to, the Reverend Mr Nicolayson delivered him to the Gatekeeper to be sheltered for a few days until his return.

It was during that interval of absence that David having crossed the threshold out of the Church premises was instantly seized by the Pasha's Janissaries who must have been watching there purposely - and that His Lordship's document was given to me.

This is not the only instance that has come to my knowledge of His Excellency the Pasha allowing use to be made of his official means for meddling in matters of religion.

A native of Nablus, belonging to the Greek Church, but employed by our Bishop in teaching to read the Holy Scriptures in a school at Nablus, has been lately subjected to vexatious examination, threats

and flatteries in the Greek Convent of Jerusalem before the Metropolitan Bishop and a small Council, the Pasha's official Secretary being present - In one of those Council examinations the latter personage placed in the hands of the Nablus teacher a paper, and offered him very tempting advantages on condition of signing it -

The terms proposed were -

1. To cease from teaching in the English school.
2. To assist in pulling down the School room stone by stone within a certain number of days -

The Teacher transcribed the paper under his feet, though given him by the Pasha's official Secretary (who is not of the Greek Church) in presence of the Metropolitan Bishop, and then brought it to His Lordship our Bishop.

I have also the best evidence possible that on a recent occasion the Pasha's Lady invited to a visit, a young Armenian lady, an orphan who has a law-suit pending with a rich Armenian and

and which will probably involve the Convent itself -

She has preferred of late to attend the Protestant Church services - and during that visit His Excellency came into the room - while conversing upon the subject of the law-suit, he promised his fullest assistance on condition of her leaving the Protestants and rejoining the Armenians - or Moslems if she preferred it -

I wish further to remind Your Excellency that the Jewish official Dragoman Ithaim es Sirgily is the same person of whom I have previously complained, as having excited the rioters of Selwân in February 1850 to resist the funeral of an English Jewish Subject - He still retains his seat in the Council.

I have the honor to be
Sir

with the highest respect
Your Excellency's
most obedient humble servant
J. Fium.

Right Hon^{ble}
His Excellency
Sir J. Canning
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Translation of a Document received by
 Mr Consul Piers from His Lordship the
 Anglican Bishop - Written in Arabic

On the 19th day of June 1854, A Jew named
 David Rabinow presented himself crying, to
 Mr Nicolson an English Clergyman, who is
 also Wakel of the Protestant Community, and
 declared that on the Saturday about 3 o'clock
 in the afternoon being in the Jewish Quarter, he
 was desired by Mustafa Basheeti to go to
 speak with the Chief Rabbi - accordingly he
 went, and on his arrival at the said house
 he found an assembly of Jews, who immediately
 placed him in a place until the end of Sabbath
 and then brought him before the Chief Rabbi
 - All the assembly rose up against him and
 beat him much with sticks, also pipe sticks,
 without enquiring any thing of him. And
 amongst those who were present were Haim
 es Ligy the Dragoman, Abraham Askenazi,
 Judah Pappo, Joseph Karbon, and Ephraim
 Kaon, with others of the assembly who then
 imprisoned him and called for the Tufentchi
 Bashk Khalul Aga or Risras, who was
 accompanied by four Janiparies, Khalul Karajuni.

Translation - 12 Aug

No 11 - Sects -

Rev. 29 Sept

Case of David Rabinow
 - Complaints of violence
 and mistreatment in
 Jerusalem for religion

Khalil Kidamari, the slave of Khalil Aga and Ahmad in Nickari's there took him to the Seraglio, and imprisoned him there till Sunday when the Dragoman came and fetched him out of prison and brought him to the house of the Chief Rabbi, accompanied by the Zufenkehi Bashi and the above four Janissaries. - He was then laid down, and received 327 blows of Korbadi in the presence of the Chief Rabbi - After this he was taken back to prison the second time and was there till the afternoon of Tuesday when Khacim vizily the Dragoman, and one of the members of the Medjlis brought him into the Medjlis to declare his repentance, that is to say in presence of Mohammed Durwesh Effendi, and Sheikh Abu Saood Effendi, with the said Khacim - He kissed their hands and went out without a word being mentioned of his being guilty of any thing - He believes that his only crime is that of having sent his children to the Protestant school to learn to read.

Then Mr Nicolson seeing the marks of the blows on his body, enquired who could witness to it. Many of the Jews heard the blows from outside the house of the Chief Rabbi (the door being locked) - and some of these came afterwards and declared it in the presence of Mr Nicolson, but said it was impossible for

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them to give evidence before the government. - Also one of the Janissaries declared it was true, being one of those who beat him, and that it was the Zufenkehi Bashi who ordered them to do it.

At that time Saood Rakhmon asked the said Wakeel to receive him as a Christian Protestant of the Subjects of the Sublime Porte. He promised him to do so, after examination, and finding him in a state of fear, banished out of his own house, he took him as a servant and delivered him to the door-keeper of the Church premises, to remain with him until he could examine him.

After that the said Wakeel went to Jaffa for a few days.

And yesterday, being Wednesday the 2nd of July, the Janissaries of the government seized him near the Castle-gate, about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, took him openly to the Seraglio, and there imprisoned him -

Then we heard that at night he was taken to the Makhamish and brought back to prison not knowing any reason. His father came with other people and informed about it.

(Declaration of His Lordship the Anglican Bishop.)
Although the said Saood the Jew wishes to

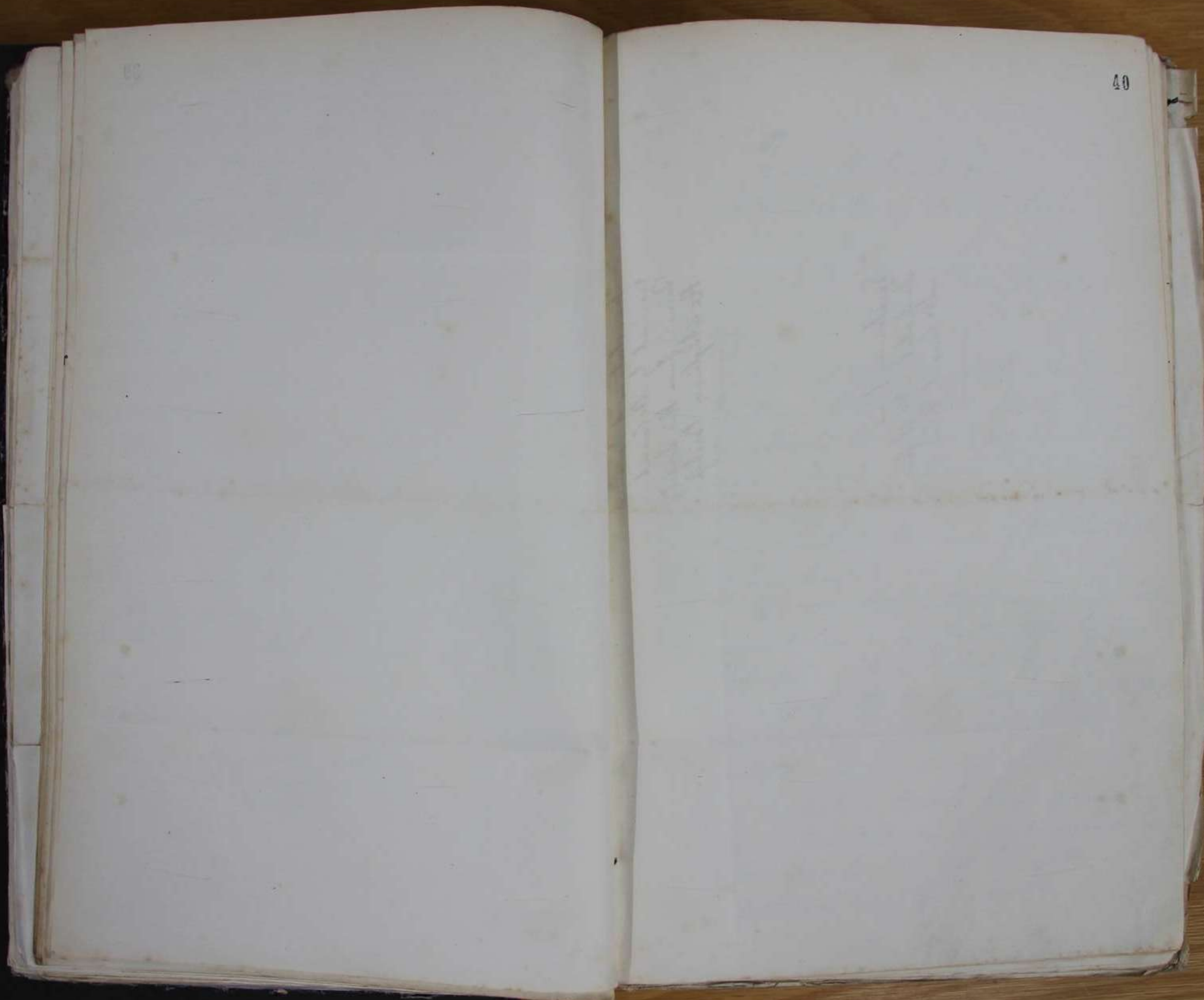
embrace the Protestant religion, and the
Wakel received him for examination, yet
as he is not known as a Protestant in the
register, no enquiries can be made from the
government in his behalf as such.

But as he was beaten with a Korbadi in
the house of the Chief Rabbi, and those who
beat him were Saniparies of the Government,
contrary to the Tanjimat el Kheiriyeh.

His Consul will examine into the affair
- also whether Daoud is still a Jew, or of any
sect whatsoever, - and as what has occurred
is contrary to the will of the Sublime Government
- and as it is possible that the Zulfenkeli Bashi
with the Saniparies will deny what was done
in beating, and the witnesses will not bear
witness - then it is necessary that an oath
should be taken in presence of the Medjlis
that the Governor had not given orders to have
it done.

(LS)

An Arabic Seal
of the Anglican
Episcopate.



From the Consul Firm
to His Excellency Adham Pasha

5 July 1851

Excellency -

It is my duty to complain to Your
Excellency that a certain Jewish Ruyah of us
His Majesty the Sultan (God preserve him)
named David Rabbimon has been beaten
unlawfully by the Tufenkehies of the
Government in the house of the Chief Rabbi
of Jerusalem.

He states that without any charge laid
against him he was beaten there by four
Tufenkehies with a Korbadi to a great amount
in a room with the door shut - and that he
has been since imprisoned and then released
without any charge being made against him.

He declares that he knows of no other
accusation that can be made against him
than that he has sent his children to the
Protestant school for instruction -

Subscribed in
Signature No 11 from
the Consul Firm.

Received by the Consul
Firm - from the
Anglican Bishop.

I therefore wish to warn Your Excellency
against allowing your power and influence
to be made use of by persons who believe
violence and falsehood to be lawful in this
case, and who venture to violate by means
of beating the benevolent intentions of His
Majesty the Sultan Abd el Mejid in
matters of religion.

I make this application to Your
Excellency because I have reason to believe
that all this affair has arisen from the
oppressed children having gone to learn in
the English school. — But were it not so —
I should still exercise my right of
complaining when I see gross violation of
the law made by Chiefs of Communities
even upon Royalty of the Sultan's Government.

God preserve Your Excellency

From Mehemet Emin
to His Excellency Adhem Pasha.

7 July 1859

I beg of Your Excellency to inform me
whether a sentence has been passed upon
the Jew named David Rabinowitz.

If so, I beg you to inform me what
it is, so that it may not be changed
hereafter.

God preserve Your Excellency

From Mr Consul Firm
to His Excellency Adhem Pasha

July 1851

Excellency.

Some days ago I sent to Your Excellency
two letters concerning Daoud Rakhman
requesting an answer - but to this day
I have received no answer.

It is known to Your Excellency that
if our Superiors learn that you refuse
to answer me, they will be surprised.

It is hoped that you will answer
the said two letters concerning the said
Jew -

God preserve Your Excellency.

Enclosure 2 in
Despatch No 11 from
Mr Consul Firm

Mr Consul Firm to
H. E. Adhem Pasha

From His Excellency Adhem Pasha
to Mr Consul Fiume

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After Compliments

16 Ramadan 1266

I have received your letter concerning
the Jew Rakhmōn and about beating - also
about his punishment - all this I have
perfectly understood - and the beating you
mention is under examination -

But the information that you were
given in that matter is different to what
had happened -

And concerning those who are servants
of the Sublime Porte, if they should be found
guilty upon proof, they shall be punished
according to the laws of the Porte

This information I give in consideration
of your Friendship -

No 12

Jerusalem

4 September 1851

Sir.

I have to inform Your Excellency that since my last Despatch, concerning Saoud Rakhmān the man still remains imprisoned - which seems to be solely on account of his persisting in calling himself a Protestant.

His Excellency the Pasha has informed my Dragoman orally that he is confined for having blasphemed the Mohammedan religion - but even if this were true - (such a charge being easily made and sworn to by witnesses when considered expedient) - the punishment in general cases would not exceed an imprisonment of a week or two. — This man however has been now nearly three months in confinement

Right Hon^{ble}
His Excellency
Sir S. Canning
S. C. B.

From Mr. General Sir
H. S. Ashmun Pasha

From H. S. Ashmun Pasha
to Mr. General Sir

Enclosure 3 in
Despatch No 11 from
Mr. General Sir