

Missionaries, on the Public Road
outside the City near the Jaffa
Gate, as the inscription which
it contains causes much talk
and comment.

Seeing the inconvenience of
the continuation of the proceedings
above referred to, I have to
request again that you will be
good enough to do what is
required without delay and to
favour me with a reply.

I avail myself of this opportunity.

(L.S.) Ibrahim Haddi
Governor of the
Linn of Jerusalem
Jerusalem,
Sep. 28. 1893
(Oct. 10. 1893)

Jerusalem

October 12. 1893

No. 63
"Supplement"

Sir
I have the honour to report
to Your Excellency that General Alexei
Nikolaitch, Chief of the Chancery of
the Emperor of Russia, and an intimate
friend of Popodenotchev, the Procurator
Imperial "au Saint Synode" in
St. Petersburg, recently arrived in
Jerusalem in connection, it was

to Your Excellency

The Right Hon. Mr.

Sir F. Clare-Ford G.C.B.

to do so.

I have the

stated, to the matters relating to the
visits of the Russian pilgrims, but
in reality to establish a School in
Jerusalem, under the direction of the
"Palestine Society", for the education
of natives and at which the
Russian language would be taught.

General Neidhart has, I
understand, already obtained the
permission from the Council of Public
Instruction, authorizing him to open
a School, but the locality is not

mentioned

mentioned in it.

He has also procured the
permission of the Greek Patriarch,
whose consent for the opening of all
Greek Orthodox Schools has to be
procured in accordance with the rules
of the Greek Church.

The place where the School
is to be established is the Russian
building or hospice contiguous to the
Church of the Holy Sepulchre - a
large and commodious edifice,

and

and very suitable for a parish class
School. I understand also that the
head master and staff of teachers,
have already been selected.

The Russians have always
been desirous to secure certain rights
in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre,
and, although according to the rules
in force they are excluded from
holding religious services in the
Church, except conjointly with the
Greek Orthodox clergy, these
services

services are now becoming so frequent
that the attendance of the Greek
priests is practically nominal. In
1868, when the great dome of the
Church was repaired, Russia sent
an architect to superintend the
work, and contributed largely
towards the expenses. The numerous
buildings which she now possesses
in Jerusalem and Palestine, in the
way of Churches, Hospices, Hospitals,
etc. render her a very
important

an important factor in the affairs of
this country, and in any question
that may arise respecting the Holy
Land, Russia could claim the right
of interference on the ground of lauded
as well as political interests. There
only remains for her to establish
complete control over the Church of
the Holy Sepulchre - the most
sacred spot on the globe in the eyes
of the Eastern as well as the Latin
Churches - in order to confirm

her

her pretensions to the protection of
the Greek Orthodox Christians, and
ultimately to her rule over the Holy
Land.

The proximity of a Russian
School to the Church of the Holy
Sepulchre will furnish a pretext
for interference in the affairs of the
Church, for taking part in the
religious services, and for eventually
assuming charge of the building
itself, by propagating the idea

among

among the natives of the advisability
of nominating a native Patriarch
under Russian influence, if not
a Russian by birth.

The time selected for
opening such a school has been
opportune. The Governor of Jerusalem
has just been decorated with the
Grand Order of St. Stanislas, by the
Emperor, and is highly flattered
by the distinction. The Greek
Patriarch also received a short
time

time ago the Grand Duke of St.
Alexander Nevski; and at the present
moment French opposition - as France
cannot but have a voice in any
question concerning the Holy places -
is likely to be at its lowest ebb.

I have ventured to report
these facts to Your Excellency, as
there seems to be little doubt that
the power and influence of Russia
in these parts is gradually increasing.
Monsieur Arseniev, the Russian
Consul

Count General has was, some time
ago, made a Councillor of State,
and has recently been created a
Chamberlain to His Majesty the
Emperor, and Monsieur Belain,
Secretary and Councillor to the
Russian Consulate General in Jerusalem,
has just been promoted to the post
of Russian Consul at Damascus,
with a salary of 30000 francs,
by virtue of an order, where Russia
has

has no subjects, and where her
commerce is almost nil. Such
appointments can only be given with
the object of furthering some political
end.

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

Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient
humble servant

John Dickson

No 66
Confidential

Junction
October 15 1891

Sir
In reference to my Despatch
No 63 "Confidential" of the 12th inst.
I have the honor to report that, on
the plea of an informality, His
Excellency the Governor of Junction
has caused the permit issued for the
opening of the Russian School to be
withdrawn and cancelled.

His Excellency
The Right Hon^{ble}
Sir Francis Crossland G. C. B.

The

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Junction Oct 15
Confidential
No 66
by Post
General Alex. Fisher
- regarding the informality
to open a Russian School
near the Grand Depot
Ryuzhki