

Some matters requiring
disposition for the
to the Earl of Aberdeen
the arrival of the Russian
of the 3 Russian
Converts.

Recd by Mr

No 10

Present Council

Copy

London 31 March 1843

No 21 My Lord,

The arrival here of Mr Basil
the Russian Consul, about two years
ago, brought under discussion the position of the
3 Jewish Converts who were the subject of my
despatch No 7 which I had the honor to
address to your Lordship on the 10th October
1842 - The Jews Quarter has ever since been
kept in a constant state of excitement -
chiefly on the subject of divorce which the
Jewish Congregation has insisted on but
which two out of the three Converts, under
the countenance of the Missionaries, have
permitted in refusing to grant.

These matters remained until the
arrival of Mr Basil, when the Wives, supported
by the Congregation, made their appeal to
him - He summoned the two Converts to
appear before him, who were attended by the
Rev^d Mr Nicolayson -
Having heard the
Case

The Earl of Aberdeen &c &c

case is decided that the Converts must
either give them twice a dowry, refunding
their dowry, or they must return to them
and live with them, allowing them either
six hours or fifteen days to decide. During
which period he would insure them free and
unmolested intercourse. One of the two
Converts immediately returned to his wife
and has been received again among the Jews,
this for the third time. The other remains firm.
Mr. Basily has remarked to me on Mr. Neolayson's
interference. I replied that I knew nothing
of it, and that of course I could not regard
that Gentleman's interference as having any
connection with my office, as he had said
nothing to me on the subject. Mr. Basily
complained to me that the Jews had told
him that Mr. Neolayson had offered the
Converts an Asylum in his house in case of
need, and that he (Mr. Neolayson) defied the
Rusian Consul or any Authority to molest
them if under his roof. Although I told
Mr. Basily that I considered it necessary on such
occasions

occasions as the present to receive with
great caution the reports of the Jews. Yet I
am bound to state to Your Lordship that
similar language was held by Mr. Neolayson
to me in my own office when he called upon
me in company with D. Neolayson to request
my interference on behalf of the Converts on the
first occasion of their declaring themselves,
and when I declined, and pointed out to
him my reasons, he said he was prepared
to take the consequences.

After Mr. Basily had decided the case
Bishop Alexander called me the honor to call
on me on the subject, we met over the same
ground as we had done on the occasion
of their Jews first professing themselves to
be Converts. I expressed the same opinions
which I had the honor to submit to Your
Lordship in my Despatch No 7 of 1842, and
which I told the Bishop had been approved
of by Your Lordship. I stated that it was
impossible for me to interfere uninvited by
the Rusian Consul. I said I should have

objection to confer with Dr. Schultz on the subject, in the presence of the Bishop, but I declined meeting any other party - referring to the Agents of the Society - I immediately saw Dr. Schultz, and before going to the Bishop's house I stated to my Colleague the line of duty which I considered Your Lordship's instructions imposed upon me on the present occasion - vizt strict neutrality, and abstaining from identifying myself with the Bishop or the Missionaries in Religious matters, but especially in matters touching Conversion. But that, if invited by the Russian Consul, I had no objection to assist, in an amicable way, towards the settlement of any Civil matter connected with the case. My Colleague considered that his instructions compelled him to adopt substantially the same course, but thought he should be justified in going a step further - vizt in offering his amicable intervention in the case generally, if required by the Bishop to do so. Having agreed on the line which each of us intended

intended to adopt - we proceeded to wait on the Bishop - and in the most friendly way conferred on the matter - and we concluded by resolving that as Mr. Basily had already decided the case by allowing the parties - 15 days to determine which of the alternatives they would adopt, nothing need be done until that period had expired. But I strongly recommended that, in the meantime, the Converts should be advised, ^{not} to show a spirit of insubordination towards Russian jurisdiction, at any rate in Civil matters - in which both the Bishop and my Colleague fully agreed with me. I mentioned this because it was stated that Mr. Nicolayson had advised that the Converts should decline the Russian Consul's jurisdiction on the plea that they had forfeited their nationality, which advice if followed would lead to a result which the Bishop and Missionaries wished to avoid, vizt that of causing the Converts to be sent into the Russian Dominions -

Mr. Basily

Dr. Beatty has declared that he has no intention to interfere in the religious part of the question. He states that if any Proprietor is desirous of uniting himself with the English congregation here he is not aware of any objection to it - but that care must be taken that there is no compromise in civil matters -

There still however remain several difficulties in the present question, in the form of pecuniary claims which are brought against the converts by their Jewish brethren, and also charges of a still poorer character - It is stated that in conversation with other of the earlier converts they have been to the Jews Cemetery and disinterred the bones, by displacing some and inserting others and their names as believers in Christianity on others, to the great annoyance of the Jewish community - as one of the parties who has made the complaint is a Proprietor subject -

Dr. Beatty

Dr. Beatty will assist Mr. Beatty in investigating the matter.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect

ably and

Your Lordships

Most obedt. servant

James Beatty

signed J. Beatty

Apr 11

Jerusalem 14 April 1833.

Sir,

I have the honor to apprise
Your Excellency that a Russian Brig of
War arrived off Jaffa on the 8th Instant,
and a party of her Officers arrived in
Jerusalem on the 10th. The vessel proceeded
to Caiffa to find a more secure anchorage
and returns in a few days to Jaffa to re-
embark her Officers - Whence, I am informed
by Mr. Bailey that she will proceed
direct to Constantinople.

The Officers are visiting the
places of interest in the City and neigh-
borhood - I am not aware of their
object being other than that of ordinary
travelers!

I have the honor to be
with the greatest Respect

Sir,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient
Humble Servant,
W. L. Young

His Excellency
The Right Honorable
Sir Stratford Canning GCB.

Jerusalem 14 April 1833 -

addition of the only
Russian Brig of War
arrived on the 8th Instant
at Caiffa on the 10th Instant
of the 10th Instant -