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Political
No 11Jerusalem
August 9. 1855

My Lord.

Since my last Despatches to
Your Lordship on the disturbances
among the peasantry in this
neighbourhood, the Pasha during
several days made efforts by means
of leading Shaikhs (such as Muslekh
el Hjeih of Bait Librin between
Hebron and Gaza) and Abdallah
Wafa an Effendi of Jerusalem, to
induce

Honorable
Earl of Clarendon
Esq. - S. C. B.
&c.

Jerusalem Aug 9
The Consul SirRec^d 30.

No 24 - 2 Encls.

D

On Disposition
the peasantry
have been found

induce Osman Lekham to meet
with Abu Gosh at some distant
village and argue their differences
there, but without success. - no
truce existed meanwhile between
the hostile parties, and the
irregular Cavalry of the Pasha had
been on one occasion beaten back
from Ain Karim.

Abu Gosh came to an appointed
rendezvous with two hundred
followers, upon which the other
withdrew - and next day Abu
Gosh demanded of Musleh that
his rival should allow small forts
for irregular cavalry to be established
in three of the disputed villages -
to which Osman replied that he

would do that and more when
required by the Turkish authorities.

Finding the Pasha utterly
helpless, and his Council of Effendis
divided into partisans of one or
the other cause, as they always are
and each man's party inclination
known - several of the influential
natives entreated me to do something
representing the country as in
imminent danger - I therefore
went myself on the 25th to His
Excellency and persuaded him to
give (what he had hitherto refused)
a Pass of Safe-conduct to Osman
that he might appear in Jerusalem.

The Effendis were in the next
room and on being informed of my
application several of them stamped

and vowed that it should not be granted - The document was however sent to him that evening.

Abu Gosh was meanwhile bribing these Effendis (to the amount of 17,000 piastres in one day) and negotiating with the Arabs South of Gaza, he had received a deputation from the Deab Adwan Arabs beyond Jordan (the same who assaulted our Leamen in 1827 and are yet unpunished) - and none of the peasantry about us ventured upon the roads, but in companies and armed.

Oman hesitated to obey the summons with its promise of safe-conduct, remembering how he and Abu Gosh had both been entrapped

2 entrapped in 1846 by Mehemmed Pasha in violation of a safe-conduct and sent out of the country.

Abu Gosh came to visit me in town on the 28th - hoped I had not forsaken old friends for new in obtaining that safe-conduct, and requested me in case of seeing any of his people out fighting in future to go to them and say - "My children, return to your places" - he promised they should instantly obey.

But the very next morning they were out again, and passing my country place in large numbers - a few of the others were seen at a distance proceeding towards them.

Right Hon^{ble}
Earl of Clarendon
Esq - G. C. B.

I dispatched a Kawas over the hill to turn them back - they did not return immediately - but there was no fighting that day.

At the same time I sent off Khamedan, Shaikh of the Saamri Arabs who happened to be with me on a visit, in the opposite direction to bid Osman recall his people: appointing to meet him myself in an hour or two at Artas -

When there I promised to obtain from the Pasha that I should take a part in securing the faithfulness of his safe-conduct, as Osman could not trust to the words of the usual formula "In the safety of God Most High, and under the inspection of his honoured Apostle".

In town however the Pasha declined to have me present at the Council of Enquiry, but engaged to give me information daily of what should take place, and to invite me to be present at the final reconciliation.

Next day Osman with a small train rode into town escorted by my Cancelliere.

No regular trial or investigation took place, but both the disputants professed before the Pasha and his Court, that they had no personal enmity between them, only Osman demanded the restoration of the sixty families who had been expelled from Ain Karim, and that compensation be made for the plunder

of their stores of oil and corn, as well as for the cutting down of their vines and olive trees.

Abu Gosh required the restitution in like manner of a few families to Wellajeh, who had been expelled thence several years ago.

The Effendis exerted themselves to have more families removed out of mixed villages, so as to unite the factions more compactly into places distinct from each other. — their interest being at all times to perpetuate these feuds for the increase of their own enrolment.

On learning this, the peasantry on the 3rd instant, assembled tumultuously in parties without leaders — a large body sat down armed
opposite

3 opposite the city, and others awaited in their rear — the women of Ain Karim came into the city, entered the precincts of the Great Mosque of Omar and beneath the Pashai windows shouted their desire to be restored to their homes.

That evening the Pasha called a private Council, and early next morning the antagonist Chiefs were suddenly persuaded to make a truce for three months, during which time the demolished houses are to be rebuilt, and then the people are to be consulted as to where they would wish to reside — a very lame way of providing a temporary peace.

Right Hon^{ble}
Earl of Clarendon
K.S. - S.G.B. - &c

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The bond was drawn up
and the parties kissed each other

But I fear this truce will
not last, for the people cannot
remain three months without
knowing to what village they belong
during the gathering of grapes
and oil.

The Chiefs both came to take leave
of me that day, but at different
hours: when I enquired if they
could not have made up such a
bargain as the above a month
ago among themselves, they each
swore that it would have been
impossible.

Osman in the exuberance of
gratitude offered me the service
of 4000 footmen with guns, and

405
500 horse, at any time I might
require them to suppress an
insurrection against the Christians in
the city. — and the peasantry in
his district invoke blessings as I
pass along the road, for having
arrested bloodshed and spoliation
of property.

Abu Josh also parted with
particular professions of friendship
and boasted of what we should
do together when the Russian
army attempts to approach Jerusalem.

I ought to mention that M.
Botta the French Consul began to
take steps in the business without
communication with me, in the same
view as myself, but only on the
morning of the reconciliation.

Count Peggamau, the Austrian

Consul, had been visited some days before by Abu Gosh, requesting advice for his future proceedings. He was advised to obey the Government and the Parha so long as the latter was in condition to protect him, but was told that in case of being first attacked and receiving no help, the law of nature enjoined self defence. Abu Gosh then showed him numerous letters received from Arab Shaikhs of the South with these words - "Brother, we learn that evil men are troubling you, why do you not send for us? - when shall we come?"

This I was told by the Consul himself.

The Parha has not yet given me any information of what was done in

in examination of the dispute within the city, probably because the proceedings were purposely not allowed to assume the form of a legal investigation. - neither was I invited to the reconciliation.

I have twice written since to His Excellency to this effect, but received no answer.

A great evil to be noticed in the matter, is that the Parha has no feeling of these commotions forming a crime against the State. - he treats the Chiefs almost on terms of equality, and is satisfied when they seem to be reconciled.

— yet this is not much to be wondered at, in a land where even murder is not a public offence but

Right Honorable
Earl of Clarendon
R.S. - S.C.B. &c

but a family concern.

I do not consider this Parha to be much more inefficient in public duty than any other that I have met with, but the circumstances of the country in general are critical as far as a man to cope with.

The Lieutenant of the Garrison is in a perpetual state of intoxication and but seldom seen outside the barracks.

My Camelline has lately returned from Gaza, and reports that in the South the country is traversed in every direction by wild Arabs, who are plundering and destroying the growing crops of millet, and the stores of wheat belonging to the villages - Of such proceedings we hear nothing in Jerusalem.

I have heard from some foreigners of a British War steamer the "Lampson" having arrived at Bayroot.

I have the honor to be
My Lord

with the highest respect
Yours Lordships

Most obedient
humble servant
J. Funn

British Consulate
Jerusalem
Aug^r 5. 1853

David el Karmi, native of Ain Karim but residing in Jerusalem came unexpectedly into this office, and deposed voluntarily.

That he heard Bedri Effendi el Khulki (a member of the Makhkamah of Jerusalem) state that he had learned from one of the Municipal Council (Mejlis) that on the day before yesterday, a crowd of Fellah women of the neighbourhood on hearing that the Effendis were about to hinder the return of the sixty families to Ain Karim, came within the precincts of the Kharam esh Sherief, under the Pasha's window and cried out, "They are going to turn us out of our homes and property

Dated, Aug^r 9. 1853

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Enclaves / in
McLeod's Diary
No 24 of 1853

— the English Consul is trying to
do us good — There is no God but
God, and we will be servants of
the religion of the Cross, and under
the governance of the Consul.

The Pasha then sent Kawapier
to drive them away, calling them
"infidels": but soon after summoned
the Mijlis secretly, where addressing
the Effendis he said — "I have
been trusted too much to you to keep
the country quiet — See how the
Christians are taking more pity on
our Moslem people than you are.

— Do not let the Christians show
more pity than we do — It is
unlawful — And now the Consul
will write against us to Constantinople
and we shall be blamed — I will
henceforth trust to myself without

you —

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Moopa Yannoos
Chief Dragoman
of the British Consulate

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Duplicate sent to
London as Despatch
Circular No 15

Jerusalem
Sept. 22. 1853.

No 30

My Lord

I have the honor to
enclose a Census. list of the
several congregations attached to
Christ Church Jerusalem at the
present time. — Omitting
the Europeans who communicate
there but reside generally in
other towns of Palestine and
Syria - Omitting also the

His Excellency Protestant congregations of
Dr. Hough
Lord Stratford de Redcliffe Bethlehem
S.C.B. &c