

3702

No. 200, dated Fort William, 28th February 1862.

From—COL. H. M. DURAND, C.B., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.,
To—Political Agent, Turkish Arabia.

IN reply to your letter No. 46, dated 4th December last, forwarding a copy of your despatch to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople regarding the alleged objects of the visit to Demaum of the British Resident in the Persian Gulf, I am directed by the Governor-General in Council to forward, for your information, a copy of a letter this day addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay on the subject.

2. With respect to the object of the Resident's expedition, I am to inform you that, in spite of the repeated warnings of the British Government, Mahomed bin Abdulla, the Chief of Demaum, aided by his Wahabee neighbours, had made extensive preparations to get possession of Bahrein, and had seized several vessels bearing Turkish colors and one belonging to a Persian port, when the British squadron in the Gulf interposed. The Resident has, with the approval of Government, requested Mahomed bin Abdulla to withdraw from Demaum, and to settle in any place except between Grane and Aboothabee, informing him at the same time that the Chief of Bahrein had agreed to settle upon him \$3,000 a year, and that if he refused those terms, he would be deported. This decision has also been communicated to the Wahabee Ameer.

22
Translation of a letter from A. E. Ahmed
Pasha Gov. General of Baghdad to
H. M. Consul General at Baghdad
D/ 16th Jumad ul thani 1278 -
18th December 1861 -

3703

I lately applied to you for information regarding the intention of H. M. Consul at Basrah taking with him 5 vessels of War to attack the Village (قصر) of Ramman - In reply you intimated that being unaware of the particulars of his visit to the above mentioned place you would make enquiries, but that he could have no design beyond preserving the integrity of the Island of Bahrein and maintaining general tranquillity - Now according to the accounts just received from Basrah the said Consul suddenly & without notice to any body has proceeded with Vessels of War to the said place, and fired 300 shots and destroyed a portion thereof - Assuming certainly that you must up to this time have obtained information of the said Consul's visit to the said place, and it being necessary that you should acquaint me plainly and in detail with all the facts of the case, I therefore write these lines: -

Copy of Reply to the foregoing letter

3704

I have had the honor to receive
Your Excellency's letter dated 16th Jumadee
ul thanee -

The British Resident in the Persian
Gulf not being under my orders does not
report to me events that may occur within
the limits of his Political jurisdiction,
and time has not admitted of my obtaining
a reply to the Communication I addressed
to him consequent on the receipt of Your
Excellency's letter of 25th Jumadee ul thanee -

In my answer to that letter I announced
to Your Excellency the General Policy of the
British Government in the Persian Gulf.
From private sources I learn that Mahomed
ibn Abdallah having infringed that
Policy. The British Resident after
placing himself in communication
with Ameer Fyzul, who is the Ruler
of Nejd, had proceeded to eject the
said Mahomed ibn Abdallah from
Qenaum - Further than this I possess
no information, and assuming the facts
to be as reported it does not appear
to me that any ground of interpellation
is afforded to the Turkish Government.

Ref.

British Cons^l General of
Baghdad 20th Decem^r 1861

1861/ A.B. Kerbell
Acting Cons^l General
at Bagdad

(Two Copies)

3705

[Signature]
Act. Agent in Eastern India

[Signature]
Major Attorney
No. 203

[Signature]
J. B. Kerbell
Acting Cons^l General
at Bagdad

Copy

29th of 1862

3706

British Consulate General
Beyrout 1st January 1862

Sir

Having in my Despatch N^o 38 of 11th December last suggested generally to Your Excellency the reasons which appeared to me to invalidate the interpellations of the Turkish Authorities with respect to Lemnaum; and as will be seen from my Despatch N^o 40 dated 21st December last having on the same grounds and in the absence of more particular information from Bushire justified to H. E. Ahmed Pasha the act of the Resident in the Persian Gulf in proceeding against that place, I had intended to avoid further correspondence on this subject pending at any rate the receipt of Capt^r Jones reply; - but viewing the probability of representations being made to Constantinople by today's post suggestive alike of misgivings as to the designs of the British Government and of unfounded pretensions on the part of the Porte, I have considered it my duty at once to assert clearly the right we have ever exercised of maintaining direct relations

To His Excellency
The Right Honorable
Sir H. L. Bulwer GCB

No. 117
 by the
 India. Gov.