No. 25. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated London, 26th April 1860, No. 13.

1. I transmit for the information of your Government copy of a letter received yesterday from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs with enclosures to the same.

2. The papers relate to the disgraceful conduct of some of the passengers by the outward Steamer "China," who arrived at Cairo from Alexandria, on the morning of the 4th instant, and of whom it appears that some were Cadets proceeding to India.

3. If these proceedings should not have been brought to the notice of your Government before the receipt of this Despatch, I desire that you will take immediate steps to ascertain who was the Senior Military Officer on your Establishment with the passengers by the "China," and call upon him to report upon the circumstances stated in the letter of Her Majesty's Consul General in Egypt, or take such other steps as may seem to your Government best calculated to bring all the parties concerned in these disgraceful outrages, who may be servants of Her Majesty, to answer for conduct, which, if correctly reported, is of a nature to bring the British character into disrepute, and seriously to jeopardize the national interests in a country, where it is of the highest importance to conciliate the friendship and the good will of the Government and the people.

4. Similar instructions have been sent by the present Mail to the Government of India, and will be addressed by the Mail of the 3rd proximo to the Government of Bombay.

From ROBERT G. COLQUHOUN, Esq., to Lord JOHN RUSSELL, &c., &c., &c., dated Cairo, 9th April 1860, No. 41.

It is my painful duty to report to your Lordship a circumstance which took place here a few days ago.

The Australian and Indian outward bound passengers arrived here on the morning of the 4th.

During the Kamadan the Mosques are illuminated and in the evening are much resorted to; the principal Mosque of the Citadel, built in honor of Mohammed Ali, was on the 4th an object of much veneration, it being the anniversary of his death. All the members of the Vice Regal family were accordingly present at the religious exercises of the night.

A party of from 25 to 30 of the passengers, having previously dined, proceeded up to the Citadel, and not content with being admitted into the body of the Mosque, succeeded in intruding themselves into the space set apart for theVice Roy's family. Some of the party, among whom were two ladies, placed themselves opposite the Sheiks and Readers, and in a very improper manner began mimicking their genuflexions and intonation.

The Vice Roy sent from his seat one of his attendants who is conversant with French, to request the English to withdraw, this they peremptorily refused to do, vociferating that they had a right to be there; the public was beginning to utter angry sounds, and again the Officer appeared and implored them to leave the place before the fanaticism of the Natives was roused; still meeting with a refusal, a circle of janissaries and cawasses was formed round them, and they were ejected from the building. In the outer court was a dense mass of many thousand spectators, and our countrymen, who I regret to state were many of them much excited by wine (one of them having a lighted cigar in his mouth) began to strike the people, who pressed on them, breaking several of the lanterns and ornaments used at this season. The janissaries appear however to have successfully calmed the popular feeling, and succeeded in getting them beyond the walls of the Citadel.

M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 337 Press Mis.

Dated 29 - 5 - ~~19~~ 1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

I only heard of this on the 7th, the passengers had meantime proceeded on to Suez and embarked. I called on Mohammed Bay, the person who had been charged by the Vice Roy to invite the Travellers to quit the Mosque; from him I learnt the particulars and the indecent conduct of my countrymen. Unfortunately the Vice Roy had gone down on the 6th to Alexandria, so I could not see His Highness; but I considered it a duty I owed to myself and to Her Majesty's Government to at once see the Secretary of State, Cheriff Pacha, and after hearing his account of the affair, of which he was an eye-witness, and which coincided in every particular with what I had heard, to request him to convey to His Highness the expression of my deep regret at the unjustifiable conduct of my countrymen, in favor of whom I dared not offer as any palliation that the offence had been made when under the influence of wine. I requested Cheriff Pacha to say that I would not fail in person to apologize to His Highness on my next visit to Alexandria. Cheriff Pacha accepted courteously my excuses, which he promised to convey to the Vice Roy, and ended by saying:—"Your countrymen may be thankful the Vice Roy was present; had he not "been there, and himself repressed the fanaticism of the soldiery and populace, our city might have "witnessed another Jeddah."

I am sorry to have to relate these particulars. I have felt deeply humiliated by the conduct of our countrymen, and consider no apology too humble for the outrage they have committed on a population which was beginning to view with a less distasteful eye the presence in their city of a large European family, and who were learning to respect our laws and customs, and this at a moment when I am indebted to the Vice Roy for favors conferred, at a sacrifice of religious feeling on our Merchant Marine at Alexandria.

The effect of this affair on the population here has been most mischievous, and I am glad the moment is near when I shall have to move my residence for the summer months, hoping the angry feelings will subside.

I do not know how these excesses of a few young men are to be checked—young men perhaps just emancipated from the Public schools and Military Academies, and who little dream of the mischief they cause to large interests involved in this country.

From LORD J. RUSSELL, to R. G. COLQUHOUN, Esq., &c., &c., &c., dated 21st April 1860, No. 9.

I have received your Despatch, No. 41 of the 9th of April, respecting the disgraceful conduct of certain English travellers in the principal Mosque at Cairo on the night of the 4th of April.

I entirely approve the promptitude with which, upon becoming accquainted with the circumstances of the case, you expressed to the Egyptian authorities the regret with which you had learned the conduct of your countrymen, and I have to instruct you, on the receipt of this Despatch, to obtain an audience of the Vice Roy, and to express to him on behalf of Her Majesty's Government the concern with which they have heard of this scandalous outrage on the part of subjects of Her Majesty, whose station in life should have taught them to respect the religious feelings of the community among which they were temporarily residing, and to pay all due deference to the Vice Roy, to whom the British nation is so much indebted for the facilities and kindness which he has invariably shewn to Her Majesty's subjects. You will state to the Vice Roy that Her Majesty's Government highly appreciate the forbearance which he shewed under circumstances of such great provocation, and are sensible that it was entirely owing to his judgment and good feeling that the guilty parties escaped unharmed from the scene of disorder. As regards the means of checking any such excesses for the future, the local Government would of course be justified in taking any measures for repression and punishment which are consistent with the terms of the capitulations: and the powers which you hold under Order in Council may probably be sufficient to admit of your proceeding against them in the Consular Court, if the local authorities should not think proper to interfere.

Upon this point, however, I will consult the Law Officers of the Crown and send you instructions as soon as possible.

No. 26. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1860, No. 337.

Resolved, that a copy of the above Despatch and its enclosure be furnished to the Military Department, in view to the necessary steps being taken, as directed in paragraph 3.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Political Dept.t

Proceedings of the Kaira Government

Read the following
despatch from the R. Hon.
the Secretary of State for
India -

(Dated 26th April 1859)

Bdoy Thomson 29th May 1860. No 337.

Resolved, that a
copy of the above des-
patch and its enclosure
be furnished to the
Military Department,
in view to the neces-
sary steps being taken,
as directed in para 3,
for bringing to
the justice condemned
in the outrages referred
to as may be Military
Servants on the Kaira
Establishment & answer
for their conduct

To the Military Department

31 May

Political 1860 Depart

No 334

Proceedings of Govt

29th May 1860.

23.2.27 DV

Sir J. Grant to

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