

ENCLOSURES.

No. 1.

Sir,

Foreign Office,
20th August 1894.

I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to transmit herewith, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Fowler, copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople on the subject of the illegal extortions practised on Malay and Indian pilgrims returning from Mecca, and I am to suggest, for the consideration of the India Office, whether it would not be well that arrangements should be made next year for taking the statements of the pilgrims, if necessary, on their return from the Hadj.

I am, &c.,

E. GREY.

The Under Secretary of State,
India Office.

Enclosure in No. 1.

No. 67, Commercial.

My Lord,

Therapia,
8th August 1894.

I have the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship copy of a Despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Jeddah reporting the illegal extortions which are being practised on the Malay and Indian pilgrims returning from Mecca.

A memorandum of the chief facts in this Despatch has been prepared and will be handed to the Grand Vizier by Mr. Block.

As the Dutch Minister is also interested in this subject, I communicated to him Dr. Razzack's despatch, and I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter I received from Mr. Van de Staal sending me a copy of a note addressed by the Dutch Consul at Jeddah, in concert with Her Majesty's Acting Consul, to the Vali of the Hedjaz, protesting against these exactions.

I have, &c.,

PHILIP CURRIE.

The Earl of Kimberley, K.G.,
&c., &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in above.

No. 41.

Sir,

Jeddah,
12th July 1894.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that there has been a continuation of the same tactics which had been in vogue in past years with reference to the booking of Malay pilgrims.

No attempt has been made, it is true, to detain these Malay pilgrims at Mecca, because this year there are no competitors for the monopoly, but the system still runs in the same groove, and the poor pilgrims have to pay the same amount of passage money to the Sheikh as usual; for although the shipping

agents charge only Mexican \$20 for Singapore, and Rix \$25 for Java, yet the pilgrims have paid to the Sheikhs \$32 Mexican for Singapore and \$37 Rix for passage to Java.

In spite of the notices issued in the name of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, by which the post of Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh or Chief Sheikh of the Java or Malay pilgrims was abolished and perfect freedom promised to the pilgrims both in the hiring of camels and in the engaging of passages by steamers, the office of Sheikh of Mashaiekh of the Java and Malay pilgrims was renewed by the Grand Shereef in the person of Yousaf Kattan, and Hassan Daood was appointed Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of the Indian pilgrims, as reported to your Excellency by Mr. Consul Richards in his Despatch No. 32, Confidential, dated 6th June 1894.

Backed and supported by the Grand Shereef, Yousaf Kattan has left nothing undone to place the Malay pilgrims in the same way as in past years, for the benefit of the Grand Shereef and his co-adjutors, and Hassan Daood has adopted the same course, but much more brutally, towards the pilgrims from India.

Although no actual personal restraint has been used, yet the way in which the Indians have been dealt with this year has had no parallel before, and so absolute has been the power granted to Hassan Daood by the Grand Shereef, that his tyrannical conduct and high-handed proceedings have called forth loud complaints even from the Sheikhs or pilgrim guides themselves.

Convinced of the necessity of making a determined effort for saving the pilgrims, British subjects still remaining in this country, and those who are already arriving for the next Haj, from the clutches of the above two myrmidons of the Grand Shereef, I have taken advantage of the wording of the notices issued in the name of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, both before and after the Haj, and have addressed a letter to the Vali (copy enclosed) requesting the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh according to the tenor of the Imperial notices, and demanding the return of the money which these two gentlemen have mulcted from British subjects, both Malay and Indians.

I humbly hope that the course I have followed will meet with your Excellency's approval, and steps taken to enforce the demand which I have already made.

I have, &c.,
ABDUR RAZZACK.

His Excellency Sir Philip Currie, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 2 in above.

Jeddah,
11th July 1894.

No. 31.
Excellency,

I have the honour to draw your Excellency's attention to the following points:—

By the notices dated 1st Shawwal 1311 (26th March 1894) which were posted up at Mecca and Jeddah twice, once before and a second time after the Haj, every one was informed that His Imperial Majesty the Sultan had, with the object of giving perfect freedom to all pilgrims, and especially the Malay pilgrims, abolished the post of Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh, and that the pilgrims were at liberty to hire their camels for Medina and to go by any steamer just as they liked.

Notwithstanding the above notices issued in the name of His Imperial Majesty, the Sultan Yousaf Kattan was appointed Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of Java or Malay pilgrims, and Hassan Daood as Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of Indian pilgrims.

The same system of extortion which was carried out against Java or Malay pilgrims in former years has been again used by Yousaf Kattan against them this year, and the Indian pilgrims have also been dealt with in the same way by Hassan Daood.

The camel hire to Medina taken from Malay pilgrims this year before the Haj was \$25 Mejidee, and from Indian pilgrims Rs. 75, out of which the camel men received only \$12 Mejidee and Rs. 36 respectively; the rest of the money, with the exception of one dollar, which is taken as Government tax, has been divided among certain parties which your Excellency can find out if proper steps are taken for making a strict inquiry.

The camel hire from Mecca to Medina after the Haj in spite of the Imperial notices has been even more, namely \$23 Mejidee, of which less than half were given to the camel men and the remainder divided as already mentioned.

The same thing has happened with regard to the camel hire from Mecca to Djeddah; Malays were charged \$5 Mexican, and Indian Rs. 10, out of which the camel men received only \$2 Mexican and Rs. 4 respectively.

In the booking of Java or Malay pilgrims this year the shipping agents have received only Mexican \$20 for Singapore, and Javanese \$25 for Java as passage money, while the pilgrims have paid \$32 Mexican and \$37 Java respectively.

Out of the remaining \$12, the Sheik has taken \$7 and Yousaf Kattan \$5, besides what he gets in the shape of a fee as Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh.

These \$5 were taken by Yousaf Kattan at first in Jeddah, but it is now being taken in Mecca where every sheikh is obliged to give a sanad to Yousaf Kattan at \$5 per head for each pilgrim, before his pilgrims can come down.

I have laid before your Excellency the above facts just as they have occurred in the hope that your Excellency will take strong steps for enforcing and fully carrying out the object with which the Imperial notices were issued, and in accordance with which I respectfully demand the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of the Java or Malay pilgrims, and of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of the Indian pilgrims, and the return of the money to this Consulate which has been illegally taken from British subjects, both Malay and Indian pilgrims, as detailed above.

In conclusion I beg to inform your Excellency that all Malay pilgrims who are not Dutch subjects are British subjects.

I have, &c.,
ABDUR RAZZACK.

The Vali of Hedjaz.

Enclosure 3 in above.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,
Legation des Pays Bas, Therapia,
le 7 Août 1894.

En me référant à l'entretien que j'eus l'honneur d'avoir aujourd'hui, avec Votre Excellence, concernant la manière dont les autorités locales au Hedjaz continuent cette année encore, à soutirer de l'argent aux pèlerins se rendant à la Mecque, je m'empresse de Lui faire savoir que je viens de recevoir du Consul des Pays Bas à Djeddah un rapport confirmant en tout point les renseignements contenus dans la dépêche, que le gérant du Consulat Britannique à Djeddah a adressée à Votre Excellence, et dont Elle a bien voulu me donner communication.

Comme de raison je me serais fait un plaisir d'envoyer une copie du dit rapport de Mr. Havre Droeze à Votre Excellence, si ce n'était que cette pièce se trouve être rédigée en hollandais. Cependant je joins à la présente une copie en langue anglaise d'une note que notre Consul a

adressée, de concert avec le gérant du Consulat Britannique à Djeddah, au Vali du Hedjaz dans le but de protester contre les abus en question.

Il me semble, d'après ce que votre Excellence m'a déjà dit à ce sujet, qu'en présence de l'action commune de nos Consulats respectifs à Djeddah, il serait utile que l'Ambassade d'Angleterre et la Légation des Pays Bas, fassent simultanément des démarches auprès de la Sublime Porte afin de faire cesser cet état de choses regrettable.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, l'assurance réitérée de ma plus haute considération.

O. VAN DE STAAL.

Son Excellence Sir P. Currie, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 4 in above.

Note from the Netherlands Consul at Jeddah to the Vali of Hedjaz.
Excellency,

I have the honour to request your Excellency's attention for the following question:—

By publication of 1 Shawwal 1311 (26th March 1894) the people of Mecca and Jeddah were informed in the Turkish, Arabic, and Malay languages, that it is the intention of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan that the pilgrims shall be free in the choice of the steamer for the home voyage, and that it is prohibited to any one to take illegal sums from them.

As to the choice of the steamer, this season the pilgrims indeed are free to make a choice, in so far as it is not influenced by the Sheikhs.

But in all cases the Sheikhs are still taking from all the pilgrims, fees, and even this year these fees are higher than usual.

Till now it was customary that the pilgrims paid to the Sheikhs each 7/ as a compensation for the trouble the Sheikhs had in serving them as guides, and providing them with several necessary wants.

As the Sheikhs had already rendered some services to the pilgrims before the publication of 1 Shawwal 1311, from a certain point of view, it is only reasonable that they should receive this year the usual fee of \$7. But the Sheikhs are taking this year \$12 Mexican from all the pilgrims who go to Singapore, and \$12 Djawa from those who go straight to Java.

It has been stated before me by pilgrims that Sjech Abdoellalif Pontinak took the passage money from them (\$30 Mexican) at Mecca, saying that if they did not pay at Mecca they would be obliged to wait very long at Jeddah for a steamer; and now they are already ten days here and no ship is taking them away.

Also I received complaints that Sjech Abbas Shabana took \$31 at Jeddah by intimidation, while the passage money is only \$19.

I take the liberty to state these cases before your Excellency, hoping that your Excellency will order the total execution of the Imperial publication of 1 Shawwal 1311, and make the Sjechs return to this Consulate the money which they already illegally have taken from the Djawa pilgrims.

I have, &c.,

DROEZE.

No. 2.

Foreign Office,

4th September 1894.

Sir,

With reference to the letter from this Office of the 20th ultimo, I am directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India in Council, copy of a despatch respecting the extortions practised on pilgrims to the Haj.

I am, &c.,

H. PERCY ANDERSON.

The Under Secretary of State
for India.

Enclosure in No. 2.

No. 17 (Commercial).

Jeddah,

My Lord,

13th August 1894.

In continuation of my Despatch No. 16, dated the 10th instant, I have the honour to forward the copy of a second despatch which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte regarding the illegal levying of money from Malay and Indian pilgrims, by order of the Grand Shereef of Mecca, and the demand which I have made for its refund.

I have, &c.,

ABDUR RAZZACK.

The Earl of Kimberley, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure in above.

No. 46.

Jeddah,

Sir,

13th August 1894.

With reference to my Despatch No. 41, dated 12th July 1894, I have the honour to report that the Vali has not yet sent any reply to my letter regarding the illegal levying of money from Malay and Indian pilgrims, and the demand which I have made for its refund, and for the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh or chiefs of the pilgrim conductors, Yousaf Kattan and Hassan Daood.

With regard to the latter, I may mention that he has been for sometime incarcerated in the prison which is in the Grand Shereef's house owing to his not having paid in and given a full account to His Highness of all the moneys which he has extorted from Indian pilgrims after the Haj.

But although the Grand Shereef has put Hassan Daood in prison for the reason stated above and not for his conduct towards the pilgrims, still the Sheikh of the camelmen received orders from His Highness not to give a single camel to any Indian pilgrim for coming down to Jeddah without a pass from Mohammed Misree, the agent of Hassan Daood, and when after the return of the pilgrims from Medina they began to come down to Jeddah with the intention of departing for their native land, Mohammed Misree ordered all the Sheikhs to take Rs. 10 from each Indian pilgrim although the camel hire was only Rs. 4.

On hearing about the above, I telegraphed to the Vali on the 3rd instant asking His Excellency to put a stop to this exaction of money from Indian pilgrims, and I had also the honour of reporting the same to your Excellency by telegraph on the 5th instant.

To the above telegram the Vali has also not given any answer up to date, and in the meantime the work of blackmailing the Indian pilgrims is going on.

Yesterday the Caimmakam paid me a visit and said that he had received a letter from the Vali directing him to inquire about the nature of my complaint regarding the five dollars levied from Malay pilgrims mentioned in my letter to His Excellency (Enclosure 2 of Despatch No. 41).

On this I related to the Caimmakam the whole history of the Malay pilgrim traffic as detailed in my despatch to Sir A. Nicolson, No. 22, dated 25th August 1893, and the share which the Grand Shereef and successive Valis have had in the profits, but at the end I gave him plainly to understand the uselessness of his or the Vali's trying to overreach me by artful questionings, as I had been eleven years in this country, and as a Mohammedan knew all the phases of the pilgrimage, while as a Consular Officer I was fully aware of the ins and outs of both the Malay and the Indian pilgrim traffics and the existing abuses, and unless I could be shown that the Grand Shereef had any right, either according to the Civil (Nizam) or religious (Shara) laws of the Turkish Empire to levy a poll tax on each pilgrim, I must have the refund of the money taken under false pretences from Malay and Indian pilgrims, British subjects.

The Caimmakam agreed with me thoroughly regarding the injustice of the proceedings of the Grand Shereef and the venality of previous Valis, but took his leave promising nothing as he is totally powerless to do anything in the matter.

To-day I have been informed that the Vali Hassan Hilme Bey is making inquiries regarding all the points about which I have complained, and is, perhaps, disposed to take a view of the case opposite to that of the Grand Shereef, and therefore I beg most respectfully to state that at this juncture it is very necessary to put pressure upon the Porte for ordering an immediate refund of the money, which I have demanded from those who have taken it from the pilgrims, whether it be the Grand Shereef or his underlings the Sheikhs, and the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh according to the tenor of the Sultan's proclamations, in order to show that British subjects must not be robbed and plundered with impunity even in Mecca, and that they shall be protected wherever they go, as there is an impression prevailing in Jeddah and at Mecca that the British and all other Foreign Governments are powerless to protect their subjects at the latter place and that the Grand Shreef can do just as he likes.

I have, &c.,

ABDUR RAZZACK.

The Right Hon. Sir Philip Currie, G. C. B.,
&c., &c., &c.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received information that the Vali is a creature of Ali Bey, the 1st Chamberlain of the Sultan, who is a great friend and supporter of the Grand Shereef, and that the inquiry which the Vali is carrying on regarding the illegal levying of money from Malay and Indian pilgrims is simply an outward show, while secretly he is hand and glove with the Grand Shereef from whom the Sheikhs and pilgrim conductors have secretly received strict orders not to mention His Highness's name but to take the responsibility on their own heads, and plead the depression in the value of money and the dearness of the necessities of life in Jeddah and Mecca as an excuse for having levied such large sums of money about which the complaint has been made by the British and Dutch Consulates.

ABDUR RAZZACK.

16th August 1894.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

Telegram, 5th August 1894.

British Ambassador, Therapia.

My despatch No. 41. Vali has not yet replied to my letter. Ten rupees are being taken by order of Grand Shereef from Indian pilgrims as camel hire from Mecca to Jeddah, while it is actually Rs. 4.

RAZZACK.

10

Handwritten notes at top left

Handwritten notes in the middle left

Handwritten notes in the middle left

Handwritten notes in the middle left

Handwritten notes in the middle left

Handwritten notes in the middle left

Handwritten notes in the middle left

No. 206



Secretary to the Government of India.

Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Home Department.
(Sanitary)

No. 206

Sir,

Sir,

I am directed to forward to you accompanying copy of a Despatch from His Majesty's Secretary of State No. 129 dated the 13th September 1894, and with reference to the suggestion contained in the letter from the English Foreign Office to the India Office of the 20th August 1894, to request that with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council arrangements be made for taking the statements of the pilgrims on their return to Madras, and to arrange their treatment to the extent of the facilities and arrangements at Mecca and Medina. The information obtained should be forwarded to this Office for transmission to the Secretary of State.

Your most obedient Servant,

H. Lush.

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Pub. Dept.

H.M.
Order

216th Nov 1894 N^o 869

7 P

From
Govt of India
Home Dept

No 306

Recd 31/10/94
Recd 6/11
Repd 6/11

Encls 1 & 75c
25 Encls Anantapur 8
Gorakhpur 8
Tanjore 8
Malabar 8
Kannur 8
Bekal 8
Subject Police, Madras 6

Forwarding a copy of a despatch from H. M. Secy of State No 129 of 13/9/94, with ref. to letter from the English Foreign Office to the India Office of 20/8/94, arrangements may be made for taking the statements of the pilgrims on their return from the Haj as to their treatment by the Turkish authorities & Sheikhs at Mecca & Jeddah.

Comm. to the Dist:
Magtes: of Anantapur,
South Canara, Tanjore,
Malabar, Kurnool and
Bellary and to the
Comm. of Police, Madras,
for the requisite action
The statements shd
be submitted to Govt.

4813
Sept 29/94
8/11
9/11/94

Why are these districts included? Is there any special pilgrimage thence to Mecca?

10/11/94

The Hon. Member's attention is invited to G.O.s of 14.12.91, No. 1030, and of 24.12.92, No. 896, which show that passports to pilgrims were issued in those districts in 1891 and 1892. South Canara also appears in the return for 1893. vide G.O. 20.12.93, No. 1025.

16TH NOVEMBER 1894, No. 869, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From H. LUSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Sanitary), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 31st October 1894, No. 306.

I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 129, dated the 13th September 1894, and, with reference to the suggestion contained in the letter from the English Foreign Office to the India Office of the 20th August 1894, to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, arrangements may be made for taking the statements of the pilgrims on their return from the Haj next year as to their treatment by the Turkish authorities and Sheikhs at Mecca and Jeddah. The information obtained should be forwarded to this office for transmission to the Secretary of State.

ENCLOSURES.

Despatch from the Right Hon'ble Mr. H. H. FOWLER, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 13th September 1894, No. 129, Revenue.

In continuation of my despatch in this department, No. 115, dated 16th August last, I forward, for the information of your Excellency's Government and for such action as you may deem advisable, copy of further letters from the Foreign Office, dated 20th August and 4th September last, in regard to the extortions practised upon pilgrims returning from Mecca to the East.

No. 1.

SIR,

FOREIGN OFFICE,
20th August 1894.

I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to transmit herewith, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Fowler, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople on the subject of the illegal extortions practised on Malay and Indian pilgrims returning from Mecca, and I am to suggest, for the consideration of the India Office, whether it would not be well that arrangements should be made next year for taking the statements of the pilgrims, if necessary, on their return from the Haj.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) E. GREY.

The Under Secretary of State, India Office.

Enclosure in No. 1.

No. 67, Commercial.

MY LORD,

THERAPIA,
8th August 1894.

I have the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Jeddah reporting the illegal extortions which are being practised on the Malay and Indian pilgrims returning from Mecca.

A memorandum of the chief facts in this despatch has been prepared and will be handed to the Grand Vizier by Mr. Block.

As the Dutch Minister is also interested in this subject, I communicated to him Dr. Razzack's despatch, and I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter I received from Mr. Van de Staal sending me a copy of a note addressed by the Dutch Consul at Jeddah, in concert with Her Majesty's Acting Consul, to the Vali of the Hedjaz, protesting against these exactions.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) PHILIP CURRIE.

The Earl of Kimberley, K.G.,
&c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1 in above.

No. 41.
SIR,

JEDDAH,
12th July 1894.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that there has been a continuation of the same tactics which had been in vogue in past years with reference to the booking of Malay pilgrims.

No attempt has been made, it is true, to detain these Malay pilgrims at Mecca, because this year there are no competitors for the monopoly, but the system still runs in the same groove, and the poor pilgrims have to pay the same amount of passage-money to the Sheikh as usual; for although the shipping agents charge only Mexican \$20 for Singapore, and Rix \$25 for Java, yet the pilgrims have paid to the Sheikhs \$32 Mexican for Singapore and \$37 Rix for passage to Java.

In spite of the notices issued in the name of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, by which the post of Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh or Chief Sheikh of the Java or Malay pilgrims was abolished and perfect freedom promised to the pilgrims both in the hiring of camels and in the engaging of passages by steamers, the office of Sheikh of Mashaiekh of the Java and Malay pilgrims was renewed by the Grand Shereef in the person of Yousaf Kattan, and Hassan Daood was appointed Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of the Indian pilgrims, as reported to your Excellency by Mr. Consul Richards in his despatch, No. 32, Confidential, dated 6th June 1894.

Backed and supported by the Grand Shereef, Yousaf Kattan has left nothing undone to place the Malay pilgrims in the same way as in past years, for the benefit of the Grand Shereef and his co-adjutors, and Hassan Daood has adopted the same course, but much more brutally, towards the pilgrims from India.

Although no actual personal restraint has been used, yet the way in which the Indians have been dealt with this year has had no parallel before, and so absolute has been the power granted to Hassan Daood by the Grand Shereef, that his tyrannical conduct and high-handed proceedings have called forth loud complaints even from the Sheikhs or pilgrim guides themselves.

Convinced of the necessity of making a determined effort for saving the pilgrims, British subjects still remaining in this country and those who are already arriving for the next Haj, from the clutches of the above two myrmidons of the Grand Shereef, I have taken advantage of the wording of the notices issued in the name of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, both before and after the Haj, and have addressed a letter to the Vali (copy enclosed) requesting the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh according to the tenor of the Imperial notices, and demanding the return of the money which these two gentlemen have mulcted from British subjects, both Malay and Indians.

I humbly hope that the course I have followed will meet with your Excellency's approval and steps taken to enforce the demand which I have already made.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ABDUR RAZZACK.

His Excellency Sir Philip Currie, G.C.B.,
&c., &c.

Enclosure 2 in above.

No. 31.

JEDDAH,
11th July 1894.

EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to draw your Excellency's attention to the following points:—

By the notices dated 1st Shawwal 1311 (26th March 1894) which were posted up at Mecca and Jeddah twice, once before and a second time after the Haj, every one was informed that His Imperial Majesty the Sultan had, with the object of giving perfect freedom to all pilgrims, and especially the Malay pilgrims, abolished the post of Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh, and that the pilgrims were at liberty to hire their camels for Medina and to go by any steamer just as they liked.

Notwithstanding the above notices issued in the name of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, Yousaf Kattan was appointed Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of Java or Malay pilgrims, and Hassan Daood as Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of Indian pilgrims.

The same system of extortion which was carried out against Java or Malay pilgrims in former years has been again used by Yousaf Kattan against them this year, and the Indian pilgrims have also been dealt with in the same way by Hassan Daood.

The camel hire to Medina taken from Malay pilgrims this year before the Haj was \$25 Mejidde, and from Indian pilgrims Rs. 75, out of which the camel men received only \$12 Mejidde and Rs. 36 respectively; the rest of the money, with the exception of one dollar, which is taken as Government tax, has been divided among certain parties which your Excellency can find out if proper steps are taken for making a strict inquiry.

The camel hire from Mecca to Medina after the Haj in spite of the Imperial notices has been even more, namely \$28 Mejidde, of which less than half were given to the camel men and the remainder divided as already mentioned.

The same thing has happened with regard to the camel hire from Mecca to Djeddah; Malays were charged \$5 Mexican and Indian Rs. 10, out of which the camel men received only \$2 Mexican and Rs. 4 respectively.

In the booking of Java or Malay pilgrims this year the shipping agents have received only Mexican \$20 for Singapore and Javanese \$25 for Java as passage money, while the pilgrims have paid \$32 Mexican and \$37 Java respectively.

Out of the remaining \$12, the Sheikh has taken \$7 and Yousaf Kattan \$5, besides what he gets in the shape of a fee as Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh.

These \$5 were taken by Yousaf Kattan at first in Jeddah, but it is now being taken in Mecca where every sheikh is obliged to give a sanad to Yousaf Kattan at \$5 per head for each pilgrim, before his pilgrims can come down.

I have laid before your Excellency the above facts just as they have occurred in the hope that your Excellency will take strong steps for enforcing and fully carrying out the object with which the Imperial notices were issued, and in accordance with which I respectfully demand the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of the Java or Malay pilgrims and of the Sheikh-el-Mashaiekh of the Indian pilgrims, and the return of the money to this consulate which has been illegally taken from British subjects, both Malay and Indian pilgrims, as detailed above.

In conclusion I beg to inform your Excellency that all Malay pilgrims who are not Dutch subjects are British subjects.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ABDUR RAZZACK.

The Vali of Hedjaz.

Enclosure 3 in above.

LEGATION DES PAYS BAS,
THESSALONIQUE, le 7 Août 1894.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,

En me référant à l'entretien que j'ai l'honneur d'avoir aujourd'hui avec Votre Excellence, concernant la manière dont les autorités locales au Hedjaz continuent cette année encore à soutirer de l'argent aux pèlerins se rendant à la Mecque, je m'empresse de lui faire savoir que je viens de recevoir du Consul des Pays Bas à Djeddah un rapport confirmant en tout point les renseignements contenus dans la dépêche, que le gérant du Consulat Britannique à Djeddah a adressée à Votre Excellence, et dont elle a bien voulu me donner communication.

Comme de raison je me serais fait un plaisir d'envoyer une copie du dit rapport de Mr. Havre Droeze à Votre Excellence, si ce n'était que cette pièce se trouve être rédigée en hollandais. Cependant je joins à la présente une copie en langue anglaise d'une note que notre Consul a adressée, de concert avec le gérant du Consulat Britannique à Djeddah, au Vali du Hedjaz dans le but de protester contre les abus en question.

Il me semble, d'après ce que votre Excellence m'a déjà dit à ce sujet, qu'en présence de l'action commune de nos Consulats respectifs à Djeddah, il serait utile que l'Ambassade d'Angleterre et la Légation des Pays Bas, fassent simultanément des démarches auprès de la Sublime Porte afin de faire cesser cet état de choses regrettable.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, l'assurance réitérée de ma plus haute considération.

(Signé) O. VAN DE STAAL.

Son Excellence Sir P. Currie, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 4 in above.

NOTE from the Netherlands Consul at Jeddah to the Vali of Hedjaz.

EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to request your Excellency's attention for the following question:—

By publication of 1 Shawwal 1311 (26th March 1894) the people of Mecca and Jeddah were informed in the Turkish, Arabic and Malay languages, that it is the intention of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan that the pilgrims shall be free in the choice of the steamer for the home voyage and that it is prohibited to any one to take illegal sums from them.

As to the choice of the steamer, this season the pilgrims indeed are free to make a choice, in so far as it is not influenced by the Sheikhs.

But in all cases the Sheikhs are still taking from all the pilgrims fees, and even this year these fees are higher than usual.

Till now it was customary that the pilgrims paid to the Sheikhs each 7½ as a compensation for the trouble the Sheikhs had in serving them as guides, and providing them with several necessary wants.

As the Sheikhs had already rendered some services to the pilgrims before the publication of 1 Shawwal 1311, from a certain point of view, it is only reasonable that they should receive this year the usual fee of \$7. But the Sheikhs are taking this year \$12 Mexican from all the pilgrims who go to Singapore and \$12 Djawa from those who go straight to Java.

It has been stated before me by pilgrims that Sjech Abdoellalif Pontinak took the passage money from them (\$30 Mexican) at Mecca, saying that if they did not pay at Mecca they would be obliged to wait very long at Jeddah for a steamer; and now they are already ten days here and no ship is taking them away.

Also I received complaints that Sjech Abbas Shabana took \$31 at Jeddah by intimidation, while the passage money is only \$19.

I take the liberty to state these cases before your Excellency, hoping that your Excellency will order the total execution of the Imperial publication of 1 Shawwal 1311, and make the Sjechs return to this Consulate the money which they already illegally have taken from the Djawa pilgrims.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) DROEZE.

No. 2.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
4th September 1894.

SIR,

With reference to the letter from this office of the 20th ultimo, I am directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India in Council, copy of a despatch respecting the extortions practised on pilgrims to the Haj.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. P. ANDERSON.

The Under Secretary of State for India.

Enclosure in No. 2.

No. 17 (Commercial).

JEDDAH,
13th August 1894.

MY LORD,

In continuation of my despatch, No. 16, dated the 10th instant, I have the honour to forward the copy of a second despatch which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte regarding the illegal levying of money from Malay and Indian pilgrims, by order of the Grand Shereef of Mecca, and the demand which I have made for its refund.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ABDUR RAZZACK.

The Earl of Kimberley, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure in above.

No. 46.

SIR,

JEDDAH,
13th August 1894.

With reference to my despatch No. 41, dated 12th July 1894, I have the honour to report that the Vali has not yet sent any reply to my letter regarding the illegal levying of money from Malay and Indian pilgrims, and the demand which I have made for its refund and for the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaieks or chiefs of the pilgrim conductors, Yousaf Kattan and Hassan Daood.

With regard to the latter, I may mention that he has been for some time incarcerated in the prison which is in the Grand Shereef's house owing to his not having paid in and given a full account to His Highness of all the moneys which he has extorted from Indian pilgrims after the Haj.

But although the Grand Shereef has put Hassan Daood in prison for the reason stated above and not for his conduct towards the pilgrims, still the Sheikh of the camel-men received orders from His Highness not to give a single camel to any Indian pilgrim for coming down to Jeddah without a pass from Mohammed Misree, the agent of Hassan Daood, and when after the return of the pilgrims from Medina they began to come down to Jeddah with the intention of departing for their native land, Mohammed Misree ordered all the Sheikhs to take Rs. 10 from each Indian pilgrim although the camel hire was only Rs. 4.

On hearing about the above, I telegraphed to the Vali on the 3rd instant asking His Excellency to put a stop to this exaction of money from Indian pilgrims, and I had also the honour of reporting the same to your Excellency by telegraph on the 5th instant.

To the above telegram the Vali has also not given any answer up to date, and in the meantime the work of blackmailing the Indian pilgrims is going on.

Yesterday the Caimmakam paid me a visit and said that he had received a letter from the Vali directing him to inquire about the nature of my complaint regarding the five dollars levied from Malay pilgrims mentioned in my letter to His Excellency (enclosure 2 of despatch No. 41).

On this I related to the Caimmakam the whole history of the Malay pilgrim traffic as detailed in my despatch to Sir A. Nicolson, No. 22, dated 25th August 1893, and the share which the Grand Shereef and successive Valis have had in the profits, but at the end I gave him plainly to understand the uselessness of his or the Vali's trying to overreach me by artful questionings, as I had been eleven years in this country, and as a Muhammadan knew all the phases of the pilgrimage, while as a Consular Officer I was fully aware of the ins and outs of both the Malay and the Indian pilgrim traffics and the existing abuses, and unless I could be shown that the Grand Shereef had any right, either according to the Civil (Nizam) or religious (Shara) laws of the Turkish Empire, to levy a poll-tax on each pilgrim, I must have the refund of the money taken under false pretences from Malay and Indian pilgrims, British subjects.

The Caimmakam agreed with me thoroughly regarding the injustice of the proceedings of the Grand Shereef and the venality of previous Valis, but took his leave promising nothing as he is totally powerless to do anything in the matter.

To-day I have been informed that the Vali Hassan Hilmeo Bey is making inquiries regarding all the points about which I have complained, and is, perhaps, disposed to take a view of the case opposite to that of the Grand Shereef, and therefore I beg most respectfully to state that at this juncture it is very necessary to put pressure upon the Porte for ordering an immediate refund of the money, which I have demanded from those who have taken it from the pilgrims, whether it be the Grand Shereef or his underlings the Sheikhs, and the dismissal of the Sheikh-el-Mashaieks according to the tenor of the Sultan's proclamations, in order to show that British subjects must not be robbed and plundered with impunity even in Mecca, and that they shall be protected wherever they go, as there is an impression prevailing in Jeddah and at Mecca that the British and all other Foreign Governments are powerless to protect their subjects at the latter place and that the Grand Shereef can do just as he likes.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ABDUR RAZZACK.

The Right Hon'ble Sir Philip Currie, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received information that the Vali is a creature of Ali Bey, the 1st Chamberlain of the Sultan, who is a great friend and supporter of the Grand Shereef, and that the inquiry which the Vali is carrying on regarding the illegal levying of money from Malay and Indian pilgrims is simply an outward show, while secretly he is hand and glove with the Grand Shereef from whom the Sheikhs and pilgrim conductors have secretly received strict orders not to mention His Highness' name but to take the responsibility on their

own heads, and plead the depression in the value of money and the dearness of the necessities of life in Jeddah and Mecca as an excuse for having levied such large sums of money about which the complaint has been made by the British and Dutch Consulates.

16th August 1894.

(Signed) ABDUR RAZZACK.

Sub-Enclosure 1.

TELEGRAM to the British Ambassador, Therapia, dated 5th August 1894.

My despatch No. 41. Vali has not yet replied to my letter. Ten rupees are being taken by order of Grand Shereef from Indian pilgrims as camel hire from Mecca to Jedda, while it is actually Rs. 4.

RAZZACK.

ORDER—dated 16th November 1894, No. 869, Public.

Communicated to the District Magistrates of Anantapur, South Canara, Tanjore, Malabar, Kurnool and Bellary and to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, for the requisite action.

2. The statements should be submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the District Magistrate, Anantapur. 32-89
 " " " " South Canara.
 " " " " Tanjore.
 " " " " Malabar.
 3362 - " " " " Kurnool.
 " " " " Bellary.
 " - Commissioner of Police, Madras.

Gobt. of {1894} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th Nov. 1894, No. 869.

NOVEMBER.

Treatment of Muhammadan
Pilgrims.

Communicating to certain officers letter from the Government of India requesting that statements may be taken from pilgrims on their return from the Haj next year as to their treatment by the Turkish authorities and Sheikhs at Mecca and Jeddah.



Back Paper, No.

of 18

HEAD AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED

1st, No.

Number Paper, No.

2899

of 1895

3205 of 95

3682 of 96

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No

3229

STATEMENT WITH OFFICER.

ORDER, E.C., OF GOVERNMENT - A.

PAPERS KEPT OUT OF FILE FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL
(not paged).

NUMBER OF COPIES
REQUIRED.

Order complete. 70.
Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.
R = Print, but not for monthly volume.

18-8-11
11-9-13
17-4-15

ORDINARY, PRINTED:

Pub. DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 16th Nov 1894
No. 839

INDEXED.

First copy sent to Press. 16/11

Returned for signature. 27/11

Despatched in print. 29-11



[Despatch Abstract.]

Muhammad Ali
Treatment of Pilgrims

Comm^d to certain officers
letters from the Govt of
India reporting that
statements may be
taken from pilgrims
on their return from
the Haj next year as
to their treatment by
the Turkish authorities
and Sherks at Mecca
and Jeddah.

18-8-11
11-9-13

India Office,
London, 13th September 1894.

Revenue,
No. 129.

To His Excellency The Right Honourable The Governor General of
India in Council.

MY LORD,

In continuation of my Despatch in this Department, No. 115, dated 16th August last, I forward, for the information of your Excellency's Government and for such action as you may deem advisable, copy of further letters from the Foreign Office dated 20th August and 4th September last, in regard to the extor-
tions practised upon pilgrims returning from Mecca to the East.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY H. FOWLER.