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C O N S T A N T I N O P L E

April 28th, 1898.

No. 267.

My Lord:-

In reply to Your Lordship's despatch No. 89 respecting the facilities desired by Messieurs Anderson and Crowfoot, I have the honour to state that I see no prospect of inducing the Sublime Porte to send orders to the provincial authorities for the issue of buyurulduş to these gentlemen.

The attitude of the Sultan and the Ottoman Government towards British travellers is illustrated by the following incident. Mr. de Bunsen and Mr. Wyndham, desiring to travel by rail to Kara Hissar and thence to Smyrna, requested letters of recommendation to the local authorities. Not only were these letters refused, but Tevfik Pasha stated that orders had been issued that no tezkereş (internal passports) should

The Marquess of Salisbury. K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.,



should be issued for the interior of Anatolia. Mr. de Bunsen and Mr. Wyndham accordingly left without any of the papers required of travellers. I warned Tevfik Pasha that the Sublime Porte would be held responsible for any obstacles which might be put in their way, and I believe that they are at present executing their journey without difficulty, but, if Secretaries of Embassy meet with such a refusal, it is not likely that ordinary travellers will be more successful.

If Messieurs Anderson and Crowfoot come to Constantinople, I will do all that I can to facilitate their journey. We can insist on the right of British subjects to travel in every part of the Empire, and I think it probable that the Consuls in the different vilayets will be able to obtain from the local authorities, if not a buyuruldu, at any rate orders which will allow Messieurs Anderson and Crowfoot to move freely in the districts which they desire to examine; I do not think they need

apprehend.

apprehend any difficulty in obtaining the services of
a Zaptie . On the contrary, it may be regarded as
quite certain that they will not be allowed to travel
anywhere without one or more of these officials.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) Philip Currie.

Mr. Chamblin.