

very slight extent from the fire of the ships on the 11th instant.

I have, &c.,

F. BEAUCHAMP SEYMOUR,

Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Schedule of Enclosures in Mediterranean Letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty, No. 655, of 19th July, 1882 :—

1. 9th July, from Lieutenant H. T. Smith-Dorrien, H.M.S. "Invincible," to Commander-in-Chief—Declaration that he saw two guns being placed in position at Fort Silsili.

2. 10th July, from Commander-in-Chief to Military Commandant, Alexandria—Acquainting him that forts will be bombarded unless temporarily surrendered before sunrise on the 11th.

3. 10th July, from Minister of Foreign Affairs to Commander-in-Chief—Offering to dismount three guns.

4. 11th July, from Commander-in-Chief to His Excellency Ragheb Pasha—Regretting proposal cannot be accepted.

5. 12th July, from Commander-in-Chief to Flag Lieutenant—Instructions on going into Alexandria to ascertain reason of white flag being hoisted.

6. 12th July, from Flag Lieutenant to Commander-in-Chief—Report of result of interview with officials.

Enclosure 1 in Mediterranean Letter No. 655 of 1882.

I, Lieutenant Henry Theophilus Smith-Dorrien, do most solemnly declare that, on the 9th day of July, 1882, at about 7.30 A.M., I drove through the Rosetta Gate, and, passing the European Cemeteries, reached the old Quarantine Station, where I left my carriage and proceeded on foot to the fort marked on Admiralty Chart "Tabia-el-Silsili," and when, within fifty yards of the said fort, I observed inside two working parties of Arabs, about 200 strong, under the superintendence of soldiers, parbuckling two smooth bore guns, apparently 32-pounders, towards their respective carriages and slides, which were facing in the direction of the harbour, and which seemed to have been lately placed ready for their reception.—Dated at Alexandria, this 9th day of July, 1882.

H. T. SMITH-DORRIEN,

Lieutenant, R.N., H.M.S. "Invincible."

Enclosure 2 in Mediterranean Letter No. 655 of 1882.

"Invincible," at Alexandria,

July 10, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that as hostile preparations, evidently directed against the squadron under my command, were in progress during yesterday at Forts Tsale, Pharos, and Silsili, I shall carry out the intention expressed to you in my letter of the 6th instant, at sunrise to-morrow, the 11th instant, unless, previous to that hour, you shall have temporarily surrendered to me, for the purpose of dismantling the batteries on the Isthmus of Ras-el-Teen and on the southern shore of the harbour of Alexandria.

I have, &c.,

F. BEAUCHAMP SEYMOUR,

Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To His Excellency the Military Commander of Alexandria.

Enclosure 3 in Mediterranean Letter No. 655 of 1882.

Alexandrie, le 10 Juillet, 1882.

MONSIEUR L'AMIRAL,

Ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous le promettre dans l'entretien que j'ai eu ce matin avec vous, j'ai soumis à S. A. le Khédive, dans une réunion composée des Ministres et des principaux dignitaires de l'état, les conditions contenues dans la lettre que vous avez bien voulu adresser ce matin même au Commandant de la Place, et aux termes de laquelle vous annoncez que vous mettez à exécution, demain 11 courant, à l'aube, les intentions exprimées dans votre lettre au Commandant de la Place, en date du 6 de ce mois, si, avant ce délai, les batteries sur l'Isthme de Ras-el-Tin et le rivage sud du Port d'Alexandrie ne vous sont temporairement rendues pour être désarmées.

J'ai le regret de vous annoncer, Monsieur l'Amiral, que le Gouvernement de Son Altesse considère cette proposition comme inacceptable. Je ne désire aucunement altérer les bonnes relations avec la Grande Bretagne, mais il ne saurait reconnaître avoir pris aucune mesure qui puisse être considérée comme une menace contre la flotte Anglaise, soit par des travaux, soit par la mise en place de nouvelles pièces de canon, ou autres préparatifs militaires.

Toutefois, comme preuve de notre esprit de conciliation et de notre désir de donner satisfaction, en une certaine mesure, à votre demande, nous serions disposés à faire démonter trois canons sur les batteries que vous avez indiquées, soit isolément soit ensemble.

Si, malgré cette offre, vous persistiez à ouvrir le feu, le Gouvernement fait ses réserves et vous laisse la responsabilité de cet acte d'agression.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur l'Amiral, les assurances de ma haute considération.

Le Président du Conseil et Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

Scali

Sir Beauchamp Seymour, Amiral et Commandant-en-Chef des Forces Navales de Sa Majesté Britannique dans la Méditerranée, Alexandrie.

Enclosure 4 in Mediterranean Letter No. 655 of 1882.

"Invincible," off Alexandria,

July 11, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, and regret that I am unable to accept the proposal contained therein.

I have, &c.,

F. BEAUCHAMP SEYMOUR,

Commander-in-Chief of the British Naval Forces, Mediterranean.

To His Excellency Ragheb Pasha

Enclosure 5 in Mediterranean Letter No. 655 of 1882.

"Invincible," off the Boghaz of Alexandria,

MEMORANDUM.

July 12, 1882.

YOU will proceed into Alexandria Harbour in the "Bittern," and ascertain the reason of the white flag being hoisted at the flag staff near Ras-el-Teen Lighthouse shortly after the fire of the "Inflexible" and "Téméraire" was opened on the batteries this morning at 10.45.

In the event of its being proposed by the de facto rulers of Egypt to treat, you will say that