



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1883.

Foreign Office, November 15, 1883.

CORRESPONDENCE relating to the Reduction of the British Force in Egypt:—

No. 1.

Sir E. Baring to Earl Granville.

My LORD, *Cairo, October 9, 1883.*

I HAVE the honour to reply to your Lordship's Despatch of the 6th September.

In that Despatch your Lordship observes, with reference to Chérif Pasha's suggestion that the time had come for a further reduction of the British force in Egypt, that "Her Majesty's Government entirely concur in the desire to reduce the force as far as is consistent with the preservation of order;" and your Lordship instructs me to consult the military authorities, and to report fully on the subject.

Since my arrival in Egypt, about a month ago, the important question upon which your Lordship has invited my opinion has engaged my constant attention, and I am now in a position to report to your Lordship the conclusions at which I have arrived. The only practical points to be considered for the moment are—

1. Is it safe to withdraw the British garrison from Cairo?

2. To what extent is it consistent with the preservation of public order that the total British force in Egypt should be reduced?

As regards the first question, I am of opinion that the British garrison at Cairo may be with safety withdrawn.

As regards the second question, I am of opinion, after consultation with General Stephenson, that the total force in Egypt, which consists at present of about 6,700 men, may be reduced to three battalions of infantry, one battery of field artillery, one battery of garrison artillery, and one company of engineers, making a total of about 3,000 men and 6 guns.

I agree with General Stephenson in thinking that this force should be concentrated at Alexandria. General Stephenson has informed me that a small expenditure of money will permit of barrack accommodation for this number of men being provided at Alexandria.

Should Her Majesty's Government be pleased to approve of the proposals which I have now the honour to make, the British force in Egypt will be amply sufficient to preserve order in Alexandria, and to maintain the honour of Her Majesty's arms against any force that it may be supposed, with any reasonable degree of probability, it may have to encounter.

Moreover, the moral effect produced by the presence of this force, or even, indeed, of a force considerably smaller than that proposed, will of itself, in all probability, suffice to insure the tranquillity of the country. It should, however, be clearly understood that the main responsibility for preserving order throughout Egypt will devolve on the Egyptian Government. I trust that they may rely upon the full moral support of Her Majesty's Government in the execution of that task.

I have, &c.,

E. BARING.

No. 2.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Baring.

SIR, *Foreign Office, November 1, 1883.*

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your Despatch of the 9th ultimo, informing me of the conclusions at which, after consultation with the General Officer in command of Her Majesty's troops, you have arrived with regard to the suggestion of Chérif Pasha for a further reduction of the British force in Egypt.

Her Majesty's Government approve your recommendations, and by the Queen's command I have requested Her Majesty's Secretary of State for War to give directions to carry out the reduction of the force recommended by you, and to concentrate the 3,000 men, who will still remain, at Alexandria.

The British garrison being thus withdrawn from Cairo, the main responsibility for preserving order throughout Egypt will, as you point out, devolve upon the Government of the Khedive, and in the execution of that task they may rely upon the full moral support of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.,

GRANVILLE.

(FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.)

AT the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 14th day of November, 1883.

By Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

THE Lords and others of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in them vested under The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1878, and of every other power enabling them in this behalf, do order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:

1. The following Area (namely),—the whole of the borough of Ruthin, in the county of Denbigh,