

TUNIS.

TUNIS, JULY 14.

The French papers, in referring to the pawn-broking establishment about which I have telegraphed, state that the concession was granted in 1879. This is only partially correct. In 1879 such a concession was applied for, and it was attempted to include in it the right to sell pawned objects which may not be redeemed without proceeding against the owners through their respective authorities, which it has hitherto been necessary to do. This privilege was not then granted, owing to the Italians having objected, but the concession, as granted in 1879, was without value and was not carried out. Since the Treaty of May 12, the concession has been confirmed, and a clause has been added authorizing the establishment to dispose of ~~pawned articles~~ ~~independently~~ of the authorities. These privileges have been granted with exclusive rights for 50 years, and the concession has now a real value.

M. Roustan formally denies having interfered in the sale of the property belonging to a British subject; but though he may find it expedient to give an official denial, there is no doubt that he gave the purchasers to understand that, in consequence of the Treaty of May 12, he was not aware how the transfer of property in this country would be treated for the future, and expressed his doubts as to the validity of such a purchase. Papers exist which prove that at the instigation of M. Roustan the intending purchasers were referred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris for a decision on this point, and that the sale was thwarted by this interference.

Mr. Reade has lately communicated direct with M. Roustan on matters which would formerly have been treated by the Tunisian Government, and it is understood that Mr. Reade must have received fresh instructions to that effect.

M. Roustan does not any longer sign as French Minister-Resident, but as French Resident, and his official documents are headed "French Residence." It is stated that the Bona-Guelma Railway Company are studying a project for direct railway communication from Algiers to Cairo, passing by Tunis, Susa, Cebes, and Tripoli.

Her Majesty's ship Iris arrived here last night.

To-day the principal streets of the town are beautifully decorated, and all the population is *en fête*. The French gun-vessel *Goletta* fired a salute, which was returned from the fort on shore. From an early hour this morning the French Residence has been crowded with visitors. Large numbers of Tunisian soldiers and guards have been distributed all over the town.

The Maliki Court has issued a summons calling on Mr. Levy to appear for his defence in the Enfida question. Mr. Levy is absent, but I understand that his intention is merely to appear for the purpose of protesting against the illegal transfer of the case from the Hanefi to the Maliki Court. I have seen an official decree which was made out last year by the Cadis of both courts, in which they declare the incompetency of the Maliki Court to judge a case of pre-emption if the claim is originally made out in the Hanefi Court. This applies in every respect to Mr. Levy's affair.

PARIS, JULY 14.

At Tunis on Tuesday there was a squabble between Tunisian soldiers and French Algerians styled Jeridias. The former, who had been brought back from Sfax on account of their hostility to the French, insulted the Jeridias. Two Jeridias were wounded, and, but for the arrival of gendarmes and Janissaries, the quarrel would have had disquieting proportions. It is considered, says the *Temps* correspondent, a very bad symptom, indicating the necessity of precautions. At least 3,000 men, he adds, are required at Manouba to occupy the town and repress any disturbance should such occur. The Oran General Council has resolved, notwithstanding the protests of the Prefect, on appointing a Committee to inquire into recent events and into the sufficiency of the troops for guaranteeing the Tell against what was described as a latent insurrection, a term to which the Prefect objected, insisting that all was quite safe. Assassination and incendiarism are reported from various points of the Tell. Bou Amema's movements are still a mystery. The six Spanish prisoners ransomed by an Algerian chief—the French authorities will not negotiate with him direct, as this would be recognizing him as a belligerent—report that he has still 22 prisoners, six of them women. Thirteen men and two women are with him in his present march, while three men and two women are left in the Trafis encampment.

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