

JOURNAL DE TOULOUSE

POLITIQUE ET LITTÉRAIRE

ABONNEMENTS

TOULOUSE (Vill.) (Ea 12, 45 fr. — RT 100, 24 fr. — 1 an, 10 fr. 14 fr.)
 DÉPARTS... — 80 fr. — 80 fr. — 14 fr.

ADMINISTRATION ET RÉDACTION : RUE SAINT-ROME 42.

Toulouse, Impr. SCOLASTICQUE PRIVÉE.

ANNONCES

Les Annonces sont reçues à la Direction générale des Annonces HAVAS, LAFFITE et C^o.
 A Toulouse, rue d'Alsace-Lorraine, 42. — A Paris, place St Louis, 9.

Journal de Toulouse

July 23, 1881

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Tunis, July 20, 1:56, morning.

In Sfax, for some days, the inhabitants hidden in the houses had been firing at our soldiers. They were dug out everywhere, and on several occasions the Sfaxien fanatics let themselves be killed rather than surrendering.

The opinions from Kerouan is that the Zlass await our troops and are preparing to fight them. They call upon all the tribes. The chiefs of the tribes that are still faithful do not know what to do; they are frightened and would like to see the French coming to their assistance by occupying the Sahel ('coast').

We know unfortunately that the instigation of the revolt does not come only from Ben-Khalifa. Even in Sousse, M. Venanzi, the vice-consul of Italy, and an Italian named Cadelli, the director of finances (i.e. incomes owed to the financial commission for payment of the interest on the National Debt), speak a language likely to encourage the indigenous populations in their error and to produce serious consequences.

We will have to occupy Sousse if we want to prevent the scenes of Sfax from being reproduced there.

In Tunis, the news of the taking of Sfax has had an excellent effect, but in the countryside one remains under the influence of the fear caused by the incursions of the marauders. They pillage

the caravans and there is no longer any security.

Tunis, July 19.

The French troops having strongly established their situation in Sfax, colonel Jamais left in this city two of the battalions which compose its infantry and gunnery regiment. These troops are under the command of a lieutenant-colonel.

With the two other battalions and a half battery of 90, colonel Jamais embarked with the squadron of admiral Conrad.

This squadron got under way for Djerbah and Gabès, where it was due to arrive yesterday.

These two points will be easily occupied. Two companies will certainly be enough for the island and one will not even need to disembark sailors to occupy the city.

Moreover, the orders given authorize the colonel to be supported by the fleet as long as it will be needed to ensure his position.

In Sfax, the bands of insurgents have melted away, discouraged by the first results of the fight and the death of their main leaders.

In Tunis, the Moslems of the wealthy class adopt the French party openly, after the fall of Sfax and especially since the raid of the Metellit. They feel that they need our protection.