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Letters from Constantinople

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/9/76/70
Date(s)	10 Apr 1799-14 Apr 1799 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English and French in Latin
Extent and Format	1 item (4 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>



About this record

This item contains two documents:

1. A letter from John Spencer Smith, Minister Plenipotentiary in Constantinople [Istanbul], to Harford Jones, Resident in Bagdad [Baghdad], sent from Constantinople and dated 10 April 1799.

Spencer Smith forwards a packet of letters to Jones, including an Arabic copy of the Ottoman manifesto against France. The letter also mentions that the British Legation and Spencer Smith's house in Constantinople were destroyed by a fire, and that the Supreme Vizier [Yūsuf Zīa al-Dīn Pāshā, Grand Vizier to the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire] is preparing personally to travel to the front against the French forces in Syria.

2. Copies of two French letters concerning the French Revolutionary Wars:

A letter from Alexandre de Soutzo [Alexandros Soutzos], Chief Dragoman of the Porte [senior interpreter of the Ottoman Government], to M De Wallembourg [Wallenburg], Chief Interpreter to the Internuncio of the Holy Roman Empire in Constantinople. The letter reports two decisive defeats of French forces

A translated extract of a letter from the Prince of Wallachia [Alexander Mourozis] to the Sublime Porte [Government of the Ottoman Empire] dated 9 Zilkaadé [Dhū al-Qa'dah] 1213/14 April 1799. The letter describes the defeat of French forces on the Rhine and in Grisons [Switzerland].

The letters were copied by Harford Jones.

1

Constantinople 10 April 1799 M: Spencer Smith presents his compliments to M. Sones and Seikes the first moment he can call his own Since the Disastrous event of a most Des. tructive file which Occerned in this Residence on the 13. past to accompany by these few lines the annexed miscellaneous packet alway prepared for M? Jones and which he has happing recovered amongst the wreck of his records which to gether with the British palace & the major part of M. Smith's property have fallen a prey to the flames. M: Smith is preparing to det out for the only home he has left the Belgreed cottage from whence he will endeavour to renew his Correspondence more regularly and where the remnant of his pupers being carried to he can see what of M? Jones's unanswered letters many be get in being The French having made an insuption into Syria the Supreme Verier is preparing to take the field in person. Sir Sidney Smith was with his squadron at acore on the 48. past. M. Smith has imagined the expedient of the enclosed Arabic Copy of the Manifesto of this Court aquinst France may be found useful in M Tones' hands for more extensive publication in the Desert . and also in Commo-Dore Blankets hands upon the Coast of Arabia. Thur Bothy Hurford Smex

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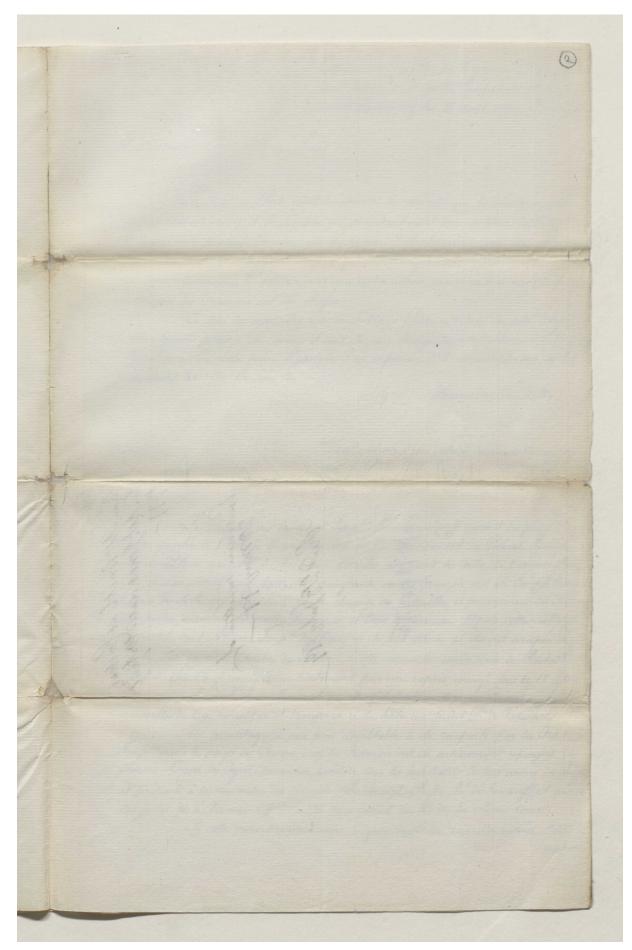




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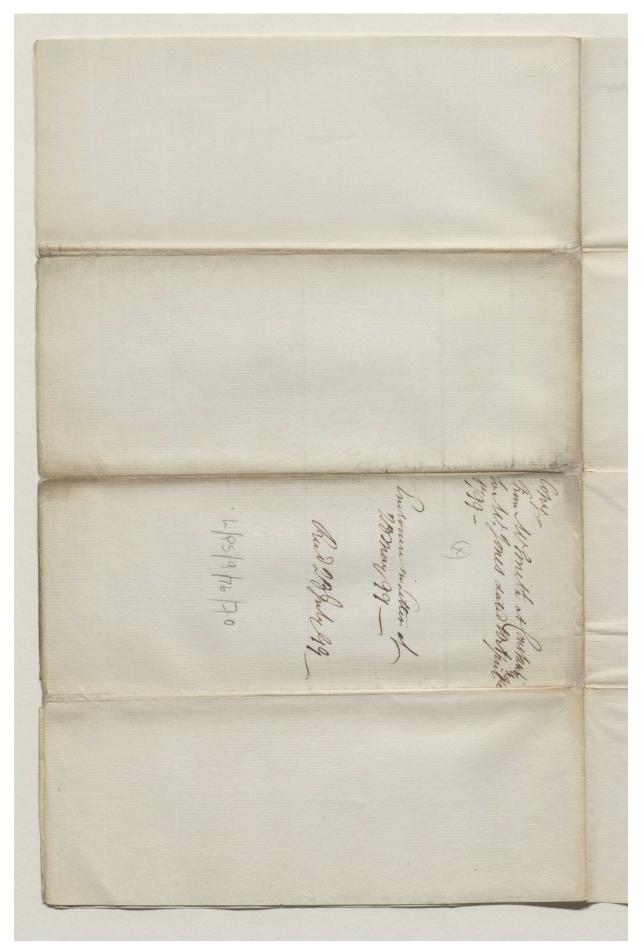






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Copie d'une Lettre du Drogman de la Porte au Prémier Interprete Timperial, et Royal De Wallembourg Du 14. Avril 1799. Dimanche

Monsieuro

Sa Sublime Forte vient de recevoir la nouvelle que les Generaux des Troupes autrichiennes et Françoises qui se recherchorient pour se laver battaille en ent donné une presque decisive que les braves Autrichiens se Sont Signales par une victoire presque Comptette; parce qu'ils ont mafacré 13 à 14000 François, avec trois Généraux. D'ailleur par une autre action qui à eu lieu dans le pays des Frisons les François ont été chafsés.

Ce sont des nouvelles que la Sublime Porte à reçues aujourd'huig avec le plus grand plaisir du monde et dont elle m'a charge la notification à S. C. Mons. l'Internonce. Je vous prie Monsieur d'en informer S. E. immediatement en lui présentant des des le Suis des

Signe / Alexandre de Sectio

Traduction d'un latrait de nouvelles envoyées par le 9: de Valachie a la Sublime Sorte-Sous le 9. Lilhaade 1213.

Le Peneral des trouppes Imp!" It Manendorff venant de fondre Ser. l'aite quiche de l'armé Françoise Jous le Commandement du Peneral Jourdan en même tems que Me l'Archidue Charles, attaquoit le Centre de l'armée Itan çoise il Sen Suivit une battaille Sanglante ou les François ont été Complettement battus de Sorte qu'entre tues Sur le champ de battaille et prisonniers ces derniers ont perdu environ 13 mille hommes et trois généraux. Oprés cette victoire Signatée de l'Armée Imp! les françois se sont retirés et étoient occupés à passer Sur la rive quiche du Rhin. Cette nouvelle venue voie de Rastadt vient d'étre Confirmée immediatement par un exprés envoyé sous le 18 Shew wab du Camp à Vienne et avant qu'ette fut publice par le Pouverisment, les nouvelliste L'a recueillie et transmise à la hâte au Susdit S: de Valachie.

Un avantage à peu pris semblable à été remporté par les Rouppes Smp " Dans le pays des Prisons d'on les Prancois ont été entièrement repoussés et chassés. Dans le Syrol province voisine tous les habitants se sont armés en masse et préparis à la rencontre des françois - Le Pénéral Ruse M: de Sawanoff est arrivé ces jours-ce à Vienne. Ces derniers avis datent du 23 de la nême lune.

Si cette nouvelle aura avec la grace de Dieu, reçu Son entiere Confirmation

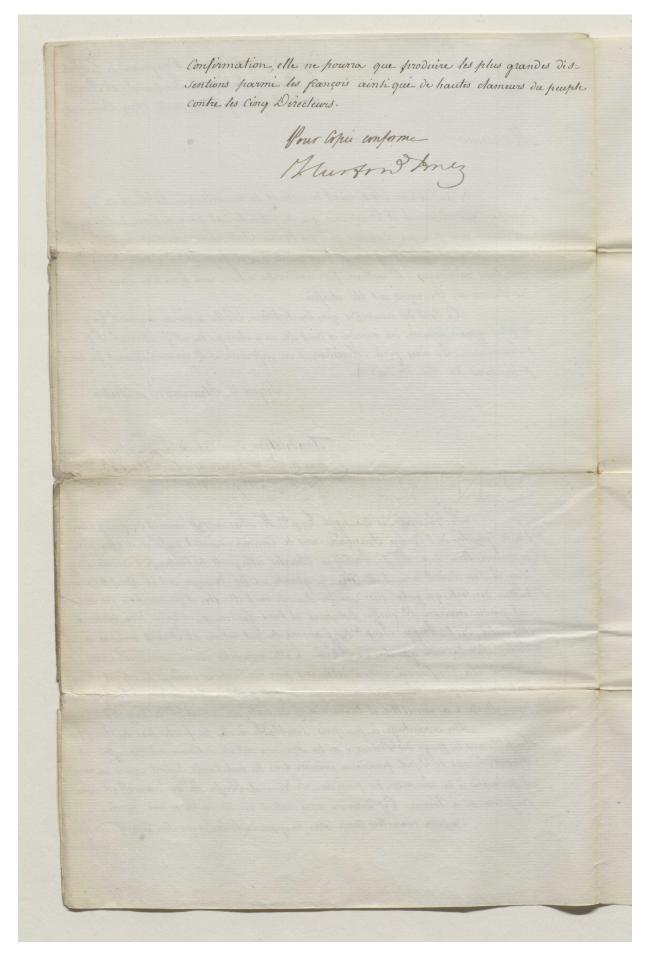
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Letters from Constantinople [3v] (6/8)



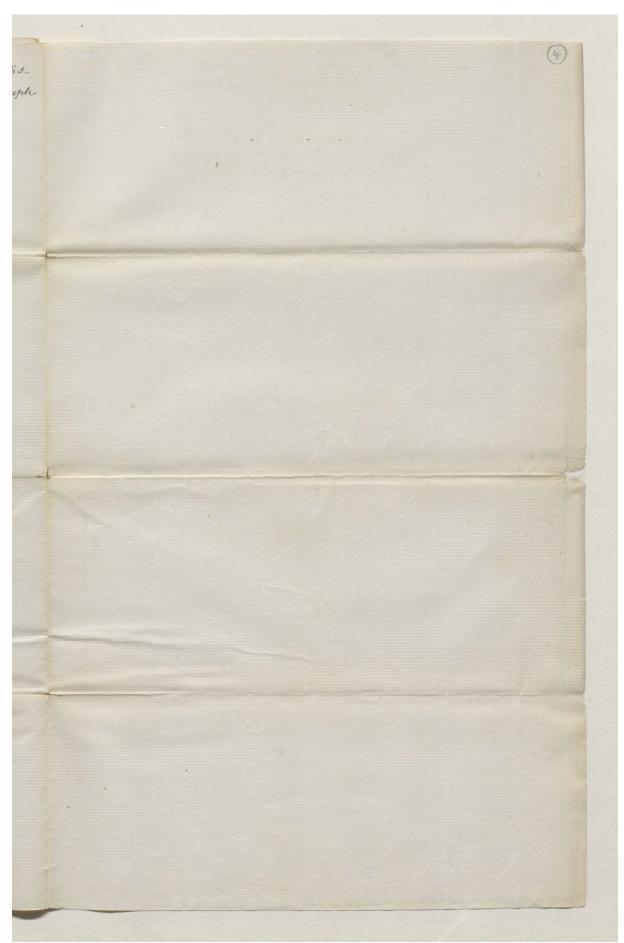


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Letters from Constantinople [4r] (7/8)





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