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FOREIGN OFFICE, September 8, 1877.

**T**HE Earl of Derby, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received the following Despatch from the Right Honourable A. H. Layard, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, forwarding a notification of the closing of the entrance to the Gulf of Arta at night :—

Therapia,  
August 27, 1877.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to inclose copy of a Note which I have received from the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, relative to the closing of the Port of Prevesa at night.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

Sublime Porte, August 25, 1877.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSEUR,

J'AI l'honneur de vous informer que le Gouvernement Imperial vient d'interdire provisoirement et jusqu'à nouvel avis l'entrée et la sortie de la Passe de Prévésa à tous navires et embarcations, après le coucher du soleil.

Tout bâtiment sans distinction qui contrairement à cette défense, cherchera à passer, sera invité à s'arrêter par un coup de canon tiré à blanc de la forteresse et si, nonobstant ce premier signal, il persiste à avancer, des coups de canon à boulet mettront obstacle à son passage.

Cette mesure ayant été publiée sur les lieux, je

viens prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien de son côté, en informer son Gouvernement et les navigateurs sujets Anglais.

Veillez agréer, &c.,  
(Signed) SERVER.

Son Excellence  
Monsieur Layard, &c., &c.

(Translation.)

Sublime Porte,  
M. L'AMBASSEUR, August 25, 1877.

I have the honour to inform you that the Imperial Government have provisionally, and until further notice, prohibited entrance to and exit from the Straits of Prevesa to all ships and boats after sunset.

Every vessel without distinction which, in contravention of this order, shall attempt to pass will be summoned to stop by a blank cannon-shot from the fortress, and if, in spite of this first signal, it persists in advancing, shots will be fired to prevent it from passing.

This measure having been published on the spot, I beg your Excellency to be good enough to inform your Government and British navigators of it.

Receive, &c.,  
(Signed) SERVER.

His Excellency  
M. Layard, &c., &c.