TURKEY. No. 1 (1883).

12

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

THE AFFAIRS OF THE LEBANON,

AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A

GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1883.

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Correspondence respecting the Affairs of the Lebanon, and the Appointment of a Governor-General.

No. 1.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received January 23.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 15, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to state that I have been informed at the Sublime Porte that the Council of Ministers have had under their consideration the question of Rustem Pasha's re-election to the Governorship of the Lebanon, but that owing to the "dossier" of the case being not yet complete, no decision has been arrived at on the subject. In the meantime Aarifi Pasha has been requested by his colleagues to collect together and examine all the documents bearing on the question, with a view to his being able to place a full Report before the Council of Ministers the next time they meet to discuss the matter.

I have also learned that the French party in the Lebanon, who are opposed to Rustem Pasha's re-election, have commenced to agitate the question, and that a certain Nakhl-Rhadra-Abdul-Akhad, who gives himself out as the representative of the famous agitator Yousouf Caram, has arrived at Constantinople, with the view of making representations, alleged to be in the name of the population of the Lebanon, against Rustem Pasha's reappointment. This individual is said to have the intention of presenting a Petition to that effect to the Grand Vizier.

It is further stated that both Aarifi Pasha and the Grand Vizier are strongly in favour of Rustem Pasha, and would do their best to obtain his re-election; and that, in support of his reappointment, they would invoke the precedent of Daoud Pasha, who was Vali of the Lebanon for fifteen years consecutively.

Rustem Pasha has lately asked for leave of absence, with the intention of coming to Constantinople; but the Council of Ministers has refused his request, stating that it would be better for his Excellency not to quit his post at the present moment, when there is so much excitement amongst the population.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 2.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 31, 1883.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th instant respecting the question of the reappointment of Rustem Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that it is very desirable in the interest of order and good government that his Excellency should continue to administer that province, and they have addressed a communication to this effect to the Great Powers, with an expression of their hope that this view will be urged upon the Porte by the Representatives of the Powers at Constantinople.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 3.

*Earl Granville to Her Majesty's Representatives at Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Rome, and St. Petersburgh.**

My Lord,
Sir,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1883.

THE Turkish Government have recently had under their consideration the question of the re-election of Rustem Pasha as Governor-General of the Lebanon, as his ten years' term of office expires on the 22nd April next; though they have not, as yet, come to any decision on the subject.

It appears very desirable, in the interests of order and good government, that the appointment of Rustem Pasha should be renewed. Instructions have been sent to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to urge this view upon the Porte, and Her Majesty's Government trust that the Government to which you are accredited will feel themselves able to send similar instructions to their Representative at Constantinople.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 4.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 2.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 1, 1883.

I HAVE this morning had the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram of yesterday relative to the reappointment of Rustem Pasha as Governor-General of the Lebanon.

I inclose a copy of a *note verbale* which I have in consequence presented to the French Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Note Verbale.

RUSTEM PASHA'S ten years' term of office expires on the 22nd April next, and it will shortly be necessary to provide for the appointment of a Governor-General of the Lebanon.

It appears very desirable in the interests of order and good government that Rustem Pasha's appointment should be renewed.

Her Majesty's Government have so instructed their Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, and they trust that the Government of the French Republic will feel itself able to send similar instructions to its Representative at Constantinople.

Lord Lyons in submitting what precedes to the President of the Council, Minister for Foreign Affairs, gladly seizes the opportunity of offering to his Excellency the assurance of his very high consideration.

Paris, February 1, 1883.

No. 5.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, February 2.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburgh, February 2, 1883.

I HAD yesterday an opportunity of seeing M. de Giers, when I communicated to his Excellency the contents of your Lordship's telegram of the 31st ultimo, relating to the re-appointment of Rustem Pasha as Governor-General of the Lebanon.

* Substance telegraphed.

The substance of the conversation which I had with his Excellency was that the Russian Government would not oppose the renewal of Rustem Pasha's appointment, but he was not yet prepared to say how far they could go in recommending such a step to the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

No. 6.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 26, 1883.

ON the 27th October last the Earl of Dufferin transmitted to Mr. Eldridge, in original, to be returned, a series of Petitions addressed to his Excellency and to the Representatives of the other Great Powers, as well as to the Sublime Porte, containing the complaints of the inhabitants of the Lebanon against Rustem Pasha, and he instructed Mr. Eldridge to report upon these Petitions, especially with regard to the alleged infractions by his Excellency of the Lebanon Constitution.

I have now the honour to inclose to your Lordship a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Beyrout in reply to the Earl of Dufferin's abovementioned despatch, in which Mr. Eldridge incloses a Memorandum, prepared by order of Rustem Pasha, respecting the complaints against him, and states that on the whole he agrees with the arguments set forth in it, and expresses a decided opinion that the re-election of Rustem Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon would be conducive to the welfare of its inhabitants.

Mr. Eldridge's despatch reached me as I was on the point of going to see the Grand Vizier; I therefore took it with me and read to his Highness that portion of the despatch which alludes to his Excellency's zeal and integrity and impartial administration of justice, which, Mr. Eldridge says, do not fall in with the views of some of the Maronite clergy.

His Highness thanked me, and said that Aarifi Pasha would shortly communicate with the Representatives of the Great Powers on the subject of the appointment of a Governor of the Lebanon, adding that he believed all the Powers were satisfied with Rustem Pasha.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Consul-General Eldridge to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Beyrout, January* 12, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Earl of Dufferin's despatch of the 27th October last, transmitting to me a series of Petitions and an anonymous pamphlet addressed by the inhabitants of the Lebanon to Her Majesty's Ambassador, complaining of the arbitrary conduct of the Governor-General, on which I am instructed by his Lordship to report.

His Excellency some time ago caused a Memorandum to be prepared refuting these complaints, and furnished me, confidentially, with a copy, which I have the honour to transmit herewith for your information.

As in general I find that the facts are correctly set forth in this Memorandum, and I agree on the whole with the arguments used in it, I do not consider it necessary to repeat them, but confine myself to expressing my conviction, which is that of all impartial people who have carefully followed the course pursued by Rustem Pasha during the last ten years, that he has displayed great zeal, integrity, and capacity in the administration of the difficult province confided to him, which has prospered under his rule far more than under that of his predecessors. The principal cause of the complaints against him is his independence of character, his insisting as far as lies in his power on the impartial administration of justice, and in his rejecting the interference in the affairs of Government of some o the Maronite clergy who are annoyed at not possessing the same amount of

influence they formerly exercised to their own advantage and that of their own immediate adherents, but certainly not to the general good of the Lebanon. As the term of Rustem Pasha's tenure of office will shortly expire, I venture to express an opinion that if the interests of the country are taken into consideration, his renomination for a further term would be preferable to the appointment of a new, untried, and inexperienced man, who might possibly fall into the hands of those who have clearly shown themselves desirous only of acquiring power to satisfy their own ambition, and of using it to promote their personal interests, and those of their friends, to the detriment of the mass of the population whose rights and privileges the present Governor-General has employed all his talents and energies to uphold.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. JACKSON ELDRIDGE.

No. 7.

Lord Ampthill to Earl Granville.—(Received February 5.)

My Lord, *Berlin, February* 2, 1883.

YOUR Lordship's instructions of the 31st ultimo reached me last night by messenger.

To-day I called on the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and told him that Her Majesty's Government thought it very desirable, in the interest of order and good government, that Rustem Pasha's appointment as Governor-General of the Lebanon, which expires on the 22nd April, should be renewed; that your Lordship had so instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Porte; and that Her Majesty's Government trusted that the Imperial German Government would feel themselves able to send similar instructions to M. de Radowitz at Constantinople.

Count Hatzfeldt replied that he was as yet without information on the subject, but that he would submit what I had said to the Chancellor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AMPTHILL.

No. 8.

Sir A. Paget to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, February 6.)

My Lord, *Rome, February* 2, 1883.

I CALLED upon M. Mancini yesterday afternoon, and acquainted his Excellency with the substance of your Lordship's telegram of the 31st ultimo, relative to the desirability of the renewal of Rustem Pasha's appointment as Governor-General of the Lebanon, and his Excellency immediately authorized me to inform your Lordship that he would send instructions to the Italian Ambassador at Constantinople in the same sense as those sent by your Lordship to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires upon this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 9.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received February 10.)

My Lord, *Paris, February* 9, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a *note verbale* which was sent me last evening by M. Fallières, in answer to that dated the 1st instant, in which, by your Lordship's order, I expressed the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the French Government might feel itself able to send to the French Representative at Constantinople instructions in favour of the reappointment of Rustem Pasha as Governor-General of the Lebanon.

The note states that the reports received from the French Diplomatic and

Consular Agents represent that the reappointment of Rustem Pasha would lead to a movement dangerous to order and even to the peace of the East.

It refers to the "droits traditionnels de la France reconnus au Congrès de Berlin," and expresses the hope that Her Majesty's Government, on further inquiry, will authorize their Representative at Constantinople to unite with the French Ambassador, in order to render possible, by the choice of some other Governor, the accord contemplated by the Protocol annexed to the Règlement of 1861.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Note Verbale.

SON Excellence l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique a bien voulu, par une note du 1er de ce mois, faire savoir au Ministre des Affaires Étrangères à Paris, qu'en vue d'assurer l'ordre et la bonne administration du Liban, le Gouvernement de la Reine serait favorable au renouvellement des pouvoirs de Rustem Pacha, et que des instructions dans ce sens ont été adressées au Représentant de la Grande-Bretagne à Constantinople.

Le Gouvernement de la République a le devoir d'appeler la sérieuse attention du Foreign Office sur les motifs impérieux qui le font incliner vers une autre conclusion. Depuis longtemps déjà, les informations émanant des Agents Diplomatiques et Consulaires Français s'accordent à représenter la situation du Liban comme pouvant devenir grave, si Rustem Pacha était maintenu dans ses fonctions. L'administration du Gouverneur actuel a donné lieu à des plaintes nombreuses de la part des Chrétiens du Liban; elle a excité chez eux de tels mécontentements qu'à plusieurs reprises des agitations se seraient produites, si les Agents Français n'étaient parvenus, au prix d'efforts incessants, à faire prévaloir les conseils de prudence et de modération. Dans le cas où les pouvoirs de Rustem seraient renouvelés, il deviendrait difficile de prévenir un mouvement qui porterait une atteinte préjudicielle à l'ordre, et dont les conséquences, même pour la paix de l'Orient, ne peuvent se mesurer. Quant à la France, dont les droits traditionnels ont été reconnus au Congrès de Berlin, elle a trop le sentiment de la responsabilité que cette reconnaissance lui impose, tant vis-à-vis de l'Europe qu'à l'égard des Chrétiens de la Montagne, pour ne pas dire hautement sa pensée. Le Gouvernement de la République a prescrit à son Agent à Constantinople de représenter à la Porte les objections graves que soulèverait le maintien de Rustem Pacha, et il espère qu'après un nouvel examen de la question, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique consentira à autoriser son Représentant à Constantinople à joindre son action à celle du Marquis de Noailles pour rendre possible, sur le choix d'un autre Gouverneur, l'accord prévu par le Protocole annexé au Règlement de 1861.

Paris, le 8 *Février*, 1883.

(Translation.)

HIS Excellency the Ambassador of Her Britannic Majesty has been so good, by his note of the 1st instant, as to bring to the knowledge of the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Paris the fact that, with a view to securing order and the good administration of the Lebanon, the Government of the Queen would be in favour of the renewal of the powers of Rustem Pasha, and that instructions in this sense have been addressed to the Representative of Great Britain at Constantinople.

The Government of the Republic is bound to draw the serious attention of the Foreign Office to the important considerations which have caused it to arrive at a different conclusion. Already for a long time the reports emanating from the French Diplomatic and Consular Agents agree in representing the possibility of the situation in the Lebanon becoming serious, should Rustem Pasha be maintained in his office. The administration of the present Governor has given rise to numerous complaints on the part of the Christians of the Lebanon; it has excited amongst them such discontent that on several occasions disturbances would have arisen had not the French Agents, at the cost of unceasing efforts, succeeded in causing prudent and moderate counsels to prevail. In the event of Rustem's powers being renewed, it would be difficult to prevent a movement which would have a prejudicial effect on good order, and the consequences of which, even to the

His Highness seemed fully to concur in the opinion expressed in the last paragraph of that despatch, namely, that a large majority of the Lebanon population, even including a number of those who formerly signed Petitions against Rustem Pasha, would now willingly vote in favour of his re-election, but it appears to me impossible for the Sublime Porte to lose sight of the strong opposition made against his reappointment by the French Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

George Saghi and Isaac Elias to Mr. Wyndham.

(Télégraphique.) *Tripoli, Syria, le* 22 *Janvier*, 1883, 8 *h. matin.*

NOS compatriotes et nous avons présenté nos plaintes par notre délégué Dominique Khadra sur l'arbitraire de Rustem Pacha. Nous gardons tous la tranquillité. Son Excellence travaille de nous en faire sortir, persécutant plaignants. Aucun d'eux ne peut avoir droit dans les Tribunaux. Plusieurs en prison sans délit. Cheikh Beshir Suleyman, Druse, depuis trois mois; Cheikh Mohammed Saïd, Mytonali, depuis cinq mois sont en prison sans crime et sans être jugés. Tanous Hakime, Maronite, a été en prison deux mois pour de faux prétextes. Le Tribunal annonce sa mise en liberté. Son Excellence ne veut pas exécuter la sentence. Notre situation ne saurait souffrir de retard. Espérons qu'elle veuille bien ne pas laisser ce pays s'abandonner au désespoir.

(Pour 477 cachets des habitants du Liban.)

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.) *Tripoli, Syria, January* 22, 1883, 8 A.M.

OUR compatriots and ourselves have presented our complaints as to the arbitrary behaviour of Rustem Pasha through our Delegate Dominic Khadra. We are all at peace. His Excellency is trying to put an end to it by persecuting such as complain. None of them can obtain justice before the Tribunals. Several are in prison without having been guilty of any fault. Sheikh Beshir Suleyman, a Druse, for the last three months, Sheikh Mohammed Saïd, Mytonali, for the last five months, have been imprisoned without having committed a crime or being brought to trial. Tanous Hakime, a Maronite, has been in prison for two months under false pretexts. The Tribunal has decreed his liberation. His Excellency will not carry out the judgment. Our situation does not admit of delay. We hope that you will not allow this country to abandon itself to despair.

(477 signatures of inhabitants of the Lebanon.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Consul-General Eldridge to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Beyrout, February* 24, 1883.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of the 24th ultimo, transmitting a copy of a telegram addressed to Her Majesty's Embassy from Tripoli, complaining of the arbitrary conduct of Rustem Pasha, and instructing me to give my opinion upon it.

So far as I can learn there is no foundation for the sweeping charge of persecution brought against his Excellency and with regard to the three cases mentioned in the telegram I have made inquiries and have ascertained that the Sheikh Beshir Suleyman was arrested during the summer for spreading false intelligence and exciting to sedition, tried by the Central Criminal Court, and sentenced to three months and a-half imprisonment, on the expiration of which he was set at liberty.

The Sheikh Mohammed Saïd, a Metuali, was formerly Mudir of the Hermel, a district situated in the upper mountains to the extreme north of the Lebanon, and inhabited exclusively by Metualis. He was accused of having during his term of

office retained for his own use the pay of a zaptieh, found guilty and sentenced to five months' imprisonment and to refund the amount embezzled by him. Against this sentence he appealed, and was set at liberty on bail pending the result of the appeal. Sheikh Mohammed is also on his trial for taking part in acts of brigandage, cattle-lifting and other crimes into which the inquiry is still pending. Owing to the almost inaccessible position of the district of Hermel it is very difficult for the Central Government to exercise a proper control over the inhabitants who are consequently extremely turbulent.

The Maronite Tannous-el-Hakim was accused of taking part in a riot in the village of Hamana and of having obstructed the Mudir and the police of the district in the execution of their duty. Two of the rioters were proved to have struck the Mudir and were sentenced to one year's imprisonment, whilst the remainder, amongst whom was Tannous, were sentenced to two months.

The proceedings in these cases appear to have been conducted in a regular manner before the Central Criminal Court, and the sentences do not seem to be characterized by any extreme severity or illegality.

I have endeavoured to ascertain who are the persons who signed the telegram from Tripoli, it seems that it was presented at the Telegraph Office by two persons having the appearance of ordinary villagers of the Lebanon, who gave the names affixed to the telegram, but who were quite unknown to the telegraph clerks; they were no doubt obscure individuals employed by those who prepared the telegram, which appears to have been concocted at Beyrout and forwarded from Tripoli to conceal the identity of the real senders; or it may have been got up by the Karams, who inhabited Zgorta, and their friends who are distinguished for their extreme animosity to Rustem Pasha.

The delay in the reappointment of Rustem Pasha is prejudicial to the interests of the country, as his Excellency hesitates to inaugurate any measures of public utility which he may not remain to carry out. The whole of the country is quiet, and although the term of office of the Governor-General has nearly expired, there is none of the active intriguing going on, which so greatly disturbed the Lebanon twelve months ago, and with the exception of a few of the most determined opponents of the Pasha all appear to await the decision of the Sublime Porte and the Great Powers with regard to the future, and it is my conviction that if the real sentiments of the inhabitants were known a large majority would be in his favour, even amongst those who actually signed Petitions against him last year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. JACKSON ELDRIDGE.

No. 16.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 26, 1883.

I HAVE to inform you that Her Majesty's Government do not favour any particular candidate for the post of Governor of the Lebanon, to the exclusion of any other suitable person, and I have therefore to request your Excellency to proceed in such a manner as may appear to you to be most judicious, with a view to arriving at an understanding with the French Government on the question of Rustem Pasha's successor.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 17.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, March 29.)

My Lord, *Paris, March* 29, 1883.

I HAD this morning the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 26th instant, and in pursuance of the instruction contained in it I mentioned to M. Challemel-Lacour this afternoon the subject of the pending appointment of a Governor of the Lebanon.

M. Challemel-Lacour said to me at once that the Sultan had made choice of

Prenk Doda, Prince of the Mirdites, for the appointment, and that the selection having been made by the Sultan himself personally, the French Government did not intend to raise any objection to it.

I confined myself to thanking M. Challemel-Lacour for this information and to speaking in general terms of the great advantage of united action between England and France in all matters of this kind.

I have had the honour to forward the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 18.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, March 30.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, March 29, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Prenk Bib Doda is the candidate of the Porte for the Governorship of the Lebanon. He is a Roman Catholic, about 24 years of age, and is Chief of the Albanian Mirdites. During the last year he has been detained here as a political prisoner, and is still regarded as such.

A meeting of the Representatives of the Great Powers has been convoked for Saturday next. I propose to listen to the opinion of my colleagues and to maintain an attitude of reserve until I receive your Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 19.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, March 31.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, March 31, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that at a meeting of Representatives held this afternoon, Aarifi Pasha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, proposed Prenk Bib Doda as candidate for the Governorship of the Lebanon.

His candidature was supported by the French Ambassador.

The Austrian, German, and Italian Representatives stated that they were prepared to give their assent provided that their other colleagues were agreed.

The Russian Minister and I stated that, in the absence of instructions, we must refer to our respective Governments for orders.

The next meeting was fixed for the 7th instant, and the Russian Minister announced that, in pursuance of instructions from his Government, he would present some observations as to the application of the Statute.

The Russian Minister, in conversation with me, expressed himself in terms unfavourable to the present candidate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 20.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, April 3, 1883, 5·45 P.M.

LEBANON Governorship.

Inform Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government are unwilling to oppose any selection of the Porte for the Governorship of the Lebanon, but that before giving their assent you are instructed to ask whether it is possible that one so young and inexperienced and ignorant of the local languages, as Prenk Bib Doda must be, can be the fitting person for this particular post.

No. 21.

Earl Granville to Viscount Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 4, 1883.

WITH reference to your telegram of the 29th ultimo, relative to the candidature of Prince Bib Doda for the Governorship of the Lebanon, I have to request your Excellency to communicate with M. Challemel-Lacour, and to state that, as according to the information received by Her Majesty's Government, the Prince is only 24 years old, and absolutely without experience or knowledge of the language of the people he would be called upon to govern, I cannot think that it would be creditable to France and England to support his candidature for so responsible an office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 22.

Viscount Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received April 6.)

My Lord, *Paris, April* 5, 1883.

THIS afternoon, in execution of the instruction conveyed to me by your Lordship's despatch of yesterday, I pointed out to M. Challemel-Lacour the objections to the appointment of Prenk Bib Doda to the Governorship of the Lebanon. I said in particular that, according to the information received by Her Majesty's Government, the Prince is only 24 years old and absolutely without experience or knowledge of the language of the people he would be called upon to govern; and I added that your Lordship could not think that it would be creditable to France and England to support his candidature for so responsible an office.

M. Challemel-Lacour answered that the French Government had fully considered the whole matter; that they had felt bound to bow to the decision of the Sultan, and that they could not withdraw their acquiescence in the appointment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 23.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 7.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April* 7, 1883.

WITH reference to my telegram of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Russian Minister being without instructions has requested Aarifi Pasha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, to postpone the meeting which had been convoked for the discussion of the candidature of Prenk Bib Doda or the Governorship of the Lebanon.

I have also the honour to inform your Lordship that I have seen and conversed with Prenk Bib Doda, who, apart from all other considerations, appears to me quite unfitted for the post. This opinion is almost entirely shared here, excepting apparently by the French Ambassador. The candidate, I believe, would prefer to be permitted to return to his own country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 24.

Earl Granville to Sir E. Thornton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 7, 1883.

THE Russian Ambassador called upon me this afternoon, and asked me what course Her Majesty's Government proposed to take as regards the selection of Prenk Bib Doda for the Governorship of the Lebanon, in view of his youth, his inexperience of office, and of his ignorance of the local languages.

I informed his Excellency that I had instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to point out these deficiencies to the Porte, and to say that Her Majesty's Government had no wish to make unnecessary objections to any candidate proposed by the Sultan, but that they would be glad to know if the circumstances had been fully considered.

Baron Mohrenheim said that the Russian Government would not agree to the appointment, unless it was unanimously accepted by the other Powers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 25.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 2, 1883.*

I HAD the honour to report to your Lordship in my telegram of the 31st ultimo that the Representatives of the Great Powers had met on that day at the Porte to take into consideration the appointment of a successor to Rustem Pasha in the Governorship of the Lebanon.

Aarifi Pasha commenced by thanking us for having complied with his request to assemble at the Porte for the purpose for which he had invited us, and after warmly eulogizing the manner in which Rustem Pasha had governed the Lebanon stated that as unanimity among the Powers as to his re-election had appeared impossible, His Majesty the Sultan had designated Prenk Bib Doda as Governor of the Lebanon on the termination of Rustem Pasha's tenure of office. The Austrian, German, and Italian Representatives stated that they were willing to assent to Prenk Bib Doda's nomination provided their colleagues were agreed; the French Ambassador warmly supported his candidature, and M. de Nélidow, the Russian Minister, after praising Rustem Pasha's Administration, stated that he was without instructions and must refer to his Government.

I stated that Her Majesty's Government had had every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which Rustem Pasha had governed the Lebanon, and that they were of opinion that he had held the balance evenly between the different races who inhabited it; that I had no instructions as to the candidate who had now been officially put forward, but that I would not fail to communicate with your Lordship on the subject.

It was then agreed that we should meet again on the 7th instant, and M. de Nélidow, the Russian Minister, said that he should then bring forward, by order of his Government, some observations with regard to the application of the Statute, as he said on some occasions some of its rules had been departed from.

I remarked that I presumed we should first endeavour to settle the point for which we were specially to meet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 26.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 10.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April 10, 1883.*

I HAVE the honour to request that your Lordship will inform me if I may state positively to the Porte that Her Majesty's Government object to the candidature of Prenk Bib Doda for the Governorship of the Lebanon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 27.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Foreign Office, April 10, 1883, 8 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)

HAS the Porte answered your objections as to the candidate's youth, want of official experience, and ignorance of the languages of the Lebanon?

Her Majesty's Government cannot give their assent unless they receive a satisfactory answer to their inquiries.

No. 28.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 11.)

Constantinople, April 11, 1883.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Porte decline to express an opinion on a candidate put forward by His Majesty the Sultan, but if objections are raised to him by any of the Powers they will consider the selection of another.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 29.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received April 16.)

Constantinople, April 9, 1883.

(Extract.)

I HAVE the honour to report that on the receipt on the 4th instant of your Lordship's telegram of the 3rd instant, I conveyed a message through Mr. Dragoman Marinich to Aarifi Pasha to the effect that Her Majesty's Government are unwilling to oppose any selection of the Sublime Porte for the post of Governor of the Lebanon, but that before giving their consent to the appointment of Prenk Bib Doda I was instructed to ask whether it is possible for so young and inexperienced a man, and so ignorant of the country and of the language, to be the proper person for the post in question. His Highness replied that if Her Majesty's Government wished to object to the appointment I should consult with my colleagues, and that if all were not agreed, request him to postpone the meeting. I sent word to his Highness that I must comply with my orders, and that if we met again to consider the candidature of Prenk Bib Doda, I should ask him the above question.

On the morning of the 7th instant, the day on which a second meeting of the Representatives was to be held, I received a note from M. de Nélidow stating that he was without instructions from his Government, and that he had, therefore, requested the Minister for Foreign Affairs to postpone the meeting, and later in the day I received a message from his Highness stating that he had complied with the Russian Minister's request.

In the telegraphic despatch which I addressed to your Lordship on the 7th instant I informed your Lordship of this fact, and I at the same time stated that I had seen Prenk Bib Doda, and that he appeared to me entirely unfitted for the post for which he was designated.

No. 30.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 16.)

Constantinople, April 16, 1883.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that a further meeting to discuss the candidature of Prenk Bib Doda for the Governorship of the Lebanon was held to-day.

The French Ambassador again supported him, while the Austrian, German,

and Italian Representatives maintained their previous attitude. The Russian Minister observed that he was without instructions, and that his Government was in communication with the other Cabinets.

I complied strictly with the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram of the 3rd instant.

It was decided to hold a third meeting on Thursday, and I am under the impression that another candidate will be then proposed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 31.

Earl Granville to Count Nigra.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, April 18, 1883.

ON the 14th instant your Excellency informed me that the French Ambassador at Constantinople had announced to the Porte that, in the opinion of the French Government, the Government of the Lebanon should cease to be administered by Rustem Pasha on the 23rd instant, the date of the expiration of his powers, and should pass into the hands of the Administrative Council until the appointment of his successor.

Your Excellency was also good enough to inquire what was the view of Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

I have the honour to state to your Excellency that no information to this effect has hitherto reached Her Majesty's Government. If any precedents existed in favour of such a course they would not be disposed to object to it; but looking at the provisions of the Protocols relating to the Lebanon, it does not appear that the Governor's term of office necessarily expires at the end of ten years. By the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, on the occasion of the appointment of Franco Nasri Pasha, the Powers agreed not to limit the duration of the Governor's tenure of office strictly as had been done before under different circumstances, but it was declared that the new Governor's mandate should be for not less than ten years. It was also provided that the stipulations of the Protocol of June 1861 relative to the revocation of his mandate shall continue applicable whether before or after this term.

It would seem to follow, therefore, that the Governor was to hold office until the revocation of his mandate.

On the appointment of Rustem Pasha, the Powers, in the Protocol of the 22nd April, 1873, recorded the fact of a preliminary agreement as to his selection having been arrived at, and confirmed the dispositions of the Protocol of 1868 relative to the term of ten years.

The Imperial Firman appointing Rustem Pasha, far from limiting his tenure of office to the term of ten years, declares that as a long period of office can only contribute to the stability of government, so long as he should continue to administer the country properly and according to the Regulations in force, he would always be maintained in his post.

It does not seem probable, therefore, that the view of the French Government that Rustem Pasha's tenure of office expires at the end of ten years without formal revocation, will be shared by the Sublime Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 32.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 18.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, April 18, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the French Ambassador states that on the night of the 22nd instant Rustem Pasha's functions will cease as Governor of the Lebanon, and that in the event of no successor having been approved, the Lebanon will be without a Governor.

No. 33.

Earl Granville to Her Majesty's Representatives at Paris, Rome, Berlin, Vienna, and St. Petersburgh.

My Lord,
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 19, 1883.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copy of a telegram from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople,* reporting the language held by the French Ambassador respecting the delay caused by the action of other Powers as regards the election of Rustem Pasha's successor as Governor of the Lebanon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 34.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 19.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, April 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the meeting of the Representatives fixed for to-day for the election of Rustem Pasha's successor as Governor of the Lebanon has been indefinitely postponed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 35.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 19, 1883.

I LEARN from the Italian Ambassador that the French Government had informed the Porte that in its opinion Rustem Pasha must cease to be Governor of the Lebanon on the 23rd instant, the day on which his powers come to an end; but this conclusion would not appear to be based upon the wording of any Règlement, Firman, or Protocol relating to that Governorship.

The Governor's tenure of office, originally limited by the Protocol of the 9th June, 1861, to three years, was extended by the Protocol of the 6th September, 1864, to five years longer, but by the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, the Powers agreed not to limit strictly as before the duration of his tenure, and declared that the new Governor's mandate should be for "not less than ten years." The provisions of the Protocol of the 9th June, 1861, relative to the revocation of the mandate, were to continue applicable "soit avant soit après ce terme," thereby showing that the revocation might take place after the expiration of the ten years, and that his Governorship did not necessarily come to an end at the conclusion of that term.

On the appointment of Rustem Pasha to the post, the Powers signified, by the Protocol of the 22nd April, 1873, the existence of a preliminary understanding respecting his selection, and confirmed the dispositions of the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, "relatives au terme de dix ans assigné aux pouvoirs du Gouverneur;" but these words are inaccurate if they are intended to mean that by that Protocol a fixed term of ten years had been agreed to; and a proof that no such fixed term was agreed to is to be found in the Firman of Rustem Pasha's appointment, which fixes no limit to his tenure of office, but, on the contrary, declares that, provided he discharges his functions well, he will always be maintained at his post, as a long period of administration can only contribute to the stability of the Government.

The conclusions, therefore, arrived at by Her Majesty's Government are that until the Porte revokes the mandate of Rustem Pasha, he remains in office, and that three months before such revocation the Porte must propose that an understanding should be come to ("provoquer une entente") as to his successor, as provided by the Protocol of the 9th June, 1861.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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* No. 32.

No. 36.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 21.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, April 21, 1883.

I WAS informed to-day by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that the French Ambassador had addressed him an official note stating that Rustem Pasha's functions would cease on the 23rd instant, and requiring at the same time that the Government of the Lebanon should be handed over to the Administrative Council on that date, and that the ex-Governor should quit the country.

No. 37.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 21.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, April 21, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that a fresh list of names for the post of Governor of the Lebanon was submitted last night to His Majesty the Sultan, and that they are as follows:—

Wassa Effendi, Lieutenant-Governor at Adrianople; Coumyoudjian Effendi, Under-Secretary of State for Mines and Forests; Danisch Effendi, Consul-General at Ragusa; Pertew Effendi, holder of a judicial post at Adrianople; and Nasri Bey, Secretary of Embassy at Vienna.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 38.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received April 23.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, April 16, 1883.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th instant, I have the honour to report that Aarifi Pasha, in a note dated the 14th instant, invited the Representatives of the Great Powers to meet again to-day in order to come to an agreement as to a successor to Rustem Pasha in the Governorship of the Lebanon, and they accordingly met at the Porte this afternoon. Aarifi Pasha expressed the hope that unanimity would now be established as to the nomination of Prince Bib Doda.

The French Ambassador again supported him, and the Austrian, German, and Italian Representatives observed the same attitude as at the previous meeting. The Russian Minister stated that he was without instructions, and that his Government was in communication with the Governments of the other Great Powers as to the candidate in question.

I observed to Aarifi Pasha that my instructions were still such as I had already had the honour to communicate to him, viz., that Her Majesty's Government were unwilling to oppose any candidate of the Sublime Porte, but that before assenting they would be glad to know whether it is possible that one so young and inexperienced as Prince Bib Doda can be a fitting person to govern the Lebanon. His Highness stated that he would refer my question to his colleagues. The French Ambassador then urged Aarifi Pasha to give me an answer as speedily as possible. I then said that I thought it right to explain that I had received a later instruction from your Lordship to the effect that I was not to consent to Bib Doda's appointment without further instructions, so that even after receiving an answer to my question I should have to refer to your Lordship for further orders.

It was then agreed that we should meet again on Thursday the 19th instant, and Aarifi Pasha hinted that we should perhaps have to consider the appointment of another candidate.

After the formal meeting was over, I had a short conversation with Aarifi Pasha, and his Highness asked me if he were to give an answer in a favourable sense to my question as to Prince Bib Doda, whether Her Majesty's Government

would share the same opinion. I replied that I could not answer on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, but that my own personal feeling was that the Prince was not a fit person for the post for which he was designated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 39.

Sir E. Thornton to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 25.)

St. Petersburgh, April 25, 1883.

My Lord,

AT an interview I had this afternoon with M. de Giers, his Excellency informed me that he had received a telegram from M. Nélidow, the Russian Minister at Constantinople, announcing that the Porte proposed Danisch Effendi as Governor-General of the Lebanon, to succeed Rustem Pasha. M. de Giers added that he considered that Danisch Effendi would be well suited for the position.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

No. 40.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, April 25.)

Constantinople, April 25, 1883.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch of the 21st instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Aarifi Pasha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has requested my personal opinion as to Danisch Effendi. He is perhaps the best candidate of those mentioned in my despatch of the 21st instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 41.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Foreign Office, April 25, 1883.

Sir,

I HAVE received your telegram of the 25th instant relative to the candidature of Danisch Effendi for the post of Governor-General of the Lebanon.

In view of the favourable reports which have been received respecting Danisch Effendi, Her Majesty's Government would offer no objection to his appointment to the post in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 42.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received April 30.)

Constantinople, April 19, 1883.

(Extract.)

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the French Ambassador called upon me yesterday and inquired what I should propose at the third meeting, which was fixed for to-day at the Porte, for the approval of a Governor for the Lebanon. I replied that if Aarifi Pasha again put forward Prenk Bib Doda I could only act as I had done before, having received no further instructions from my Government. His Excellency then observed that on the night of the 22nd instant Rustem Pasha would cease to be Governor of the Lebanon, and that there would then be no one under present circumstances to carry on the Government, and that he feared that such a state of affairs might create much excitement amongst the populations of the Mountain; that in his opinion it would be better if I were to state

categorically that Her Majesty's Government objected to Prenk Bib Doda, as the Porte could then withdraw his name and bring forward another person for approval, but that unless he were distinctly objected to by one of the Powers he did not see how the Turkish Government could with propriety put him aside, and argued that it would be better to agree to Bib Doda's appointment, and in the event of his proving a failure, to apply to have him removed.

I replied that I thought the question I had addressed to Aarifi Pasha must have sufficiently indicated to his Highness that Her Majesty's Government did not feel sure that Prenk Bib Doda was fitted for the difficult post of the Governor of the Lebanon, and I asked his Excellency if he thought it would be creditable to accept a person whom we thought beforehand was unfitted for the post, and for whose removal we anticipated the possibility of having to apply. Her Majesty's Government, I remarked, desiring to see peace and tranquillity in the Lebanon, and which I felt sure was the primary object of all the Governments interested in the settlement of this question, had been anxious to see Rustem Pasha continued in his present position, and I remarked to his Excellency, with reference to his reason for accepting Prenk Bib Doda, viz., that he had been put forward by His Majesty the Sultan; that before the present candidate had been thought of an Imperial Iradé had been sent to the Porte ordering Rustem Pasha's name to be placed before the Representatives of the Great Powers with a view to a prolongation of his tenure of office, and that Aarifi Pasha had sent out invitations to them to meet at the Porte in pursuance of the orders contained in that Iradé.

To this M. de Noailles replied that we had never had official cognizance of that Iradé, and that therefore he could not take it into consideration, and that, moreover, he could not have agreed to the reappointment of Rustem Pasha as being contrary to the rules laid down in the Protocol, and he again expressed the fear that in view of no Governor having been selected to succeed Rustem Pasha by the 23rd instant a good deal of effervescence would be produced amongst the inhabitants of the Lebanon at finding themselves without a Governor. I expressed the hope that such a state of affairs, in the interest of tranquillity, might be obviated by prolonging Rustem Pasha's powers for a short time, pending the nomination of his successor, but to this M. de Noailles at once took exception.

No. 43.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received April 30.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, April* 24, 1883.

IN my telegram of the 21st instant I had the honour to communicate to your Lordship a list of persons whose names I had been informed had been submitted to the Sultan with a view to His Majesty selecting from among them a successor to Rustem Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon:—

A Roman Catholic Albanian, Wassa Effendi, who is well spoken of as a hard-working and active official, and the Vilayet of Adrianople, of which he is Lieutenant-Governor, is said to be one of the best governed in the Empire.

Pertew Effendi, at present Procureur-Général in the Vilayet of Adrianople, has been President of the Municipality here, Censor of the Press, and was sent on two special missions to Servia during or immediately after the late war. He is an Armenian Catholic, and an anti-Hassounite.

Conyoumdjian Effendi, an Armenian Catholic, is very well spoken of, but I hear that he is in delicate health and therefore not anxious to accept the appointment.

Nasri Bey, son of the late Franco Pasha, Secretary of the Turkish Embassy at Vienna, is considered by Her Majesty's Government as not a desirable person for the post, and Her Majesty's Ambassador is of the same opinion.

Danisch Effendi, Turkish Consul-General at Ragusa, is a Roman Catholic and highly considered; he accompanied Fuad Pasha to Syria, and consequently has a knowledge of the country.

No. 44.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April 26, 1883.*

I HAVE inquired of Count Kálnoky whether he had obtained any information respecting the qualifications of Danisch Effendi for the post of Governor of the Lebanon, for which the Porte is believed to be likely to propose him.

He said that he had been informed that Danisch was a quiet and apparently sensible man, though he could not say whether he possessed or not the qualities likely to make him an efficient Administrator. There would, however, at least be more probability of his proving so than Bib Doda, and Baron Calice would be instructed to make no objection to his appointment if it is proposed by the Porte and accepted by other Governments.

Count Kálnoky had heard nothing of any intention on the part of the French Government to represent that Rustem Pasha's powers would cease at the date of the expiration of his ten years' tenure of office, but I informed him of the substance of your Lordship's remarks contained in your note to the Italian Ambassador of the 18th instant upon this point.

I said that having been personally engaged in the discussions with reference to the appointments of both Franco Pasha and Rustem Pasha, I was able to say that on those occasions the whole of the Representatives took precisely the same view of the nature of the arrangements as that to be found in your Lordship's note.

The intention was to protect the Lebanon from the liability to the frequent capricious changes of its Governor, from which the other Turkish provinces so grievously suffered, and the wish of the Porte to nominate Franco Pasha for life was objected to by myself and colleagues not on account of the term being too long, but because it would have seemed to place him on the common category of Governors and might have encouraged the Porte in the hope of being able to deal with him accordingly.

Count Kálnoky has no doubt that your Lordship's view of the question is the correct one, and that more was never intended by the Powers than to deprive the Porte of the power of arbitrarily dismissing the Governor till after the lapse of a determined number of years.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 45.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received by telegraph, May 6.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 6, 1883.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Representatives of the Great Powers met again to-day on invitation received this morning.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs proposed Wassa Effendi, mentioned in my despatch of the 24th ultimo. No objection was made.

The Austrian, French, German, and Italian Representatives stated that they would accept him if others did so.

The Russian Minister and I said we would apply for instructions.

M. de Noailles, the French Ambassador, expressed a wish, on the part of his Government, that the present irregular state of things in the Lebanon should terminate as speedily as possible, and the next meeting was fixed for Tuesday evening next in hopes that by that time the necessary instructions would have arrived.

I should be glad, therefore, if your Lordship would kindly inform me whether Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept Wassa Effendi as Governor-General of the Lebanon.

It was agreed that if Wassa Effendi was accepted a Protocol should be signed similar to that of 1873, in which the appointment of Rustem Pasha was recognized.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 46.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received May 7.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, May* 2, 1883.

COUNT KÁLNOKY considers that the Turkish Government are perfectly correct in repudiating the argument that, after the expiration of Rustem Pasha's ten years of office, his powers legally devolved upon the Provincial Council.

The Porte was, he considers, bound to follow the course best adapted to secure the tranquillity of the Mountain till a new Governor was named; and the precedent cited by M. de Noailles had no bearing upon the present case, as upon that occasion the Provincial Council only assumed the administration after the death of Franco Pasha, and when there was no other Executive officer in existence.

Count Kálnoky hoped that the question might soon be brought to a conclusion by the nomination of Danisch Effendi, whom all parties seemed inclined to accept.

No. 47.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, May* 7, 1883, 1·30 P.M.

INFORM your colleagues that Her Majesty's Government are ready to accept Wassa Effendi.

No. 48.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 8, 1883.

I HAVE received Mr. Wyndham's despatch of the 19th ultimo, reporting a conversation which he had held with the French Ambassador on the subject of the Governorship of the Lebanon, and I have to inform you that his language to the Marquis de Noailles on that occasion is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 49.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received May 9.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, May* 9, 1883, 10·15 A.M.

A PROTOCOL accepting Wassa Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon was signed yesterday evening by the Representatives of the Porte and the Powers.

No. 50.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May* 6, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Representatives of the Great Powers were invited this morning to meet again at 3 o'clock this afternoon to discuss the appointment of a successor to Rustem Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, instead of proposing, as was expected, Danisch Effendi, stated that he had received orders to put forward Wassa Effendi, Mustechar or Lieutenant-Governor of the Vilayet of Adrianople. The Austrian, French, German, and Italian Representatives stated that they would accept Wassa Effendi provided the Representatives of the other Powers were agreed. M. de Nélidow and I stated that we would refer to our respective Governments for instructions.

M. de Noailles expressed a wish, on the part of his Government, that the present irregular state of affairs in the Lebanon should cease as soon as possible, and requested Aarifi Pasha to take note of his observations.

M. de Nélidow then read a paper, the contents of which he said emanated from himself, but which he put forward in accordance with the instructions of his Government, taking exception to certain irregularities which had occurred in the government of the Lebanon. The points put forward by his Excellency were briefly, as far as I can remember, as follows :—

1. To maintain the territory of the Lebanon intact, and to restore to it a certain portion which had been detached and added to the Vilayet of Tripoli.

2. To object to the appointment of a Vice-President of the Medjliss.

3. As to the unequal representation of the different races in the Medjliss whereby the Maronites have too much influence.

4. To the unfair manner in which the militia are recruited.

5. As to the non-payment by the Imperial Government of the subsidy due to the Government of the Lebanon, M. de Nélidow requested that the fact of his having made this statement should be inserted in the Protocol recording the nomination of the new Governor, but this was objected to; and it was finally agreed that the Protocol, in the event of Wassa Effendi being accepted as Governor of the Lebanon, should be drawn up in the same terms, *mutatis mutandis*, as the Protocol recording the appointment of Rustem Pasha in 1873.

It was also arranged that M. de Nélidow should communicate a copy of the statement he had read at the meeting to Aarifi Pasha, and to the Representatives of the Great Powers at Constantinople.

I had the honour to address to your Lordship a telegram to-day requesting your Lordship's orders as to Wassa Effendi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

No. 51.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received May 14.)

Constantinople, May 7, 1883.

My Lord,

IN my despatch of the 6th instant I had the honour to enumerate from memory certain irregularities in connection with the Government of the Lebaonn, to which the Russian Minister called the attention of Aarifi Pasha and the Foreign Representatives, at the last meeting held for the purpose of selecting a successor to Rustem Pasha.

I now have the honour to transmit copy of the statement which was read by M. Nélidow at the meeting, which has been furnished to me by his Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 51.

M. Nélidow to Mr. Wyndham.

Constantinople, le 25 Avril / 7 Mai, 1883.

L'ENVOYÉ de Russie a l'honneur de transmettre ci-après à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de la Grande-Bretagne le texte des observations que d'ordre de son Gouvernement il a cru devoir présenter dans la réunion du Dimanche 24 Avril / 6 Mai, au sujet de quelques infractions qui ont été progressivement apportées dans l'exécution au Règlement du Liban.

En priant Mr. Wyndham de vouloir bien lui accuser réception de cette communication, M. Nélidow saisit, &c.

(Translation.)

Constantinople, April 25 / May 7, 1883.

THE Russian Representative has the honour to transmit herewith to the Chargé d'Affaires of Great Britain the text of the observations which, by command of his Government, he thought it his duty to make at the meeting of Sunday, the

24th April / 6th May, with regard to certain irregularities which have been gradually introduced in carrying out the regulations for the Lebanon.

While requesting Mr. Wyndham to be so kind as to acknowledge the receipt of this communication, M. Nélidow takes this opportunity, &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 51.

Statement by M. Nélidow respecting the Lebanon Règlement.

M. LE Ministre Ottoman des Affaires Étrangères ayant réuni les Représentants des Puissances pour aviser d'un commun accord à l'exécution de l'une des principales clauses du Règlement du Liban, l'Envoyé de Russie croit devoir, d'ordre de son Gouvernement, signaler à cette occasion à l'attention de la Sublime Porte et des autres Représentants des Grandes Puissances certaines infractions apportées à ce Règlement dont l'observation exacte constitue aux yeux du Cabinet Impérial la meilleure garantie de paix et de tranquillité dans cette partie de l'Empire Ottoman.

1. Le devoir de maintenir intacte l'intégrité du territoire Libanais, tel qu'il a été fixé par la Commission Internationale de 1861, ne saurait être mis en doute. Or, il se trouve que malgré les représentations des Puissances le Moïssera, partie intégrante du Caïmacanat de Koura, a été détaché de cette circonscription pour être incorporé au Mutessariflik de Tripoli. Il y aurait lieu de faire restituer ce petit territoire à l'Administration Libanaise et régler sur d'autres points encore la délimitation de la Province Libanaise, de façon à empêcher à l'avenir les empiètements des Gouverneurs limitrophes sur son territoire.

2. Depuis un certain nombre d'années l'on a institué dans le Liban le poste de Vice-Président du Conseil Administratif, poste constamment occupé depuis lors par un Maronite. Le Règlement ne prévoit cependant pas de Vice-Président du Conseil Administratif. Or, sans parler du fait que cette innovation grève les finances Libanaises d'un surcroît de dépenses assez considérable, elle tend à détruire le système de pondération établi par le Règlement entre les diverses nationalités du Liban.

3. Le Medjliss-Supérieur Judiciaire a été divisé arbitrairement en deux Cours —Civile et Criminelle—dans le but, paraît-il, de créer pour la nationalité Druse un poste de Président. Celui de la Cour Civile étant choisi constamment parmi les Maronites, l'on conçoit que les autres nationalités se croient lésées par cette préférence et n'y trouvent pas de garanties suffisantes pour une distribution équitable et impartiale de la justice dans les causes où leurs intérêts sont en collision avec ceux des co-nationaux des Présidents. Il serait équitable de remédier à un pareil état de choses.

4. Le Règlement veut que la milice Libanaise se recrute indistinctement parmi toutes les nationalités Libanaises dans la proportion de sept hommes sur mille. En réalité ce sont deux nationalités qui fournissent à la milice la plus grande proportion d'hommes et principalement d'officiers.

En général, une plus équitable répartition des emplois parmi toutes les nationalités Libanaises contribuerait beaucoup à cimenter entre elles la paix et la concorde qui font souvent défaut dans le Liban.

Enfin, il serait nécessaire d'aviser à ce qu'il y aurait à faire en présence du refus de la Porte de continuer à fournir au Liban le subside pécuniaire prévu par le Règlement.

(Translation.)

THE Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs having called together the Representatives of the Powers in order that they might consult jointly with regard to the carrying out of one of the principal clauses of the Regulations for the Lebanon, the Representative of Russia, acting under instructions from his Government, takes this opportunity of calling the attention of the Sublime Porte and of the other Representatives of the Great Powers to certain irregularities in these Regulations, the strict observance of which constitutes in the eyes of the Imperial Cabinet the best guarantee for peace and tranquillity in this part of the Ottoman Empire.

1. The duty of maintaining the integrity of the Lebanon territory, as established by the International Commission of 1861, cannot admit of a doubt. Now, it appears that, in spite of the representations of the Powers, the Moïssera, an

integral part of the Kaïmakamate of Koura, has been detached from that district and incorporated in the Mutessariflik of Tripoli. It would be reasonable to cause the restitution of this little territory to the Lebanon Administration, and to settle at other points also the delimitation of the Lebanon province in such a manner as to prevent for the future any encroachments by the Governors of provinces bordering on its territory.

2. Some years ago the post of Vice-President of the Administrative Council was established in the Lebanon, a post which has always been occupied since then by a Maronite. But the Regulations do not provide for a Vice-President of the Administrative Council. Consequently, without speaking of the fact that this innovation burdens the Lebanon finances with a very considerable increase of expenditure, it tends to destroy the system of equilibrium established by the Regulations between the different nationalities of the Lebanon.

3. The Judicial Medjliss-Superior has been arbitrarily divided into two Courts —Civil and Criminal—with the view, it would appear, of creating for the Druse nationality the post of President. That of the Civil Court being invariably chosen from among the Maronites, it is conceivable that the other nationalities should consider themselves injured by this preference, and should not perceive in it sufficient guarantees for an equitable and impartial distribution of justice in cases where their interests may be in conflict with those of the co-nationals of the Presidents. It would be fair that such a state of things should be rectified.

4. The Regulations stipulate that the Lebanon militia should be impartially recruited from among all the Lebanon nationalities in the proportion of seven men per thousand. In reality, two nationalities furnish the militia with the greater proportion of men and more especially of officers.

Generally speaking, a more equitable distribution of offices among all the Lebanon nationalities would contribute greatly to cement among them that peace and concord which are often wanting in the Lebanon.

Finally, it is necessary to take counsel as to what should be done in face of the refusal of the Porte to continue to furnish the Lebanon with the pecuniary subsidy contemplated by the Regulations.

No. 52.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received May 21.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May* 9, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the Protocol on the nomination of Wassa Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon, which was signed at the Porte on the evening of the 8th instant by his Highness Aarifi Pasha, Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Representatives of the Six Powers,

Wassa Pasha has thus been appointed Governor of the Lebanon for a term of ten years.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Protocol of Conference between the Representatives of the Six Powers (Great Britain, Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Italy, Russia) and Turkey, relative to the Administration of the Lebanon.—Constantinople, May 8, 1883.

LE poste de Gouverneur du Liban étant devenu vacant par suite de l'expiration des pouvoirs de Rustem Pacha, Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan a daigné nommer Wassa Pacha, Mustéchar du Gouverneur-Général et Gouverneur du chef-lieu du Vilayet d'Andrinople, en qualité de nouveau Gouverneur.

Les Représentants des Puissances Signataires du Règlement Organique du Liban en date du 9 Juin, 1861, de celui du 6 Septembre, 1864, du Protocole du 27 Juillet, 1868, et de celui du 22 Avril, 1873, réunis en Conférence chez le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Sultan, ont été unanimes pour constater, par le présent Protocole, l'accord préalable qui, à l'occasion de cette nomination, s'est établi entre eux et la Sublime Porte.

La Sublime Porte, ainsi que les Représentants des Puissances, déclarent maintenir les dispositions du Protocole du 27 Juillet, 1868, et de celui du 22 Avril, 1873, relatives au terme de dix ans assigné aux pouvoirs du Gouverneur, et maintenir en même temps celles des dispositions des Protocoles antérieurs qui n'ont pas été modifiées ou qui ont été confirmées par les dites Protocoles.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé le présent Protocole, et y ont apposé le sceau de leurs armes.

Fait à Constantinople, le 8 Mai, 1883.

(L.S.)	A. AARIFI.	(L.S.)	HUGH WYNDHAM.
		(L.S.)	RADOWITZ.
		(L.S.)	CALICE.
		(L.S.)	MARQUIS DE NOAILLES.
		(L.S.)	A. DI COLLOBIANO.
		(L.S.)	NÉLIDOW.

(Translation.)

THE post of Governor of the Lebanon having fallen vacant in consequence of the expiration of the powers of Rustem Pasha, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has been graciously pleased to appoint as the new Governor Wassa Pasha, Mustecbar of the Governor-General and Governor of the chief town of the Vilayet of Adrianople.

The Representatives of the Signatory Powers of the Organic Regulations for the Lebanon, dated the 9th June, 1861, of those of the 6th September, 1864, of the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, and of that of the 22nd April, 1873, having met together in conference at the house of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Majesty the Sultan, have unanimously affirmed, by the present Protocol, the preliminary agreement, which, on the occasion of this appointment, was established between them and the Sublime Porte.

The Sublime Porte, as well as the Representatives of the Powers, now declare that the provisions of the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, and of that of the 22nd April, 1873, with regard to the term of ten years assigned to the powers of the Governor, remain in force, as also such of the provisions of previous Protocols as have not been modified, or as have been confirmed by the said Protocols.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol, and have affixed to it the seal of their arms.

Done at Constantinople the 8th May, 1883.

(L.S.)	A. AARIFI.	(L.S.)	HUGH WYNDHAM.
		(L.S.)	RADOWITZ.
		(L.S.)	CALICE.
		(L.S.)	MARQUIS DE NOAILLES.
		(L.S.)	A. DI COLLOBIANO.
		(L.S.)	NÉLIDOW.

No. 53.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(*Received May* 28.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May* 18, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I had some conversation yesterday afternoon with Wassa Pasha, the newly-appointed Governor of the Lebanon. I told his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government had every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which Rustem Pasha had fulfilled the duties of his office, and that it was confidently expected that the same good result would ensue from his (Wassa Pasha's) future administration; and that Her Majesty's Government, on hearing that he had been selected for the post, had at once signified their acquiescence in his nomination. Wassa Pasha thanked me and said that he had not sought for the appointment, but having been named by the Sultan, and having been accepted by the Powers, he should endeavour to do his duty to the best of his ability. He considered that duty to be: first, to maintain the rights of His Imperial Majesty; secondly, to guard against any change in the existing state of affairs, as established by the Organic Statute; and, thirdly, to see that all the inhabitants of the Lebanon were governed in a strictly impartial manner.

I expressed to Wassa Pasha my satisfaction at his programme, adding that I felt sure it would meet with the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 53.

Statement of Wassa Pasha's past Services.

ALBANAIS Catholique de la tribu des Mirdites, Wassa Pacha, après avoir occupé divers postes dans la capitale, a exercé des fonctions et a rempli des missions importantes tant en Albanie, en Bosnie, en Herzégovine, qu'au Monténégro.

Il a suivi Djevdet Pacha à Alep en qualité de Conseiller.

Il a occupé à maintes reprises le poste de Sous-Gouverneur dans les Provinces.

Wassa Pacha, après avoir été membre de la Cour de Cassation, a été appelé à diriger le Bureau de la Presse. Lors des événements de Bulgarie, il a suivi Saadullah Pacha à Philippopoli et plus tard il a été désigné comme Commissaire Impérial chargé de faire une enquête sur les massacres de Batak.

Revenu à Constantinople, il a été nommé Auditeur et quelque temps après membre du Conseil d'État.

En dernier lieu, il fut envoyé comme Mustéchar du Vilayet d'Andrinople, où il a dirigé les affaires civiles du vilayet jusqu'à la nomination de son Altesse Cadri Pacha,

Lorsqu'il a été élu au poste de Gouverneur du Liban, il occupait à Andrinople le poste de Gouverneur du district d'Andrinople.

(Translation.)

AN Albanian Catholic of the tribe of the Mirdites, Wassa Pasha, after having filled various posts in the capital, has held offices and fulfilled important missions both in Albania, Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Montenegro.

He succeeded Djevdet Pasha at Aleppo, in the position of Councillor.

He on several occasions filled the office of Sub-Governor in the provinces.

Wassa Pasha, after having been a member of the Court of Appeal, was summoned to superintend the Press Office. After the occurrences in Bulgaria he succeeded Saadullah Pasha at Philippopolis, and was subsequently appointed as Imperal Commissioner intrusted with the conduct of an inquiry into the Batak massacres.

On his return to Constantinople he was appointed auditor, and some time afterwards member of the Council of State.

Finally, he was sent as Mustechar to the Vilayet of Adrianople, where he directed the civil affairs of the vilayet until the appointment of His Highness Cadri Pasha.

At the time of his election to the post of Governor of the Lebanon, he occupied at Adrianople the position of Governor of the district of Adrianople.

No. 54.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 8, 1883.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st ultimo, informing me of the conversation you had had with Wassa Pasha, the newly-appointed Governor of the Lebanon, with regard to the future administration of that province.

I have to state that the language you held to his Excellency on the occasion in question, as reported in your despatch above referred to, is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 55.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received June 11.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 3, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul-General Eldridge, respecting the appointment of Wassa Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon.

Wassa Pasha left Constantinople on the 31st ultimo for his new post.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH WYNDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Consul-General Eldridge to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Beyrout, May* 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 9th instant, informing me that the Protocol accepting Wassa Pasha as Governor of the Lebanon was signed on the previous day.

This was generally known at Beyrout on the same day, and the announcement created little or no excitement either here or in the Lebanon, and the general feeling was one of relief that this long pending question, which had given rise to so much intrigue and uneasiness, was at last settled, especially when it was ascertained from the few persons here who knew personally his Excellency that Wassa Pasha is a man of considerable experience in the public Service, and appears to possess the qualifications necessary to administer Mount Lebanon.

How far these impressions may be justified it is of course premature to state; but if he is a man of sufficient firmness of character to resist certain adverse and insinuating influences, I trust that the affairs of the province which he is called upon to govern will continue to progress as during the time of his predecessor Rustem Pasha, who has received orders to remain in the Lebanon, and to continue to carry on the administration until the arrival of Wassa Pasha.

As the time for the departure of Rustem Pasha approaches the feelings of regret at the loss of so just and able an Administrator, under whom the Lebanon has so greatly progressed, are finding a much more general expression, and it is my impression that if the wishes of the population were consulted at the present time the majority would give their suffrages in favour of retaining his Excellency, whilst, with the exception of the small minority who, from personal and interested motives, have always opposed him, because he would not submit himself to their influence, all classes would admit the great capacity he has displayed during the ten years he has governed the Lebanon, where his memory will be long cherished.

On the 3rd instant his Excellency went to Damascus to take leave of his Highness Hamdi Pasha, the Vali, and his Excellency Hussein Fevzi Pasha, the Mushir of the 5th Corps d'Armée, with both of whom Rustem Pasha has always entertained the most friendly relations. During his short visit to the capital of Syria the highest possible honours were paid him by the authorities, and the Notables and people of Damascus, where his reception had almost the character of an ovation.

This demonstration is the more noteworthy as showing that while Rustem Pasha has gained the sympathy and respect of the population with whose government he has been so long entrusted, and has earned the esteem of the Consular Body, his Excellency has also succeeded in maintaining cordial relations with the authorities of the surrounding vilayets of Syria, although its interests not infrequently clash with those of the privileged province, and has effectually combined, by a happy mixture of tact and firmness, the strict performance of his duties towards the Lebanon, with a proper regard for the paramount rights and interests of the Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. JACKSON ELDRIDGE.

No. 56.

Consul-General Eldridge to Mr. Wyndham.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 2.)

Sir, *Beyrout, June* 15, 1883.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of the 3rd instant informing me of the departure of Wassa Pasha, and transmitting to me a copy of the Protocol signed by the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Representatives of the Six Powers recording his Excellency's acceptance as Governor of the Lebanon.

Wassa Pasha arrived at Beyrout on the 6th instant, and was received with the usual honours. The French corvette "Infernet" fired a salute of nineteen guns on the arrival of the steamer conveying his Excellency, a large number of functionaries and Notables of the Lebanon, representatives of the Vali and Mushir, and an employé of the French Consulate-General, accompanied by a Dragoman and cavasses, went on board to welcome the new Governor of the Lebanon, who on landing was received with military honours, nineteen guns from the saluting battery, and by his predecessor Rustem Pasha, who drove him in his own carriage to the house prepared for his reception, where he received the delegates of the various Consulates according to the usual custom, as well as functionaries, Notables, &c.

On the following day, the 7th, the Imperial Firman appointing Wassa Pasha Governor of the Lebanon was read with the usual ceremonies at Hadad, the official residence, in the presence of the functionaries of the Lebanon, the delegates of the European Consulates, and a large crowd of Notables and spectators.

On the 8th his Excellency received the usual visit of my colleagues and myself and the heads of the various religious communities, which he returned on the following days, after which he entered on the performance of his duties as Governor.

It is of course premature to form an opinion as to how Wassa Pasha will conduct the Administration confided to him, but if he acts up to the programme which he has announced to those who have seen him since his arrival, there is little doubt of his success, as he declares his intention to be to maintain the integrity of the Règlement, to act with strict impartiality towards all, and, as far as possible, to follow in the path traced for him by his distinguished predecessor Rustem Pasha, with whom he is on the best possible terms.

Wassa Pasha certainly enters upon his duties under the most favourable circumstances, as he finds the Administration well organized and in perfect working order. He has had the advantage of the explanations and advice based upon an experience of ten years of his predecessor, and from what I learn, he himself has considerable experience in administration. If, with this happy combination of circumstances, he possesses the same tact, integrity, honesty of purpose, and firmness of character as Rustem Pasha, there is every reason to hope that the Lebanon will continue to prosper under his rule as during past years.

Rustem Pasha will leave for Constantinople by the Austrian steamer of the 18th instant, much regretted by a large circle of friends.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. JACKSON ELDRIDGE.

No. 57.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 6, 1883.

YOU inclosed in your despatch of the 7th May copy of a Memorandum by the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, in which his Excellency, by direction of his Government, has called the attention of the Porte and of the Representatives of the Great Powers to certain alleged infractions of the Règlement of the Lebanon.

Her Majesty's Government have carefully investigated the circumstances which led to the irregularities specified by M. de Nélidow, and have arrived at the following conclusions upon each of the points raised.

The post of Vice-President of the Administrative Council, if not actually provided for by the Règlement, appears to be rather a development of its spirit than in opposition to it. When it was found that the functions of the Presidency with

which the Governor is invested by the 1st Article of the Règlement, interfered with the proper discharge of his other duties, various expedients for relieving him were resorted to, which resulted in the appointment by Daoud Pasha of a permanent Vice-President. This officer in the first instance happened to belong to the Maronite community, and although this has continued to be the case with his successors, Her Majesty's Government have reason to believe that the recent holders of the post have been distinguished by their liberal sentiments.

Her Majesty's Government understand that the division of the Superior Medjliss into two Courts—Civil and Criminal—was made to facilitate the transaction of business, and they believe that it is an improvement on the old system. Although the Presidency of the Civil Court is held by a Druse, this is not a ground for supposing that the post was created with any view of benefiting that sect in particular.

M. de Nélidow observes that the militia, instead of being recruited indiscriminately amongst all the nationalities of the Lebanon, in the proportion of 7 to 1,000, is composed of officers and men drawn mainly from two nationalities.

Her Majesty's Government are informed that the recruiting is by voluntary enlistment, and that in no case is a recruit rejected on account of his religious convictions. The predominance of Druses and Maronites is attributable to the fact that very few members of the other communities present themselves for enrolment.

Her Majesty's Government do not consider that this matter calls for interference, or that any attention need be paid to the complaint that the appointments under Government are unfairly distributed, as this is the grievance of every sect alike.

But as regards the unauthorized incorporation in the Mutessariflik of Tripoli of the territory called Moïssera, on the northern frontier, Her Majesty's Government are decidedly of opinion that it should be replaced under the administration of the Lebanon.

It will also be necessary to consider the means of providing the annual subvention withdrawn by the Porte, and they believe that the revenues of the Lebanon might be largely increased by a more equal distribution of taxation, and by a revaluation of the land, much of which, especially that possessed by the monasteries and the Maronite clergy is said to be greatly underestimated.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 58.

Earl Granville to Her Majesty's Representatives at Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Rome, and St. Petersburgh.

My Lord,
Sir,

Foreign Office, August 6, 1883.

WITH reference to the despatches from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople of the 6th and 7th May last, relative to the alleged infractions of the Lebanon Règlement to which the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople has called the attention of his colleagues, I inclose copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Wyndham containing the opinion of Her Majesty's Government upon the various points raised.*

I have to request you to communicate a copy of this despatch to the Government to which you are accredited.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 59.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received August 11.)

My Lord,

Paris, August 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have this day addressed a note to the French Government in the terms of your Lordship's despatch of the

* No. 57.

6th instant, and have communicated to that Government a copy of the despatch addressed by your Lordship to Mr. Wyndham of the 6th August relative to the alleged infractions of the Lebanon Règlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 60.

Earl Granville to Mr. Wyndham.

Foreign Office, August 17, 1883.

Sir,

THE Protocol of the 8th May, inclosed in your despatch of the 9th May, recording the appointment of Wassa Pasha to the Governorship of the Lebanon, commences by stating that the post has become vacant in consequence of the expiration of Rustem Pasha's powers.

I pointed out in my despatch of the 19th April that according to previous Protocols these powers did not necessarily cease after the lapse of ten years, but could only do so on the revocation of the Governor's mandate by the Porte. The wording of the present Protocol should therefore have been "par suite de la révocation," instead of "l'expiration des pouvoirs de Rustem Pacha."

I have to instruct you to draw the attention of the Porte to this expression, and inform me of their views upon the points raised in my despatch of the 19th April.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 61.

Mr. J. G. Kennedy to Earl Granville.—(Received August 20.)

St. Petersburgh, August 16, 1883.

My Lord,

IN obedience to the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, I have this day communicated to M. de Giers copy of your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Wyndham of the same date on the subject of the Règlement of the Lebanon.

M. de Giers remarked that the observations made by M. de Nélidoff were approved by his Government, and had been mainly advanced in the interests of the inhabitants of Syria professing the Orthodox faith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. G. KENNEDY.

No. 62.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received August 25.)

Paris, August 24, 1883.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 7th instant, and to my despatch of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note which I have received from M. Challemel-Lacour stating that he had read with interest the observations of Her Majesty's Government on the complaints made by M. Nélidow with regard to the Lebanon, and begging me to offer to your Lordship his best thanks for this communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 62.

M. Challemel-Lacour to Mr. Plunkett.

M. le Ministre, *Paris, le* 23 *Août*, 1883.

VOUS m'avez fait l'honneur de m'envoyer, à la date du 10 de ce mois, copie d'une dépêche que le Principal Secrétaire d'État de Sa Majesté pour les Affaires Étrangères a adressée au Chargé d'Affaires d'Angleterre à Constantinople à l'occasion de l'envoi d'un Mémorandum émanant de l'Ambassade de Russie près le Sultan et relatif à l'exécution du Règlement Organique du Liban.

J'ai pris connaissance avec intérêt des observations qu'ont suggérées au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique les plaintes formulées par M. de Nélidow, et je vous prie de transmettre à Lord Granville tous mes remercîments pour l'obligeante communication qu'il vous a chargé de me faire.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) P. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Paris, August* 23, 1883.

YOU have done me the honour to forward to me, under date of the 10th instant, a copy of a despatch which Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs addressed to the British Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople with regard to the transmission of a Memorandum emanating from the Russian Embassy at the Sultan's Court respecting the carrying out of the Organic Regulations of the Lebanon.

I have taken cognizance with interest of the observations which the complaints formulated by M. de Nélidow have suggested to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and I beg you to forward to Lord Granville my thanks for the obliging communication which he has instructed you to make to me.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) P. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR.

No. 63.

Mr. Wyndham to Earl Granville.—(Received September 13.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, September* 7, 1883.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo, I have the honour to state that in order to give effect to your Lordship's instructions, I drew up a Memorandum, of which the inclosed is a copy, in the sense of your Lordship's despatch of the 19th April last, and yesterday, at an interview which I had with Aarifi Pasha, Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, I spoke to his Highness on the subject, and placed in his hands a translation in French of the abovementioned Memorandum.

His Highness replied that the Protocol recording Wassa Pasha's appointment as Governor of the Lebanon had been drawn up at the Porte in accordance with the wording of the Protocol on Rustem Pasha's appointment; that as to the duration of the term of office of the Governor not being limited to ten years, he was of the same opinion as Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Memorandum.

ON the 21st April last Mr. Wyndham had the honour to communicate to his Highness Aarifi Pasha the substance of a telegram from Lord Granville dated the 19th April, stating that in view of the wording of the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, and of Rustem Pasha's Firman of appointment, it would seem that the Sublime Porte could decline to remove Rustem Pasha until the Powers had agreed on his successor, and requesting to be informed as to the views of the Sublime Porte on the subject.

On the receipt of this communication Aarifi Pasha informed Mr. Wyndham

that he could not then express his views respecting the points raised in the telegram communicated to him.

Mr. Wyndham has now been instructed by his Government to call confidentially the attention of the Porte to this question, and particularly to the Protocol of the 8th May last, which commences by stating that the post of Governorship of the Lebanon had become vacant in consequence of the expiration of Rustem Pasha's powers.

Her Majesty's Government consider that the wording of the Protocol should have been "par suite de la révocation," instead of "par suite de l'expiration des pouvoirs de Rustem Pacha," and would be glad to learn the views of the Sublime Porte on the points raised in the above-mentioned telegram of the 19th April last, which Mr. Wyndham has now the honour to recapitulate more fully as follows.

The opinion of the French Government that Rustem Pasha's powers came to an end on the 23rd April last, would not appear to be based upon the wording of any Règlement, Firman, or Protocol relating to that Governorship. The Governor's tenure of office originally limited by the Protocol of the 9th June, 1861, to three years, was extended by the Protocol of the 6th September, 1864, to five years longer, but by the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, the Powers agreed not to limit strictly as before the duration of his tenure, and declared that the new Governor's mandate should be for "*not less than ten years.*" The provisions of the Protocol of the 9th June, 1861, relative to the revocation of the mandate, were to continue applicable "soit avant, soit après ce terme," thereby showing that the revocation might take place *after* the expiration of the ten years, and that his Governorship did not necessarily come to an end at the conclusion of that term. On the appointment of Rustem Pasha to the post the Powers signified by the Protocol of the 22nd April, 1873, the existence of a preliminary understanding respecting his selection and confirmed the dispositions of the Protocol of the 27th July, 1868, "relative au terme de dix ans assigné aux pouvoirs du Gouverneur," but these words are inaccurate if they are intended to mean that by that Protocol a fixed term of ten years had been agreed to, and a proof that no such fixed term was agreed to is to be found in the Firman of Rustem Pasha's appointment, which fixes no limit to his tenure of office, but on the contrary declares that provided he discharges his functions well, he will always be maintained at his post as a long period of administration can only contribute to the stability of the Government.

The conclusions therefore arrived at by Her Majesty's Government, and as to which they are desirous of ascertaining the views of the Sublime Porte, are that until the Porte revokes the mandate of the Governor of the Lebanon, he remains in office, and that three months before such revocation the Porte must propose that an understanding should be come to ("provoquer une entente") as to his successor, as provided by the Protocol of the 9th June, 1861. Mr. Wyndham supposes the Sublime Porte is of the same opinion, as it continued Rustem Pasha in office after the 23rd April last, and until the arrival in the Lebanon of his successor Wassa Pasha.

Therapia, September 3, 1883.

No. 64.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, October* 6, 1883.

I HAVE received Mr. Wyndham's despatch of the 7th ultimo, transmitting a copy of a Memorandum which he had placed in the hands of the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the duration of the appointment of the Governor of the Lebanon.

I have to state that I approve the terms of that Memorandum.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

TURKEY. No. 1 (1883).

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Affairs of the Lebanon and the Appointment of a Governor-General.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1883.

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