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ON and after the 18th of December next, the Office of the London Gazette for Advertisements and general business will be in the Quadrangle of the Stationery Office, Princes Street, Westminster. The Gazette will be published at 45, St. Martin's Lane, as at present.

Foreign Office, November 21, 1876.

FURTHER Papers relating to the affairs of Turkey:—

The Earl of Derby to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office,

SIR,

November 4, 1876.

HER Majesty's Government believe from the communications which they have received from the Powers, that there is a general feeling that the only solution of the questions arising out of recent events in Turkey is to be found in a Conference, but that there is some hesitation felt in formally proposing it.

Under these circumstances, and with the view of bringing about a satisfactory settlement of those questions, Her Majesty's Government have determined to renew the suggestion made by them on the 5th ultimo, and to take the initiative in proposing that a Conference should be held forthwith at Constantinople, in which all the Guaranteeing Powers and the Porte should take part, and each Government should be at liberty to appoint two Plenipotentiaries to represent it.

Her Majesty's Government further submit as the bases for the deliberations of the Conference:—

1. The independence and the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire.

2. A declaration that the Powers do not intend to seek for, and will not seek for, any territorial advantages, any exclusive influence, or any concession with regard to the commerce of their subjects which those of every other nation may not equally obtain.

This declaration was made on September 17, 1840, in the Protocol for the pacification of the Levant, and again August 3, 1860, in regard to the pacification of Syria.

3. The bases of pacification proposed to the Porte on the 21st of September, viz.:—

(a.) The *status quo*, speaking roughly, both as regards Servia and Montenegro.

(b.) That the Porte should simultaneously undertake, in a Protocol to be signed at Constantinople with the Representatives of the Mediating Powers, to grant to Bosnia and Herzegovina, a

system of local or administrative autonomy, by which is to be understood a system of local institutions which shall give the population some control over their own local affairs, and guarantees against the exercise of arbitrary authority. There is to be no question of the creation of a tributary State.

Guarantees of a similar kind to be also provided against mal-administration in Bulgaria. The reforms already agreed to by the Porte in the Note addressed to the Representatives of the Powers on the 13th of February last, to be included in the administrative arrangements for Bosnia and the Herzegovina, and, so far as they may be applicable, for Bulgaria.

Her Majesty's Government desire that your Excellency should propose to the Government to which you are accredited a Conference on these bases, and you may state, that if this proposal meets with general acceptance, Her Majesty's Government will lose no time in appointing a special Ambassador to proceed to Constantinople to take part in the Conference.

If the other powers thought it advisable, Her Majesty's Government would not object to their Plenipotentiaries joining in preliminary discussions with the Plenipotentiaries of the other five Guaranteeing Powers, before the opening of the Conference. These discussions to be on the same bases as those proposed for the Conference.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) DERBY.

The Earl of Derby to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office,

November 4, 1876.

SIR,

IN my preceding Despatch of this day's date, I have informed you of the proposals of Her Majesty's Government for the assembling of a Conference, and I have now to state to your Excellency Her Majesty's Government have considered that it would be useful that a Special Ambassador should be sent to the Conference, and that it is their wish that you should act with him.