

No. 579.—*CONVENTION between the Porte and Montenegro, relative to the Cession of Dulcigno.* Signed at Kounia, 25th November, 1880:*

ART.

TABLE.

1. Cession of Town and District of *Dulcigno*.
2. Protection of Persons and Property of Inhabitants.
3. Property of Religious Foundations (Vakoufs) ; Quota of Ottoman Public Debt.
4. Validity of Acts of *Turkish* Tribunals, &c.
5. Emigration.
6. Arms and Munitions of War.
7. Dispersion of Bands of Armed *Albanians*.
8. Precautions for Preservation of Order during Surrender.
9. Protection of Deserted Houses.
10. Time for Surrender of Town and District of *Dulcigno*. Mode of Evacuation by *Turkish* Troops. Occupation of Town, Fortress, &c., of *Dulcigno*, by *Montenegrin* Troops. Occupation by *Montenegrin* Troops of the right bank of the *Boyana*. *Montenegrin* occupation of *Mala* and *Velia Gorana*. Receipt for Surrender to be given by *Montenegrin* Commander.

(Translation.)

THE Ottoman Delegate and the Montenegrin Delegate having met at Kounia, and having found their full powers in good and due form, have agreed to the following :—

Cession of Town and District of Dulcigno.

ART. I. The town and district of Dulcigno shall be peacefully and formally surrendered to Montenegro by the Imperial Ottoman Government.†

Protection of Persons and Property of Inhabitants.

ART. II. The Montenegrin Government engages to respect the rights, lives, and honour of such inhabitants as should not desire to leave the localities ceded to Montenegro with the Imperial Ottoman troops, as well as to respect the property of the

* See Treaty of Berlin, 13th July, 1878 (No. 530), Article XXIX.

† Mr. Kirby Green reported, in June, 1882, that when Dulcigno and the coast as far as the right bank of the mouth of the River Boyana were ceded to Montenegro, in the autumn of 1880, it was stipulated that all the terms of Article XXIX, § 6, of the Treaty of Berlin, were to be equally applicable to the newly acquired Montenegrin ports and coast-line. He further reported that, not merely light coast-guard boats, but steam gun-vessels of the Austro-Hungarian Navy, visited the Montenegrin ports, and claimed free access to all the waters of the Principality.

inhabitants who remain, or who do not remain, conforming itself for this purpose to what has been established by the Treaty of Berlin (No. 530).

Property of Religious Foundations (Vakoufs). Quota of Ottoman Public Debt.

ART. III. A special Turco-Montenegrin Convention will settle the question of valuation of the property of the State or of religious foundations (vakoufs), as well as the quota of the Public Debt of the Empire that Montenegro has to bear, according to the Treaty of Berlin (No. 530).

Validity of Acts of Turkish Tribunals, &c.

ART. IV. The Montenegrin Government recognize as valid all the Acts which have emanated from the Tribunals and from the Ottoman authorities in the ceded localities.

Emigration.

ART. V. The Montenegrin Government will facilitate the transfer of the inhabitants who wish to emigrate out of the principality.

Arms and Munitions of War.

ART. VI. The arms and ammunition that are found in the district of Dulcigno and those remaining in the hands of the population belonging to the Imperial Ottoman Government, which could not be removed till the day of the surrender, will be placed in dépôt and confided to the charge of an Ottoman officer with a squad of soldiers sufficient to guard these stores; this officer will also be ordered, in concert with a Montenegrin officer, to facilitate the transfer of the emigrants, as well as of their personal property.

Dispersion of Bands of Armed Albanians.

ART. VII. During the operation of the surrender, the Ottoman troops must disperse all assembling of armed Albanians who would disturb order, and would oppose the march of the Montenegrin troops.

Precautions for Preservation of Order during Surrender.

ART. VIII. The Commander-in-Chief of the Albanian-

[Cession of Dulcigno to Montenegro.]

Scutari division engages to prevent any acts on the part of Ottoman subjects tending to disturb order, and to threaten security in the new Montenegrin possessions, as well as all aggressions during the operations of the surrender. After the occupation, the two Governments, conforming themselves to international obligations, will take, in concert, the necessary measures to prevent their respective dependents (*ressortissants*) from creating disturbances outside their frontier.

Protection of Deserted Houses.

ART. IX. In the case where houses should be found abandoned and shut up by proprietors who may have emigrated before the occupation of the Montenegrins, these houses shall not be opened till the return of their owners.

Time for Surrender of Town and District of Dulcigno.

ART. X. The formal and peaceful surrender of the town and district of Dulcigno shall take place in 30 hours from the departure of the Montenegrin troops from Kounia, and shall be effected in the following manner:—

Technical details of the surrender:—The Montenegrin troops collected at Kounia shall set out on Friday, 26th November, 1880 (N.S.), at noon precisely, in one or two columns.

Mode of Evacuation by Turkish Troops.

The first column shall follow the Antivari-Dulcigno road, and pass by the Majoura; when the Montenegrin troops shall have arrived at 50 paces from the two intrenchments occupied by the Ottoman troops, having on the right the Majoura and on the left the Antivari-Dulcigno road, the Turkish troops shall retire towards Dulcigno, following the road which leads over the Windmill hill (Bjela Gora). The Montenegrin troops ordered to occupy Dulcigno shall follow them by the same road, keeping the above-mentioned distance between them and the Turkish troops. When the Montenegrin troops shall be at the distance of 50 paces from the Windmill, the Ottoman troops shall retire to rejoin their headquarters upon the hills eastward of the town of Dulcigno.

Occupation of Town and Fortress, &c., of Dulcigno, by Montenegrin Troops.

The Montenegrin Commander will send one or more detachments towards the hills where the Turkish headquarters are, and will occupy at the same time the hill, the fortress, and the town of Dulcigno.

The Montenegrin detachments having arrived at 50 paces from the Turkish headquarters, the Imperial Army will quit the hills, will march along the Dulcigno-Scutari road, and will pass the night of the 26th—27th November on the heights of Chinguerk; the Montenegrin troops will follow them as far as Pistol, and will occupy the heights.

The Turkish troops finding themselves in this last locality, shall evacuate it, as soon as the Montenegrins shall have arrived at the above-named distance, and shall rejoin the Turkish headquarters. Immediately after the departure from the Majoura for Dulcigno of the Turkish and Montenegrin troops, as above stated, the Montenegrin Commander shall send a sufficient force to occupy the intrenchments which exist on the top of the Majoura.

The Turkish troops in these intrenchments will quit them as soon as the Montenegrins have arrived at the distance already established, and will descend to Pistol, to rejoin the troops that are there.

The Montenegrins will occupy during the daytime of Friday all the intrenchments of the Majoura, as well as Cerveni Kamen.

The next day, the 27th November, at 9 o'clock in the morning, the Montenegrin troops will proceed towards Chinguerk, and the Imperial troops will retire towards Scutari to place themselves on the same day behind the frontier line accepted by the Powers.

Occupation by Montenegrin Troops of right bank of the Boyana.

At the same time the Montenegrin troops will take possession of the right bank of the Boyana.

Montenegrin Occupation of Mala and Velia Gorana.

Friday, at noon, the Montenegrin Commander will occupy the localities of Mala and Velia Gorana, in which there are

[Cession of Dulcigno to Montenegro.]

only the inhabitants, or he will wait to take possession of these two points till the daytime of the following day, when His Excellency Dervish Pasha, on receiving a notice from the Montenegrin Commander, which shall reach him on Friday evening, will send a detachment of Ottoman troops to occupy the two localities in question, and surrender them to the Montenegrin troops.

*Receipt for Surrender of Town and District to be given by
Montenegrin Commander.*

The regular surrender of the town and district of Dulcigno being accomplished, a receipt for the possession shall be delivered to the Commander-in-Chief of the Scutari Division by the Commander-in-Chief of the Montenegrin troops.

At the request of the Montenegrin Delegate, his Turkish colleague will send to Kounia, on Friday, at 10 o'clock in the morning, two Turkish officers, who will remain with the Montenegrin Delegate till the end of the surrender.

Done in duplicate at Kounia, Thursday evening, 25th November, 1880 (N.S.).

For the Commander-in-Chief of the Scutari-
Albania Division.

BEDRI.

Lieutenant-Colonel Staff-Major.

For the Commander-in-Chief of the Mon-
tenegrin troops.

NICOLAS MATANOVICH.

Aide-de-Camp to His Highness the
Prince of Montenegro.

[On the 27th November the town of Dulcigno was peaceably occupied by the Montenegrins, and the Dulcigno District surrendered to them, and on the 5th December the combined Fleets took their departure from Dulcigno.]
