

The Armenian Outrages.

Again the irredeemable Turk has broken bounds and has charged into the Armenian villages, slaughtering and burning and robbing. Men have been tortured and butchered, women have been assaulted and children have been cut and beaten, five villages have been looted, four monasteries have been sacked and the homes of five thousand persons have been destroyed. And this was done not by any rabble of people inspired by race hatred: it was the act of a body of Turkish troops, representing the government of the sultan and the sublime porte—save the mark! The policy of non-interference so long pursued by the European powers cannot much longer survive such incidents as this. Lord Salisbury was justified when he threatened the dismemberment of Turkey if reforms were not immediately begun. Half civilized people are always harder to reform or to deal with in any way than utter savages, for they are usually confirmed in their barbarism and resent change as the savage does not. Turkey has been on the map too long for the good of Europe and for its own good. Like China, it must be taken in hand that the rest of the world may be safe. Nominally, the powers have no more right in Turkey than they have in each other's territory, but if this slaughter of innocent people is to continue any foreign force that will take the initiative and put a stop to it, in the name of humanity, will receive the sanction and the applause of the world at large. The right of the individual to life, and even to liberty and the pursuit of happiness, is greater than the right of an effete nation to preserve its geographical boundaries.