

between Russia and Turkish subjects, and to execute immediately all legal judgments already delivered. The treaty declares that Russia, not wishing to annex territory, receives the Dobrudscha, in order to cede it to Roumania in exchange for the Roumanian portion of Bessarabia. Bulgaria is to be constituted an autonomous tributary principality, with a Christian governor freely elected by the population, confirmed by the Porte with the assent of the powers. The province is to have a national militia. Where Bulgarians are mixed with Turks, Greeks, and others, account is to be taken of the rights and interests of all these latter peoples in the elections and in the preparations of the organic laws.

8. There is much that is good in these preliminaries of peace, but they by no means do enough for Greece. Happily England has proposed to admit a representative of Greece to the Congress. The English government is much to be commended for taking that step; it should also bear in mind the question of Armenia. To this province should be given a system of local self-government, to be enjoyed alike by the Armenian Christians and by the industrious and orderly Turkish village populations. They should all be united together to defend themselves against the inroads of those lawless savages, the Koords and Circassians, from whom the Porte is either unable or unwilling to defend its Armenian subjects. But whatever defects there may be in the Russo-Turkish preliminaries of peace, it is not clear that they do not infringe in any way the statement made, in June last, by Count Schouvaloff to Lord Derby, and they attack those English interests which the latter declared his government could not allow to be assailed. No doubt these San Stefano terms go beyond the demands made last summer by the Russian ambassador, but he specially intimated that those demands depended upon his government not having to prosecute the war beyond the Balkan ranges. The Russian armies having had to force their way across those mountains after desperate fighting, with severe losses, it is natural that the preliminaries of peace, exacted by the victor, should be all the more onerous. It does not, however, follow that Russia alone is to settle the Eastern question; indeed, she has herself admitted that important portions of it must necessarily be submitted to assembled Europe. Nor will Europe consent simply to register the proposals of Russia. On the contrary, they must be carefully considered by all the great powers. If they would do so with the hope of laying something like a good foundation for the future peace of Europe, and the gradual, though perhaps not immediate, solution of the many intricate questions touching the welfare of the various creeds and races