

necessity of buttressing a nation which is threatened with hopeless bankruptcy. It would be easy to multiply such quotations.

A few observations may be ventured on points of detail. In his account of Serbia, Mr. Forbes might have told us more about the Serbian language. At a time when the study of Russian is becoming so popular, the reviewer may point out that Serbian is the most interesting of the Slav languages. Nor is the history of Serbia less interesting than its language. Of all the Balkan peoples the Serbs stand highest. It is a circumstance greatly to be deplored that Stephen Dushan, the greatest of her rulers, did not put a final end to the moribund Greek Empire of the fourteenth century and suppress both Greeks and Latins alike in the East. The failure to take this step opened the door to the Turks, whom Murad led across the Hellespont soon after Stephen's death, to effect a permanent settlement in Europe.

The most interesting part of the chapter on Greek history is the story of the efforts of Trikoupi to raise his country to a respectable position among nations. It is indeed painful to read of the light-hearted way in which his thoughtless countrymen undid his patriotic work.

Of all the nations here described, Rumania is the one least known to the Western reader. We are not surprised therefore to find the chapter on Rumania full of interest and instruction. The author with justice draws attention to the results of the mistaken policy of giving these young Balkan countries a German prince as ruler. This mistake it is hoped will not be repeated. Other interesting features about Rumania are the acuteness of the Jewish question and the apparent absence of the evils of clericalism. Surely of no other European country could it be said that "there is no record whatever in Rumanian history of any religious feuds or dissensions."

To most readers probably the chapter on Turkey will be the most interesting. Here also there is much to learn. We are reminded that the Ottomans are really only a blend of Turk and Greek, so that their Empire bears much the same relation to the Greek Empire of John Comnenus that the latter did to the old Roman Empire. Even in religion it is doubtful whether the Greek is not more hostile to the Latin Christian than he is to the Moslem. As the author truly says, "the native Christians"—of Asia Minor—"descended from the Iconoclasts of two centuries before, found the rule of Moslem image-haters more congenial, as it was certainly more effective, than that of Byzantine emperors."

The statement on p. 302 "That the country's foreign policy has nevertheless constantly supported the Central Powers is due to a greater extent to the increasing influence of German education" is one to make us reflect. The reviewer remembers reading a recent statement made by one in a position to know, that a prominent Turk who had intended to send his son to England to be educated decided that a better training could be had in Germany, and thither the boy went. Undoubtedly the reform of our higher education is one of the problems to be dealt with in the near future.