

the Armenian atrocities. It was dealt with by the unanimous adoption of a resolution carefully framed by the Business Committee. It is sad to think that these atrocities have since become more horrible. For diabolical cruelty they have no parallel in modern history. A country five hundred miles long and three hundred miles broad, has been utterly laid waste by the inhuman deeds of lawless soldiers and brigands. It is almost impossible to get thoroughly reliable information regarding their criminal work; but it is estimated that fifty thousand men have perished, while half a million of women and children are now in a state of starvation, and what the sufferings and mortality of the present winter may be no one can tell. Forty-seven thousand houses have been plundered and burned, and forty-one thousand persons have been forced, through fear of torture and death, to abjure Christianity and embrace Islam. A nation of three millions has been reduced to one million by the most fiendish methods of extermination.

And what have the "Great Powers" been doing meanwhile? Calmly looking on, for the most part, and watching each other. Their representatives have met, from time to time, and offered mild remonstrances to the murderous tyrant who has permitted and apparently directed the atrocious work of slaughtering Christians. Surely something more than this should have been done to check and punish the brutality of the Turk. By the Treaty of Berlin in 1878 the irresponsible despotism of Turkish government was made subject to the scrutiny of the Powers, but this would seem to have meant practically the substitution of a committee of inspection for Russian single-handed supervision, without taking into account how conflicting interests would affect the action of the several members of committee. The lamentable result is that the Powers recognize the rottenness of Turkish rule in Armenia, but cannot agree upon the remedy. Doubtless Russia would gladly take the matter in hand if England would only let her, but England cannot do so, for that would make Russia too powerful in Asia.