

Hitherto, in this great struggle, the Sublime Porte has acted with dignity, wisdom and courage. The Turks have never been cowards; and now better arms and better discipline are placing the Ottoman troops more upon an equality with the armies of the Russian Despot, than formerly. Many important successes won by the Turks during the course of the strife, demonstrate this. Nevertheless, there is no hope that Turkey, unaided by her western allies, could ultimately withstand the mighty armaments of the north. The Turks have never won fame upon the Sea. The fleet of Sebastopol forcing the Bosphorus, and the navies of Sveaburg, of Revel and of Cronstadt, sweeping through the Dardanelles, would meet in the harbour of Istamboul,—while an army of two hundred thousand men, which had poured its irresistible masses over the range of the Balkans, thundered upon the walls, and hurled its iron-storm upon the minarets of the Moslem Capital. Turkey would bite the dust.

Would the conquest of Turkey by Russia be beneficial to the inhabitants of the Turkish Empire? Not in a religious point of view—the Christians of Turkey, are, step by step, obtaining every religious right to which they are entitled. Not for the Jew, who cannot “forget thee, O Jerusalem,” would the change of masters be for the better—the numerous Jews of Russian Poland fare not so well as those of Turkish Syria. Not for commerce would it be better that the northern Bear should make his den in Constantinople—the Turkish tariff is one of the most moderate in the world—the Russian tariff one of the most restrictive. Assuredly not for the advantage of civil liberty, of political freedom would the Russian knout take the place of the Ottoman bastinado. Both the Sultan and the Czar are despotic sovereigns—but the absolutism of the Czar is