

tion. That is the best, indeed the only, way of defeating whatever of sinister or selfish there may be in the designs of Russian politicians or diplomatists. Those who think the worst of the government of St. Petersburg should be foremost in demanding the largest possible increase of the liberties of Roumania, Servia, Montenegro, Bulgaria, and Greece, with due regard to the claims of each. These countries desire freedom; they do not desire subjection to the czar in the place of subjection to the sultan. English and Austrian interests are therefore clearly in harmony with the independence of these countries. Once contented with their lot, the intrigues of Pan-Slavist or other societies will be rendered hopeless. If England and France, Austria and Italy, adopt this policy of effectually assisting these rising nationalities, they will feel that their liberties have the friendly support of those governments, at least as much as that of St. Petersburg. If this latter should harbor selfish designs, she will find them baffled by the fact of real independence and national self-government having spread contentment among Slave and Greek populations, hitherto kept in a perpetual ferment of discontent by the misrule of alien, tyrannical, and venal pashas. Yet it was in aid of this same Porte that some Englishmen, in their blindness, would have had English blood and treasure wasted not seeing (what the last twenty-two years have abundantly proved), that the Turkish government is rotten; that to seek to maintain it is not only to strive after the impossible, but also to alienate the peoples who hate the Porte's perverse supremacy, and thereby throw them into the arms of Russia.

12. Hungarians seem especially inclined to adopt the short-sighted policy of upholding Turkish rule. They have some excuse for their blindness, for they cannot forget the brutality with which the autocrat Nicholas put down their liberties. Now there is no lover of freedom who does not rejoice that that monstrous wrong has been righted, and Hungary's ancient rights restored, so that she is to-day the free member of a free State. But Hungarians must be reminded that they are not the only people who have a right to freedom. The Slave and the Greek have just as much right to get rid of the tyranny of the sultan as ever the Hungarians had to get rid of the past tyranny of the Hapsburg or the czar. Now no Slave, till lately governed by Turkey, has any wish to be governed from St. Petersburg, but from Bucharest, Belgrade, Cettinge, or Tirnova, as the case may be. If forced, indeed, to choose between czar or sultan,