

and solemn peace, which will indemnify her for the sacrifices she is preparing to make?

Today all eyes are opened. It is by the extent of the danger that the means of preventing its return must be measured. Thus, in taking arms, do people and governments, appear animated by one sentiment—inspired by one common strength, to put an end to that perpetual menace suspended over all the progress of the past—over all the interests of the future. It is quite clearly understood that it will not suffice to demolish the ships and the ports of Russia, but that it is still more necessary to drive her back, especially towards Asia, far beyond her actual boundaries.

It is not in her centre that Russia is vulnerable; it is at her extremities. But if the blood is driven back towards her heart, she will choke. The head of the column is at Helmsing, its right arm at Warsaw, its feet at Sebastopol. It is, then, Finland, Poland, and the Crimea, that it is necessary to drag out of the clutches of the double-headed eagle.

The loss of Finland is an ever-bleeding wound in the flank of Sweden, for she beheld that fine province torn away from her piecemeal, from whence Russia drew nearly the whole of her maritime population, and her timber. It is in Finland that the reprisals of war in Europe must commence, and the restitution of that country to its ancient owners would be an act of policy, the prudence and justice of which none dare deny. A line drawn from Viborg to the Gulf of Bothnia would become on that side, in the north, the extreme limit of Russia. The country of Gustavus Adolphus, and of Charles XII., would resume the noble and so worthily occupied in the councils of Europe.

It were possible to restore the ancient Polish territory, so great an act of reparation would make generous hearts beat with pulsations of joy. But in the actual state of affairs, such an attempt would assume a more complicated and difficulties more serious than those before which Napoleon I. himself hesitated. At least, Poland turned against her enemy, would she not serve to guarantee the independence of Germany.

The measure of precaution which gave to Prussia the Duchy of Posen, would only be good when completed. Even reduced to its present limits, what could not Poland bring to Europe, if, united to the future to Russia, she were to drive back beyond the Niemen and the Bug her ancient oppressors, and become again on that side the advanced guard of civilization.

Bides that a new maiming of this noble body, already so cruelly mutilated, would wound public feeling in France and in Europe, it appears that the idea of annexing to Prussia all that remains of Poland, is based not only by geographical position, but also by the similarity of race, language and religion, which assimilates the Poles to the inhabitants of Prussia and Poland. Condemned at present to the silence of slaves, and to a political death, Poland would then have a powerful deliberative voice in the assemblies of a nation which has given so many proofs of religious tolerance, and a wise spirit of progress.

In the south, Austria would add Moldavia and Wallachia to her empire, and extend her frontiers to the Black Sea, coasts and ports which would wonderfully tend to the development of her marine, and by the possession of Galatz, and of the mouths of the Danube, she would profit by the transit of the commerce of Central Europe. A separate convention would regulate, as just, the commercial interest of all European states, and be put in harmony with the principles for the future acquired, of the free navigation of the Black Sea. It is superfluous to demonstrate in consequence of this addition to Austria beyond the Danube, Constantinople would acquire a more secure barrier than the Balkan range.

It is objected that the Ottoman empire, would lose its right of sovereignty over Moldavia, the territory offered to it must be considered. In Europe, the object of its constant regrets, with the fertile shores of the Euxine. In Asia, the trans-Caucasian countries, where the Russians have established themselves, to take Constantinople in the rear. The effect of this double restitution would be to assure the independence of the brave mountaineers of the Caucasus, who, with their own resources alone, have resisted for twenty years against the Muscovite invader.

It would be closed to Russia that road towards Persia and India which she has tracked out for herself with so much perseverance and zeal. On the Black Sea, her only remaining possession would be the

coast comprised between the mouths of the Dniester and the Dnieper. But she would still retain Odessa, Nicolait, Kherson—that is to say, sufficient marts for her export trade, and arsenals for her navy, reduced to proportions still worthy of a great people, but no longer threatening to the peace of the world.

Would it be presuming too much upon the wisdom of Austria, to think that in exchange for the aggrandizement of her territory, and the extension of her commerce and of her marine she would relinquish Lombardy? Milan, united to Piedmont, would strengthen without peril to any one, a second *ratio stato*; the prosperity of which is essential to France. Is it nothing to avoid conflicts with Switzerland, to give satisfaction to the national sentiment of Italy, and thereby to deprive the revolutionary element of one of its pretexts, and perhaps of the most apparent of its grievances? The Venetian state, moreover, which covers Friuli and Illyria, would remain to Austria, under the conditions of the treaty of Campo Formio. Her Empire would extend unbroken, from Venice to Ackerman, from the mouths of the Adige to those of the Dniester. At her two extreme points, she would touch two seas, one of which, that most necessary to her, is now closed to her.

Such is, in a few words, the *ensemble* of the measure which would appear the best calculated to establish the balance of power in Europe upon its true basis, compromised to-day by the preponderance of Russia. Those who may feel inclined to regard this plan as chimerical, we ask of them, whether, upon their conscience, they believe it possible to preserve the *status quo*, after the great war now preparing? Not one of the proposed modellings here could become a cause of division between the two western powers, nor a danger for the one or the other. The balance would be maintained between the two German States, which, aggrandizing themselves in the sense of the slave element, and in a proportion nearly equal, would bring no new trouble, no new pretension into the body of the Germanic Confederation. Sweden would be strengthened by the restitution of Finland; the Ottoman empire by that of Crimea and of the line of the Caucasus. Constrained to restore the usurpations of a century, the aggressor alone would suffer from an arrangement which in the North, in the West, and in the South, would be carried out at his expense.

A definitive war can, then, alone decide this eastern question, which Russian ambition has made a continual subject of anxiety to civilized nations. The war will be followed by the sovereign deliberations of a European Congress. May the means that we propose be considered as the best to attain the solution so ardently desired. To wish only that which is just, but to wish it with resolve—that is the simple secret of a provident and firm policy.

It is necessary that it should no longer be in the power of one man to trouble the safety of all with impunity.

At Paris the question of the Sunday has made some progress lately. Two years ago, a Roman Catholic committee was formed, who, half by persuasion, and half by intimidation, have collected in the Faubourg St. Germain, nearly 3,000 signatures, 1,100 or 1,200 of which are from tradesmen, who pledge themselves not to buy, and not to open their shops on Sunday. There is also a Protestant committee formed, and it has placed itself in connection with the preceding one, but they have decided that, although aiming at the same end, they would do their work separately. An English gentleman, Mr. Cechrane, devoted to this cause, has already induced a great number of the tradesmen around the Exchange and in the Rue Vivienne to close their shops on Sunday. The commercial men and tradesmen of Paris have lately had a numerous meeting upon this question. A provisional committee has been named to examine it. There may proceed from this, and we cordially hope so, some resolution for general closing and abstaining from trade.

It is stated that at a confirmation held by the Bishop of Oxford, at the parish church of Thatcham, near Newbury, his lordship administered the rite of confirmation to Mr. BRYAN, who was for many years a popular and influential minister of the Baptist denomination, stationed at Oxford. Mr. BRYAN has conformed to the Church of England, in which it is said, he intends seeking holy orders.

A WORRY DEEP.—The Rev. W. H. Cooper, who with his family embarked on board the steamship *San Francisco*, on his way to Rio Janeiro, as a missionary of our Church, lost nearly all his effects in consequence of the wreck of that vessel. We are glad to learn by an acknowledgment published in the *Spirit of Missions*, that our brother has received from parishes in New York and Philadelphia, the sum of upwards of three thousand dollars. This is as it should be.

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