

world, and of setting up in its stead the miserable schism of the Greek Church. He would then meet with no obstacle in the way of shutting up to Catholics all access to those time-honoured and hallowed spots, which, above all others, they revere,—the sacred grotto of Bethlehem and the holy sepulchre, where, after the sacrifice of Calvary, reposed the body of our blessed Saviour. And it is especially a remarkable fact, that the question of the Holy Places has furnished this prince with a pretext for waging an unjust war against Turkey, whose sole offence and crime, in his eyes, is the positive refusal to despoil countries united with the Roman See, of vested rights and privileges consecrated by the faith of treaties and by long possession.

The long-threatening storm has at length burst over Turkey. The Russian troops in serried ranks and formidable array advance to invade the Ottoman Empire. Turkey, unable alone to resist the overwhelming forces, marshalled against her empire, appeals to the honour and loyalty of France and England. These two powers have nobly responded to the voice of the oppressed, and, even now, their combined armies and fleets advance to the rescue of their ally. The shock and conflict between the contending parties must be fierce and appalling. On the one side, stands the huge colossus of the North, who for years has been garnering up his resources, training and disciplining his barbarous hordes, increasing his military stores and martial appliances, with the view of seizing on the proper time and favourable opportunity for crushing under his iron heel the Turkish Empire, as he but too well succeeded in crushing Catholic Poland. On the other side are two nations who lead the way in the peaceful march of civilization, and whose martial exploits on flood and field have proved that they have never quailed nor gave ground in presence of their most formidable opponents.

We cannot be indifferent, D. B. B., to the issue of this war, which will be decisive of the future lot of Europe, and to its high importance on the interests and prosperity of the Christian Church.

As subjects of the British Empire, loyalty calls on us to offer up our fervent desires that success and victory may crown the armies of our Sovereign. As descendants of the sons of France, the sympathies growing out of a common origin, of a conformity in religion and language, must engage our warmest wishes that the country of our forefathers may triumph over external enemies, as it has already triumphed over the enemies of order in its own bosom. How could we fail to call victory down on the flag which so often guided our forefathers on the field of honour?