

called upon to decide or ratify? First comes the case of Roumania, which it is proposed to erect into an independent State. This will receive general assent, but it should be done without calling upon Roumania to cede that portion of territory which lies just to the north of the mouths of the Danube. The gallant fight and national sacrifices made by the Roumanians for their complete independence ought to protect them from any diminution whatever of their country's territory. At the same time it would conduce more to the freedom of the navigation of



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the Danube (which is a European, and especially an Austro-German, interest), if the mouths of that great river were in the hands of Roumania rather than Russia. The possession of them by the former can be no real detriment to the latter, for Russia has ample power to protect her own interests. If, however, she insists upon taking this strip of territory, she will but produce feelings of distrust and dislike towards herself on the part of the Roumanians; while England, by advocating the opposite policy, will gain their good-will and confidence.

11. An increase of territory, and complete independence bestowed upon Servia and Montenegro, should also receive the hearty support of England and of Europe: No worse policy can be pursued than that of a niggardly attempt to restrict such