

Having much to gain and nothing to lose in this game, should be willing to join us, and Russia could not well object to mere trading advantages. China must be taught that she can only benefit by opening her gates wide to English enterprise. England, on the other hand, must use to the fullest extent the advantages which treaty rights confer upon her. China must, at least, give England the same rights which Russia has obtained. England should be able to obtain this in a peaceful manner, as the price for her consent to a tariff revision. When the time for action comes she can hold her own, but she ought not to look on unconcernedly at the progress of the game. But those who believe that she is easily deceived, that she will hand over her rights to persons or governments whose attitude is hostile, and who are frightened into signing away rights that no independent state can safely cede, will one day be undeceived. Russia knows better than this, but the short-sightedness of the Chinese character provides her with one of the instruments for attaining her own ends.

It is perfectly clear that Russia, in every part of the world where her influence is extended, almost supremacy and carries her point. It is to the stability of her policy more than the excellency of her statesmanship, that this success is due.

### ON THE RAGGED EDGE.

The war situation in Europe has got to the ragged edge of expectancy, and pretty near over it. It would be no surprise to receive the announcement any moment that hostilities have been begun. The action of the great powers of Europe in instituting a blockade of Greek ports has facilitated rather than hindered the progress toward an actual inauguration of war. Yet the blockade, which was to begin today, already has failed of its purpose so far as the Greek ports are concerned. It was intended to prevent the forwarding of Greek troops to the Turkish frontier, and to prevent giving them assistance there. But King George has outgeneralled the powers, his troops are dispatched, and his war vessels in position before the blockading squadrons get to work.

Greece is not a great nation, today, as numbers go. But her king can lay a better claim to greatness than the rulers of most of the other nations. Held within a very small area, and with the proportion of a quarter of a million troops against nine million of the powers opposed to him, he has made his country of not least equal importance with any other nation in any question that concerns him. An important factor in his success in this regard is that his course has been such that the masses of Europe fully sympathize with him from a conviction that he is on the side of right. Elected king on March 18, 1863, he has governed wisely a country exceedingly difficult to rule; he has suppressed brigandage, fostered the institutions of the land, and served the national ambition for greatness, at the same time maintaining the confidence of his people and of other nations in his honor and integrity. He has not failed in any scheme yet entered upon to extend Greek power. And today he stands as the defender of Christians against Mussulman butchers; and when his hand is withdrawn in Crete, at the threat of the great powers who promise to keep

the peace, the murder of Christians by Mussulmans begins anew.

There is no question but that the chief influence that upholds the Turk today is the money power which controls the hands of government in western Europe. The masses of the people are with the Greeks, hence the hopes they have of winning. The Turkish battalions, encouraged by the attitude of the powers, may be hurled across the Greek frontier, but behind them the population of Macedonia are ready to spring to arms under the Greek flag, and the sympathy extends to Italy and other countries, not because they love the Greeks particularly, but they hate the Turks most cordially. For this reason that part of Europe soon would be ablaze from an overt act now liable to occur at any moment, and which can be delayed a short time at the most. Russia is master of Europe in the concert of action now maintaining a doubtful peace, but the latter once broken, the only resource of the northern power is to seize Constantinople and attempt to control all of European Turkey. This Britain cannot allow on the Mediterranean coast, and her ships and armies must be against Russia in dividing the spoils. King George of Greece knows all this, and in it he sees a chance of greatness and power for his kingdom, though it may require a heavy national sacrifice at first. But he knows also that if he shrinks he must retire from the throne and Greece must sink into an insignificance which he has been laboring for thirty-four years to bring her out of. The indications are that he has decided to make the sacrifice and strive for the greater prize; and that he has nerve, courage and ability to attain his desire in the end.

### THE RESPONSIBLE NATIONS.

In the face of events which now are occurring in Europe, there is no difficulty in saying who is directly responsible for the massacres of Armenians in Turkey, the atrocities committed generally in the Turkish dominion, and the comparative slavery in which millions of people are held under Turkish rule. The direct responsibility is with Russia, Great Britain, Germany, France, Austria and Italy. The Turk himself is an inferior consideration in this respect; he is in effect merely the hired assassin of the others, or of the money power which controls the policy of the others; the permission to glut, unpunished, his murderous desire, is the price paid for preserving undisturbed the flow of tribute to the money lenders that have invested in Turkish securities. And whenever there is a proposition to prevent Turkish atrocities in the only way they can be prevented, by force, the six powers combine and say that no force shall be used, except at peril of their active enmity; when any of the enslaved millions strike a blow for independence from Turkish rule, with fair prospect of success, those six powers combine to suppress the efforts made and to punish all who countenance or encourage those who would break the chains of oriental bondage. The experience of Crete and Greece is a case in point.

And yet in this case there is a lia-

bility that the very thing which these powers would prevent, will be hastened by their action. It will be if Greece has the nerve she had three-quarters of a century ago. It will be recalled that Alexander of Russia emphatically condemned the attempt of Greece to free herself from the Turkish yoke, and the other European powers chimed in with Russia, and frowned, and threatened the little state with intervention. Yet Turkish atrocities roused the Greeks to frenzy, and the war began. Through 1824, 1825, and 1826, the unexampled cruelties of the Turks, the capture and the sale into slavery of Grecian women and children, the hoasts of shipments to Constantinople of bushels of Greek ears, aroused the populace of Europe; and still the "powers" held to their position. Then there were public indignation meetings held, as they are being held now in London. A friend to Greece came forward in the person of Prime Minister Canning, and Greek independence became a reality after Navarino.

There is a marked parallel in the procedure of today with that of 1823. But European sympathy spreads quicker now than then. Salisbury, and Faure, and Rudin, and even Emperor William would not find it safe to resist the popular cry in their own nations, as did their predecessors of seven or eight decades ago. And while it is quite possible that King George may back down a little, in the face of superior force, with regard to Crete, the blockading of Greek ports by the allied powers, the renewal of Turkish atrocities in Armenia, and the insolence, arrogance and excesses of Turkish troops on the Macedonian frontier, are extremely likely to cause a popular outburst on the part of the Greeks which will set all Europe ablaze. The masses in Europe want the Turkish regime of horror brought to an end, and their wish will prevail. It may be delayed for a time, but not for long. It is even possible that with the melting of the ice in the Baltic ports Russia's grip will loosen to an extent that will liberate the dogs of war.

Regarding the responsibility of the nations named, they cannot evade the punishment for the crime they are uniting to perpetrate. Murder and rapine, sanctioned or allowed by governmental power, bring destruction in their wake to those who exercise that power. And justice will be meted out to those nations which prolong the oppression and the agony of sufferers under the Turkish yoke, no matter how low these may have been brought by the burdens heaped upon them. At the present time it is notable that of the rulers of the six powers named Queen Victoria is the only one who shows sympathy with the suffering Christians in Crete, and the slowness of Salisbury's action because of the queen's sympathy is now being made occasion for offence by the other powers; and even her sympathy is overruled by the pressure of government policy. Yet this offense may prove the very element that will preserve England from the full measure of deep retribution that is close in the wake of the European powers in the inevitable progress of justice, and which can be delayed a few years at the most.