

Turkey Warned.

Matters over the Armenian question are apparently coming to a crisis. It is certainly high time that they did. A Constantinople dispatch announces that the Turkish Ambassador to Great Britain has notified his Government that Lord Salisbury insists that the Sublime Porte must yield to the terms demanded by the powers which signed the Berlin treaty, and that if it refuses these powers will undertake the proposed reforms in Armenia themselves. The dispatch further states that Lord Salisbury significantly added that if Turkey continued to resist, "it will constitute the signal for the dismemberment" of that empire. Turkey professes to be willing to institute the suggested reforms, but is opposed to allowing Armenia to be controlled by an international commission.

It is to be hoped that Lord Salisbury's threat is not a bluff. Turkey is so accustomed to empty menaces that she has practically ceased to be alarmed by them. It is evident that the Sultan will not attempt to carry out the proposed reforms in good faith. The Turkish opposition to Armenia being controlled by a foreign commission is merely a pretext to cover the real designs of the Sublime Porte. That Government has steadily endeavored to screen the perpetrators of the Armenian atrocities, and it intends to continue to do so if possible. It would be an admirable thing for the cause of humanity and civilization if Turkey should persist in her present attitude and thus give the powers an excuse for dismembering her. She has ceased to represent anything on the map of Europe except a foul blot, and the sooner that blot is wiped out the better.