

SUPPRESS THE TURK.

Accounts of butcheries, incredible in savagery, and of other atrocities more fiendish than butcheries, committed in Armenia by savage Kurds and fanatic Turks, have poured into the ears of the world until it is no longer possible to doubt that there must have been substantial reason for them in the facts. Men have grown so accustomed to efforts to civilize even warfare, that they could not believe the stories told to be true. We should not be surprised. There are some of our own people who do not believe in the stories told of the atrocities of our own wild Indians. Some of them would not believe the horrible but undeniable truth that, from the landing of Columbus to this hour, there has never been even one white woman captured by Indians who has not later been made a victim of maddening bodily outrage. No wonder, then, they have doubted these Armenian tales of horror.

But it is impossible longer to question

them. It may be that the troubles were first begun by Armenian revolutionists. That is not the slightest excuse for the Turkish barbarities. No kind of provocation in rebellion toward political authority or contempt of established religion can be admitted as excuse or palliation for such deeds as the Turks appear to have committed.

It is the manifest duty of civilization, independent of any treaty obligation, to demand of the Turkish government that deeds of this kind must be stopped by it, or it must be wiped out of existence, and replaced by a government that will keep at least within hailing distance of decent civilization. This demand must be made not because they are Turks, nor because they are Mohammedans. That the deeds are done in the name of religion only makes them more revolting. The demand must be made because these people are savages, and in the name of our common humanity. If savages exercising savagery have any rights which civilization is bound to respect, except as its own self-respect prompts, then civilization is a delusion and a cheat, and there is no mission for it on earth or elsewhere.
