

We reproduce this morning a cartoon in which London Punch hits off with much happy humor Mr. Gladstone's attitude toward the so-called "Armenian atrocities." The Old Parliamentary Hand has not forgotten the days when the story of outrages in Bulgaria prompted that famous "pilgrimage of passion" which brought him back into power on a great wave of popular sentiment. It was a momentous and stirring epoch in the veteran's career, and now the mere suggestion of Eastern atrocities suffices to startle him from his leisurely retirement with fighting instincts all awake, just as a whisper of "Rats!" will rouse a terrier from the most luxurious nap.

So much for Mr. Gladstone's natural but hasty action on this question. Upon the agitation which he has helped to foment the special correspondence from Constantinople printed in another column throws an instructive light. One point it makes very clear. If excesses have been committed in the suppression of local revolutionary disturbances, the Turkish government cannot on a priori grounds be suspected of commanding or countenancing them. A ruler

who has proved himself to be tolerant, and who is also known to be personally humane, cannot have prompted the cruelties said to have been inflicted upon his Christian subjects in Armenia.

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